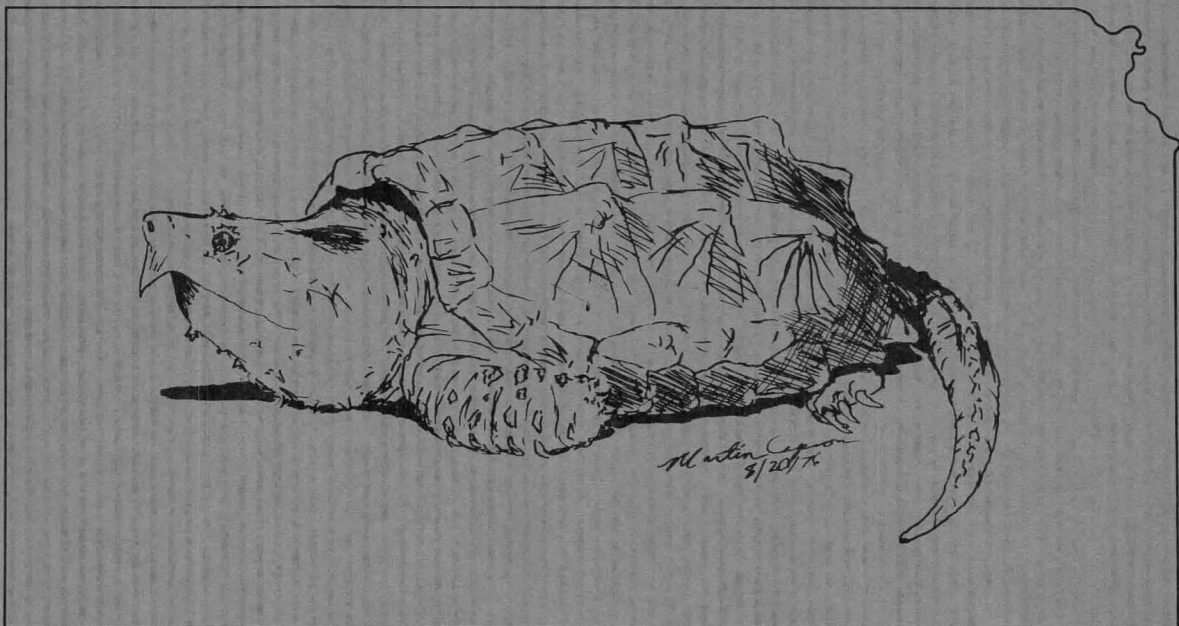


**kansas  
herpetological  
society**



*newsletter*

## KANSAS HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS FOR 1977

### **PRESIDENT**

Robert F. Clarke (316-343-1200) ext. 312  
Division of Biological Sciences  
Emporia Kansas State College  
Emporia, Kansas 66801

### **PRESIDENT-ELECT**

Larry Miller (316-845-2680)  
524 North Osage Street  
Caldwell, Kansas 67022

### **PAST-PRESIDENT**

Jan Caldwell (913-864-2414)  
State Biological Survey  
2045 Avenue -A-  
Campus West  
Lawrence, Kansas 66045

### **SECRETARY-TREASURER**

Marjorie Perry (913-843-8270)  
812 Murrow Court  
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

### **EDITOR**

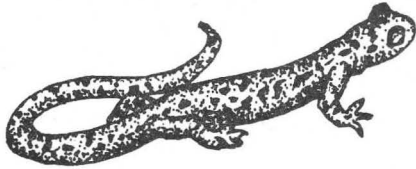
Janice Perry (913-864-4920)  
Museum of Natural History  
University of Kansas  
Lawrence, Kansas 66045

## KANSAS HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY COMMITTEES

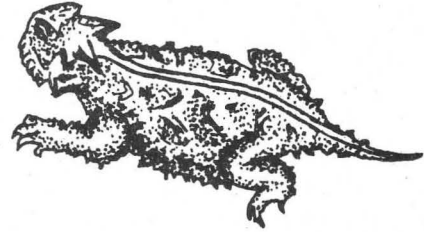
### **PROGRAM CHAIRMAN**

Mary E. Dawson (913-864-4920)  
Rt. 1, Box 150  
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

The illustration on the front cover was drawn by Martin B. Capron, KHS member from Oxford, Kansas. The drawing represents an Alligator Snapping Turtle (**Macroclemys temmincki**). It occurs rarely in southeastern Kansas and is considered a threatened species in the state.



