
EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE KHS HELD AT THE SEDGWICK COUNTY ZOO

The eighth annual meeting of the Kansas Herpetological Society was held at the Sedgwick County Zoo, in the new education building. After some coffee and doughnuts, the program began with a captivating presentation by Dr. Henry S. Fitch, "Snake Populations in Kansas." Dr. Fitch, well known as the pioneer in the area of snake ecology, presented a wealth of information concerning the snake populations of the University of Kansas Natural History Reservation, in the northeastern part of the state. Among the interesting facts that were presented, we discovered that the most predominant snake on the Reservation, in terms of total biomass (grams/hectare), is the prairie ringneck (Diadophis punctatus arnyi). In fact, the biomass of the ringneck is greater than the total biomass of all other species of snakes combined! In this part of the country, the diet of the ringneck is almost exclusively composed of earthworms.



(photo of Dr. Fitch, taken by Larry Miller)

Following Dr. Fitch's presentation, Ray Loraine spoke about the conservation and education efforts that the Iowa Herpetological Society (IHS) have made in the last few years. Although the IHS is only a few years old, it has been very influential in making the public aware of several instances in which reptiles were needlessly and wantonly destroyed. One such incident involved shooting large numbers of turtles in a small pond. After the IHS investigated this situation, the media was informed and the proper authorities were alerted. Ironically, when one IHS member told a member of the state fish and game department that he had picked up dead turtles along the shore of the pond, and, that five of the turtles were Blanding's turtles (*Emydoidea blandingi*), which are endangered, he was informed that he had broken the law by possessing them.

In addition, a TV tape of a program made by the Kansas Fish & Game Commission on the snakes in Kansas was shown. It featured J.T. Collins and Hank Guarisco.

After lunch, new officers were elected, several members showed their favorite slides, and, the annual auction was held. Approximately 75 to 100 people were present at the annual meeting.

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NEW KHS OFFICERS FOR 1982

President-Elect for 1982 is Joseph T. Collins. He will serve as President in 1983, and will serve on the Executive Council from 1982 through 1984. John Tollefson will be President during 1982. Rose Etta Kurtz, of the Museum of Natural History, was elected Secretary/Treasurer. Larry Miller was appointed as the Program Chairperson for 1982. He will be responsible for setting up field trips and meetings for the coming year.

1982 TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on 1 January 1981	- - - - -	\$ 524.08
Total income for 1981	- - - - -	\$1947.11
Total expenses for 1981	- - - - -	\$ 671.97
Balance on 1 December 1981	- - - - -	\$1799.22

Note that the balance includes \$1,000 donated from outside sources for the production of a color brochure on the endangered and threatened reptiles and amphibians of Kansas, which is currently in press. The two auctions held this year generated \$385.50 for the society, while membership dues accounted for \$719.00. The expenses involved postage, stationary, and the cost of the production of the newsletter. Due to the increased cost of the newsletter, it was decided to reduce the number of issues to four per year. It was also necessary to increase the foreign membership dues to \$6.00 per year for the increased postal expense.

FIFTH AND SIXTH GRADE STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT HERPETOLOGY IN CALDWELL

Forty-eight fifth and sixth grade students from U.S.D. #360 in Caldwell, Kansas learned a little about some of the native amphibians and reptiles found near their town the afternoon of 14 September 1981. The students spent a little over an hour that afternoon observing and collecting animals from an interesting area located a few miles from their school. The area searched was bordered by highway 81 on the west, the Oklahoma state line on the south, Bluff Creek on the north, and a township road on the east. The total area covered was about 1½ square miles, although most of the collecting was done along rocky hillsides located near Bluff Creek. Almost all of the area was being used as pasture land, and it had been changed very little by man during the past years.

The students and their teachers started the collecting at about 1:00 PM. The air temperature was 25 C, the sky was clear, and the air was calm. When we stopped collecting at about 2:00 PM the temperature had increased to 28 C. Four species of frogs and toads, one species of turtle, three species of lizards, and four species of snakes were either collected or observed by the group of students. The most common species was the lesser earless lizard (Holbrookia maculata). Dozens of them could be found along the shale and rocky hillsides among the cactus.

The field trip gave the students a chance to learn more about several native amphibians and reptiles, as well as a number of other critters. Ten sixth graders served as group leaders, and each of them spent much time getting ready for the adventure. They were a great help to the other sixth graders and the fifth grade students.

Amphibians and reptiles found include the following:

Blanchard's cricket frog (Acris crepitans blanchardi)
 plains leopard frog (Rana blairi)
 bullfrog (Rana catesbeiana)
 plains narrowmouth toad (Gastrophryne olivacea)
 ornate box turtle (Terrapene o. ornata)
 lesser earless lizard (Holbrookia maculata)
 Texas horned lizard (Phrynosoma cornutum)
 prairie-lined racerunner (Cnemidophorus sexlineatus viridis)
 eastern yellowbelly racer (Coluber constrictor flaviventris)
 black rat snake (Elaphe o. obsoleta)
 red-sided garter snake (Thamnophis sirtalis parietalis)
 Northern water snake (Nerodia s. sipedon)

-----Larry Miller, Science Department, Caldwell Elementary School, U.S.D. #360,
 Caldwell, Kansas 67022.

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A MEGA-FARM FOR CROCODILES

A quiet, dignified man named, Uthai Youngprapakorn, started what is now the giant Samut Prakan Crocodile Farm back in the 1940's with a breeding stock of a few pairs and \$250. Now the sprawling farm encompasses 600 acres; your visual impression is correct, acres and acres of crocodiles. You talk to any of the old timers, to them it's common knowledge that the only successful croc farmer is the man who is fascinated by them, appreciates and understands their psychology. Uthai and his son Charoon fit the description and now operate a farm which breaks several records: 1) largest population on any farm (over 30,000) 2) greatest egg production of any farm (over 5000 per year) 3) largest skin output of any farm (over 2000 per year).

Very roughly, the farm consists of six large (several acre) breeding enclosures with concrete-lined ponds and separate nesting "cubicles" for each female. One enclosure contains pure C. porosus (saltwater crocodile) stock, one contains pure C. siamensis (Siamese crocodile) stock and four contain mixed stock (male C. porosus and female C. siamensis) which are producing a hybrid preferred by the Yangprapakorns for skin quality and rapid growth rate. The hybrids are said to now be breeding as well. The original breeders are 40-60 years old and most of these females do not lay eggs anymore, though the males continue to be sexually active with younger females. Over 80% of the stock is C. siamensis, a fairly amiable crocodile. C. porosus is a notably territorial beast, which causes obvious problems in a captive breeding situation. Many of the C. porosus are scarred and perhaps only 50% of the females nest.

Samut Prakan has 1:3 (1 male:3 females) Tomistoma schlegelii (Malayan gharial). The three females have been laying 30-40 eggs each during March for the past five years. At present, there are about 120 1.5 meter juveniles, though no very young ones were seen. The skin of the Malayan gharial is said to be commercially useless because of the osteoderms (bony plates) in the belly scales.

