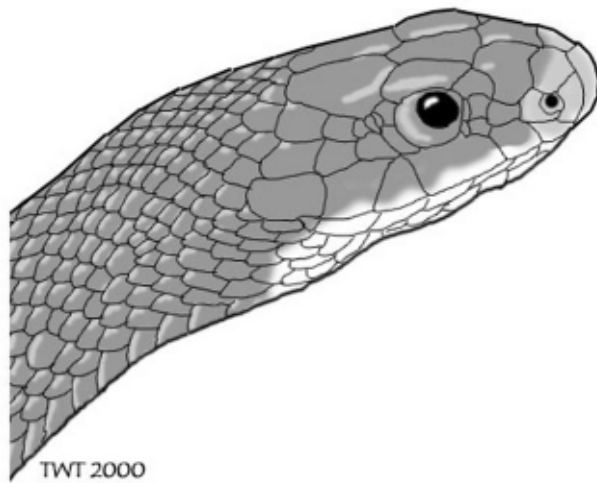


Kansas Herpetological Society



Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2001



NUMBER 125

KANSAS HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS FOR 2001

President

MARK R. ELLIS
10025 SW Jordan Road
Wakarusa, Kansas 66546
(785-836-2272)
makarusa@mindspring.com

President-Elect

SUZANNE L. COLLINS
The Center for North American Herpetology
1502 Medinah Circle
Lawrence, Kansas 66047
(785-749-3467) scollins@ku.edu

Past-President

ROBERT POWELL
Department of Biology
Avila College
Kansas City, Missouri 64145
(816-942-8400) powellr@mail.avila.edu

Treasurer

ERIC KESSLER
5624 Cherry Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64111
(816-444-4794)
ekessler@bv229.k12.ks.us

Historian

JOHN E. SIMMONS
Natural History Museum
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas 66045
(785-864-4508)
jsimmons@kuhub.cc.ukans.edu

Secretary

MARY KATE BALDWIN
5438 SW 12th Terrace Apt. 4
Topeka, Kansas 66604
(785-272-1076)
mbaldwin@networksplus.net

Editor

TRAVIS W. TAGGART
Sternberg Museum of Natural History
Fort Hays State University
Hays, Kansas 67601-2006
(785-650-0865)
ttaggart@fhsu.edu

Associate Editor

JOSEPH T. COLLINS
The Center for North American Herpetology
1502 Medinah Circle
Lawrence, Kansas 66047
(785-749-3467 or 785-864-4920)
email: jcollins@ku.edu

KANSAS HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Awards

DAVID R. EDDS
Department of Biological Sciences
Emporia State University
Emporia, Kansas 66801
(316-341-5622)
eddsdavi@emporia.edu

Field Trips

LARRY L. MILLER
Kansas Heritage Photography
840 SW 97th Street
Wakarusa, Kansas 66546
(785-836-2119)
kansasphoto@metacrawler.com

Media & Publicity

ROBIN OLDHAM
716 Michigan Street
Oswego, Kansas 67356
(316-795-2293)
oldham@oswego.net

Nominating

LYNNETTE SIEVERT
Department of Biological Sciences
Emporia State University
Emporia, Kansas 66801
(316-341-5606)
sievertl@emporia.edu

DISTINGUISHED LIFE MEMBERS

ROBERT F. CLARKE
Emporia State University
Kansas

HENRY S. FITCH
The University of Kansas
Lawrence

HOBART M. SMITH
The University of Colorado
Boulder

JOSEPH T. COLLINS
The Center for North American Herpetology
Lawrence, Kansas

HOWARD K. GLOYD
The University of Arizona, Tucson
(1902–1978)

EDWARD H. TAYLOR
The University of Kansas, Lawrence
(1889–1978)

DWIGHT R. PLATT
Bethel College, North Newton
Kansas

KHS LIAISON REPRESENTATIVES

Ken Brunson
Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks
(316-672-5911)

Ted Alexander
Kansas Grazing Lands Coalition
(316-247-6443)

Joseph T. Collins
Kansas Nongame Wildlife Advisory Council
(785-749-3467)

Front Cover: An illustration of the head of an adult Eastern Racer (*Coluber constrictor*) by Travis W. Taggart, Sternberg Museum of Natural History, Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas 67601.

KANSAS HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER No. 125



SEPTEMBER 2001

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JAMES W. IRWIN (1930–2001) *IN MEMORIAM*

James W. Irwin, one of the founding members of the *Kansas Herpetological Society*, died on Friday, August 10th, at a Topeka hospital.

Mr. Irwin was born on March 9th, 1930, in Anthony, Kansas. He graduated from *Topeka High School* and earned a Bachelor's Degree from the *University of Kansas*, Lawrence, in 1953. Jim Irwin worked for *Design Forum* and the *Brock Hotel Corporation* prior to starting his own design business in Topeka. He was a member and past president of the *Topeka Friends of the Zoo*, and a member of the *Mulvane Art Board*. He is survived by his wife, Ethlyn (also a founding member of the KHS), three sons, and a sister.

Mr. Irwin was the father of Kelly J. Irwin, currently the state herpetologist of Arkansas, as well as a former KHS President, recipient of the KHS *Bronze Salamander Award for Distinguished Service*, and also one of the co-founders of the Kansas Herpetological Society. The entire KHS membership and its officers extend their heartfelt sympathies to Kelly and his family for their loss.

Contributions to the Society in memory of Jim Irwin can be sent to the KHS Secretary (see inside front cover).

LAWRENCE A. CAPRON (1953–2001) *IN MEMORIAM*

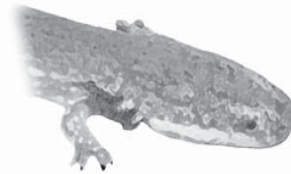
Lawrence Allan Capron, a former member of the *Kansas Herpetological Society*, died of a heart attack on Friday, August 17th, at home in Oxford, Kansas, with his beloved dogs at his side.

Larry was born on August 12th, 1953, in Winfield, Kansas. He graduated from *Oxford High School* in 1971 and attended *Cowley County Community College*. In recent years he devoted his talents to restoring antique toys. Larry Capron maintained an active interest in paleontology, entomology and astronomy, and was well-read in a wide variety of topics, including mythology, physics, and science in general. He was also a gifted guitarist.

Larry was the brother of KHS member Martin B. Capron, a former recipient of the KHS *Bronze Salamander Award for Distinguished Service* and long time member of the Kansas Herpetological Society. He is also survived by his former wife, Kathy Capron, a son, Erik Capron, and his parents, Lawrence E. and Dorothy Pinks Capron, all of Oxford.

The entire KHS membership and its officers extend their heartfelt sympathies to Marty and his family for their loss.

Contributions to the Society in memory of Lawrence A. Capron can be sent to the KHS Secretary (see inside front cover).