KANSAS  
HERPETOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY  
NEWSLETTER



Number 18

April 1977

---

KHS TO CLARK COUNTY

The first KHS field trip of the 1977 season will be held from Friday evening (13 May) to Sunday (15 May) at Clark County State Lake in southwestern Kansas. The state lake is located approximately 13 miles north of Ashland, 12 miles east of Mineola, and 24 miles west of Coldwater. Primitive camping facilities are available at the state park, so be sure to come well equipped with tents, stoves and cooking gear. A motel and restaurant are available in coldwater, and possibly in Ashland also.

Bring friends and other KHS members in your car. Remember, we will be searching for amphibians and reptiles for the live exhibit that will be operated at the SSAR-HL-KHS meeting in Lawrence in August. See you at the park!

The KHS Executive Council will meet briefly at noon on Saturday (14 May) to handle any necessary Society business.

---MARY E. DAWSON, KHS Program Chairperson

SALINA SITE OF MARCH KHS MEETING

The March meeting of the Kansas Herpetological Society was held in Salina. KHS member George Toland, biology teacher at Central High School, presented an intriguing slide show entitled "Collectservatation of the vicious little bells". For those who wonder, "little bells" refers to the terminology used in the original descriptions of rattlesnakes. Rattlesnakes were referred as snakes with bells on their tails. During the break, members were served delicious home-made cinnamon rolls and coffee. Jaime Pefaur, who had planned to speak, was unable to attend due to illness. Jaime gives his sincerest regrets to the membership for missing this opportunity to speak to us. After the break, Joseph T. Collins spoke and showed some fantastic slides dealing with Kingsnakes: Genus Lampropeltis.

After the programs, Robert Clarke, KHS President, read and asked for a vote on an official statement concerning the Kansas Herpetological Society's official stand on rattlesnake roundups. This statement was approved by the members present and appears in this issue of the Newsletter.

The meeting was well attended and the Kansas Herpetological Society wishes to thank George Toland and his wife for their hospitality.

KANSAS HERPS NEEDED

All KHS members and friends are urged to assist the Kansas Herpetological Society in obtaining live examples of each kind of amphibian and reptile found in our state. Since there are over 90 species of herps in Kansas, this will be a formidable task. The live animals will be exhibited at the 20th annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles (SSAR) being held jointly with the Herpetologists' League (HL) and the KHS from 7-13 August 1977 in Lawrence, Kansas. This exhibit will allow all herpetologists attending the meetings to photograph our native herpetofauna, and will negate the need for many of them to collect specimens in Kansas.

Mary Dawson, KHS program chairperson and KU Museum live snake exhibit caretaker, will be in charge of the exhibit during the SSAR-HL-KHS meeting. Since the Museum of Natural History at KU already has most of the larger species of Kansas snakes on exhibit, it will not be necessary to catch these. NO VENOMOUS SNAKES ARE NEEDED---the Museum already has these. In addition, Dave Grow of the Sedgwick County Zoo in Wichita has offered to maintain an example of each of the 12 aquatic species of turtles found in Kansas, and will deliver them to the Museum shortly before the meetings in Lawrence. Give or send all aquatic turtles to Dave at: Sedgwick County Zoo, 5555 Zoo Boulevard, Wichita, Kansas 67212. Also, Eric Rundquist has promised to try and maintain the small endangered adult salamanders and frogs found in southeast Kansas until the meetings. These can be obtained from neighboring states (Arkansas, Missouri, or Oklahoma) and given to Eric or J. T. Collins at the KU Museum of Natural History in Lawrence.

Actually, certain species are needed more than others, and the list below represents those amphibians and reptiles most desired. Remember, the animals need not be from Kansas. Also, only 3-4 adult specimens of each kind are needed, so do not collect large numbers.