The rearing enclosures seem crowded but the animals are obviously healthy and growing. The number of individuals per pen are: 1) pen size (meters) 1.5 x 1.5 - 20 yearlings 2) 3 x 3 meters - 20 to 30 1-2 year olds 3) 15 x 15 meters - 50-70 2-4 year olds, and 4) 15 x 20 meters - 70-100 3-5 years of age. The crocodiles are fed trash fish and chicken parts, both very cheaply available. The farm makes a good income from the two million annual visitors and completely utilizes the 2 to 3000 crocodiles culled each year. Skins are exported mainly to Japan; meat is marketed locally; feet and heads are mounted for souvenirs; penises, gall bladders, fat, intestines and scent glands are sold to Chinese medicine manufacturers.

Samut Prakan could play a vital role in helping reintroduce Thailand's three species of crocodiles, which are reportedly extinct there. It is particularly urgent that a reserve for C. siamensis be established and that the Yangprapakorns be asked for pure stock to re-establish the species in the wild.

--- Rom Whitaker, Madras Snake Park Trust (taken from: HAMADRYAD, 6(2):9-10).

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POACHERS, DEVELOPERS THREATEN SEA TURTLES

The Sea Turtle Rescue Fund, a project of the Center for Environmental Education in Washington, DC, sponsored a six-week research expedition down the southeast coast of the US last summer to document sea turtle conservation efforts and to develop new strategies for protecting the threatened species. There are seven species of sea turtles, all of which are considered threatened. They are found in warm coastal waters and nest on beaches all around the world. Sea turtle survival is threatened by several factors: poaching and selling of turtle meat and products made from tortoise shell and hides; coastal development which can destroy the animals' nesting grounds; conflicts with fisheries, including incidental capture of sea turtles in shrimp trawl nets, and; improper care of turtles in captivity, especially the so-called "roadside zoos."

Jim Sternberg, researcher with the Sea Turtle Rescue Fund, travelled down the coast from Washington, DC, to southern Florida and back in an effort to assess, coordinate, and improve current efforts to protect the sea turtle and its habitats. He said evidence shows the number of sea turtles nesting has been declining. A major reason could be the loss of habitat for the turtles. "They return to their home beach to nest," he said. "And if a nesting beach is lost, where do they go?"

During his trip last summer, Sternberg found that community activists in the southeast are helping to save some nesting beaches from development and nest poaching. In Florida, for example, retired citizens walk the beaches at sunrise counting turtle tracks in the sand and marking nests for future data collection. And local conservation groups are educating private landowners on how to protect endangered species on their property - especially important in southern Florida where most of the coastal land is privately owned.

Sternberg wants to promote the use of a recently developed device to prevent turtles from drowning in shrimp nets; the Turtle Exclusion Device would allow turtles to escape from the nets. He points out that researchers are working with hatcheries and on nest relocation to protect eggs from natural predators and poachers. Sternberg said he hopes to coordinate all this work under one umbrella organization - the Sea Turtle Rescue Fund. "We want to provide a resource center," he said. "For example, if people find tagged turtles, we want to give them a clearing house to report it to."

If you would like to find out more about the Sea Turtle Rescue Fund, write or call the Center for Environmental Education, Inc., 1925 K Street, NW, suite 206, Washington, DC 20006; (202) 466-4996.

-----taken from: Friends of the Earth, Not Man Apart, December 1981, p. 4.

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KILLING OF 15 SNAKES ANGERS HERPETOLOGISTS

The Iowa Conservation Commission destroyed about 15 timber rattlesnakes that had been displayed in a commission exhibit at the State Fair, and Iowa snake lovers are up in arms. "I really want this looked into," said Allen Anderson of Norwalk, president of the Iowa Herpetological Society. Anderson and other amateur herpetologists said the commission could have given the snakes to them to be returned to their natural environment instead of killing them. Tom Weidner of Des Moines, another member of the society, said he found the commission action in cutting the heads off the snakes "kind of interesting. They are supposed to be the protectors of animals for the state."

Robert Runge, the commission officer who was in charge of the exhibit, said the commission has had the same policy for years: After the fair, any snakes not requested for legitimate uses, such as for research or zoos, are destroyed. "This year, no one put in a request for these snakes," he said, "so we were faced with the problem of disposing of them." *Am. pr.*

Anderson said he had talked with three or four commission employees at the fair exhibit and made such a request for the snakes, but was turned down. Runge said Anderson's request was never received at the Conservation Commission office before the snakes were destroyed. He added that there are three kinds of rattlesnakes in Iowa. Two are considered endangered, but not the timber rattler, which he said is "fairly common in its range in Iowa." "We are not decimating any wild population or anything like that," he said.

-----taken from the Des Moines Register, September 3, 1981.

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NEWTS - HARD ACT TO SWALLOW

If you go to the Carolinas for respite from the summer heat, think twice before you take a drinking man's bet and swallow a lizard-like newt. Two men in their 20s did just that in Oregon - swallowing newts on a bet while drinking - and one lived to tell about it. Newts (salamanders) and puffer fish possess a neurotoxin, which can cause a dangerous fall in blood pressure and respiratory arrest from muscular paralysis.

A report on the two cases is in the current issue of the "Journal of the American Medical Association." The authors are Dr. Susan G. Bradley of North Bend, Oregon, and a pharmacist, Larry K. Klika of the Bay Area Hospital, Coos Bay, Oregon.

A 29-year-old man had been drinking whiskey before noon one July day. About six hours later, on a dare, he swallowed a newt, a cousin of the Carolinas variety. Within fifteen minutes he complained of tingling of the lips and during the next two hours experienced numbness and weakness. He said he thought he was going to die. He refused to be taken to a hospital and shortly after suffered a cardiopulmonary arrest. Resuscitation measures were applied and he was taken to the hospital where emergency techniques failed and he died within hours. In the autopsy, the newt's vertebral column was found in the man's stomach.

In the second case, the physician and pharmacist reported, a 26-year-old man swallowed five of the newts on a bet. He had also been drinking. Thirty minutes later he became dizzy and noted tingling in his arms and legs. He began vomiting within an hour, but was not seen by a physician for six hours. He was lucid, but had great difficulty walking. After treatment, he recovered and in 24 hours complained only of dizziness when turning his head.

In both cases, the authors report, the deadly poison was tetrodotoxin, a neurotoxin. The toxin blocks the conduction of nerve cells, and muscles fail to "contract despite continued stimulation." One of the newt species commonly found in Oregon, California and southern Alaska has enough toxin in just one specimen to kill 1,500 white mice by injection. The Carolinas variety is much less lethal with a toxin 1/100th as potent as that found in the northwest.

The authors believe the second man survived because he vomited soon after ingesting the newts, while the first man did not. If someone ingests the newts or puffer fish, the authors say, their stomachs should be washed and they should be forced to vomit. If the newt is not recovered, an attempt should be made to remove it by using a flexible tube, called a gastroscope, which can be guided down the throat and into the stomach to retrieve the animal. Death follows the respiratory paralysis, the authors say, but if medical aid is sought quickly and supportive measures taken, the chance of survival is good.

-----taken from The Evening Times, Monday, July 27, 1981.

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GALAPAGOS TORTOISE HATCHED AT SAN DIEGO

The egg was 134 days old when a tiny tooth cracked through the shell, and took two days to hatch. The infant will likely live more than 100 years. Things move slowly for the San Diego Zoo's baby, the first Galapagos tortoise hatched at the zoo in five years.