FRANK CROSS (1925–2001)
IN MEMORIAM

*Linger awhile upon some bending planks
That lean against a streamlet's rushy banks
And watch intently Nature's gentle doings*

John Keats 1817

... from *I Stood Tip-Toe Upon a Little Hill*

Frank B. Cross, the greatest fish biologist in our state's history, died on Thursday, July 19th, 2001, at Lawrence Memorial Hospital in Lawrence, Kansas. He was born in Kansas City, Missouri, the son of Frank and Fearn (Hamilton) Cross, and served in World War II. Frank Cross accepted a position at the University of Kansas in 1951, where he held a joint appointment as Curator of Fishes at the Museum of Natural History and Professor of Systematics and Ecology in the Division of Biological Sciences. By great good fortune, he met and married Marie Zepelin in 1954. They raised three lovely children, Frank, Jr., Betty Sue, and Julie, all of whom have gone on to successful adulthood.

Frank spent a lifetime traveling across Kansas to observe and study fishes, and he inspired so many people along the way. He supervised the graduate degree programs of numerous students specializing in fish biology; one of them, James R. Triplett, is currently chairperson of the biology department at Pittsburg State University, and another, Don A. Distler, became a faculty member at Wichita State University. Although Frank retired in 1991 after forty years at KU, he continued to visit the museum each week, teaching students and colleagues how to identify various species of fishes, both from Kansas and nationwide. His interest in and concern for students was exceptional. Once, when Travis Taggart, now Adjunct Curator at the Sternberg Museum of Natural History, Fort Hays State University, was a freshman

in Frank's class at KU, he came to me (as always, chewing on his fingernails), expressing concern because Travis was spending so much time catching snakes and so little time in class. I advised Travis that time spent listening to Frank lecture would prove equally as valuable as field work. Trav agreed.

Most biologists need to examine fish under a microscope to identify them; Frank Cross would wade into a stream, seine them up, and identify them alive in the net. He was exceptionally skilled at identifying the plethora of small minnows and darters that are found in the waters of Kansas, and his infectious grin always lessened the humiliation when he corrected your initial assessment of a Topeka Shiner to a Sand Shiner. Frank was so patient when my preoccupation with snakes and other creatures intruded on his ichthyological pursuits. I remember once, back in the mid-1980s, when he and I, accompanied by Randall Moss and Kelly Irwin, seined the Arkansas River from the Oklahoma border clear out to the Colorado line. We seined a lot of fishes, trying to assess changes in the species composition since the last time Frank had checked those spots along the river. He was always tolerant of my abrupt stops to chase serpents, and during that trip helped spot the first Eastern Rat Snake from Barber County.

Frank wrote the book on Kansas fishes. His first book, entitled *The Handbook of Fishes in Kansas*, was published in 1967, and became a classic that was used nationwide by ichthyologists. He later co-wrote with me a second, semi-popular book, *Fishes in Kansas* in 1975; it was revised and reissued as a more academic second edition with color plates in 1995.

Kansas has lost a person of kind and gentle demeanor, whose excellent sense of humor will never be forgotten. He has gone seining for the final time, to a place, I am sure, where waters are ever clean and clear, and fishes abundant and fat.

Joseph T. Collins
A Friend



JOSEPH B. SLOWINSKI (1962–2001)
IN MEMORIAM

KHS member Joe Slowinski, Curator of Herpetology at the *California Academy of Sciences* in San Francisco, died on the morning of September 12th, 2001 (DST US), from the bite of a Krait in the mountains of northern Myanmar (Burma). Born in New York City on November 15th, 1962, Joe received his Bachelor's Degree from the *University of Kansas* in 1984, and was awarded his Doctoral Degree from the *University of Miami* (Coral Gables) in 1991, working under his major professor, Jay Savage. Other academic appointments included a Postdoctoral Fellow (morphological systematics of elapid snakes), *National Museum of Natural History* (1991-92); Postdoctoral Research Associate (molecular systematics of elapid snakes), *Museum of Natural Science, Louisiana State University* (1992-94); Instructor of Biology, *Louisiana State University* (1994-96); Instructor of Biology, *Southeastern Louisiana University*, Hammond (1996-97). His principal research interests were herpetology (especially venomous snakes), molecular evolution, and phylogenetic analysis. He authored numerous scientific articles as well as one book, *Introduction to Genetics*, published in 1998 by NTC. He was

editor-in-chief and co-founder (in 1997) of the first online herpetological journal, *Contemporary Herpetology*, and a member of the editorial board of *Systematic Biology*. Prior to his death, he was collaborating with Robin Lawson, Director of the Academy's Osher Laboratory, on several studies of the molecular phylogenetics of snakes, incorporating both mitochondrial and nuclear genes. He was conducting (with George Zug, Smithsonian Institution) a comprehensive survey of the herpetofauna of Myanmar. In addition, Joe was part of a large project involving a number of other Academy scientists and several institutions in Yunnan, China, to survey the biodiversity of the western part of the Yunnan Province, specifically a mountain range known as the Gaoligongshan. Joe had previously taped two *National Geographic* specials (during which, he received a dry bite from a monocled cobra and had venom streamed into his eyes by a new species of spitting cobra that he ultimately described). Joe had recently been awarded a two million dollar grant from the *National Science Foundation*, to extend his work across the Myanmar border, into China. The KHS expresses its sympathy and support to the family and friends of Joe Slowinski. Our young and well established colleague will be missed by all of the herpetological community.



Joseph B. Slowinski in Peru in 1996. Photograph by Ashleigh Smythe.

KHS BUSINESS

KANSAS HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY

28th Annual Meeting
2–4 November 2001

Theme of the Meeting

Conservation and Natural History of Kansas Amphibians, Turtles, and Reptiles

The entire program for the KHS 28th Annual Meeting will be held at Topeka Collegiate School on 2-4 November 2001. Please contact the following motels directly to make your reservations; lodging arrangements will not be made by the KHS.

Meadow Acres Motel Best Western: 1-785-267-1681

Holiday Inn West Holidome: 1-785-272-8040

The KHS has a special room rate with Meadow Acres Motel (mention the KHS when making reservations).

Register at the door with the KHS Treasurer on Saturday and Sunday : Students \$5.00 per person; all others \$10.00 per person. Special KHS T-Shirts, featuring the artwork of Marty Capron, will be available at \$10.00 each.

The barbeque and annual KHS auction will be held on Saturday night (3 November) in Wakarusa, Kansas, at the Auction House. All proceeds from the auction go to the KHS. BEER WILL BE FREE.

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION. KHS members are invited to participate in a competitive exhibit of photographs of native Kansas amphibians, turtles, and reptiles, all of which will be candidates for The Suzanne L. & Joseph T. Collins Award for Excellence in Kansas Herpetology . The competing photographs will be featured and available for viewing in the Topeka Collegiate School Library from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm on Saturday, 3 November 2001 under the watchful eye of Shelley Waugh (TCS Librarian). Photographers should plan to set up their images between 8:00 am and noon on that same date. All photographers exhibiting must be KHS members, and each photographer is limited to five (5) images. The photographer chosen as the 2001 recipient of The Collins Award must be present to receive it.

LIVE EXHIBIT. A live exhibit of native Kansas amphibians, turtles, and reptiles will be assembled by Stephanie Meador and Sarah Bellows-Blakely , and will be featured and available for viewing and photography. The exhibit will be housed in the Topeka Collegiate School Lower School Science Center. Times for members to conduct herpetological photography on Saturday and Sunday are listed below.

FRIDAY, 2 NOVEMBER 2001

7:00 pm to 11:00 pm KHS SOCIAL at the Jeremiah Bullfrog Bar and Grille, 2940 SW Wanamaker Road, Topeka (785-272-3764). Come and refresh yourself after a hard day's drive to the capitol of Kansas.