Salamanders

Gray-bellied salamander (Eurycea multiplicata)  
Grotto salamander (Typhlotriton spelaeus)  
Central Newt (Notophthalmus viridescens)  
Mudpuppy (Necturus maculosus)

Frogs and toads

Eastern narrow-mouthed frog (Gastrophryne carolinensis)  
Plains narrow-mouthed frog (Gastrophryne olivacea)  
Red-spotted toad (Bufo punctatus)  
Green toad (Bufo debilis)  
Spotted chorus frog (Pseudacris clarki)  
Northern green frog (Rana clamitans)  
Northern crawfish frog (Rana areolata)  
Pickereel frog (Rana palustris)

---

Lizards

Broad-headed skink (Eumeces laticeps)  
Prairie skink (Eumeces septentrionalis)  
Southern coal skink (Eumeces anthracinus)  
Northern Fence lizard (Sceloporus undulatus hyacinthinus)  
Earless lizard (Holbrookia maculata)

Snakes

Western earth snake (Virginia valeriae elegans)  
Rough earth snake (Virginia striatula)  
Plains black-headed snake (Tantilla nigriceps)  
New Mexico blind snake (Leptotyphlops dulcis)  
Northern red-bellied snake (Storeria occipitomaculata)  
Great Plains ground snake (Sonora episcopa)  
Texas night snake (Hypsiglena ochrorhyncha)  
Smooth green snake (Opheodrys vernalis)  
Texas glossy snake (Arizona elegans)  
Texas long-nosed snake (Rhinocheilus lecontei)  
Checkered garter snake (Thamnophis marcianus)  
Eastern hognose snake (Heterodon platyrhinos)

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD PRESENTED TO LARRY MILLER

Charles V. Wright, Acting Regional Administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region VII presented an Environmental Quality Award to Larry Miller, KHS President-Elect from Caldwell, Kansas, for his outstanding contribution to environmental issues. Larry was recognized for his part in initiating the investigation of the pesticide disaster in south-central Kansas in early 1976. This disaster took quite a toll on the fauna of southcentral Kansas (see KHS Newsletter, No. 12, April 1976). The KHS wishes to congratulate Larry on his fine job in bringing the pesticide disaster to the public's attention and his concern for the fauna of our state. Congratulations Larry!

KANSAS HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
STATEMENT OF POLICY  
CONCERNING RATTLESNAKE ROUNDUPS

WHEREAS, cruel and inhumane treatment of rattlesnakes is exhibited at rattlesnake roundups, and

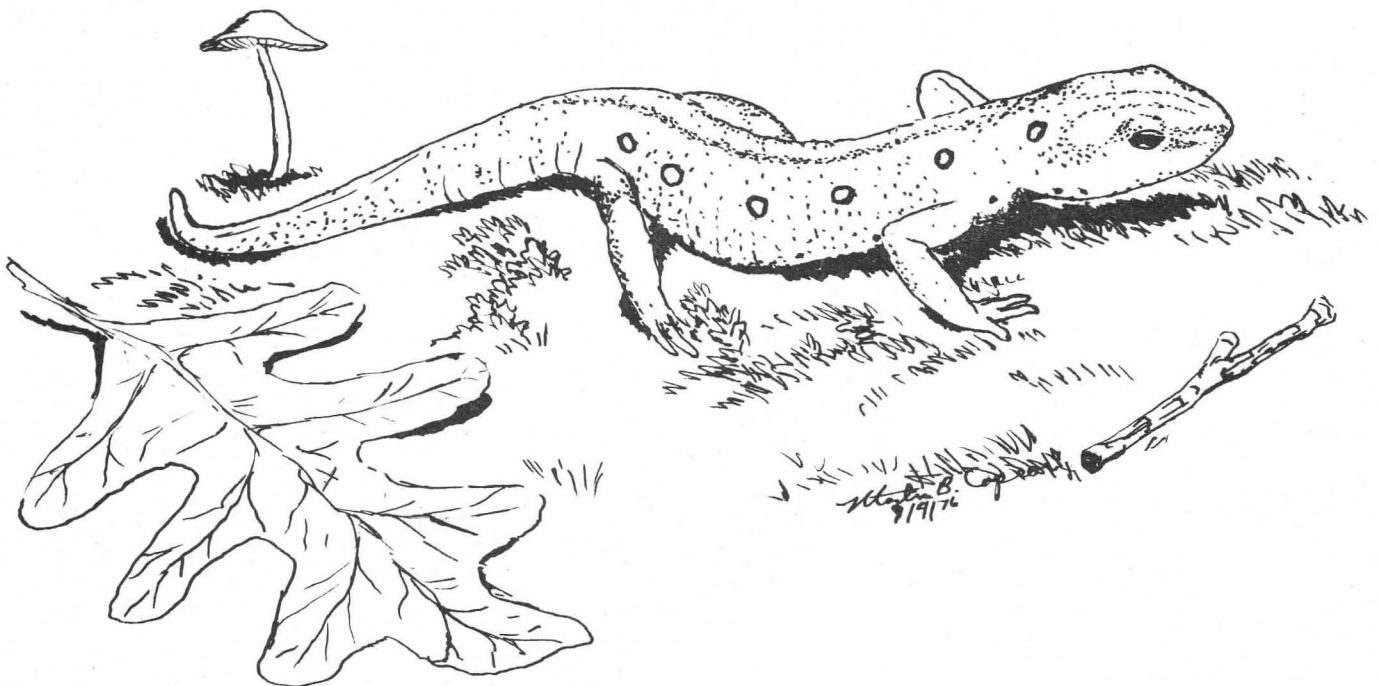
WHEREAS, rattlesnake roundups are dangerous to spectators and participants, and

