

The Newsletter of the Herpetologists' League

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The 1998 Annual Meeting of the Herpetologists' League at the University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario Canada

16 - 22 July 1998

The upcoming annual meetings are to be held in Canada this year, at the University of Guelph in Guelph, Ontario. Jim Bogart is the chair of the local committee and would like to extend a welcome for all to attend. The scientific presentations continue for six days from 17-22 July followed by a day of rest, or even better, field trips to local attractions including the ROM, the Metro Toronto Zoo, Long Point Provincial Park, and the oft scientifically overlooked Niagara Falls. There are several social events to keep participants in high spirits including an opening reception on 16 July, the annual picnic/barbecue on July 20th, the SSAR auction on July 21st, and the banquet on July 22nd. For graduate students, their reception is being held on July 19th. The event will be held outdoors this year and will feature, as always, a live band. We are also proud to honor the 10th anniversary of ROMMY by hosting ROMMY II. Organized and written by Bob Murphy, Leslie Lowcock, and Ross MacCulloch, this is the world's first (or is that second?) phylogenetic rock opera.

Of course there are also scientific presentations scheduled to break the monotony of social events. A large and diverse scientific program is being planned by the scientific program committee of which Ron Brooks is the co-chair. The keynote address will be given by the HL's Distinguished Herpetologist for 1998, Sharon Emerson, who will be speaking on "The Evolution of Morphological Novelty". There are several informative symposia scheduled of interest to herpetologists. Kenneth Storey is organizing a symposium entitled "To Freeze or not to Freeze: Amphibians and Reptiles in the Cold". Michael Ryan is organizer of "Recent Advances in Anuran Communication: a Symposium Honoring Dr. Stan Rand. Steve Reilly and Ronn Altig are organizing "Herpetology in the Lab and Field: a Symposium in Recognition of the Career of Ronald A. Brandon". There is also a symposium entitled "Phenology of Fishes, Amphibians and Reptiles: Integrating Organism Level and Population Level Perspectives" organized by Eric Schultz and Kentwood Wells.

For more information on events and the scientific program check out our meeting website at: <http://www.uoguelph.ca/~ichsherp>. We can also be contacted by e-mail at: meeting@uoguelph.ca or by snail mail: c/o Tana McDaniel, Department of Zoology, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1, Canada. Phone: (519) 824-4120 X 6260. For information on registration and accommodation, please contact the Conference Office, ASIH/SSAR/HL/CAH/AES Conference, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1, Canada, or e-mail at: delegates@hrs.uoguelph.ca.

President's Corner

This is my 13th year as an officer with the Herpetologists' League, first as Secretary, secondly as Vice-President, and now as President. I have witnessed HL change from a society whose services were limited to publishing *Herpetologica* and giving a prize at its annual meeting to one that provides a variety of services to its members. The HL Board recreated *Herpetological Monographs*, it began offering discounts on several books, it reorganized the annual student prize to make it more

prestigious, and now it will soon be offering a new publication series on the world checklists of herpetology. Promotional material will be made available on this latest venture in the near future.

Why have I stayed with HL for so long? There are three answers. First, the officers and other members of the Board of trustees work well as a team. Most decisions are made by the Board. Even though I have free-lanced most of my working life and work independently, I learned the value of teamwork a long time ago in the Marine Corps. All the elected officers share the teamwork approach to getting things done. Secondly, the Board has not strayed from its central mission, to provide the highest quality publications possible in herpetology. We developed all our other services with a great deal of discussion and forethought with this central mission in mind. And thirdly, all elected terms of office are either two or four years. The two central positions, Secretary and Treasurer, require a learning period and development of some wisdom. The President serves a two year term, long enough to learn how to run the society and contribute in substantial ways. In short, the structure of our society requires dedicated colleagues and we have been fortunate to have acquired the volunteer services of a number of hardworking people.

The dedication of HL officers and the length of time required to serve have been apparently interpreted by some as elitist. There are pros and cons for frequent turnover of officers, thereby reducing the elitist perception. However, I personally would find it hard to do anything substantial for the society in a short term of office. The governing body of HL is not a closed entity. We always need dedicated colleagues to run for office and volunteer for committee assignments. There are opportunities for students as well.

Each of you is an important member of the HL team. This society cannot do what it does without you. However, all team members share some of the responsibilities to keep their society functional and solvent. Such things as sending your membership dues in on time so that the society does not incur unnecessary costs is understood by most members. Our Treasurer could tell you what it costs in time and money wasted when dues are late. HL cannot grow and prosper, and thus serve you better, without your commitment.