SATURDAY, 3 NOVEMBER 2001

8:00 am Registration for both days: Mary Kate Baldwin (KHS Secretary) and Eric Kessler (KHS Treasurer) in the main foyer at Topeka Collegiate School. Free coffee and donuts will be available, compliments of Loren Shinn (Topeka Collegiate School).

8:00 am to 4:00 pm. Live Exhibit at the Topeka Collegiate School Lower School Science Center.

8:15 am Welcome by Mark Ellis (KHS President) and Dr. Michael Roberts (Headmaster, Topeka Collegiate School).

Scientific Paper Session 1 in the Topeka Collegiate School Assembly Hall

Moderator: Stanley D. Roth, Jr., Kansas Biological Survey, Lawrence

8:30 am Keynote Speaker: Walter Meshaka, Jr., State Museum of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg. Topic: TBA.

9:00 am Speaker: Nicole Palenske, Department of Biological Sciences, Emporia State University. Topic: Blood Properties in Cold Submerged Bullfrogs (*Rana catesbeiana*).**

9:15 am Speaker: James Pilch, Tertiary Oil Recovery Project, University of Kansas. Topic: A Timber Rattlesnake Sanctuary.**

9:30 am Speaker: Christopher A. Sheil, Natural History Museum, University of Kansas, Lawrence. Topic: Turtle Development.

9:45 am Speaker: Eva A. Horne, Division of Biology, Kansas State University, Manhattan. Topic: Effects of Weather and Burn Treatment on Activity and Abundance of Tallgrass Prairie Reptiles: Some Preliminary Data.**

Break 10:00 am

Scientific Paper Session 2 in the Topeka Collegiate School Assembly Hall

Moderator: Robin Oldham, Oswego, Kansas

10:15 am Speaker: Emily C. Moriarty, Texas Memorial Museum, University of Texas, Austin. Topic: The Phylogenetic Relationships of North American Chorus Frogs.**

10:30 am Speaker: Eric M. Rundquist, Animal Care Unit, University of Kansas, Lawrence. Topic: An Emerging Threat to a Fragile Kansas Herpetofauna.**

10:45 am Speaker: Sean Daly, Department of Biological Sciences, Emporia State University. Topic: Morphometric Analysis of Vertebrate Red Blood Cells.**

11:00 am Speaker: Curtis Schmidt, Sternberg Museum of Natural History, Fort Hays State University. Topic: Herpetofauna of the Smoky Valley Ranch.

11:15 am Speaker: Larry L. Miller, Northern Hills Junior High School, Topeka, Kansas. Topic: The Italian Wall Lizard (*Podarcis sicula*) in Topeka: An Alien Natural History.

11:30 am Speaker: Henry S. Fitch, Fitch Natural History Reservation, University of Kansas, Lawrence. Topic: Reproduction in Central Plains Rattlesnakes.**

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

LUNCH: noon to 1:00 pm.

Topeka Collegiate School students will be hosting a chili feed fund-raiser, and KHS meeting participants are invited to partake and give modest financial support to TCS. Non-carnivores can seek sustenance at nearby restaurants.

Scientific Paper Session 3 in the Topeka Collegiate School Assembly Hall

Moderator: Henry S. Fitch, Fitch Natural History Reservation, University of Kansas, Lawrence.

1:00 pm Speaker: Kelly J. Irwin, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, Benton. Topic: Status of the Ozark Hellbender (*Cryptobranchus bishopi*) in Arkansas.

1:15 pm Speaker: Megan Kearney, Department of Biological Sciences, Emporia State University. Topic: Digestive Efficiency and Food Passage Time of the Eastern Collared Lizard (*Crotaphytus collaris*).**

1:30 pm Speaker: Travis W. Taggart, Sternberg Museum of Natural History, Fort Hays State University. Topic: A New Plethodontid Salamander from South-Central Arkansas.

1:45 pm Speaker: Dwight R. Platt, Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas. Topic: Snakes and Lizards of Harvey County, Kansas.**

2:00 pm Speaker: Jay Kirk, Biology Department, Friends University, Wichita. Topic: The Eastern Indigo Snake Project on St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge, Florida.

2:15 pm Speaker: April M. White, Southwest Missouri State University, Springfield, Ellen J. Censky, Connecticut State Museum of Natural History, Storrs, and Robert Powell, Avila College, Kansas City, Missouri. Topic: A Melanistic Lizard, *Ameiva corax*: What's Good About Being Black?

2:30 pm Speaker: TBA, Institutional Affiliation. Topic: TBA.

2:45 pm Speaker: TBA, Institutional Affiliation. Topic: TBA.

Break 3:00 pm

3:15 pm KHS General Business Meeting with KHS President Mark Ellis presiding

Introduction of current KHS officers by Mark Ellis

KHS Treasurer's Report for 2001 by Eric Kessler

KHS Secretary's Report for 2001 by Mary Kate Baldwin

KHS Editor's Report for 2001 by Travis W. Taggart

Report on Plans for the 29th Annual KHS Meeting at Lawrence in 2002 by KHS President-Elect Suzanne L. Collins

Election of KHS Officers for 2002. The 2001 KHS Nominating Committee is composed of Lynnette Sievert (Chairperson, Emporia State University, serves until 31 December 2001), Karen Toepfer (Olathe, Kansas, serves until 31 December 2002) and Joseph T. Collins (Kansas Biological Survey, serves until 31 December 2003), and offers the following slate of candidates:

For President

Suzanne L. Collins The Center for North American Herpetology, Lawrence

Serving as president-elect during 2001, and automatically assumes the KHS presidency on 1 January 2002.

For President-Elect

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

Gregory Sievert, Department of Biological Sciences, Emporia State University.

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, TBA.

Presentation of the Howard Kay Gloyd-Edward Harrison Taylor Scholarship for 2001 by Mark Ellis (KHS President).

Presentation of the Alan H. Kamb Grant for Research on Kansas Snakes for 2001 by Mark Ellis (KHS President).

5:00 pm to 6:30 pm. Barbeque in Wakarusa, Kansas, at the Auction House.

Approximately 6:45 pm. Presentation of The Suzanne L. & Joseph T. Collins Award for Excellence in Kansas Herpetology by Mark Ellis (KHS President) and Robert Powell (Avila College, Kansas City, Missouri, and Board Member, The Center for North American Herpetology). The recipient of The Collins Award receives a commemorative certificate and a check for \$1000.00.

Approximately 7:00 pm. The KHS Auction will be conducted by Joseph T. Collins, ably assisted by KHS Secretary Mary Kate Baldwin, KHS Treasurer Eric Kessler, Ann Rundquist, (Lawrence), and Suzanne L. Collins (Lawrence), and featuring many excellent books and other items (of questionable value). 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 2001

8:00 am Registration for participants that did not register on Saturday: Mary Kate Baldwin (KHS Secretary) and Eric Kessler (KHS Treasurer) in the main foyer at Topeka Collegiate School. Free coffee and donuts will be available, compliments of Loren Shinn (Topeka Collegiate School).

8:00 am to 2:00 pm. Live Exhibit at the Topeka Collegiate School Lower School Science Center.