WHEREAS, spectators are taught inhumane treatment of rattlesnakes, and, indirectly, other forms of living creatures, dangerous methods of handling rattlesnakes, and incorrect information concerning the natural history of rattlesnakes, and

WHEREAS, repeated large-scale removal of reptilian predators, such as rattlesnakes, from an area can result in endangering the very existence of those reptile populations and therefore is not in the best interest of conservation or wildlife management, now be it

RESOLVED, that the Kansas Herpetological Society is opposed to rattlesnake roundups as they exist.

This statement was approved by the membership at the Kansas Herpetological Society meeting held on 12 March 1977 at Salina, Kansas.



CURRENT LITERATURE

This current literature section has been compiled by Joseph T. Collins, and contains titles of books and articles on amphibians and reptiles of possible interest to KHS members. Generally, books and articles listed here are those written by KHS members, or which contain direct reference to the herpetofauna of Kansas.

Ashton, R. E.

1977. Identification manual to reptiles and amphibians in Florida. Pagination unknown. Available for \$2.00 postpaid from: Collector's Shop, Florida State Museum, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611. This manual is excellent for elementary and secondary students.

Bauman, M. A. and D. E. Metter.

1977. Reproductive cycle of the northern watersnake, Natrix s. sipedon (Reptilia, Serpentes, Colubridae). SSAR Journ. Herp. 11(1):51-59.

Black, J. H. and J. T. Collins.

1977. An albino Ambystoma tigrinum mavortium from Kansas. SSAR Herp. Review 8(1):5. Reprints available free from the KHS Newsletter editor.

Dowler, R. C. and H. H. Genoways.

1976. Supplies and suppliers for vertebrate collections. Museology 4:1-83. Available for \$3.00 from: The Museum, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas 79409.

Fitch, H. S. and R. W. Henderson.

1977. Age and sex differences in the Ctenosaur (Ctenosaura similis). Milwaukee Pub. Mus. Contrib. Biol. Geol. 11:1-11. Limited reprints available from Henry S. Fitch at The University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas.

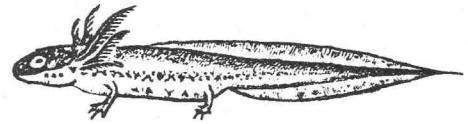
Glenn, J. L., et al.

- No date.  
The status of Utah herpetofauna: an overview. 9 pp. Available from James L. Glenn, Venom Research Lab., Veterans Administration Hospital, Salt Lake City, Utah 84113.

Iverson, J. B.

1977. Kinosternon subrubrum. SSAR Cat. Amer. Amphib. Reptiles, 193.1-193.4. Available from SSAR by subscription--for information write to Henri C. Seibert, Dept. Zoology, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio 45701.

- Lillywhite, H. B., G. Friedman and N. Ford.  
1977. Color matching and perch selection by lizards in recently burned chaparral. *Copeia* 1977(1):115-121.
- McGaugh, M. H. and H. H. Genoways.  
1976. State laws as they pertain to scientific collecting permits. *Museology* 2:1-81. Available for \$2.00 from: The Museum, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas 79409.
- Plummer, M. V.  
1977. Notes on the courtship and mating behavior of the soft-shell turtle, Trionyx muticus (Reptilia, Testudines, Trionychidae). *SSAR Journ. Herp.* 11(1):90-92.
- Pregill, G. K.  
1977. Axial myology of the racer Coluber constrictor with emphasis on the neck region. *Trans. San Diego Soc. Nat. Hist.* 18(11):185-206.
- Riches, R. J.  
1976. Breeding snakes in captivity. Arco Publishing Co., New York. 90 pp. Available for \$4.95 at your local bookstore.