-----taken from "The Wichita Eagle," July 18, 1981.

SNAKE SELLERS "STUNG"

Philadelphia - For more than two years, David Kirkland was another of those good old boys - a welcome addition to the bizarre underground world of traders in the rare and the exotic who call themselves "herps." "And right friendly he was, too," recalled one of those dealers last week, one of the many who now wish they had never heard Mr. Kirkland's name. "But even now, I got no beef with Dave."

There's no question that he blended in. Working out of his mountain home on the banks of the Clarion River in the wilderness of western Pennsylvania, in the heart of an area the locals call "rattlesnake country," Mr. Kirkland couldn't have found a better cover. And it was only a half-hour's drive through the back roads to the tiny brick post office in the county seat of Ridgway, where Dave Kirkland - and the U.S. government - maintained a post-office box. Every few days for the last two years, he would stop by the little post office, wave a friendly hello to postmaster Harry Jacobsen and pick up the boxes labeled "vermouth" or "glass" or "machine parts" or "cottage cheese," that had come from New Jersey, Texas, California, Florida or Georgia.

What the 6,000 or so Ridgway residents didn't know was that those cardboard and wooden boxes contained live snakes - hundreds of them - sent in response to "feelers" Mr. Kirkland put out in the "snake-selling underground." There were milk snakes, kingsnakes, rattlers, rat snakes, pine snakes, garter snakes, indigo snakes, copperheads, even pythons. And there were turtles by the score - bog turtles spotted turtles, wood turtles - and iguanas and gila monsters and almost every other kind of reptile you can imagine.

It wasn't until July 16 that the residents, and dozens of unsuspecting "herps" (short for herpetologists) from coast to coast - learned about Mr. Kirkland. Since 1978 the field agent for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service had been working undercover as the northern branch of a nation-wide "sting" officially tagged Operation Snakebite. Now informally dubbed "Snakescam," his mail drop, in concert with an 18-month undercover storefront operation in Atlanta in which agents did business with traders, led to the arrest of more than two dozen snake and reptile traders nationwide who allegedly used the mails to illegally buy and sell more than 10,000 endangered and protected reptiles. More arrests are expected in the next two or three weeks, and, before it's over, federal authorities said they expect to arrest more than 150 traders nationwide.

Among the 27 arrested in July was Blase Denatale, 33, of Barnegat, N.J., who pleaded guilty last week to shipping, for profit, 11 California kingsnakes, 25 spotted turtles and a light-phased Indian python to Kirkland's post office box in the Spring. And on October 16 a police officer in Milton, Pa., was fined \$1,000 and forfeited his late-model car for illegally transporting 220 Pennsylvania wood turtles across state lines.

But as the Snakescam suspects are now beginning to work their way through the court system, the defendants and their attorneys have begun to raise a familiar cry. Like Abscam, they say, Operation Snakebite smacked of entrapment. And, they charge, the government's operation, though estimated to cost a mere \$70,000, was a waste of taxpayers' money - a grandstanding effort to go after small hobbyists.

"These people who were arrested are not the people who are slaughtering bears and alligators for their hides or making thousands of dollars bringing in cockatoos illegally from South America," said Gilbert B. Abramson, a Philadelphia lawyer who represents Mr. Denatale. "Here's this little guy, Blase, who collected and traded snakes only because he had found a way to make his hobby his business, and now this guy is a criminal. What these guys have been doing is no different than my kid trading for a Pete Rose baseball card."

Officials of both the Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Justice Department, which is prosecuting the Snakescam suspects in Pittsburgh, Atlanta, Tallahassee, Fla., and Scranton, Pa., said the sting operation was a vital and successful attempt to crack down on traders who profit from animals that were not rightfully theirs and thereby decimating America's native reptile populations.

-----taken from the Kansas City Star.

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THE STING: WHO REALLY GOT STUNG

I am sure that by now just about all amateur and professional herpetologists have either been affected by or have heard of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's sting operation that supposedly took place over the 18 months out of Atlanta, Georgia. It has been reported through the media that our government has completed a very successful sting operation to uncover "illegal" reptile sales in the USA. It has also been reported that the outcome of this operation will be to protect the USA from being raped of its wildlife by ruthless reptile smugglers. We at Central Coast Reptile Research Center hope to show you another side of this sting operation that will warrant another, much bigger operation, one that will uncover the methods used by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife to supposedly protect our vanishing wildlife.

On Thursday, July 16th, the CCRRC (Central Coast Reptile Research Center) was searched by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Fish and Game, and a handful of local police, about 7 vehicles and 15 people in all. I was personally handcuffed and taken to jail and not allowed to be present during the search. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife showed me only a warrant for my files and proceeded to search my facility and house for 5 hours. They confiscated my files, file cabinets, complete scientific slide collection, all business records, surfing pictures, bird pictures, all breeding records, unfinished articles for publication, research documents, permits, bank book, phone books, checks, and so on. The California Fish and Game, without a warrant, took 19 breeding reptiles, including 4th generation California and Arizona kingsnakes, Mexican reptiles along with their documentation, reptiles on loan from zoos, and albinos that are 4th generation captive specimens. During the search, the California Fish and Game warden, Dutch Huckaby, asked my wife if she knew which reptiles came from California and when she answered, "no," they apparently grabbed only what was in easy-to-handle containers.

The same warden was invited to my facility one year ago and declined, only saying, "I do not know a kingsnake from a horse's ass, don't worry about me." This same warden left a receipt for the reptiles he took, calling them California kingsnakes, rosy boas, and gopher snakes. All of these reptiles were at my facility with the complete knowledge of the California Fish and Game, and my research on them is open public knowledge and is supported by several universities and zoos.

The other warden at the search was invited to my facility also one year ago, and he came over at the request of his superior. He asked me at the time, if I needed permits for these reptiles, and I explained. He also asked me which reptiles were which. I asked him if he knew of the new California laws and he said he heard of them but did not know any details.

All the reptiles taken in this confiscation were pre-Act and captive born, which my research publications and photographs can easily identify. I personally do not know of anyone who could identify these very rare breeders as California kingsnakes, California rosy boas, and California gopher snakes. During the search of my files, an entire collection of research Jackson's chameleons was let loose. The longest lived documented Jackson's chameleon in the USA is now at large in my neighborhood.

My reptiles were taken to a local university where they have been for 15 days without any apparent care. The cages were wet with water spills, feces, and shed skins. Two professors in charge of my reptiles have admitted that the California Fish and Game had not given them any directions as to the care of these very rare reptiles. I have personally viewed my reptiles and they are in grave danger of dying.

The California Fish and Game has called me a "law breaker," they have said I took too many California reptiles and if I get them mad it will come down harder on me. As of today (1 August 1981), the university assures me that to the best of their knowledge, no one has identified my reptiles and the California Fish and Game has not formally charged me with them and is refusing my request to get them back in a proper care facility.

My case is only one of hundreds in the USA today. I have reports of entire subspecies known in captivity that have been taken. Over 50 pre-Act albinos have been confiscated. Hundreds of very rare research reptiles are in the hands of the California Fish and Game and they are not all, if any, being housed in proper care facilities.