Scientific Paper Session 4 in the Topeka Collegiate School Assembly Hall

Moderator: TBA, Institutional Affiliation.

8:15 am Speaker: TBA, Institutional Affiliation. Topic: TBA.

8:30 am Speaker: TBA, Institutional Affiliation. Topic: TBA.

8:45 am Speaker: TBA, Institutional Affiliation. Topic: TBA.

9:00 am Speaker: TBA, Institutional Affiliation. Topic: TBA.

9:15 am Speaker: TBA, Institutional Affiliation. Topic: TBA.

9:30 am Speaker: Michael Urban, Benedictine College, Atchison, Kansas. Topic: Herpetofauna of the Benedictine Wetlands.**

9:45 am Speaker: James Gubanyi, Topeka, Kansas. Topic: Status of the Introduced Western Green Lacerta (*Lacerta bilineata*) in Shawnee County, Kansas.

Break 10:00 am

Scientific Paper Session 5 in the Topeka Collegiate School Assembly Hall

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

10:15 am to noon: Speaker: Joseph T. Collins. Topic: The Third Annual Kansas Amphibian Monitoring Program (KAMP) Conference: More Comments, Criticisms, and Discussions, plus a Summation of Progress Made.

About 10:30 am: Presentation by Ken Brunson, Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks, Pratt, of the KAMP Big Croaker Awards for 2001 (two awards of \$100.00 each will be given to the most diligent KAMP volunteers during the 2001 season).

10:45 am Speaker: TBA, Institutional Affiliation. Topic: TBA.

11:00 am Speaker: TBA, Institutional Affiliation. Topic: TBA.

11:15 am Speaker: TBA, Institutional Affiliation. Topic: TBA.

11:30 am Speaker: TBA, Institutional Affiliation. Topic: TBA.

11:45 am Speaker: TBA, Institutional Affiliation. Topic: TBA.

Have a safe trip home. See you in November 2002 in Lawrence, Kansas.

28th Annual Meeting Committee

Mark Ellis, Chairperson

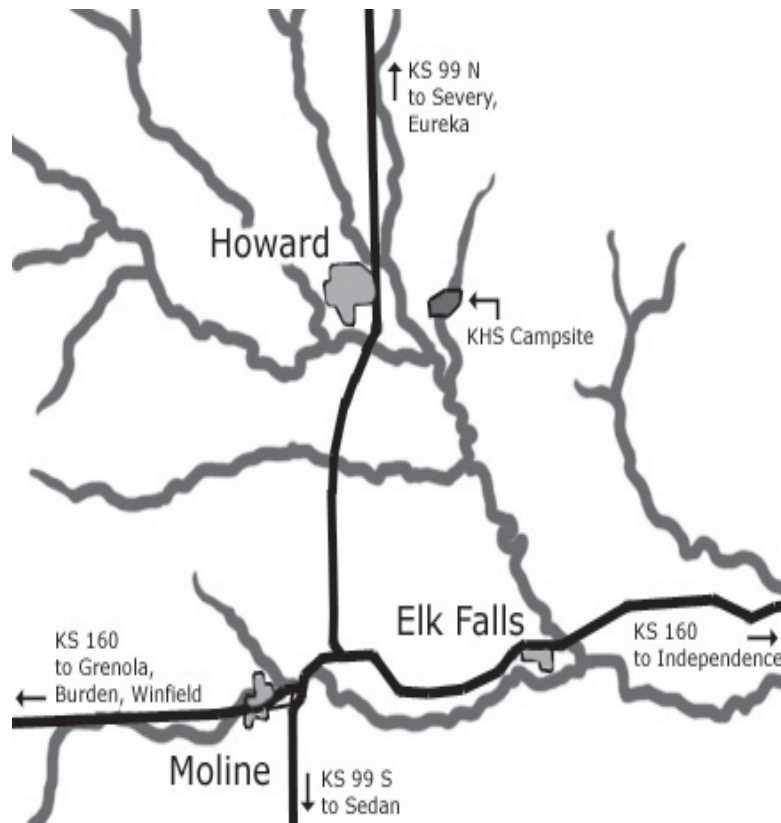
Joseph T. Collins will serve as Master of Ceremonies for the meeting

Notes: The Suzanne L. & Joseph T. Collins Award for Excellence in Kansas Herpetology will be given at this KHS 28th Annual Meeting in Topeka, Kansas, to the KHS member judged to have taken a photograph of exceptional merit of an amphibian(s), turtle(s), and/or reptile(s) native to Kansas. The KHS Awards Committee will judge the entries.

*A double asterisk ** indicates that the presentation listed in the above program is eligible for The Collins Award in 2002.*

KHS FALL FIELD TRIP ANNOUNCED

KHS Field Trip Chairperson Larry L. Miller (Kansas Heritage Photography) announces that the Society's Annual Fall Field Trip will be held on 6–7 October 2001 in the Chautauqua Hills region of southeastern Kansas. Individuals wishing to participate should meet at the Howard City Lake (located about a mile east of Howard, Kansas—see map below) at 9:00 am on the mornings of Saturday, 6 October 2001, and Sunday, 7 October 2001. Signs will be up to guide participants to the meeting area. FRS channel 4 will once again be monitored for those that have FRS radios. Primitive camping is available at the lake. The *Silver Bell Motel* is located in Longton, Kansas, about 20 miles southeast of Howard. The Silver Bell (620 329-4425) is clean and reasonably priced (rooms start at about \$30.00), but there are no non-smoking rooms. There are places to eat in Howard, Elk Falls, and Longton. Fuel is available in all areas. More details will be posted on the KHS web site and in the September issue of the *KHS Newsletter*. For additional information, contact Larry L. Miller (see inside front cover).



CARA INTRODUCED TO THE SENATE

On Wednesday, 12 September 2001, the bipartisan Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA, HR 701) passed another major milestone today when Sen. Mary Landrieu D-Louisiana introduced the bill to the Senate (CARA, S.1328). S 1328 has been referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The House Resources Committee has already voted 29–12 to report this historic conservation legislation to the full US House of Representatives for consideration.

CARA proposes to reinvest \$3.1 billion, a portion of the revenues from federal offshore oil and gas, into state-based wildlife conservation, coastal conservation and impact assistance, historic preservation, urban parks and the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Some of this money would fund research projects on amphibians, turtles, reptiles and crocodilians in North America, making it one of this most important herpetological conservation initiatives in the history of our country.

SPRING 2002 FIELD TRIP

The spring 2002 KHS field trip will be to the Cimarron National Grasslands located in Morton County, Kansas. The dates of the field trip will be 31 May to 2 June 2002. The first organized field trip will begin at 9:00 am on Saturday, 1 June 2002. The second organized field trip will begin at 2:00 pm on Saturday, 1 June 2002. The meeting place for the field trips will be the Cimarron Recreation Area which is located four miles east of Route 27 along gravel road FS 700 on the south side of the river. Camping at the recreation area is \$7.00 per night. Restrooms are available. Open campfires are not allowed. There are also at least two motels in Elkhart. The El Rancho is located at 604 Hwy 56 and its phone number is 620-697-2117. The other motel is the Elkhart Motel which is located at 329 Morton Street. The phone number is 620-697-2168.

