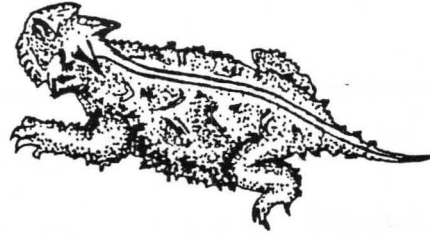


KANSAS  
HERPETOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER



Number 22

December 1977

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A Note From the President

I want to thank all of you for your support and participation in the Society this past year. The membership has increased and active participation at all events has been fine. So far, our organization has had a cadre of individuals that has gone out of its way to see that this Society prospered. Your officers have served you well. Our ledger is in the black, even with the number and quality of Newsletters and other mailings. Among our accomplishments this year was the herp display and other participation in the SSAR-Herp League -- KHS meeting at Lawrence in August, where we hosted the first Regional Herp Society Conference in the United States; initiation of the Holbrook contest; successful outdoor meetings in various interesting localities; the recording of a new state species, Pseudacris streckeri; and the reestablishment of Agkistrodon piscivorus on the state list. We look forward eagerly to next year, under the guidance of Larry Miller, to even more growth and prosperity, more eventful field trips, and with a commitment to understand better and create a climate wherein the citizenry of the state become more tolerant of its herptiles.

Thanks again for a good year.



Robert F. Clarke, President KHS

NEXT MEETING: January 14 in Wichita--see article on page 5.

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## KANSAS HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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### KHS FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING DEDICATED TO HOWARD K. GLOYD

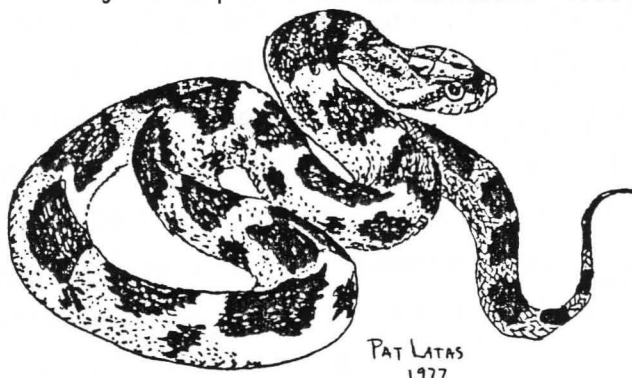
WHEREAS, Howard K. Gloyd, a native Kansan, graduate of Ottawa University, honorary KHS life member, and world-renown herpetologist, is now residing in Tucson, Arizona, and is very seriously ill, and ....

WHEREAS, Roger Conant, his close friend and colleague, has reported that Howard is strongly supportive and warmly in favor of the KHS and its goals, and ....

WHEREAS, Howard Gloyd has done much to advance the study of Kansas herpetology, be it therefore ....

RESOLVED, that the KHS dedicate its 4th annual meeting to Howard K. Gloyd and wish him a speedy recover.

The above resolution was read by KHS President Robert F. Clarke, and unanimously approved by the assembled membership at the fourth annual meeting of the Society in Emporia on 19 November 1977.



### KHS ELECTION RESULTS AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR 1978

At the fourth annual meeting of the Kansas Herpetological Society, two persons were elected to serve as officers for 1978. Kelly Irwin (Topeka) was chosen KHS President-elect and Marjorie Perry (Lawrence) was re-elected KHS Secretary-Treasurer. The President for 1977 (Robert F. Clarke, Emporia) automatically becomes KHS Past-President and the 1977 President-elect (Larry Miller, Caldwell) assumes the position of KHS President for 1978. The 1977 Executive Council appointed Janice Perry (Lawrence) to continue her services as Editor for the Society during 1978. The 1978 officers for the Kansas Herpetological Society are:

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

President-Elect: Kelly Irwin (913-354-1195)  
2218 West 2nd Street  
Topeka, Kansas 66606

Past-President: Robert F. Clarke (316-343-1200) Ext. 312  
Division of Biological Sciences  
Emporia State University  
Emporia, Kansas 66801

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

The KHS wishes to thank Jan Caldwell for her fine services during her term as KHS President-elect, President and Past-President. Also, thanks go to the nominating committee: Joseph T. Collins; Chairperson, Janice Perry, and Andrea Stammer, and to the electors: Stan Roth, Chris Stammer and Shelley Skie.



#### EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

KHS President Robert F. Clarke appointed three auditors to audit the treasurer's book after the end of the year and before the January meeting. Joseph T. Collins, Andrea Stammer and Bruce Tossman were appointed to this duty.

In addition, Robert F. Clarke announced the re-appointment of Janice Perry as KHS Newsletter Editor for 1978, and appointed Gene Trott to be Program Chairperson and Peter Gray to be assistant program chairperson.

The Council set the dates for the meetings and field trips in 1978. A list of these can be found elsewhere in this issue of the KHS Newsletter.

Every member will receive a copy of the constitution. This will appear in the February 1978 issue of the Kansas Herpetological Society Newsletter.

## KANSAS HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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A membership committee was formed. Joseph T. Collins will be Chairperson of this committee. It was also decided to get membership envelopes made instead of membership applications.

A Conservation/Legislature Ad Hoc Committee was formed. Eric Rundquist will serve as Chairperson, Jim Knight will also serve on this committee.

It was decided that KHS should have representatives to other state organizations. These representatives would discuss KHS activities and push for membership in the KHS. Robert Clarke appointed the following people:

Kansas Academy of Sciences -- Stan Roth  
Kansas Association of Biology Teachers -- J.T. Collins  
Kansas Ornithological Society -- Marjorie Perry  
Oklahoma Academy of Sciences -- Jeff Black  
Kansas Wildlife Society -- Marvin Schwilling

### FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE KHS HELD IN EMPORIA

The Fourth Annual Meeting of the Kansas Herpetological Society, dedicated to Howard K. Gloyd, was held on 19 November 1977 in Emporia, Kansas. The Executive Council met at 9:30 AM to discuss pertinent business (see the above article). Donuts and coffee were served at 10:30. This gave the members a chance to mingle and chat. Marty Capron brought an enjoyable display of photos from previous KHS field trips, free reprints were available for those who wished them, and Holbrook's North American Herpetology was on exhibit to further encourage members to participate in the KHS Holbrook contest.

At 11:00 AM, Robert Clarke opened the meeting and welcomed the more-than-fifty individuals present. The first speaker, Jaime Pefaur, Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, spoke about the herpetofauna of Arequipa, Peru. Jaime's presentation was excellent and gave the Kansas-bound people a chance to observe what the herpetological communities in another part of the world are like. The group broke for lunch after Jaime's talk and slide show.

The general business meeting and election of officers began at 1:00 PM. A resolution dedicating the fourth annual meeting of the KHS to Howard K. Gloyd was presented and enthusiastically approved by the membership. The election of officers was held and saw Kelly Irwin and Marge Perry elected to office. Marvin Schwilling was introduced to the membership. He is the Kansas Fish and Game Department's first non-game biologist. Marvin will be concerned with legislation dealing with non-game threatened or endangered species. President Clarke then congratulated the Sedgwick County Zoo Herpetarium staff for winning two AAZPA Bean Awards. This is the highest husbandry award that can be won by a zoo. Jim Knight was then introduced.

Jim provided a slide show and talk about the herpetofauna of Cheyenne County, Kansas. This presentation dealt with a survey of the herps he has been doing in this unknown part of the state. It was very enjoyable. After more coffee and donuts, the group then listened to Marty Capron tell of his collecting experiences in Costa Rica. If you know Marty, you know what fun it is to listen to his stories -- if you weren't at the meeting you missed a real fine talk.

As if there hadn't been enough slides already shown, a few members even brought more slides. After these slides, the meeting was adjourned.

The meeting was very successful and all those present had a good time.



#### JANUARY MEETING TO BE HELD IN WICHITA

The first 1978 meeting of the Kansas Herpetological Society will be held on 14 January 1978 in the lecture room of the Sedgwick County Zoo in Wichita, Kansas. Members and friends should plan to arrive by 1:00 PM. At 1:30 PM, Dr. Robert Clarke, KHS Past-President from Emporia, will speak to the assembled group. After Dr. Clarke's presentation, the group will get a special treat--a guided tour through the herpetarium!

This is an informal meeting--please plan to attend and bring friends. Marjorie Perry will be there to collect your 1978 dues.

The Executive Council should plan to arrive at the gates of the Sedgwick County Zoo by noon to decide where to go for lunch and to discuss pertinent KHS business.