The growth in services provided by HL to its members is not without its costs. A recent review suggests that current regular membership dues do not fully support our operation when viewed solely from a cost-per-member basis. Publication costs are rising due largely to increasing paper prices and postage. But let me be absolutely clear, HL officers are NOT contemplating raising dues again soon for regular members. I am, however, becoming concerned about the disbursements/income ratio. We have been working, albeit slowly, on building our Endowment. The interest from our relatively meager capital has helped our operation, but the fact of the matter is, we could do so much more for our members with a larger fund. Thus, I am taking this opportunity to ask that all members of HL contribute something, however small, to our endowment fund. Any contribution would be appreciated. I am also asking that you recruit one additional member, whether a colleague or student. And I implore you to make sure that your institution is a subscriber to our journals. Be a responsible and supportive member of the HL team. Help your society to better serve you.

The theme of my two-year presidency will, therefore, be TEAMWORK. I will promise to do my best to ensure that HL remains a quality society. But I will also count on each of you to be a responsible member of the HL team and do your part too. I look forward to the next two years of service.

Joseph C. Mitchell

President

Coming Soon! HL Special Publication:

Snake Species of the World

HL is publishing a 3-volume compendium packed with information about the world's snakes. The long-awaited series is authored by Jonathan Campbell, Roy McDiarmid, and T'Shaka Touré. The first volume should be published later this year. A mailing will be sent to all HL members, so **watch for this announcement!**

KUDOS to...

John Iverson

John B. Iverson, immediate Past-President of HL, contributed his time and talents to the society in several ways. Not only has he served the President's office with distinction, he initiated the formation of the HL Website and served as managing editor of the new 20 year index to *Herpetologica*. John spent many hours consulting with the webmaster and worked to keep our site up to date. As managing editor of the new index, he worked tirelessly with its author, Mac Hardy, to organize and edit the publication. John secured a publisher and saw the project through to completion. Members and officers of HL appreciate his efforts.

-- Joseph C. Mitchell, President 1998-1999.

Lawrence M. Hardy

The Herpetologists' League extends its thanks to Mac Hardy for assembling and editing the new 20 year Index to *Herpetologica*. Such tasks are often thankless and overwhelming. Mac pulled together annual indices, some in different electronic formats and some manually, to produce a quality and useful service to the herpetological community. We appreciate his service to the society.

Watch for later announcements on this new index.

-- Joseph C. Mitchell, President 1998-1999.

CALL FOR Symposium Proposals for the 1999 HL Meeting at Penn State

The Herpetologists' League sponsors thematic symposia for its annual meetings. Any League member may submit a proposal for a symposium for the upcoming meeting by sending a proposal application to the chair of the Symposium Committee. Official sponsorship by the Herpetologists' League allows for the scheduling and announcement of the symposium in the meeting program and registration materials. In addition, a small amount of money (a maximum of \$2000) is available to support sponsored symposia.

Applicants should provide the following information: 1) a statement outlining the name/topic of the symposium, the scope of the planned presentations, the relevance of the topic to herpetology and, if appropriate, to the particular meeting (e.g., timeliness or geographic appropriateness), and the goal of the symposium (not to exceed one single-spaced page of text); 2) a tentative outline of speakers (including presentation of titles and institutional affiliations) indicating the time to be allocated for each presentation and the total length of the symposium (e.g., half-day, full-day). Only speakers that have indicated their willingness to participate should be listed. This should be accompanied by a short (one paragraph) statement explaining how the particular slate of speakers and presentations meets the goals of the symposium as a whole. Note that two or more individuals should be involved with organizing each symposium and that the application should include the addresses, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail addresses of these organizers. 3) a budget (not to exceed \$2000) detailing the proposed use of funds requested from the Herpetologists' League. Appropriate expenses include full or partial support of travel, housing and/or registration expenses for symposium participants.

Sponsorship by the Herpetologists' League does not guarantee financial support and symposia may be sponsored and funded at a level lower than that requested by the applicants.

Interested persons should submit their proposals no later than 30 May 1998 to: Aaron M. Bauer, Herpetologists' League Symposium Chair, Department of Biology, Villanova University, 800 Lancaster Avenue, Villanova, Pennsylvania 19085.

GRAD SCHOOL NEWS...