I have been told of rare breeders being pickled, frozen and hidden from viewing to be protected was evidence by the California Fish and Game and U.S. Fish and Wildlife. I have over 20 conflicting reports from California Fish and Game personnel as to the care and whereabouts of these reptiles. I was told by zoo employees of their great concern as to care and safety of these breeders.

On the Federal level, I have reports of unreal harassment of our nation's top reptile researchers by this so-called Atlanta Wildlife Exchange. I have reports of entrapment to unbelievable degrees where people were literally forced to sell them reptiles. I have very alarming reports of this Exchange purchasing captive produced rare reptiles and them burning, breaking hips, and cutting reptiles so they could identify them when re-sold.

The list goes on and on about abuse to very concerned herpetologists and their reptiles into which they put their sweat and blood.

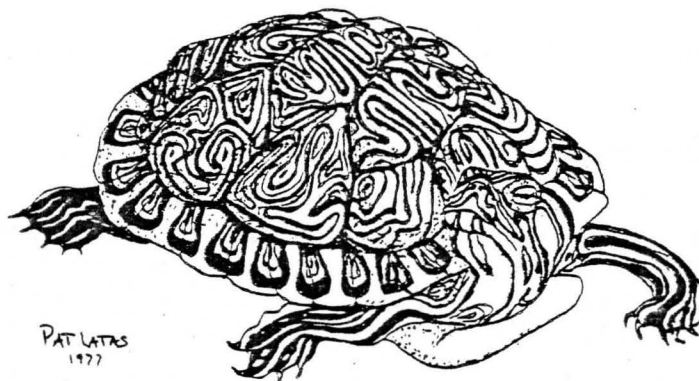
I am sure all of these reports will come out in living, or should I say dying, color in our nation's courts. I am also sure the U.S. public will defend these people who have been subject to aggression by an agency of the U.S. government that claims to protect wildlife. But this will all be too late if you, the public, do not act today because the only thing that will be stung is the reptiles themselves. It is common knowledge that the "pickle jar" is the place for confiscated surplus reptiles, and, I feel it is where the rarest captive-produced are going, if the public does not act now!

I strongly encourage you to visit your Senator or Representative and have him look into this matter. They are normally very interested in conservation, and this is "right up their alley." They have the power to investigate this so-called "protective" agency. I also encourage you to call or write the U.S. Fish and Wildlife in Washington, D.C. and also the California Fish and Game in Sacramento, and demand an explanation. If you do not act today, don't count on a future in research or captive breeding of reptiles.

By the way, if you want to know how to breed Elaphe taeniura ridlerii, Drymarchon corais couperi, or Chameleo dilepsis, ask the U.S. Fish and Wildlife, they now have all the records to publish these scientific data, not CCRRC! And they tell me that in the interest of wildlife protection I may never get them back.

A letter to the following Senator will start an investigation into this matter: Barbara Atkinson, c/o Senator Henry Rello, 725 Pacific St., San Luis Obispo, California 93401.

-----by Terry Lilley of Morro Bay, California (taken from, "NOTES FROM NOAH" the Northern Ohio Association of Herpetologists, 8(11), August 24, 1981.)



OUR LEGAL RIGHTS AS HERPETOLOGISTS?

The following is an open letter to all Herpetologists and Herpetological Societies:

"Now that the dust has settled around the sting operation, and we have all had the chance to stand back and evaluate our future in keeping reptiles, it is clear that we have two paths to take."

"The first choice is to go into hiding! We can remove our names from Herpetology Societies, destroy our records, euthanize questionable animals, and I dare say, let the U.S. Government legislate away our legal right to keep and breed reptiles."

"Our second choice is to 'get organized!' We are better prepared to organize now than at any time before. We have local herpetological societies in almost every state and major city in the country. We can combine our efforts and:

1. Develop a National Certification program.
2. Establish pedigrees on the offspring of legally obtained reptiles.
3. Combine the efforts between Private, Commercial and Zoological collections.
4. Provide up-dates on National and State proposed laws to all participants.
5. Draft proposals for laws and regulations and make them available to governmental agencies, such as legislators, Fish & Game Commissions, etc."

"In this way, we can begin working with the government in protecting and increasing our right to keep and propagate reptiles. If you are interested in the LEGAL RIGHTS OF HERPETOLOGISTS please contact me, and your local herpetological society."

Richard John Fife
509 N. 40th Ave. #8
Phoenix, AZ. 85009
(602) 278-2751

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PESTICIDE ISSUES TO FACE LEGISLATURE

The Special Committee on Agriculture and Livestock has recommended that several issues relating to pesticide use be addressed by legislation in the coming session of the Kansas Legislature. The committee drafted a bill that would increase the bond requirement to \$15,000 for licensing of pesticide applicators, while

leaving the insurance option unchanged. Present law requires either a \$2,000 surety bond or \$25,000 bodily injury and \$5,000 property damage liability insurance. The insurance does not need to cover damage arising from the use of pesticides. The committee's bill is a small step in the right direction.

The committee also struggled with the procedure for reporting pesticide damage, produced two bill drafts on the subject, and decided against both of them. They received assurances from Freeman Biery (Director of the Weed and Pesticide Division) and Wilber Ringler (Director of Extension) that county extension agents would distribute the forms and inform people that they need to be filed with the County Attorney within 60 days of discovery of damage in order to maintain a civil suit.

Although the committee was reluctant to take action that might potentially raise costs to farmers (We do not agree that this would, in fact, occur), they were very concerned about problems resulting from pesticide misuse, and wanted to see pesticide law enforcement strengthened. They recommended that the standing agriculture committees take action to require that all places of business be licensed and every place of business have at least one certified applicator.

Meanwhile, the pesticide law enforcement budget continues to be a concern. The Board of Agriculture has again proposed a budget without adequate staffing for the enforcement efforts of the Weed and Pesticide Division. PLEASE WRITE to Governor Carlin and your legislators, asking them to restore funding for the two investigative positions that were cut last year. (Address: State Capitol, Topeka, KS 66612).

If you would like to know more about what you can do to help in the coming legislative session, call or write: Terry Shafer, RR #3, Lawrence, KS 66044 (913-842-1348) or Jeanette Armstrong, 2001 Ohio St., Lawrence, KS (913-842-1348). To become better informed about pesticide-related issues in Kansas and further support our legislative efforts, join, "Kansans for Safe Pest Control."

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CROP DUSTING IN OKLAHOMA

On May 29, 1979, photographer Larry Miller, a member of Kansans for Safe Pest Control, spent six hours photographing a dozen crop dusters in Kay County, Oklahoma, near the small town of Braman. Following is Miller's description of his eventful day:

" I was told they were spraying for army worms and the chemicals they were spraying included parathion and toxaphene. I found dead fish, frogs, and other small animals near the Kansas and Oklahoma state line north of Braman the same day."

"Some of the planes I observed seemed to be doing careful work: but some were spraying everything. I watched several spray over the Chikaskia River. Blackwell, Okla., downstream a few miles, gets its drinking water from the Chikaskia."