Interested persons may travel on to northeast New Mexico Sunday afternoon the 2nd of June to spend a few days herping and exploring the Clayton, New Mexico, area. They can camp at beautiful Clayton Lake State Park (phone 505-374-9253 for information) or stay in one of Clayton's several motels. Two of the motels are the Clayton Motel and the Best Western Inn. The phone number for the Clayton Motel is 505-374-2544. The phone number for the Best Western Inn is 505-374-2589. There are several good places to eat in Clayton, and many historical sites to visit in the area. Lots of herps (especially rattlesnakes) can be found in northeastern New Mexico. Tentative plans are to stay in the Clayton area until Wednesday, 5 June 2002. However, individuals may choose to stay longer or for a shorter period of time.

As with all KHS field trips, FRS channel 4 will be monitored. The Morton County Kansas/Northeast New Mexico field trip will be the only spring KHS field trip for 2002. Start making plans now for this exciting adventure!

For more information, contact Larry L. Miller, KHS Field Trip Chairperson 840 SW 97th Street Wakarusa, Kansas 66546. Telephone: 785-836-2119 (email: kansasphoto@metacrawler.com).



RECENT KHS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ACTIONS

The Kansas Herpetological Society Executive Council met on 5 August 2001, and conducted the following business.

Motions passed:

1. It was moved and seconded (Ellis/S.Collins) that the name of the KHS Newsletter be changed to *Journal of Kansas Herpetology*, published by the Kansas Herpetological Society. The new name will take effect with the first issue of 2002. Motion was approved unanimously.

2. It was moved and seconded (S.Collins/Baldwin) to eliminate the life membership category. It has never been used and is no longer viable to maintain our treasury. Motion was approved unanimously.

Other business:

There was discussion, but no decision, of reviving the KHS directory. When KHS was first established in 1974, a directory of members was included annually in an issue of the KHS Newsletter. This annual listing continued through the early 1980s, and was then discontinued. This matter will be a discussion item at the annual meeting to see if current members want the directory revived. If such a directory were approved, members could opt to have their name listed or not listed.

John Simmons, KHS Archivist, is requested printed materials and photographs of KHS activities. These materials will be filed with the KU Archives as part of KHS history.

The KHS Awards Committee suggested that all awards be listed on the inside cover of the KHS newsletter. Joe Collins will redesign the back inside cover to include all awards and scholarships with estimated dollar amounts. The *Bronze Salamander Award* was excluded from such listing because it is not given annually, and the KHS Executive Council selects the recipients.

The KHS Awards Committee will select *The Collins Award* recipient each year. This year a photo release form will be solicited from the recipient by the KHS Awards Committee so KHS can display the winning photograph on its web site for two years (until the next award is made).

President Ellis appointed Eric Rundquist to write a letter to past KHS presidents asking for donations toward an endowment to the *Gloyd/Taylor Scholarship*. All donations are to be invested in a CD and the interest will become the amount awarded.

The deadline for *Gloyd/Taylor Scholarships* and *Kamb Grants* will be September 15 of each year.

Larry Miller announced the details of the Chautauqua County spring field trip to the Cimarron National Grasslands with a side trip to Clayton, New Mexico. Specific details will appear on the web site and in the KHS Newsletter.

President Ellis appointed Robin Oldham and Kathy Shidler to work on producing a small card to recognize *Herp Heroes*. These cards will be distributed to KHS members to deserving folks who help save and protect amphibians, turtles, and reptiles. When members witness a heroic effort on behalf of our herpetofauna, members can give this card in recognition and appreciation.

RESULTS OF THE KHS SPRING FIELD TRIP WEST

In early June 2001, the KHS members traveled to Hamilton County, Kansas, to search for amphibians, turtles, and reptiles found in the southwestern part of the state. Many gathered at the Hamilton Wildlife Area on Friday night, and at 9:00 am on Saturday morning an amazing 28 hardy participants were present for our first herpetofaunal count ever in this area. The camping was primitive, and the campers were a grizzled-appearing lot as they readied themselves for the hunt.

With the help of many gracious land-owners (thanks to advance scouts Mary Kate Baldwin and Joe and Suzanne Collins), we spent two great days collecting numerous species. Of particular note were the two Eastern Hognose Snakes, one of which was found less than six miles from the Colorado border, a state from which it has never been recorded.

The count for 2-3 June 2001 was as follows:

Barred Tiger Salamander	1
Plains Spadefoot Toad	1
Woodhouse Toad (adult)	14
Woodhouse Toad (tadpoles)	± 2000
Plains Leopard Frog	10

Yellow Mud Turtle	3
Painted Turtle	3
Ornate Box Turtle	26
Great Plains Skink	1
Six-lined Racerunner	21
Western Hognose	2
Eastern Hognose	2
Plains Blackhead Snake	1
Eastern Racer	4
Coachwhip	4
Bullsnake	16
Western Rattlesnake	4
17 species	± 2113 specimens

Participants: Mary Kate Baldwin, Lucia Baldwin, Joseph T. Collins, Suzanne L. Collins, Mark Ellis, Tess Gay, Christina Gitto, James Gubanyi, Jonea Hartshorn, Keno Hartshorn, Kwinter Hartshorn, Taberie Hartshorn, Kathy Heflin, Jay Kirk, Jamie Kirk, Darrell Mangan, Rose Mangan, Larry L. Miller, Suzanne L. Miller, David Oldham, Jackson Oldham, Robin Oldham, Tag Oldham, Eloise Penoi Schafer, Kathy Shidler, Jake Tollefson, John Tollefson, Julie Tollefson.

Verifier: Mark Ellis



An adult Eastern Hognose Snake (*Heterodon platirhinos*), discovered on 2 June 2001 along River Road at Sec. 6, T24S, R41W in Hamilton County, Kansas, by James Gubanyi. Photograph by Suzanne L. Collins.

Few tributes are so lasting or honor individuals so well as memorial donations. The *Kansas Herpetological Society* is privileged to carry on the aims and goals of the Society in the names of recently deceased friends and colleagues. This list recognizes gifts received through 15 September 2001.

In Memory of

RICHARD M. RUNDQUIST

Suzanne L. & Joseph T. Collins

JAMES W. IRWIN

Steven L. & Barbara Adams
Jacques & Becky Bautts
Kathy Shidler & Mark Ellis
Suzanne L. & Joseph T. Collins
Kelly & Lisa Irwin
Thomas E. & Jo Anne Lewis
Larry L. & Suzanne L. Miller

LAWRENCE A. CAPRON

Suzanne L. & Joseph T. Collins

FRANK B. CROSS

Suzanne L. & Joseph T. Collins

JOSEPH B. SLOWINSKI

Suzanne L. & Joseph T. Collins
Travis W. Taggart



BOOKMARK THESE KHS WEB SITES NOW

For everything about the KHS, go to

<http://eagle.cc.ukans.edu/~cnaar/khs/khsmain.html>

For information about the KHS Annual Meeting, go to

<http://eagle.cc.ukans.edu/~cnaar/khs/AnnualMeetingInfo.html>

For information about the KHS Spring Field Trip East, go to

<http://eagle.cc.ukans.edu/~cnaar/khs/FieldTripSpring1Info.html>

For information about the KHS Spring field Trip West, go to

<http://eagle.cc.ukans.edu/~cnaar/khs/FieldTripSpring2Info.html>

For information about the KHS Fall Field Trip, go to

<http://eagle.cc.ukans.edu/~cnaar/khs/FieldTripInfoFall.html>

Remember: Not all of these web sites are fully prepared at any given time; they are always works-in-progress to keep you informed of upcoming KHS activities. Bookmark them, and check them regularly. You will find out faster at these websites about where and when the KHS is planning an activity than you will waiting for a KHS Newsletter to arrive in the mail.



