

Kansas Herpetological Society
29th Annual

Meeting Program

1–3 November 2002

Nichols Hall
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Theme of the Meeting

Conservation and Natural History of the Kansas Herpetofauna

All scientific paper sessions for the KHS 29th Annual Meeting will be held in Nichols Hall on the University of Kansas Campus West, Lawrence, Kansas, on 2–3 November 2002.

Registration Fee: Students (6th through 12th Grade) \$5.00 per person; all others \$10.00 per person

A live exhibit of native Kansas amphibians, turtles, and reptiles has been assembled by the Lawrence Prairie Park Nature Center, 2730 Harper Avenue, Lawrence (785-832-7980), and will be available for viewing and photography. Times for members to conduct herpetological photography on Saturday and Sunday are listed below.

The annual KHS auction will be held on Saturday night (2 November) in Lawrence, Kansas, at the Union Pacific Depot, 402 North Second Street, Lawrence (north of the bridge). All proceeds from the auction go to the KHS.

Friday, 1 November 2002

7:00 pm to 11:00 pm KHS SOCIAL & OPEN HOUSE at the Lawrence Prairie Park Nature Center, 2730 Harper Avenue, Lawrence, Kansas 66046 (785) 832-7980. Welcome by *Marty Birrell*, Director of the LPPNC. Come and refresh yourself after a hard day's drive to the River City. Ad Astra Beer from the Free State Brewery, soft drinks, & snacks, compliments of *Suzanne & Joe Collins*.

Saturday, 2 November 2002

8:00 am Registration: *Mary Kate Baldwin* (KHS Secretary) and *Eric Kessler* (KHS Treasurer) in the main foyer at Nichols Hall, KU Campus West, Lawrence, Kansas. Free coffee, orange juice, and donuts will be provided, compliments of the KHS. Silent auction from 8:00 am to 2:30 pm in Nichols Hall foyer; proceeds to *The Slowinski Award*.

9:00 am to 4:00 pm Live Exhibit at the Lawrence Prairie Park Nature Center, 2730 Harper Avenue, Lawrence (785-832-7980).

8:15 am Welcome by *Suzanne L. Collins* (KHS President).

Scientific Paper Session 1 in Nichols Hall, KU Campus West

Moderator: *John E. Simmons*, Natural History Museum, University of Kansas, Lawrence

8:30 am KEYNOTE SPEAKER: *Frank T. Burbrink*, Museum of Natural Science, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge. Topic: Comparative Snake Phylogeography in North America.

9:00 am Speaker: *Pamela M. Simmons*, *Brian T. Greene*, *Kate E. Williamson*, *Robert Powell*, and *John S. Parmerlee, Jr.*, Avila College, Kansas City, Missouri. Topic: The Natural History of *Ameiva ameiva* on Grenada, with Notes on Interactions with Sympatric Anoles.

9:15 am Speaker: *Calvin Cink*, Baker University, Baldwin City, Kansas. Topic: Population Densities and Patterns of Emergence for *Ambystoma texanum* at the Baker Wetlands, Douglas County, Kansas.**

9:30 am Speaker: *Henry S. Fitch*, Fitch Natural History Reservation, University of Kansas. Topic: Litter Size in the Red-sided Garter Snake.**

9:45 am Speaker: *George R. Pisani*, University of Kansas, Lawrence. Topic: Snake Eyes: Visual Acuity in Some Kansas Snake Species with Implications for Foraging Strategy.**

BREAK 10:00 AM

Scientific Paper Session 2 in Nichols Hall, KU Campus West

Moderator: *Jennifer Delisle*, Kansas Biological Survey, Lawrence

10:15 am Speaker: *Kelly J. Irwin*, Arkansas Game & Fish Commission, Little Rock. Topic: The Status of the Western Diamondback Rattlesnake (*Crotalus atrox*) in Arkansas.

10:30 am Speaker: *Lisa K. Irwin*, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Arkansas Field Office, Conway. Topic: Preliminary Screening Assessments for Malformed Amphibians on National Wildlife Refuges.