#### COPULATION OBSERVED IN CHONDROPYTHON VIRIDIS

On 15 January 1977, the female Chondropython viridis (New Guinea Green Tree Python) was separated from the male for the duration of her shed. At this time the male also clouded prior to shedding. The male shed on 24 January 1977 and the female on 27 January 1977. On the morning of 27 January 1977, the female was re-introduced to the male who had remained in their normal exhibit unit. The exhibit was heavily misted, the female's cast skin was placed on the screen covering the exhibit, and a sheet of plastic was in turn placed over it. This created an atmosphere inside the exhibit of high humidity and little air circulation. The snakes were observed throughout the day but no breeding activity ensued. It was the following morning that the snakes were observed in copulo.

On 28 January 1977, E. R. Byrne and myself, herpetarium keepers at the Sedgwick County Zoo, were fortunate in being able to observe copulation in our pair of New Guinea Green Tree Pythons Chondropython viridis. Arriving at work as usual at 8:00 AM, we turned on the building lights and made our customary check of the animals. We immediately noticed that our Green Tree Pythons were in a copulatory posture. The building lights were turned off and a 25 watt red light over the cage was switched on instead. This allowed us to observe the animals without disturbing them.



It is my belief that Chondropython viridis is nocturnal or at least crepuscular. They are rarely active when fully illuminated. Their common posture during daylight hours is a tight coil hanging midventrally over a branch. When we observed the snakes on this January morning, the female was in roughly that position, although her coils were looser and her tail was hanging downward to the extent that her vent was exposed. The male was lying atop the female in loops and his tail was downward and against the female's. The pupils of their eyes were fully dilated and instead of the golden color we were used to seeing, they were black. Neither snake seemed disturbed by our close presence on the other side of the glass. I do not think that the male had actually inserted in the female at this point, although it is possible that he had. At no time did I observe either of his hemipenes. This is unfortunate since it is a simple hemipenis which in part relegates C. viridis to a monotypic genus. Throughout our observations, the snakes' vents were in such close proximity that it was impossible to tell exactly when insertion began or ceased.

The female's role in copulation was largely passive. Her long and thin prehensile tail was uncoiled as was the male's. The male showed more movement than did the female. At no time did I observe the sudden or jerking movements that are often associated with breeding activity in other groups of snakes. All movements were made slowly and deliberately and centered around the tail and vent. The snakes kept movement to a minimum, hanging almost motionless together while their tails entwined like lethargic tentacles. At one point, the very tip of the female's tail was coiled in a circle about the size of a quarter. The end of the male's tail passed through the very center of this circle without touching and they remained this way for a few moments. Pumping or contraction around the vent area was not observed.

At about 10:00AM, it was necessary to turn on the building lights. We taped several thicknesses of newspaper over the exhibit to keep the snakes in twilight. We checked and photographed them throughout the day. They did not seem disturbed by this and their position did not vary.

At 4:00PM I checked the snakes again, and it seemed to me that insertion had ceased, although they were still coiled together. At 5:00PM the snakes were still in this position. When I came in the next morning, the female was uncoiled but quickly assumed her typical diurnal position when the lights came on. Judging from prior experiences, we are expecting a clutch of eggs sometime in late March.

---PETER GRAY, Herpetarium Keeper, Sedgwick County Zoo, Wichita

---

## Kansas Herpetological Society Newsletter

---

### KHS MEMBER RETURNS FROM COSTA RICA

Marty Capron, KHS member from Oxford, Kansas, returned after a month in the wilds of Costa Rica. He was part of a herpetological crew, headed by Max Nickerson, that studied and collected the herpetofauna of the area. The trip was a success despite a discouraging flight into San José. Radio-telemetry work was done to aid in tracking down parrot snakes, double-crested green basilisks, and fer de lances. Marty survived "cayman-wrestlin' " and Montezuma's revenge to relate wild stories of jungle life to his friends in Kansas. He plans a program about his trip for a future KHS Meeting.

### REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

KHS has a new member, Anthony Sokol, Treasurer of the Victorian Herpetological Society in Bentleigh, Victoria, Australia. In a letter to Marjorie Perry, KHS Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Sokol expresses a desire to correspond with any members who might be interested in knowing more about the Australian herpetofauna in exchange for information about the Kansas herpetofauna. He also would like to know about various laws regulating herps in Kansas. In Victoria, Anthony says, herps are protected and soon even amateur herp keepers will be required to possess a permit for their animals. His address is: Anthony Sokol, 7 Roma Street, Bentleigh, Victoria 3204, Australia for anyone interested in writing him.

### KHS MEMBERS---CAN YOU HELP!!

George Pisani (KU Biology Department) will be in charge of handling the million odd problems likely to arise during the upcoming SSAR-HL-KHS meeting. To provide quick communications between meeting rooms, the dorm and George, he'd like to borrow some "walkie-talkies" (up to 6) with a range of ca. 2 miles. If you could loan George any, please contact him and let him know how many (remember, 1 here and there adds up), and what channel yours are set up for. He is trying to scrounge them from KU, but it's been "...like wringing blood from a turnip."

GUEST EDITORIAL: FEAR AND LOATHING IN KANSAS (APOLOGIES TO HUNTER S. THOMPSON)

On Monday, 4 April 1977, whilst pursuing my well-worn copy of the University Daily Kansan (KU's student newspaper) what should my red-rimmed eyeballs happen to fall upon but the following FOR SALE ad: "Live venomous snakes, Egyptian cobra, Puff Adders, --Perfect health, eating mice. Call (name withheld for obvious reasons), evenings, K.C., Kansas." My first thought was "how interesting," my second, "how many hospitals in Kansas carry Naja and puff adder antivenin and how quickly could Sherman Minton get here from Indiana to treat the victim?"

I must admit that my first temptation was to call this person and ask him just what the hell he thought he was trying to do?! But before I committed verbal aggravated assault, I set about to see what sort of legal action could be used to stop him/her. I found out that it is now illegal by federal law to import these animals into the United States, and that most communities in Kansas have statutes against the maintenance of noxious and/or dangerous animals in private homes. However, the more I thought about it, it seemed that legal action and my hollering would not effectively prevent further transactions of the aforementioned kind. So, here you have my comments and views, for better or worse.

I, along with many other KHS members, take a rather dim view of the pet trade in general, and the herp trade in particular. However, I have resigned myself to the fact that such business will always be with us. The sale of deadly snakes and maintenance of such animals in private homes is an entirely different matter. As I see it, the only legitimate use for these animals is in zoos and research institutions. There is no excuse, absolutely none, for the existence of such animals in private homes. Besides the danger a cobra or rattlesnake represents to the owner, the potential threat of such an animal to the general population in the event of an escape is considerable. Such escapes have occurred; most recently an Asian cobra was found loose in Miami, Florida. The picture of a young child coming upon and being bitten by such an animal is, to me, horrifying and I doubt that anyone would want to be responsible for any such occurrence.

In closing, I would hope that the KHS will strongly condemn the maintenance of deadly snakes in private homes and their sale to private individuals. The potential danger that they represent to unqualified owners and the general populace is tremendous. It should and must be prevented and controlled.

---ERIC M. RUNDQUIST

### FIVE DAYS IN FEBRUARY

The first few weeks of 1977 proved to be among the coldest on record in southern Kansas. Temperatures were below freezing most of the time and quite often they dropped well below zero. No rain and very little snow fell in the area all winter, thus most of the ponds and streams were either dry or very low. A few of my elementary science students had talked about snakes and the like during science classes, but it did not look like there would be much collecting in the Caldwell area for awhile.

Recovering from a bad case of the flu, I was more than happy when the temperature suddenly rose to a warm 18° C on the afternoon of 9 February 1977. After being stuck inside for a number of days, I was ready to get outside and do some collecting--not even caring what I found!

Leaving the school at about 4:00PM the afternoon of the ninth, I quickly headed east and started checking small ponds and streams for frogs, turtles, or anything alive. I saw very few living things and none of the critters found were herps. Checking one last area near South Haven, Kansas, my day was made when a piece of tin yielded a 170cm black rat snake (Elaphe o. obsoleta). I had collected my first snake of 1977!