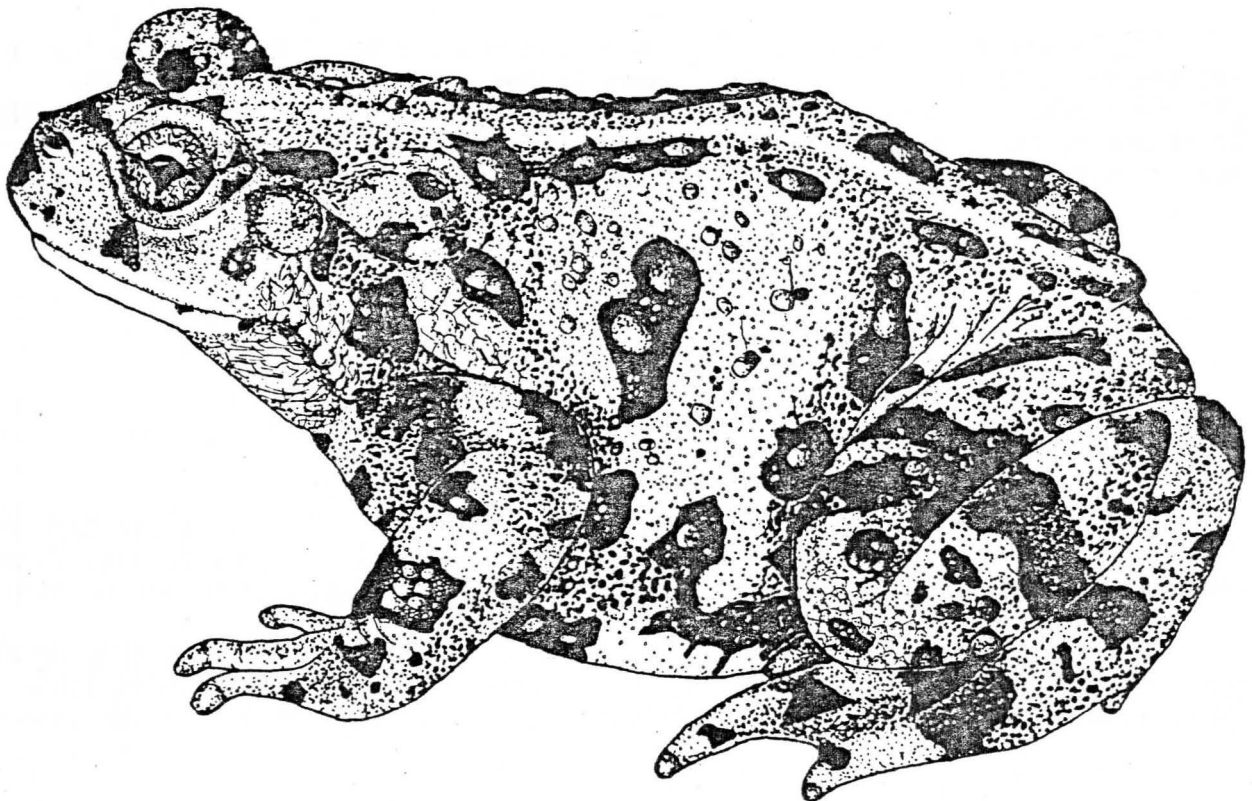
"I talked to one farmer who told me a sprayer had sprayed over his feed field. I also talked to two pipeline workers who had been sprayed only a few minutes before as they worked on a line along a public road. I watched planes spray over roads with reckless abandon."

"One plane landed, blocked the road, and stopped. The pilot jumped out and ran at my truck yelling something like, ' I will get you, you son-of-a-bitch!' I turned around and just got away as he got to within a few feet of my truck. My mother was with me at the time."

"I filled out reports for the Kay County Sheriff, the FAA, and the Ag Department, but nothing has been done to my knowledge."

-----taken from: Re:sources, vol.1, no.3, Fall 1981, p.4.

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(Drawing by Steve Morey)

THE NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION ACTS ON CREATIONISM

The 1981 NEA Representative Assembly took action to deal with "creationism." To the resolution on Academic Freedom the Assembly adopted an amendment which is paragraph 2 of the resolution.

The National Education Association believes that academic freedom is essential to the teaching profession. Controversial issues should be a part of instructional programs when judgment of the professional staff deems the issue appropriate to the curriculum and to the maturity level of the student. Academic freedom is the right of the learner and his/her teachers to explore, present, and discuss divergent points of view in the quest for knowledge and truth.

The Association further believes that legislation and regulations that mandate the teaching of so-called "creation science" violates teacher and student rights. (emphasis mine)

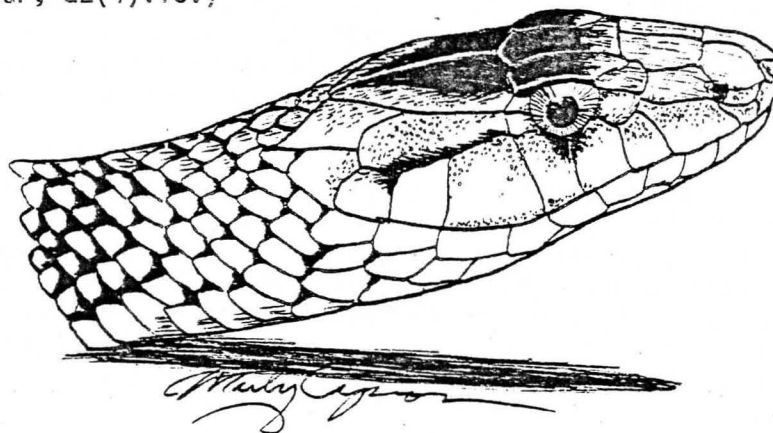
Professional freedom includes the teacher's right to evaluate, to criticize, and to advocate his/her personal point of view concerning the policies and programs of the schools. The teacher also has the right to assist colleagues when their academic or professional freedom is violated.

The NEA also passed the "New Business Item" which reads:

The 1981 NEA Representative Assembly opposes any requirement that creationism or so-called "creation science" be taught equally with evolution theories. NEA shall compile available information relating to creation science legislation and distribute such information to each state affiliate. (1981-38)

This was proposed by a delegate from Arkansas who is a biology teacher. Delegates from that state, Kansas, California, Nebraska, and other states cooperated to bring its passage on the floor of the convention.

-----Vernon L. Gilliland, (Taken from: "Kansas Association of Biology Teachers Newsletter, 22(4):15.)



ALLIGATOR HARVESTING AND IMPORTS RESUME

Changes in state and federal regulations have again made the American alligator fair game in the lucrative leather trade and restaurant business. Thousands of alligators, presently classified as threatened rather than endangered, will end up this season as handbags, wallets, watchbands, and alligator steaks. New York State has lifted a ban on the importation and sale of alligators, caimans, and crocodiles. The order establishing the new regulations justified the move as necessary to meet the desires of the leather goods industry to produce products for the Christmas holiday trade, and to provide substantial employment in these difficult times. Initial plans of New York City's handbag industry to open 13 new factories employing 1,000 workers have fallen by the wayside because of economic considerations, but existing factories have taken up the slack utilizing skilled workers trained by the Private Industry Council.