## KANSAS HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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### SAVE THESE IMPORTANT KHS DATES

The KHS Executive Council has planned the 1978 meeting and field trip dates of the Society, as follows:

Meeting	January 14
Meeting	March 25
Field Trip	May (to be announced)
Field Trip	July 14-16
Field Trip	September 8-10
5th Annual Meeting	November 18

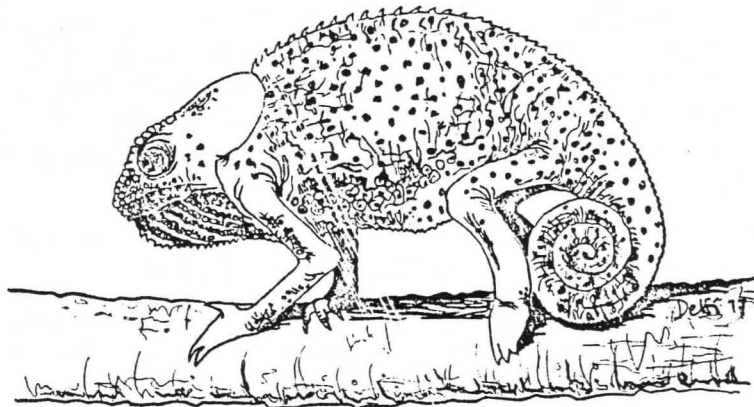
The Kansas Herpetological Society is planning a joint field trip with the Oklahoma Herpetological Society in May, and final arrangements have not been made at this time.

### KHS NEWSLETTER STAFF CHANGE

David Grow, announced his resignation as Associate Editor. Dave has served in this position from June 1975 until the present issue. His work with the Newsletter has been excellent and the Society deeply appreciates his efforts.

Rose Etta Kurtz has been appointed to serve as Associate Editor. She will assume some of the Editor's responsibilities and will help search for future feature articles and items of interest for the Newsletter.

Let's welcome Rose Etta to the Newsletter staff and thank Dave for his years of service as Associate Editor.





AN ALBINO EASTERN YELLOW-BELLIED RACER FROM KANSAS

On my way out for a night on the town in Oxford(?), I was summoned back to the house by one of my mother's formidable yells. My phone, like that of many small-town herpers, is a hot-line for people with creatures for me. Usually little kids shout frantically into the receiver about red, green, white, and black snakes with stripes and blotches of monstrous proportions (usually red-sided garter snakes or black rat snakes). On 16 September 1977, all those calls about garter snakes, black rat snakes, bullsnakes, and northern snapping turtles finally paid off. This snake description was just "red and white". Hmmm! I commandeered my mother's Scout and tore out to the said locality, thinking that it had to be a bullsnake or garter snake that looked nothing like it had been described, as is usually the case.

But, upon stopping near a scud of small children encircling the hapless reptile, I saw that it was something special. As I clawed my way through the screaming mob, I was confronted by the first albino snake I've ever seen in the wild. It was a juvenile eastern yellow-bellied racer (Coluber constrictor flaviventris) about twelve inches long, and I estimated it to be about two weeks old. The pattern and general appearance was the same as any baby racer, but the color was different! The ground color was white, growing pink as it neared the tail. The blotches, characteristic of juvenile Coluber, were present but were a rosy red, its eyes were red, and its tongue was pink.

Baby snakes, at least in my experience, are notoriously hard to keep alive--racers in particular (I'm more of a boa and python fan). So, I was faced with raising a hard-to-keep little snake. What to do? I was, needless to say, thrilled with capturing an albino, and if it had been an albino boa or python I would have kept it forever. However, the difficulties in raising such a delicate item were a little beyond me, and I elected to turn it over to a well-known breeder of albino snakes in the hope that he might be able to raise it and eventually breed it (Don't panic--Larry Miller shot a few pictures before it left Kansas).

I'm afraid that it would have been too delicate and hard to feed during the winter months. It would have been a great loss if it had died in my care, while someone else might have successfully been able to raise it. So, I justified sending it away, perhaps not entirely without a little apprehension and regret. Chuck up another albino from Kansas, right in there with the albino tiger salamander and the albino box turtle.