HERPETOLOGY AT Southwest Missouri State University: Featuring the Laboratories of Alicia Mathis, Don Moll, Robert Wilkinson, and Brian Greene

Note: I am exercising the editor's prerogative of featuring my own institution in this issue. Bias in selection of institutions is freely acknowledged. -- Ed.

The Department of Biology at Southwest Missouri State University has a dynamic graduate program that is particularly strong in organismal biology and has a very active herpetology group. Because SMSU's graduate program only grants master's degrees, the scope of student projects is somewhat limited (usually 2 years). The research conducted by our students addresses diverse ecological questions on a wide range of herpetofauna. We currently have four herpetologists on our faculty, but that number is regrettably about to shrink to three with the retirement of ROBERT WILKINSON. In addition to serving nobly as Department Head for the past few years, WILK has trained many herpetology students during his career at SMSU. His leadership will be sorely missed.

WILK is going out with a bang. He currently has four master's students, all working on salamanders. Two of the students are continuing WILK's long-term work on hellbenders (either the world ugliest or most beautiful salamander, depending on your perspective). These projects, which are funded by the Missouri Department of Conservation, will examine seven drainages to assess the status of hellbender populations in Missouri. BEN WHEELER will focus on *Cryptobranchus allegheniensis bishopi* and ETHAN PROSEN will primarily examine populations of *C. a. allegheniensis*. This study is particularly interesting because previous studies by WILK and his students have provided historical data on these populations. BEN and ETHAN should be able to examine long-term changes in population sizes, size structures, and, possibly, individual growth of previously marked individuals. The other two students in Wilk's lab are working on another large aquatic salamander, *Siren intermedia*. PAUL FREESE is conducting a mark-recapture study to determine population size and, hopefully, home range estimates. AARON SULLIVAN is gathering a variety of life-history data, including reproductive cycles and diet.

ALICIA MATHIS' behavioral ecology lab is also very active. The lab currently has 3 hard-working master's students and one very busy undergraduate. Only one of the master's students is working on herpetofauna, but she has accomplished quite a bit in the two years that she has been in the lab. DARIA MAKSIMOWICH's species of choice is the Ozark zigzag salamander, *Plethodon angusticlavius*. If the Latin name sounds unfamiliar, you may know this species better as a population of *P. dorsalis* that recently has been Highton-ized (see *Herpetologica* 53:345-356, 1997). This population from northern Arkansas captured our interest because many individuals harbor an ectoparasitic mite. DARIA has data demonstrating that the level of parasitism is associated with a number of changes in behavior, including foraging behavior, aggressive behavior, and chemosensory behavior. In the fall, DARIA will be starting her Ph.D. work at the University of Alberta where she will be funded by a prestigious pre-doctoral scholarship from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada. The lab's hard-working undergraduate is KEVIN MURRAY, who is conducting an experiment to determine whether lab-reared ringed-salamander larvae (*Ambystoma annulatum*) can discriminate between chemical cues from predators and non-predators. The non-herp students in the lab are also doing interesting research. KRISTA DECKERD is working on responses to predator calls by cotton rats and AMY COMMENS is developing a graduate project that builds on her undergraduate research on alarm pheromones of darters (*note to totally herpetofocused individuals: darters are small, benthic fishes*). ALICIA continues to have a number of interests in predator/prey behavior (salamanders and fishes), territoriality (salamanders), and chemical communication (anything that moves). She manages to work in occasional experiments between cracking the whip over her graduate students and teaching the department's most interesting classes.

DON MOLL's turtle ecology laboratory has a number of students pursuing assorted projects. DAWN FORD is working on an ambitious study to quantify migration paths and habitat selection of newly-emergent hatchling red-eared sliders (*Trachemys scripta elegans*). JILL WHITHAM joins a long line of ecologists interested in geographic variation in life history characters. She plans to examine latitudinal variation in clutch size for subspecies of painted turtles (*Chrysemys picta belli* and *C. p. dorsalis*). A lone standout among the chelonologists is LISA SOLBERG who plans to describe toe pad morphology among arboreal and semi-terrestrial species of *Pseudacris* frogs. DON is studying seed dispersal by several reptiles (lizards and turtles) in Arizona, where he is currently enjoying a sabbatical. During the past few years, DON and several graduate students (most recently TIM WILSON) have been describing reproductive ecology of several species of turtles in a cold-water reservoir. In his spare time, DON, along with collaborators Edward Moll and Dick Vogt, are working on a book concerning the ecology of red-eared sliders.