10:45 am Speaker: *Angela Babbit* and *Lynnette Sievert*, Emporia State University, Emporia, Kansas. Topic: Digestive Efficiency of Cope's Gray Treefrog, *Hyla chrysoscelis*.**

11:00 am Speaker: *Eli Greenbaum*, Natural History Museum, University of Kansas, Lawrence. Topic: Mambas to Malaria: Conducting Herpetological Fieldwork in Guinea, West Africa.

11:20 am Speaker: *Walter E. Meshaka*, State Museum of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg. Topic: The Reproductive Life of Snakes in Subtropical Southern Florida.

11:40 am to noonish KHS Group Photograph taken by *Larry L. Miller* (Kansas Heritage Photography, Wakarusa)

LUNCH: Noon to 1:30 pm.

Scientific Paper Session 3 in Nichols Hall, KU Campus West

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

1:30 pm Speaker: *Hugo Alamillo*, Natural History Museum, University of Kansas, Lawrence. Topic: Tail Autonomy in Six Species of *Amphisbaena* (Amphibaenia, Reptilia) from the Antilles.

1:45 pm Speaker: *John Cavitt*, Weber State University, Ogden, Utah. Topic: Fire and a Tallgrass Prairie Reptile Community: Effects on Relative Abundance and Seasonal Activity.

2:00 pm Speaker: *Kennith B. Chance*, *Lynnette Sievert*, and *Derek Zelmer*, Emporia State University, Emporia, Kansas. Topic: A Telemetric Study of Winter Microhabitat Selection by the Bullfrog, *Rana catesbeiana*, in East-Central Kansas.**

2:15 pm Speaker: *Eva Horne* and *Adam Martin*, Division of Biology, Kansas State University, Manhattan. Topic: Orange Epaulettes on Eastern Collared Lizards?***

2:30 pm Speaker: *Chad Whitney*, Johnson County Community College, Overland Park, Kansas, and *Brandon DeCavele*, Maple Woods Community College, Kansas City, Missouri. Topic: Red Milk Snake Populations in Northeastern Kansas.**

BREAK 2:45 PM

3:00 pm Speaker: *Scott Sharp*, Desoto High School, Desoto, Kansas. Topic: Snakes of the University of Kansas Biotic Succession Area.**

3:15 pm Speaker: *Jennifer B. Pramuk*, Natural History Museum, University of Kansas, Lawrence. Topic: Preliminary Results of a Phylogenetic Analysis of Mitochondrial DNA Data Investigating Relationships of New World *Bufo* (Anura: Bufonidae).

3:30 pm Speaker: *John E. Simmons*, Natural History Museum, University of Kansas, Lawrence. Topic: Forest of Sunflowers — Is Paraguay Turning into Kansas?

4:00 pm KHS General Business Meeting with KHS President *Suzanne L. Collins* presiding in Nichols Hall, KU Campus West

Introduction of current KHS officers by *Suzanne L. Collins*

KHS Treasurer's Report for 2002 by *Eric Kessler*

KHS Secretary's Report for 2002 by *Mary Kate Baldwin*

KHS Editor's Report for 2002 by *Travis W. Taggart*

Report on Plans for the 30th Annual KHS Meeting at Emporia, Kansas, in 2003 by KHS President-Elect *Gregory Sievert* (Emporia State University, Emporia, Kansas).

Election of KHS Officers for 2003. The 2002 KHS Nominating Committee is composed of *Larry L. Miller* (Northern Hills Junior High School, Topeka, serves until 31 December 2002), *Dwight R. Platt* (Bethel College, North Newton, serves until 31 December 2003), and *Joseph T. Collins* (Kansas Biological Survey, Lawrence, serves until 31 December 2004), and offers the following slate of candidates:

For President

Gregory Sievert, Emporia State University, Emporia, Kansas

Serving as president-elect during 2002, and automatically assumes the KHS presidency on 1 January 2003.

For President-Elect

Eva Horne, Division of Biology, Kansas State University, Manhattan.

Cameron Liggett, Sternberg Museum of Natural History, Fort Hays State University, Hays.

For Treasurer (unopposed)

Eric Kessler, Blue Valley North High School, Overland Park.

For Secretary (unopposed)

Mary Kate Baldwin, Topeka Collegiate School.