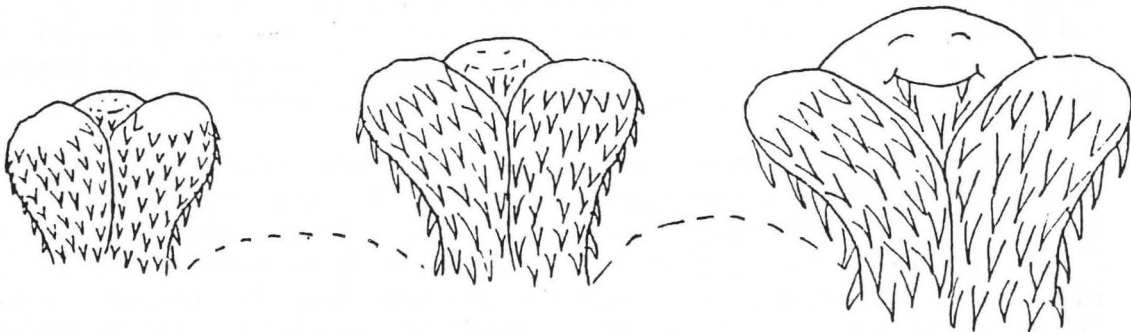
Collecting data for the specimen: Kansas: Sumner Co: within Oxford city limits. 16 September 1977. Collected by Martin Capron.

---MARTIN CAPRON, Box 542, Oxford, Kansas 67119

THE KHS TRIPLE -H- AWARD FOR 1977

A recent article by Roger Conant (published in the Journal of Herpetology 11(2):217-220) reports the establishment of several species of reptiles and amphibians in the Brownsville, Texas area. These definitely include Nerodia fasciata pictiventris and Ctenosaura pectinata, and probably include Crotalus molossus, Nerodia rhombifera, Chrysemys concinna, and Agkistrodon piscivorus. Museum collections bear Brownsville as the collecting site for these species, although the locality data may in some instances be erroneous. In Kansas we have our own non-native polluting, populations such as Anolis carolinensis (Green Anole) and Lacerta viridis (Green Lacerta), the former established in Leavenworth, while the latter survives in south Topeka.

The establishment of non-native organisms in an area is unfortunate. They compete with the naturally occurring animals for limited resources, and sometimes succeed in decreasing the population numbers of the native species. In consideration of this, it is with great pleasure at this time, the KHS Editors introduce the HOPPING HEMIPENIS OF HORROR AWARD for 1977 to all those individuals who consciously or unconsciously allow the release of animals in an area where they are known not to occur naturally.



SEDGWICK COUNTY ZOO RECEIVES AWARDS

Last September the Sedgwick County Zoo had the honor and distinction of receiving the Edward H. Bean Award, the most prestigious award given to zoological institutions. Named after the former director of the Brookfield Zoo in Chicago, the award commemorates the "most notable birth or hatching" within a group and is presented each year by the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums. Usually an award is given for mammals, birds, fish, herptiles, and occasionally invertebrates, however there is no provision that the award must be given each year. At SCZ we are doubly proud since we received a 1976 award for both a reptile and an amphibian. One Bean Award was received for breeding the Green Tree Python, Chondropython viridis and another for breeding the Green and Black Arrow Poison Frog, Dendrobates auratus. Both animals have long been popular in zoological collections but breeding successes have been minimal. David Grow, Ed Byrne, and myself all received



certificates of merit from the American Association of Zoo Keepers for "devoted efforts in maintaining" these animals. Approximately thirty other professional institutions have received Bean Awards throughout the years, however SCZ is the first to ever receive two awards in one year. The awards were presented at the annual AAZPA conference in San Diego and were accepted by Bob Wisdom, assistant director at SCZ. Eventually the awards will be displayed in the herpetarium for public viewing.

---PETER GRAY, Sedgwick County Zoo, 5555 Zoo Boulevard, Wichita, KS 67212



#### CURRENT LITERATURE

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

Besharse, J. C. and J. R. Holsinger

1977. Gyrinophilus subterraneus, a new troglobitic salamander from southern West Virginia. *Copeia*, 1977(4): 624-234.

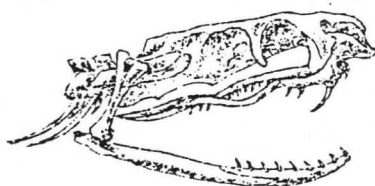
Bowler, J. K.

1977. Longevity of reptiles and amphibians in North American collections. *SSAR Herp. Circular*, 6: 1-32. Available for \$2.00 from: Douglas H. Taylor, Department of Zoology, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio 45056

Carpenter, C. C. and J. C. Gillingham

1977. A combat ritual between two male speckled kingsnakes (Lampropeltis getulus holbrooki: Colubridae, Serpentes) with indications of dominance. *Southwest. Naturalist*, 22(4): 517-524.