Alligators have been hunted for their leather for generations. Between 1800 and 1940, hunters killed some 10 million of them, largely for the fashionable products made from their hides. The large reptile's numbers began to decline until 1969, when the American alligator was placed on the US endangered species list. This protection caused a resurgence of the gator population in areas where their habitat was not being destroyed. For instance, in the swamps of southwestern Louisiana, anti-poaching laws, strict law enforcement, and attentive habitat management allowed the alligators to reach a population of about 200,000 by 1976. This success encouraged state officials to reopen hunting in certain areas; then in 1978 the US reclassified alligators as threatened, leaving hunting and trade regulations to individual states. Louisiana opened its first statewide alligator hunting season in 18 years this year. The State Department of Wildlife and Fisheries passed out 15,600 tags to hunters and landowners; the actual catch is expected to be about 1,000 less. Officials had hoped to hand out some 25,000 tags.

The essential ecological role performed by alligators and similar crocodylian species in the ten southeastern states they inhabit is often overlooked. Instead, people focus on the nuisance potential; state game and wildlife officials in Florida license trappers to destroy alligators that wander into someone's swimming pool, or out onto the golf course, or otherwise frighten Florida residents. However, in the swampy areas they inhabit the alligator has a far-reaching effect on the population dynamics of many other species. Dens and wallows dug by the gators churn up mud and vegetation to fertilize young plants and seedlings; these same dens provide water and refuge to birds, fish, and small furbearing species during the dry season. Predators that would destroy bird rookeries are wary of the alligator's presence and tend to stay away.

The reversals of the protected status afforded alligators in this country will undoubtedly have a negative impact on crocodylian species. Poaching activities in Florida and Louisiana, which essentially dried up when alligators were classified as endangered, are bound to be renewed as markets for alligator products expand. Changes in the CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species) classification of the alligator in 1979 from endangered to threatened will help bolster the market where a typical handbag sells for over \$1,000.

The pressures of habitat destruction on the American alligator and related crocodilians is severe enough to make their survival a questionable matter without the additional danger of encouraging a thriving trade in crocodilian products.

-----Lee Purcell, Friends of the Earth, Not Man Apart, December, 1981, p. 8.

* * * * *

PROPOSAL FOR THE PRIVATE REGISTRATION OF AMPHIBIANS & REPTILES, ESPECIALLY
ENDANGERED & THREATENED SPECIES

The recent "Sting" operation conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has caused private collectors of amphibians and reptiles to question how they would prove that the threatened or endangered species in their collections had been legally acquired. As we well know, many such animals are traded or bought and sold by private collectors without documentation. Many reptiles and amphibians are collected in the wild or result from captive breeding. If, after that time, such animals are protected by state or federal law, the owner would be hard pressed to prove that they had been legally acquired. "Snakescam" will undoubtedly halt the traffic in illegally acquired reptiles - at least temporarily; but, unless steps are taken to protect the private collector, captive care and propagation of threatened and endangered species will receive a setback from which it may never recover and the laws which seek to protect endangered and threatened species may result in their extinction. Further, unless threatened and endangered species are available legally, the black market will resume due to the high prices that can be obtained.

Dogs, cats, horses and other animals have been registered by private organizations and such "papers" are accepted as proof of legal ownership. Why not reptiles and amphibians? While there are prerequisites that would have to be fulfilled before registration of reptiles and amphibians would be feasible, or accepted by public as well as private collectors, a mechanism to protect private collectors - as well as purchasers - must be established. No one can fault the objectives of Fish and Wildlife in undertaking "Snakescam." However, their means and methods of obtaining their objectives appear to have violated legal as well as ethical standards. As a result, instead of the legal presumption of innocent until proven guilty, the owner of a threatened or endangered species finds himself in the position of having to prove that such species were not acquired in violation of a state or federal law - laws which are not made known to collectors or the general public. Avenues of communication between state and federal agencies and public and private collectors must be established. A private registration agency could be that avenue of communication.

Before private registration could be established, two areas would have to be negotiated with state and federal officials: confidentiality of registration records and the "grandfathering" of specimens in private and public collections. Practically,

no one will provide information until such information could be protected, unless disclosed by the person providing the information originally. Unless both state and federal agencies would agree, in writing, to respect the confidential nature of the registration agency and further agree to accept registration "papers" as proof of legal ownership, registration would not be feasible.

Furthermore, threatened and endangered specimens must be "grandfathered in," and their legal possession acknowledged without further proof, if such specimens are registered before the established date. While it is possible that some illegally acquired reptiles and/or amphibians would be legalized by such a concession, it would be the purchaser - who may have been unaware of the status - and not the poacher or wholesaler who would be protected. Moreover, it would be the collector who may have acquired the animal prior to its protection or acquired it through captive breeding who would obtain the most protection. After the "grandfather" date, only those specimens acquired through a registered captive breeding or captured pursuant to the required permits would be registered. Future purchasers would have the protection of obtaining "papers" when the specimen was acquired.

While these concessions would have to be negotiated, there are benefits to the state and federal agencies involved. Their input concerning registration regulations would receive due consideration. Further, the registration agency could agree to release information of a general nature - such as the number originally registered, new registrations (which would be captive breedings), and number released, etc. Such information, which has not previously been available, would be a great assistance to federal and state agencies should they seek to determine the status of any endangered, threatened or near-threatened species.

Another factor in the negotiations would be public pressure regarding the activities of "Snakescam," and the fact that the Fish & Wildlife Service has done little, if anything, to facilitate legal means of acquisition. In its press conference on "Snakescam," Alan Levitt, spokesman for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, stated:

"Many people collect colorful exotic pets, such as snakes and birds, many of which must be caught illegally." He said, "the snakes sold unlawfully are virtually always bought by collectors - not for their skins or for snake cult religious purposes. The illegal sales are driving some species to extinction. The Eastern indigo snake from Florida has been on the endangered species list for three years because it's been collected almost into extinction."

Mr. Levitt failed to mention: water pollution, habitat destruction, rattlesnake roundups, or common ignorance as contributing causes. Later, he did say many people legally collect snakes and other reptiles. Perhaps, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service could achieve its objective of protection by working with, rather than against, private collectors.

The proposed registration is not intended to circumvent federal or state laws covering threatened or endangered species, but rather, supplement such laws while

protecting the private collectors as well as the animals. While a private intra-state transaction concerning an endangered species might not be subject to state or federal law (for example, the sale or trade of a hatchling Eastern indigo from the mating of Pre-Act parents), the new owner, upon receiving the registration papers would be assured that his possession was protected, and, that the snake had not been illegally acquired. If questioned by a state or federal official, the presentation of the registration papers would be conclusive proof of legal possession. If, however, the purchaser desired one, or if federal law required one for transportation of specimens across state lines, a federal permit could still be obtained.

The primary benefit of registration, however, would be for the reptiles and amphibians. At present, due to the uncertainty of the intentions of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, reptiles whose legal possession cannot be proven are in "limbo." It is documented that reptiles are being destroyed, released under circumstances wherein their survival is extremely doubtful, or are being given away, so that their owners will not have to face the wrath (or the penalties) of the Service if they cannot prove legal possession. Articles concerning captive care and propagation of threatened and endangered species are being withheld from publication because the owners, although they legally acquired the specimens in question, did not need permits and do not want to call the attention of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to their activities and risk the embarrassment of being "busted" and the cost required to prove their innocence.