An adult Bullsnake (*Pituophis catenifer*) discovered by Christina Gitto, Kathy Hefflin, Tess Gay, Suzanne L. Miller, and Larry L. Miller on the KHS field trip to Hamilton County, Kansas. Photograph by Mary Kate Baldwin.

SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

REPRODUCTION IN THE COMMON GARTER SNAKE IN SHAWNEE COUNTY, KANSAS.

Mark Ellis
10025 SW Jordan Road
Wakarusa, Kansas 66546

In early June 2001, I received a request from six-year old Tanner Gravenstein (a prospective herpetologist) to supply him with a snake, that would make a suitable pet. Tanner came to my house here in Wakarusa, and we began to survey the surrounding area to see what herps we could uncover. After we caught several species of tadpoles, frogs, an Eastern Racer (*Coluber constrictor*) and a large Great Plains Skink (*Eumeces obsoletus*). Tanner finally settled upon, a large well-mannered female Common Garter Snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis*), which he took home with him.

I kept in contact with Tanner's father, Alan, and so was kept up to date on the Tanner's progress with his new pet. Alan, relayed that the snake had turned down it's first offering of a pet store pinky, but that two days later, the it did not hesitate to feast on several small American Toads (*Bufo americanus*) caught locally. Since then she has always readily taken bait shop night crawlers and also Gray Treefrogs (*Hyla versicolor* complex) when they are made available.

Then, on 28 July, came a phone call from Tanner, "Mark, the snake had babies!" The screen cage that had served so well in containing the larger mother, was allowing the neonates to escape, and range out in Tanner's bedroom. Of course, all of this came as quite a shock to the rest of Tanner's family.

The birth of two young, were observed and a quivering of the mothers tail was observed at the time of delivery. Tanner's eight new pets were rounded up and soon were observed shedding for the first time. Small pieces of night crawler were offered to the neonates and were readily taken.

Tanner then asked "How many babies do they normally have?" Citing "A Kansas Snake Community: Composition and Changes over 50 years," by Henry S. Fitch, I relayed to Tanner that a female of that approximate size may produce a litter, ranging from 13 to 35 neonates. It was further explained that this number could vary depending on such influences as weather, the mother's food supply, and just individual variation with from snake to snake. In his book, Fitch also reports that late July is about the average time for female Common Garter Snakes to give birth. The date of these births lends further support to this.

Upon learning that the number of baby snakes Tanner had recovered was below the reported average, another search was mounted. More were found, one inside a tennis shoe, bringing the known total to ten . . . for now.

HERPS ON THE ROCKS...



FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY'S
STERNBERG MUSEUM
OF NATURAL HISTORY

Hays, Kansas
www.fhsu.edu/sternberg
1-877-332-1165

...HERPS IN THE ROCKS

FEATURE ARTICLES

RESULTS OF THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL KHS HERP COUNTS FOR 2001, HELD 1 APRIL–30 JUNE

ERIC M RUNDQUIST
*Animal Care Unit, B054 Malott
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas 66045
email: trattler@ku.edu*

The thirteenth series of KHS-sponsored herp counts, a controlled census of the state herpetofauna held during the months of April, May, and early June by members of the Kansas Herpetological Society took place in the spring of 2001. Two counts were sponsored by the Society and were held in May and June. A total of 12 counts occurred in 2001.

Following my previous position statement (Rundquist 1994), where state endangered and threatened species, species in need of conservation, and commercially valuable taxa are reported, exact localities are not listed. Persons with a legitimate interest in accurate locality data may contact me for such information. In addition, some species reported herein may appear to be new county records. Without preserved voucher specimens or officially catalogued photographs or audio recordings, such listings are not valid county records nor are they valid literature records. Although I understand that, in many cases, it is not possible to have additional verifiers available, I cannot accept self-verification of such records without the existence of voucher specimens, photographs, or audio recordings.

13TH ANNUAL COWLEY COUNTY HERP COUNT

Al Volkmann led his annual count at a site in Cowley County on 21 April from 1000–1400 hrs. The count method consisted primarily of rock turning. Mid-survey temperature was 22°C and water temperature was 17°C. The area had been burned two weeks previously and all intermittent streams in the survey area were flowing and the pond was full. Participants were Jack Greider, Jenny & Robert Previtiera, Al & Glynda Volkmann, & Stan Wiechman.

American Toad	1
Northern Cricket Frog	52
Plains Leopard Frog	1
Ornate Box Turtle	1
Slider	2
Eastern Collared Lizard	4
Great Plains Skink	22
Ground Skink	3
Western Slender Glass Lizard	1
Ringneck Snake	14
Flathead Snake	18
Eastern Racer	6
Great Plains Rat Snake	1
Common Kingsnake	2
Western Ribbon Snake	2
Common Garter Snake	5
Northern Water Snake	1

Total

17 species 136 specimens

Verifier was Alan Volkmann.

2ND COWLEY COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was held in Cowley County on 5 May from 0800–1500 hrs at Sec. 2, T35S, R4E. Participants were James & Patty Marlett, Eddie & Sevilla Stegall, Dale Randall, & ca. twelve members of the Wichita Audubon Society.

Gray Treefrog complex	1
Ornate Box Turtle	2
Eastern Rat Snake	1

Total

3 species 4 specimens

Verifier was Jim Marlett.

3RD COWLEY COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was held in Cowley County on 6 May from 1100–1200 hrs at Sec. 7, 8, & 18, T34S, R6E. Participants were James & Patty Marlett, Eddie & Sevilla Stegall, Dale Randall, and ca. four members of the Wichita Audubon Society.

Flathead Snake	1
Coachwhip	1

Total

2 species 2 specimens

Verifier was Jim Marlett.

FIRST BARBER COUNTY HERP COUNT

Eric Rundquist held the First of his eighth annual series of herp counts in various areas of Barber County on 5–6 May. Temperatures ranged as high as 74°F with clear to partly cloudy skies and a moderate south wind. Count methods consisted of rock turning, trapping, visual and aural surveys, and road cruising. Eric was the only observer and verifier

Great Plains Toad (calling)	±110
Red-Spotted Toad	1
Woodhouse’s Toad (calling)	±25
Northern Cricket Frog (calling)	±30
Spotted Chorus Frog (calling)	±225
Strecker’s Chorus Frog (calling)	±15
Western Chorus Frog (calling)	±500
Plains Leopard Frog (calling)	3
Plains Spadefoot (calling)	±2000
Yellow Mud Turtle	4
Slider	1
Eastern Collared Lizard	2
Texas Horned Lizard	1
Prairie Lizard	2
Night Snake	1
Plains Blackhead Snake	1
Ground Snake	1
Western Ribbon Snake	1
Lined Snake	1

Total

20 species ±2705 specimens

TURNPIKE ROAD COUNT

While traveling from El Dorado to Lawrence on the Kansas Turnpike, Eric Rundquist conducted a road count from 1600–1820 hrs on 6 May. Total mileage was 132 mi.