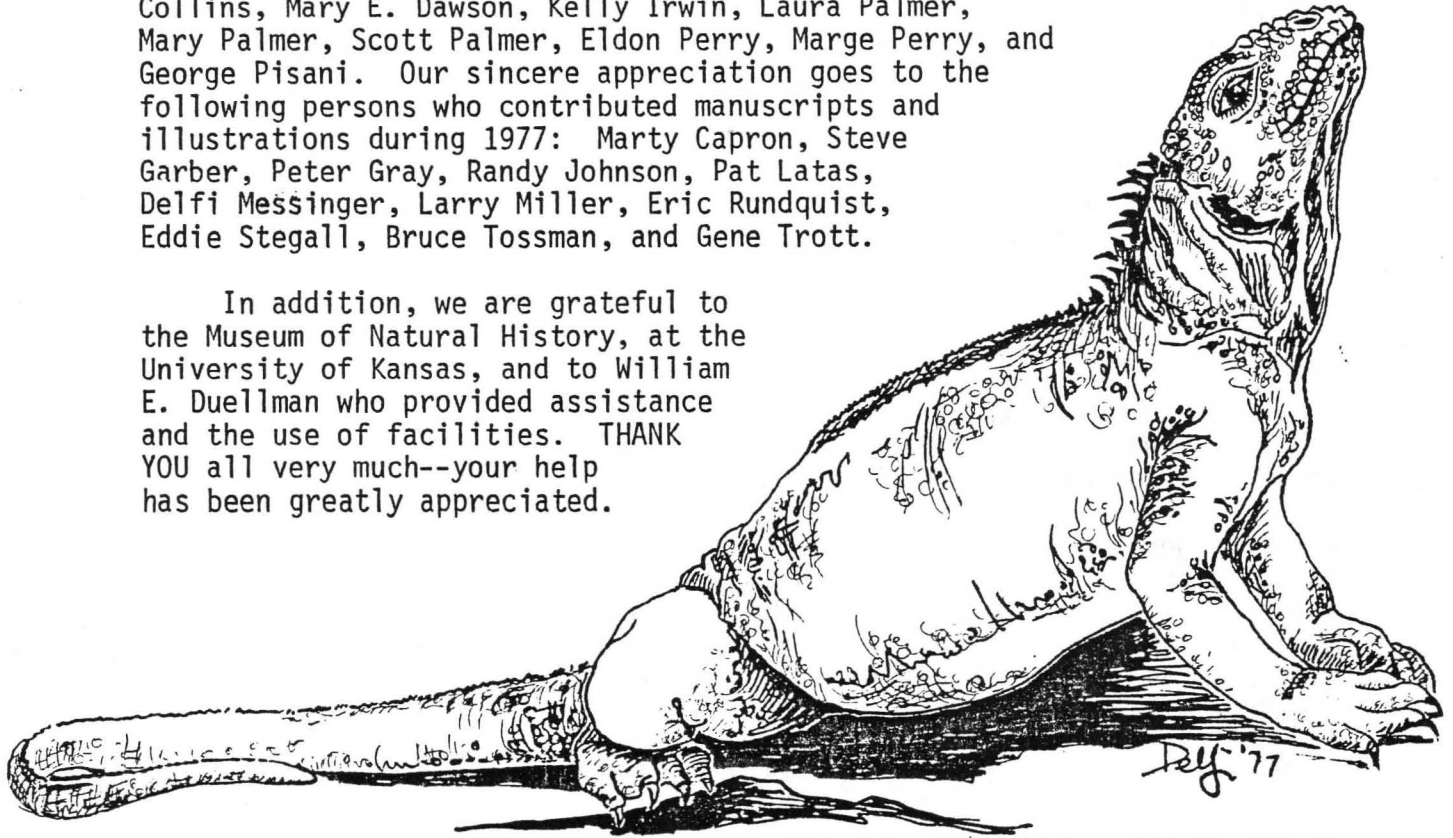
- Fitch, H. S. and P. L. von Achen  
1977. Spatial relationships and seasonality in the skinks Eumeces fasciatus and Scincella laterale in northeastern Kansas. Herpetologica, 33(3): 303-313.
- Freeman, H. L. et al.  
1977. A guide to the care and feeding of captive amphibians and reptiles. 21 pp. Available from: Western Massachusetts Herp Society, c/o Science Museum, 236 State Street, Springfield, Massachusetts 01103. Price not known.
- Hines, T. C. and K. D. Keenlyne  
1977. Two incidents of alligator attacks on humans in Florida. Copeia, 1977(4): 735-738.
- Holman, J. A.  
1977. Comments on turtles of the genus Chrysemys Gray. Herpetologica, 33(3): 274-276.
- Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission  
1977. A plan for Kansas Wildlife .... 1977-1982. vii + 68 pp. Available from: Kansas Fish and Game, P.O. Box 1028, Pratt, Kansas 67124.
- Knight, J. L. and J. T. Collins  
1977. The amphibians and reptiles of Cheyenne County, Kansas. Report State Biol. Surv. Kansas, 15: 1-18. Available free from: State Biological Survey of Kansas, 2045 Avenue -A-, Campus West, University of Kansas, Lawrence 66045.
- Rundquist, E. M. and J. T. Collins  
1977. The amphibians of Cherokee County, Kansas. Report State Biol. Surv. Kansas, 14: 1-12. Available free.
- Wood, R. C.  
1977. Evolution of the emydine turtles Graptemys and Malaclemys (Reptilia, Testudines, Emydidae). Journ. Herp., 11(4): 415-421.
- Wang, R. et al.  
1977. Brevitol sodium: an effective anesthetic agent for performing surgery on small reptiles. Copeia, 1977(4): 738-743.