Therefore, unless a system of establishing legal possession of currently held, as well as subsequently acquired, reptiles and amphibians is established and recognized, captive care and propagation will be hampered. Moreover, upon the establishment of registration, the increased availability of reptiles and amphibians through legal channels will lessen the incentives to illegally capture threatened and endangered species, thereby protecting existing wild populations. In addition, with increased dissemination of information, captive breeding will be expanded and existing populations increased by an organized release program. With the guarantee of a self-policing registration agency, perhaps the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service can turn its attentions to preservation of habitat and the apprehension of the poachers and their wholesale purchasers!

Registration Procedures: The Registration Agency

A non-profit agency should be established to act as the agency for the registration of reptiles and amphibians. This organization, which could be named the American Herpetological Association, would initially receive funding from other herpetological societies, foundations, private individuals, etc. Later, the organization would be self-supporting, obtaining funds from registration and membership fees. A Board of Directors, composed of representatives from herpetological societies, would establish the policies and procedures of registration, and elect the officers who would be responsible for the day to day registration operation. Additional activities of the American Herpetological Association ("AHA") would include: the establishment of sectional memberships and committees whereby collectors could join a group dedicated to the study and propagation of a specific reptile or amphibian, and compile and exchange information. Each section would report annually. In addition, the section would report proposed changes in state or federal laws to its

membership, and review and comment on proposed legislation. Furthermore, the section might engage in lobbying or propose legislation to federal or state agencies. Another activity could be the establishment of breeding loan programs and the coordination with zoos concerning handling of surplus specimens. AHA could be the mechanism to stop the destruction of surplus populations that result from institutional policies and procedures. AHA could also identify habitat areas and lobby for the inclusion of such areas into wildlife sanctuaries.

Establishment of Registration Procedures

The first step in establishment of registration procedures would be the commencement of negotiations with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and state agencies. The procedures and benefits of the registration process would be explained. Concurrent with such negotiations would be a letter-writing campaign to congressmen and senators asking their assistance with state and federal agencies. Once an agreement was reached, deadlines for the "grandfathering in" of each species would be established and disseminated nationally.

In establishing the mechanics of registration, the registration procedures of the American Kennel Club, American Cat Fanciers Association, and other similar organizations would be reviewed. AHA procedures would incorporate their best features, including the establishment of a "book" for each classification. A prefix number for each species would be the same as the "book" number and a second number would identify the specific animal. The information to be provided would include: the scientific and common names, sex (if known), approximate age, date acquired, any special characteristics of the specimen (albino, melanistic, defects, etc.) and the name and address of the owner. If the application complied with the AHA regulations, a registration certificate would be provided. However, the only date listed thereon would be the date of registration. For example, an Eastern indigo snake would be registered as 201 (Drymarchon corais couperi Classification number)-103 (individual registration number). The registration certificate would include the pertinent information and the date of registration, which would prevent a registration certificate from being used to cover an unregistered animal. Upon the trade, sale, or loan of a registered animal, the certificate would be returned to AHA and a new certificate issued to indicate the new owner.

A system of "clutch" registration would be established to cover captive breeding situations. This registration certificate would include the numbers of the parents' date of birth, and the breeder's name. A number would be assigned to each offspring and the identification data could be provided at a later date.

Priority of Registration

While all reptile and amphibian classifications would eventually be registered, priority of registration would commence with endangered species and a realistic grandfather date would be established for each. Threatened species would be registered after endangered, and then near-threatened species. Thereafter, other species would be registered on an optional basis, because no grandfather date would be needed. This optional registration would be useful in protecting prospective purchasers and would be invaluable in captive breeding programs so that bloodlines could be traced for

the purpose of line breeding or outcrossing.

In the long run, "Snakescam" may well turn out to be a blessing in disguise. It is time that private collectors join together and present their viewpoints; as a silent minority, we have taken the blame for the status of many reptiles and amphibians. Moreover, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has been able to mislead and harass individuals with impunity. Permit applications gather dust on officials' desks - and non-refundable application fees deter permit applicants. Furthermore, proposed and current laws and regulations are not readily available. There is much to be done in dealing with state and federal agencies, the media, and the public. The establishment of a national registration agency would be the start.

-----taken from: Eastern Seaboard Herpetological League (ESHL) News1., November 30, 1981.

* * * * *

YOUNG PEN PALS WANTED FROM OVERSEAS

Several young KHS members from Caldwell and other younger people have shown an interest in communicating with young people (10-14 years of age) from foreign countries. Those interested would most like to hear from young people with an interest in all wildlife, not just herpetology, from Australia or the Netherlands.

KHS members in the above countries are asked to make this information available to any young people that might want to write to pen pals in Kansas. The letters should be mailed to: The Sixth Grade Class, Caldwell Elementary School, Caldwell, Kansas 67022, United States of America. Those writing Caldwell are asked to give a short summary of their general interest and also tell what type of person they might want to communicate with by mail.

-----The Sixth Grade Class, Caldwell Elementary School, Caldwell, KS 67022

* * * * *

REPTILIAN LOGIC

- ...is dedicated to the following precepts:
- When you are hot, find shade.
- When you are cool, lie in the sun.
- When you are hungry, eat something.
- When you are tired, sleep.

LIST OF NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETIES

ARIZONA HERP. ASSOCIATION
2459 E. Claire
Phoenix, AZ 85032

ASSOC. FOR THE CONSERVATION OF
TURTLES & TORTOISES
c/o Mrs. Sandra Jordan, Sect.
RFD #4, Box 291
Sussex, New Jersey 07461

BAY AREA AMPHIBIAN & REPTILE SOCIETY
3037 Huntington St.
Oakland, California 68108

BAY AREA TURTLE & TORTOISE SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 17
Berkeley, California 91701

CALIFORNIA TURTLE & TORTOISE SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 90252
Los Angeles, California 90009

CANADIAN AMPHIBIAN & REPTILE CONS. SOCIETY
9 Mississauga Rd. N.
Mississauga, ONT.
L5H 2H5 CANADA

CENTRAL OHIO HERP. SOCIETY
2621 Mushingam Ct.
Columbus, Ohio 43210

CENTRAL VIRGINIA HERP. SOCIETY
(Chapter of VHS)
Dept. of Biology
Lynchburg College
Lynchburg, Virginia 24501

CHICAGO HERP. SOCIETY
2001 North Clark St.
Chicago, Illinois 60614

COLORADO HERP. SOCIETY
P.O. Box 15381
Denver, Colorado 80215

CONNECTICUT HERP. SOCIETY
George Whitney, DVM
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Oakwood Road
Orange, Connecticut 06477

DALLAS HERP. SOCIETY
Wayne Seifert
Dallas Museum of Natural History
P.O. Box 26193
Dallas, Texas 75226

EASTERN SEABOARD HERP LEAGUE
David Holmes, Coordinator
122 Second Ave
Hawthorne, New Jersey 07507

FLORIDA HERP. SOCIETY
Dennis R. Magee
5488 North River Road
Jacksonville, Florida 32211