Common Snapping Turtle	1
Painted Turtle	1
Ornate Box Turtle	2
Slider	1
unidentified Water Snake	1

Total

5 species 6 specimens

FIRST KHS SPRING HERP COUNT (LINN COUNTY)

The first annual KHS Spring field Trip and Herp Count was held at four different sites in Linn County on 5-6 May. A total of 7.5 hrs was spent by participants in various search activities at these sites.

Participants were Cathy, Rob & Laura Acuff, Bruce & Paul Andersen, Neil Bass, Anjan Bhullar, Keith Coleman, Joseph T. Collins, Suzanne L. Collins, Cory Cowger, Mark Ellis, Brian Featherstone, James Gubanyi, Cindy & Levi Higgins, John Humerczuk, Dan Johnson, Dusty Johnson, Graceanne Johnson, Olin Karch, Karl Karrow, Eric & Maura Kessler, Justin & Mitzi Kimbrough, Brett Lemker, John Lokke, Tim Menard, Daniel Murrow, David, Jackson, Robin & Tag Oldham, Emily, James Reimer, Jill Reimer, Austin, Bradley & Cookie Schmidt, Colleen Riley, Kathy Shidler, Brad Taverner, John Tollefson, Steven Wahle, Chad Whitney, David Wickell, Jesse Wilkins, Trace Ulnicka, Mike Zerwekh and Robert Zerwekh.

Smallmouth Salamander	1
American Toad	1
Northern Cricket Frog	±56
Great Plains Narrowmouth Toad	3
Bullfrog	27
Common Snapping Turtle	5
Common Musk Turtle	4
Eastern Box Turtle	5
Ornate Box Turtle	7
River Cooter	1
Painted Turtle	2
Slider	1
Spiny Softshell	1
Five-lined Skink	1
Broadhead Skink	1
Great Plains Skink	9
Six-lined Racerunner	9
Western Worm Snake	3
Ringneck Snake	56
Eastern Racer	3
Great Plains Rat Snake	6
Eastern Rat Snake	7
Prairie Kingsnake	9
Milk Snake	1
Rough Green Snake	1
Bullsnake	1
Brown Snake	1
Western Ribbon Snake	2
Common Garter Snake	2
Plainbelly Water Snake	3
Diamondback Water Snake	2
Northern Water Snake	1
Graham’s Crayfish Snake	1

Total

33 species 234 specimens

Verifiers were Chad Whitney, Eric Kessler, Dan Murrow, and Suzanne L. Collins.

LOGAN COUNTY HERP COUNT

An herpetofaunal count was held on 8–9 May at Smoky Valley Ranch, T13S, R33W and T14S, R33W. Participants were Curtis Schmidt, Jon Storm, and Mark Omura.

Barred Tiger Salamander	1
Woodhouse's Toad (calling)	±20
Northern Cricket Frog (calling)	±100
Western Chorus Frog (calling)	±50
Plains Leopard Frog (calling)	5
Common Snapping Turtle	1
Yellow Mud Turtle	2
Ornate Box Turtle	1
Painted Turtle	18
Lesser Earless Lizard	5
Prairie Lizard	±30
Plains Blackhead Snake	1
Eastern Racer	1
Bullsnake	1
Plains Garter Snake	4
Western Rattlesnake	3

Total

16 species ±243 specimens

Verifier was Curtis Schmidt.

2ND BARBER COUNTY HERP COUNT

An herpetofaunal count was conducted in Barber County on 12–13 May at various sites in the county. Temperatures reached as high as 76°F with partly cloudy skies and a moderate south wind. A total of 10.5 person-hours was spent in search activities that included visual and aural surveys, rock turning, trapping, and road driving. Eric Rundquist was the only participant and verifier.

Northern Cricket Frog	±65
Spotted Chorus Frog	10
Bullfrog	1
Ornate Box Turtle	1
Slider	1
Eastern Collared Lizard	2
Texas Horned Lizard	1
Great Plains Skink	1
Night Snake	1
Plains Blackhead Snake	1
Coachwhip	2
Bullsnake	2
Ground Snake	2
Lined Snake	2
Massasauga	1

Total

15 species ±94 specimens

SOUTHCENTRAL KANSAS ROAD COUNT

A road count was conducted from Attica, Harper County, to Wichita, Sedgwick County, on U. S. Rt. 160 and Ks. Rts. 2/42 from 1330–1530 hrs by Eric Rundquist on 13 May.

Slider	1
Six-lined Racerunner	1
Bullsnake	3
Common Garter Snake	1

Total

4 species 6 specimens

2ND TURNPIKE ROAD COUNT

While traveling from El Dorado to Lawrence on the Kansas Turnpike, Eric Rundquist conducted a road count from 1600–1800 hrs on 13 May. Total distance traveled was 130 miles. Ann Rundquist also participated.

Common Snapping Turtle	1
Painted Turtle	1
Ornate Box Turtle	5
Slider	2

Total

4 species 9 specimens

Verifier was Eric Rundquist.

2ND KHS SPRING HERP COUNT (HAMILTON COUNTY)

The Society sponsored an extended herp count at various sites in Hamilton County on 2–3 June. Participants were Mary Kate Baldwin, Lucia Baldwin, Joseph T. Collins, Suzanne L. Collins, Mark Ellis, Tess Gay, Christina Gitto, James Gubanyi, Jonea Hartshorn, Keno Hartshorn, Kwinter Hartshorn, Taberie Hartshorn, Kathy Heflin, Jay Kirk, Jamie Kirk, Darrell Mangan, Rose Mangan, Larry L. Miller, Suzanne L. Miller, David Oldham, Jackson Oldham, Robin Oldham, Tag Oldham, Eloise Penoi Schafer, Kathy Shidler, Jake Tollefson, John Tollefson, Julie Tollefson.

Barred Tiger Salamander	1
Plains Spadefoot	1
Woodhouse's Toad (adults & tadpoles)	±2014
Plains Leopard Frog	10
Yellow Mud Turtle	3
Painted Turtle	3
Ornate Box Turtle	26
Great Plains Skink	1

Six-lined Racerunner	21
Western Hognose Snake	2
Eastern Hognose Snake	2
Plains Blackhead Snake	1
Eastern Racer	4
Coachwhip	4
Bullsnake	16
Western Rattlesnake	4

Total

16 species 2113 specimens

Verifiers were Joseph T. Collins and Larry L. Miller.

KHS herp counts for 2001 totaled 69 species and 5552 specimens.

LITERATURE CITED

Rundquist, Eric M. 1994. Results of the sixth annual KHS Herp Counts held 1 April–31 May 1994. *Kansas Herpetol. Soc. Newsl.* 97: 5–14.



An adult Western Green Lacerta (*Lacerta bilineata*) from near 21st and Gage, Topeka, Shawnee County, Kansas, larger of the two species hunted during the lizard field search held this past August. Guntram Deichsel, a visiting herpetologist from Germany, was successful in catching three of these swift and somewhat arboreal lizards. Photograph by Suzanne L. Collins, The Center for North American Herpetology, Lawrence.