Announcement of the results of the KHS election by the Elector, *Mary Kate Baldwin*.

Presentation of the *Howard Kay Gloyd-Edward Harrison Taylor Scholarship* for 2002 by *Robert Powell* (KHS Awards Committee Chairperson).

Presentation of the *Alan H. Kamb Grant for Research on Kansas Snakes* for 2002 by *Robert Powell* (KHS Awards Committee Chairperson).

Adjourn 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm Dinner at the restaurant of your choice

6:30 pm Union Pacific Depot (402 North Second Street, Lawrence). At approximately 6:45 pm, the presentation of *The Suzanne L. & Joseph T. Collins Award for Excellence in Kansas Herpetology* by *Kelly J. Irwin* (Herpetologist for the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission and a Member of the CNAH Board of Directors) will take place. The recipient of *The Collins Award* receives a commemorative plaque and a check for \$1000.00.

At approximately 7:00 pm, the KHS Auction will be conducted at the Union Pacific Depot by *Joseph T. Collins*, ably assisted by KHS Secretary *Mary Kate Baldwin*, KHS Treasurer *Eric Kessler*, and *Suzanne L. Collins* (Lawrence), and featuring many excellent books and other items (of questionable value). The KHS takes cash, credit cards, and checks. Be sure and get a bidding number before the auction commences. Bid vigorously, and support the KHS. Ad Astra Beer from the Free State Brewery, soft drinks, and snacks will be free, compliments of the KHS.

Sunday, 4 November 2002

8:00 am Registration for participants that did not register on Saturday: *Mary Kate Baldwin* (KHS Secretary) and *Eric Kessler* (KHS Treasurer) in the main foyer at Nichols Hall, KU Campus West, Lawrence, Kansas. Free coffee, orange juice, and donuts will be provided, compliments of the KHS.

1:00 pm to 4:00 pm Live Exhibit at Lawrence Prairie Park Nature Center.

Scientific Paper Session 4 in Nichols Hall, KU Campus West

Moderator: Stanley Rasmussen, Lawrence, Kansas.

8:30 am Speaker: *Steve Wahle*, Kansas State University, Manhattan. Topic: The Herpetofauna of Gulf County, Florida.

8:45 am Speaker: *Christopher Hutson*, Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kansas. Topic: Herpetology at Tabor College.

9:00 am Speaker: *Travis W. Taggart*, Sternberg Museum of Natural History, Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas. Topic: Dead Herps Make Great Dots.

9:15 am Speaker: *Jason Moore*, Topeka Zoo. Topic: Let Sleeping Dragons Lie: Challenges of Research in a Zoo Environment.

9:30 am Speaker: *David S. McLeod*, Natural History Museum, University of Kansas. Topic: Introduction to the Herpetofauna of Southern Thailand.

9:45 am Speaker: *Jason T. Moore*, Topeka Zoo. Topic: Don't Pet the Dragons: Review of a Komodo Dragon (*Varanus komodoensis*) Bite Incident and Treatment.

10:00 am Speaker: *Larry L. Miller*, Northern Hills Junior High School, Topeka. Topic: Evolution of the Ornate Box Turtle as a Kansas Icon.**

10:15 am Speaker: *James A. Daniel*, Department of Biology, Pittsburg State University, Kansas. Topic: A History of the Cottonmouth (*Agkistrodon piscivorus*) in Southeastern Kansas.**

10:30 am: Speaker: *Joseph T. Collins*. Topic: The Fourth Annual Kansas Amphibian Monitoring Program (KAMP) Conference: A Summation.

Presentation of the KAMP Big Croaker Awards for 2002 (two awards of \$100.00 each will be given to the most diligent KAMP volunteers during the 2002 season).

Have a safe trip home. See you in November 2003 in Emporia, Kansas.