FLORIDA WEST COAST HERP SOCIETY
John Lewis
1312 South Evergreen Ave.
Clearwater, Florida 33515

GEORGIA HERP. SOCIETY
c/o Reptile House
Atlanta Zoological Park
800 Cherokee Ave. S.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30315

DESERT HERP. SOCIETY
350 Golden Shore
Long Beach, CA 90802

GOPHER TORTOISE COUNCIL
c/o Florida State Museum
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida 32611

GREAT LAKES HERP. SOCIETY
c/o Jeff Gee
4308 N. Woodward
Royal Oaks, Michigan 48072

GREATER CINCINNATI HERP. SOCIETY
Cincinnati Museum of Natural History
172 Gilbert Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

GREATER SAN ANTONIO HERP. SOCIETY
c/o Tom Vermersch
3130 Waurika
San Antonio, Texas 78223

IOWA HERP. SOCIETY
P.O. Box 191
Norwalk, Iowa 50211

KANSAS HERP. SOCIETY
Hank Guarisco
Museum of Natural History
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas 66045

KENTUCKY HERP. SOCIETY
John MacGregor
102 Fourth Street
Nicholasville, Kentucky 40358

MARYLAND HERP. SOCIETY
Natural History Society of Maryland
2643 North Charles St.
Baltimore, Maryland 21218

MASSACHUSETTS HERP. SOCIETY
P.O. Box 1082
Boston, Massachusetts 02103

MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF HERPETOLOGISTS
c/o Theresa Moran
1603 Massachusetts
Lansing, MI 48906

MID-MISSISSIPPI VALLEY HERP. SOCIETY
Mike Lodato
925 Park Plaza Dr.
Evansville, Indiana 47715

MINNESOTA HERP. SOCIETY
Bell Museum of Natural History
10 Church St.
Minneapolis, MN 55455

NEBRASKA HERP. SOCIETY
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Omaha, Nebraska 68108

NEW MEXICO HERP. SOCIETY
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Albuquerque, New Mexico 87131

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NORTH CAROLINA HERP. SOCIETY
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NORTH NEW JERSEY HERP. SOCIETY
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Augusta, New Jersey 07822

NORTHERN OHIO ASSOC. HERPS.
Department of Biology
Case Western Research University
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

OKLAHOMA HERP. SOCIETY
Jeffrey Black
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Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801

PALM BEACH COUNTY HERP. SOCIETY
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P.O. Box 125
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PHILADELPHIA HERP. SOCIETY
Harry Hance, Pres.
739 Roslyn Ave.
Glenside, PA 19038

SACRAMENTO VALLEY HERP. SOCIETY
Bob Pedder
6007 Watt Ave.
North Highlands, California 95660

SAN DIEGO HERP. SOCIETY
P.O. Box 4439
San Diego, California 92104

SAN DIEGO TURTLE & TORTOISE SOCIETY
c/o 6957 Tanglewood Road
San Diego, California 92111

ST. LOUIS HERP. SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 9216
St. Louis, Missouri 63117

SOUTH FLORIDA HERP. SOCIETY
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9972 N. Kendall Drive #54
Miami, Florida 33176

SOUTHWESTERN HERP. SOCIETY
San Fredando Valley Chapter
P.O. Box 7469
Van Nuys, California 91409

SOUTHWESTERN HERP SOCIETY
Bob Sanders
San Bernadino County Museum
2024 Orange Tree Lane
Redlands, California 92373

TEXAS HERP. SOCIETY
Rt. 3, Box 3225
Bulverde, Texas 78163

TOLEDO HERP. SOCIETY
c/o Marlene Sterling, Sect.
8151 Summerfield Road
Lambertville, MI 48144

UTAH HERP. SOCIETY
Hogle Zoological Gardens
P.O. Box 8475
Salt Lake City, Utah 84108

VIRGINIA HERP. SOCIETY
Don Merkle
Londwood College
Farmville, Virginia 23901

WASHINGTON HERP. SOCIETY
Scott Rae
317 Adahi Road
Vienna, Virginia 21180
WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS HERP. SOCIETY
c/o Science Museum
236 State St.
Springfield, Massachusetts 01103

WISCONSIN HERP. SOCIETY
Milwaukee Public Museum
800 West Wells
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233

ZOO FAUNA ASSOCIATION
c/o Bern Tryon
Houston Zoological Park
Box 1562
Houston, Texas 77001

* * * * *

HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETIES OUTSIDE NORTH AMERICA

AUSTRALASIAN AFFILIATION OF HERP. SOCIETIES
P.O. Box R307
Royal Exchange
Sydney N.S.W. 2000
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NEW ZEALAND HERP. SOCIETY
6 Tobruk Cres.
Milford, Auckland 9 N.Z.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HERP. GROUP, INC.
c/o South Australia Museum
North Terrace
Adelaide, South Australia 5000

VICTORIAN HERP. SOCIETY
16 Suspension St.
Ardeer, Vic. 3022
Australia

WESTERN HERP. GROUP
32 Gordon St.
Whyalla Norrie
South Australia 5608

THE AUSTRALIAN SOC. OF HERPETOLOGISTS
Ms M. Davies
Zoology Department
University of Adelaide
Box 498 G.P.O.
Adelaide, South Australia 5001

BRITISH HERP. SOCIETY
c/o Zoological Soc. of London
Regents Park, London N.W. 1
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THE DUTCH TURTLE & TORTOISE FOUNDATION
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8700 AC Bolsward
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THE HERP. ASSOCIATION OF AFRICA
Dr. W.R. Branch
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6013 Humewood
South Africa

INTERNATIONAL HERP. SOCIETY
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27 St. Thomas Close
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NORTH QUEENSLAND HERP. SOCIETY
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CURRENT KHS MEMBERSHIP LIST

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**ANNOUNCING
THE
SIXTH REPTILE SYMPOSIUM
on CAPTIVE PROPAGATION & HUSBANDRY
at
THE NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL PARK
WASHINGTON, D.C.
JULY 28-31, 1982**

CALL FOR PAPERS

All herpetologists are invited to submit for consideration the titles of papers they wish to present at the 6th Reptile Symposium on Husbandry and Propagation. Paper lengths may range from 15 to 40 minutes. A preliminary program will be established by April, 1982. Speakers will be expected to submit a 100-150 word abstract of their talk by April 30, 1982; a completed copy-ready manuscript must be submitted prior to the Symposium. Submit all program information to: Thomas A. Huff, Program Chairperson, Reptile Breeding Foundation, PO Box 1450, Picton, Ontario K0K 2T0 Canada; 613/476-3351, 476-3691. Symposium Coordinator is: Dr. Martin J. Rosenberg, Department of Biology, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH 44106; 216/368-2755, 368-3558, 451-1081. Host Committee Chairperson is: BeĀa Demetar, Department of Herpetology, the National Zoological Park, Washington, D.C. 20008; 202/357-1300. Symposium Series Director is: Richard A. Hahn, Zoological Consortium, Inc., 13019 Catoctin Furnace Rd., Thurmont, MD 21788; 301/662-0328.

(Copies of the Program for the Fifth Symposium, held in Oklahoma City, June 9-12, 1981, are available for examination. See or leave message for Martin J. Rosenberg.)