Thursday, 10 February 1977, was again sunny and warm. The temperature was about 16° C as I arrived at my parents farm located northeast of South Haven, Kansas. My dad was enjoying himself fishing at one of his many ponds. Most of the fish had been killed, along with many other animals, about a year ago during the massive spraying of pesticides in the area. Not many herps were out, but a few bullfrogs (Rana catesbeiana) and leopard frogs (Rana blairi) were observed that afternoon. My dad told me of a red-eared turtle (Chrysemys scripta elegans) seen earlier in the afternoon.

Rain started to fall about noon on Friday, 11 February. Once again the temperature was quite warm for a Kansas February day. With the promise of rain until Saturday morning, as well as mild temperatures, it looked like a super amphibian collecting weekend. Friday evening was a mild 10° C, rain was falling, so I left for some road hunting. After driving for one hour, my first amphibian was found--a bullfrog collected along the banks of the Chikaskia River on the Kansas-Oklahoma state line. Getting stuck on a seldom travelled dirt road, then walking quite some distance in the rain to a farm house to find someone to pull my car out, I declared it a night. Soaked to the skin, I headed back to Caldwell for some dry clothes and hot coffee.

Most of Saturday, 12 February was spent near Oxford, Kansas checking roadside ditches, streams, and other areas for herps. My companion on this expedition was Marty Capron. Marty had just returned from several weeks of collecting in Costa Rica and I am sure he was finding our futile attempt at collecting rather dull. One leopard frog was collected and several others were observed.

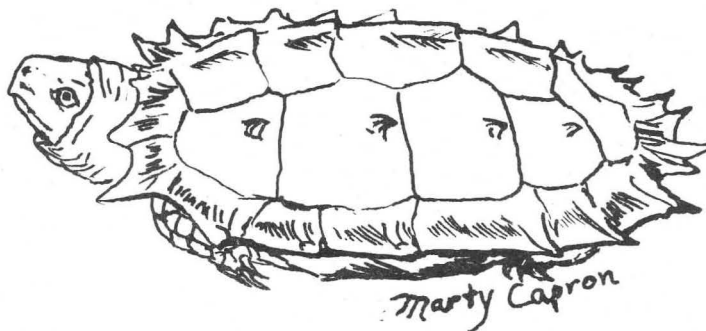
Sunday the thirteenth was fantastic! Rising bright and early at 10:00AM, I quickly discovered that the mercury had already

made it up to 16°C. It was sunny and just beautiful! During the afternoon I observed quite a number of frogs and turtles. A live northern snapping turtle (*Chelydra s. serpentina*) was captured at a small pond northeast of South Haven and several red-eared and western painted turtles (*Chrysemys picta belli*) were seen in the same area. The animals were quite active as the temperature had now reached 21°C!

Several dead fish, frogs, and turtles were found floating on top of the water at a few of the shallow ponds visited during the afternoon of 13 February 1977. The deaths were assumed to be caused by the extremely cold winter temperatures Kansas had experienced. It seems that the low temperatures had frozen some of the shallow water holes solid, thus causing the deaths of the cold blooded aquatic animals living in them. Some of the dead herps found included a western painted turtle, red-eared turtle and several bullfrogs. These animals were found between two and three miles north of the Oklahoma line and just to the east of the Kansas turnpike. They were all found in shallow ponds.

Like all good things, the fine weather had to end. The weather not only cooled off on Monday, but it even snowed. The collecting was over for awhile, but of course Spring was just around the corner. The five days in February had just been the start of what I hope will be a good year.

---LARRY MILLER, Caldwell, Kansas



# ANNOUNCEMENT JOINT ANNUAL MEETING

HERPETOLOGISTS'  
LEAGUE



SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY  
OF  
AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES

sponsored by  
THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS  
with the cooperation of  
THE KANSAS HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
in  
LAWRENCE, KANSAS U.S.A.  
7-13 AUGUST 1977

## FEATURED SYMPOSIUM:

**The South American Herpetofauna: Its Origin, Evolution and Dispersal**

## THE PROGRAM:

Sunday, 7 August.— SSAR Board Meeting  
Monday, 8 August.— Registration— Herpetologists' League Executive Council Meeting—  
Regional Society Meetings  
Tuesday, 9 August.— Contributed Papers— Social (evening)  
Wednesday, 10 August.— Contributed Papers— Picnic (evening)  
Thursday - Saturday,  
11-13 August.— Symposium: The South American Herpetofauna

## GENERAL INFORMATION:

**Pre-registration Forms**, including the **Call for Papers** and general information about the meetings will be mailed to society members in March.