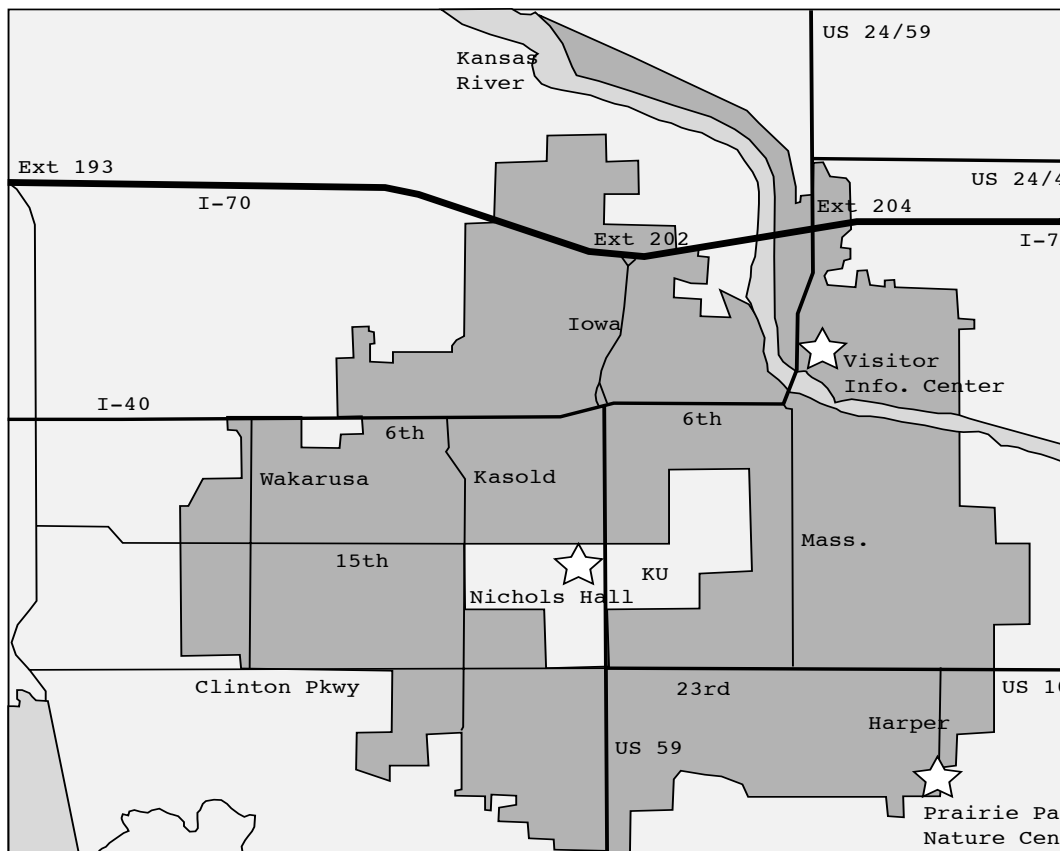
29th Annual Meeting Committee
Suzanne L. Collins, Chairperson

Joseph T. Collins, Master of Ceremonies

Notes: *The Suzanne L. & Joseph T. Collins Award for Excellence in Kansas Herpetology* will be given at this KHS 29th Annual Meeting in Lawrence, Kansas, to the KHS member judged to have published or presented the best scientific paper on the native herpetofauna of Kansas during 2000 and 2001. The KHS Awards Committee will select the recipient. During odd-numbered years (photography competition), only KHS members are eligible. During even-numbered years (scientific presentations or publications), candidates are strongly encouraged to join the KHS, because preference will be given to KHS members.

Nominations for the Howard Kay Gloyd-Edward Harrison Taylor Scholarship for 2003 will be accepted after 1 January 2003. Submit your nominees to the KHS Awards Committee Chairperson (see the inside front cover of the latest *Journal of Kansas Herpetology*).

Applications for the Alan H. Kamb Endowed Grant for Research on Kansas Snakes for 2003 will be accepted after 1 January 2003. Submit your application to the KHS Awards Committee Chairperson (see the inside front cover of the latest *Journal of Kansas Herpetology*).



1. Union Pacific Depot/Lawrence Visitor Information Center. KHS Auction and Social Saturday night. Free parking.
2. Nichols Hall on KU Campus West. Scientific paper presentations on Saturday and Sunday. Free parking.
3. Prairie Park Nature Center. Friday night KHS Social. Free parking. Live display of amphibians, turtles, and reptiles.