An unscheduled alien lizard hunt in Topeka was quickly organized when Russell Burke (Hofstra University), Guntram Deichsel (Germany), and Travis Taggart (Sternberg Museum of Natural History) all arrived in early August 2001 to acquire specimens of exotic lizards for their research. Russell obtained about 35 Italian Wall Lizards (*Podarcis sicula*) for his research, Guntram got blood samples from three Western Green Lacertas (*Lacerta bilineata*) for his study. The assembled lizard catchers, from left to right were: Front row (kneeling): Larry L. Miller, Kathy Shidler, James Gubanyi, and Dorothee Kling. Back row (standing): Travis W. Taggart, Ann Ryan, Mark Ellis, Keith Coleman, Guntram Deichsel, Suzanne L. Collins, and Russell Burke. Photograph by Joseph T. Collins, Kansas Biological Survey, Lawrence.

The Kansas Herpetological Society

The *Kansas Herpetological Society* is a non-profit organization established in 1974 and designed to encourage education and dissemination of scientific information through the facilities of the Society; to encourage conservation of wildlife in general and of amphibians, turtles and reptiles in Kansas in particular; and to achieve closer cooperation and understanding between herpetologists, so that they may work together in common cause.

Membership

All interested persons are invited to become members in the Society. Membership dues per calendar year are \$15.00 (U.S., Regular), \$20.00 (*outside* North America, Regular), and \$20.00 (Contributing) payable to the KHS. Send all dues to: KHS Treasurer (see inside front cover). All members are entitled to participate in Society functions, have voting privileges, and are eligible for Society grants and scholarships. They receive copies of the *KHS Newsletter*, as well as other publications co-sponsored by the Society, either gratis or at a discount.

Editorial Policy

The *Kansas Herpetological Society Newsletter*, issued quarterly, publishes peer-reviewed manuscripts and notes dealing with the biology of amphibians, turtles and reptiles. Manuscripts should be submitted to the Editor no later than the 10th of the month prior to the month of issuance. All manuscripts become the sole possession of the Society, and will not be returned unless arrangements are made with the Editor. Pen and ink illustrations and photographs are also welcomed. Illustrations and photographs will be returned to the author only upon request. The *KHS Newsletter* has adopted the common names standardized nationwide by Collins (1997); all manuscripts submitted will be automatically converted to conform with Collins (1997).

The Howard K. Gloyd-Edward H. Taylor Scholarship

The Gloyd-Taylor Scholarship is presented annually by the Kansas Herpetological Society to an outstanding herpetology student. Nominations for this award are open to any KHS member enrolled in an accredited educational institution in Kansas or any KHS member enrolled in any accredited educational institution outside of Kansas. The scholarship is \$100.00 and is awarded on the basis of potential for contributing to the science of herpetology. Students from grade school through university are eligible.

Nominations should include typewritten details of the nominee's qualifications, plus name and address of the nominee and nominator. Self-nomination is encouraged. If self-nominated, a letter of reference from an academician is required.

Nominations should include, but are not limited to, academic record, herpetological activities, and future plans in herpetology. Academic record should address schools attended and an indication of academic performance in each (e.g., grade point average, teacher evaluations, courses completed). Herpetological activities should include a brief narrative that details experiences and activities that demonstrate a long-term interest in herpetology, and documents accomplishments in herpetological study. Future plans in herpetology should include a statement, not to exceed one-page, written by the student about his/her future interests and plans.

Applicants may include an optional appendix with photographs, awards, newspaper articles, reports written by the student, or other documents relevant to herpetological activities.

Nominations should be sent to the KHS Awards Committee Chair, and must be postmarked by 15 September. The scholarship winner will be announced at the annual meeting in November. New applications will be accepted after 1 January of the following year.

The Alan H. Kamb Grant for Research on Kansas Snakes

KHS members only are eligible to apply for The Alan H. Kamb Grant for Research on Kansas Snakes. The recipient of the grant (minimally \$100.00) will be selected by the KHS Awards Committee. If no qualified proposals are submitted, no award will be made for that year.

The KHS Awards Committee will entertain proposals for research on Kansas snakes. The proposal must be limited to ten typed pages, and should include, but not be limited to the following: title, name of researcher, contact information, abstract, introduction and justification, objectives or hypotheses, materials and methods, significance of research and possible results, literature cited, timetable, and proposed budget. The research must be conducted on one or more native Kansas snake species. Additionally, a majority of the field work or observations must be proposed to occur in Kansas, or the data must be proposed to be collected, at least in part, on Kansas specimens.

Proposals should be sent to the KHS Awards Committee Chair, and must be postmarked by 15 September. The grant recipient will be announced at the annual meeting in November. New applications will be accepted after 1 January of the following year.

The Suzanne L. & Joseph T. Collins Award for Excellence in Kansas Herpetology

Conditions and Stipulations: The Award shall be known, presented, and portrayed as the *Suzanne L. & Joseph T. Collins Award for Excellence in Kansas Herpetology* and may not be changed for any reason, nor added to or merged with any other award, prize, or gift. The Award is established in recognition of the scientific and photographic achievements of Suzanne L. Collins and Joseph T. Collins, whose life-long study and conservation of the native amphibians, turtles, and reptiles of Kansas is amply demonstrated in their extensive and excellent writings and photography, both academic and popular, about these animals.

The Award shall be presented no more than once each year. The Award may not be divided, but must be presented in full to a single individual. The Award consists of a trust-in-perpetuity, owned and invested by the *The Center for North American Herpetology*, and part of the interest from the trust is annually forwarded to the *Kansas Herpetological Society*, should they choose to make an award in that year.

Recipients of The Collins Award are chosen by the *Kansas Herpetological Society Awards Committee*.

In even-numbered years, the Award is bestowed upon an individual who, in the *preceding* two calendar years, had published a paper of academic excellence on the systematics, ecology, or conservation of a native species of Kansas amphibian, turtle, and/or reptile in the *Kansas Herpetological Society Newsletter*, *Transactions of the Kansas Academy of Science*, *Herpetological Review*, or the *Journal of Herpetology*, and/or presented a lecture of excellence on the systematics, ecology, or conservation of a native species of Kansas amphibian, turtle, and/or reptile at the KHS Annual Meeting. To qualify for the Award, a portion of the field work or observations must have occurred in Kansas, or the systematic data must have been based in part on Kansas specimens. *In odd-numbered years*, the Award is bestowed upon an individual who was chosen the best in a juried competition featuring the art of photography in portraying amphibians, turtles, and/or reptiles, said competition to take place under the auspices and on the occasion of the annual meeting of the *Kansas Herpetological Society*. To qualify for the Award, the art work must portray a species native to Kansas.

The Collins Award is minimally \$1000.00, and is neither a grant nor a scholarship. No nominations or applications can be made for it.

KHS Advertisement Policy: As decreed by the KHS Executive Council, the KHS Newsletter will accept advertisements at the rate of \$25.00 per quarter page per issue, up to a one-page maximum per issue. No advertisements for live animals or parts thereof will be accepted.

KANSAS HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY
5438 SW 12TH TERRACE, APT. 4
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66604

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
LAWRENCE, KANSAS 66044
PERMIT NO. 222