The **deadline for abstracts** is **Monday, May 2, 1977**.

The **deadline for pre-registration** is **Friday, July 15, 1977**.

**Pre-registration Fee** of **\$12** is due no later than July 15, 1977.

**Registration Fee** on or after 8 August will be **\$17**.

**Dormitory Housing** is available at the following rates:

\$7.50 per day per person: double occupancy — \$10.00 per day per person: single occupancy

**Camping Facilities** for tents and recreational vehicles are available at the Lawrence KOA.

**Child Care Facilities and Activities** will be arranged if there is sufficient need and interest.

**Transportation:** Individuals planning to travel by air should make reservations into Kansas City International Airport (KCI) and book space on Lawrence Aviation commuter flights between KCI and Lawrence. Transportation between the Lawrence airport and the city of Lawrence will be provided if the Local Committee is notified in advance of times of arrival and departure.

## LOCAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN:

William E. Duellman  
Museum of Natural History  
The University of Kansas  
Lawrence, Kansas 66045  
(913) 864-3342



The University  
of Colorado  
Fifty-Second  
Lecture on  
Research and  
Creative Work

Hobart M. Smith

Frogs and  
Freedom

Mary F. Berry  
Chancellor  
University of Colorado  
at Boulder, Presiding  
University Memorial Center Ballroom  
8:00 p.m., Wednesday  
April 20, 1977

Hobart Muir Smith is one of the leading herpetologists in the world, noted primarily for his massive and distinguished contributions to the classification and evolutionary biology of reptiles and amphibians. An internationally recognized specialist on the herpetofauna of Mexico, he has also made important contributions to the fields of comparative anatomy, paleontology, biological bibliography and biography, ecology, and animal behavior.

This breadth of knowledge is manifested in Dr. Smith's publication record of approximately 30 books and 700 articles. One of his major achievements is *The Herpetology of Mexico*, a now classic document which is being revised and expanded. Another large-scale project is the preparation of an index to the world scientific literature on Mexican herpetology. To date, this has resulted in four published volumes, one almost completed volume, and four in the planning stage. The first two published volumes alone contain a list of approximately 9,000 references, and the last two about 98,000 citations derived from those references plus about 1,500 supplementary ones. His textbook of comparative anatomy is a unique contribution. First published nearly 30 years ago, it remains a standard reference book.

As teacher, Dr. Smith is able to direct students to research projects which promise to lead to new and significant findings. This advice is extremely useful in the training of undergraduate and graduate students and in the development of young faculty as well as in the systematic advancement of science.

Hobart Smith received graduate degrees from the University of Kansas and joined the University of Colorado faculty in 1968, serving as chairman of the Department of Environmental, Population, and Organismic Biology from 1970 to 1974. Hobart Smith is a scholar's scholar, a gentleman and a gentle man. The Lectureship not only honors him but brings credit to the award.



**Members of the  
Council on Research  
and Creative Work**

Jerrold Bebernes  
Leo Cabell  
Stanley Cristol  
Luis Eades (Chairman)  
Eva Fifkova  
James Jankowski  
David Kasoy  
Milton Lipetz  
Reginald Saner  
Gary Stahl  
Chris Zafiratos

**The Work of the Council**

The Council encourages and supports original research and creative effort by faculty members. It sponsors two lectures on Research and Creative Work annually, and awards grants-in-aid, Faculty Fellowships, and Summer Research Initiation Faculty Fellowships.





---The Kansas Herpetological Society Newsletter is issued every other month by the Kansas Herpetological Society. All interested individuals are invited to become members. Membership dues per calendar year are \$3.00 (Regular) or \$15.00 (Contributing) payable to: Marjorie Perry, Secretary-Treasurer, 812 Murrow Court, Lawrence, Kansas 66044. All manuscripts and notes should be sent to the Editor. EDITOR: Janice Perry, Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas 66045. ASSOCIATE EDITOR: David Grow, Sedgwick County Zoo, 5555 Zoo Boulevard, Wichita, Kansas 67212.