KHS EDITORS SAY THANKS

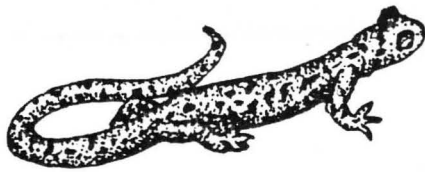
At this time the KHS Editors wish to thank the following people for their help with the preparation of the KHS Newsletter during 1977: Jan Caldwell, Robert F. Clarke, Joseph T. Collins, Mary E. Dawson, Kelly Irwin, Laura Palmer, Mary Palmer, Scott Palmer, Eldon Perry, Marge Perry, and George Pisani. Our sincere appreciation goes to the following persons who contributed manuscripts and illustrations during 1977: Marty Capron, Steve Garber, Peter Gray, Randy Johnson, Pat Latas, Delfi Messinger, Larry Miller, Eric Rundquist, Eddie Stegall, Bruce Tossman, and Gene Trott.

In addition, we are grateful to the Museum of Natural History, at the University of Kansas, and to William E. Duellman who provided assistance and the use of facilities. THANK YOU all very much--your help has been greatly appreciated.

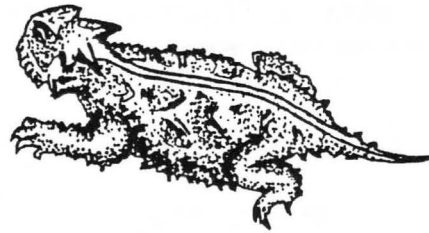


---The Kansas Herpetological Society Newsletter is issued every other month by the Kansas Herpetological Society. All interested persons are invited to become members. Membership dues per calendar year are \$3.00 (Regular) or \$15.00 (Contributing) payable to: Marjorie Perry, Secretary-Treasurer, 812 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 EDITORS: David Grow, Sedgwick County Zoo, 5555 Zoo Boulevard, Wichita, Kansas 67212 and Rose Etta Kurtz, Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas 66045.

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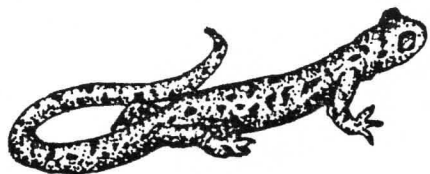
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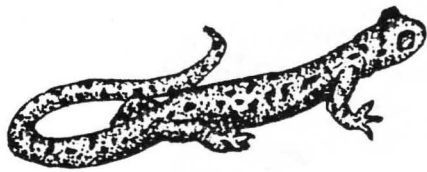
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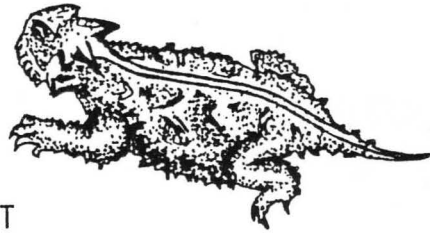
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Victor Moss, 916 Hickory Street, Poplar Bluff, Missouri 63901

Rick McKown, 618 West 13th Street, Box 695, El Dorado 67042

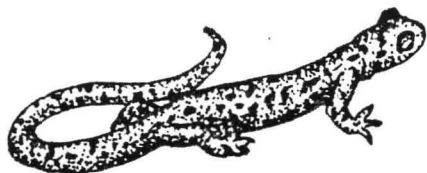
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