The last Herpetologist on our faculty is BRIAN GREENE. BRIAN's position is that of full-time lecturer, but he still manages to squeeze in interactions with numerous graduate students. BRIAN is interested in many aspects of snake ecology, including foraging ecology, activity patterns, spatial ecology, and life history. He is interested in many species, but most recently has focused on aquatic snakes. Graduate student TIM ROTH is currently working with BRIAN to examine spatial patterns and habitat selection in the northern water snake, *Nerodia sipedon*.

Other members of the faculty occasionally take on herpetologically-oriented students as well. For example, TIM MILLER has been working with SMSU mammalogist LYNN ROBBINS on genetic variation among populations of cave salamanders (*Typhlotriton*). Recent graduate NATHAN MILLS (now a doctoral student at the University of Missouri in Ray Semlitsch's lab) studied the effects of hypoxia on development of *Ambystoma* and *Rana* embryos in CHRIS BARNHART's invertebrate physiology laboratory.

SMSU's faculty and graduate students form a collegial group with lots of inter-laboratory interactions. The graduate students are pretty diverse, including both native Missourians and students from a number of different states and backgrounds. For more information on our program, see our web-site at: www.smsu.edu.

Alicia Mathis

FEATURE ARTICLE

Editor's Note: The following is the first in a series of articles describing what it's like to be a herpetologist at different types of institutions. While everyone's experience is not the same, and each institution has its own special personality, it is hoped that this series will provide useful information for students and others contemplating careers in herpetology.

ON BEING A HERPETOLOGIST AT A SMALL, PRIVATE, UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE...

By Robert Powell

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The unpleasant truth is that "herpetology" does not exist at small colleges. Instead, the herpetologist is considered to be just another biologist and may be asked to teach courses ranging from introductory biology to comparative anatomy, embryology, ecology, and evolution. Not that such a teaching load is all that onerous, but once exposed to the charms of amphibians and reptiles, it may be hard to revert to generic biology. Also, one must accept the reality that teaching is the primary responsibility of faculty at small colleges. As a result, teaching loads are heavy, with 12 credit hours per semester being the norm (and for science faculty the contact hours may be much higher due to laboratories). This, along with ancillary responsibilities such as advising, committee work, and attending meetings leaves little time to devote to research, herpetological or otherwise.

Now, having those unpleasanties out of the way, let me go on to say that "doing" herpetology at a small college is not impossible or even terribly difficult, assuming some diligence on the part of the faculty member, but constraints are real and must be acknowledged. Time is by far the most significant limitation, but minimal or nonexistent funding also presents problems. So, how does one "do" herpetology at a small school?

Because many small colleges are tuition-driven, anything that attracts, involves, and retains students will be viewed in a favorable light by the powers-that-be. The obvious solution, then, is to engage students in herpetological pursuits. One of the most powerful "attractants" is the opportunity to participate in field trips. These need not be to exotic climes

(although that's nice); as a matter of fact, local and regional trips are low cost, take relatively little time, and can open eyes to things most students have never experienced. Once students are engaged, reaching a critical number necessary to offer a herpetology class becomes more likely. Another way to attract students is to reach into the community. Urban schools especially will find a sizable number of folks interested in "herps". If classes are scheduled to accommodate working adults, these might add up in a manner sufficient to allow traditional students to participate as well. A welcome bonus accrues when "amateurs", whose primary interest may have been watching a snake in a cage, become adequately sophisticated to participate in regional or national societies, the focus of which extends well beyond herpetoculture.

Small colleges also appreciate good public relations. If space capable of housing some live amphibians and reptiles can be requisitioned or merely occupied, these animals can serve to attract prospective students in biology, and can also be used by faculty and/or students in educational programs at area schools and nature centers or for scouts and other outdoor groups. Our favorite animals do attract attention, and the publicity generated by such services reflects well on the college, the administration of which will, in turn, be more tolerant of herpetologically related activities.

Real research is more difficult, but certainly not impossible. Again, the trick is to involve students. Many colleges have curricular options or requirements involving student research. Mentor students interested in herpetological projects; this will help them better understand science and keep your own interests alive. Always keep in mind, however, that all but the most advanced undergraduates lack the sophistication to do long-term projects until they have little or no time left before graduation. Therefore, you must direct them toward "little" projects, albeit not cutting-edge science. Keep in mind, however, that these kinds of data are unavailable for many species, including a surprising number of common North American forms. Many larger institutions, universities and museums, will loan specimens for this work, allowing species otherwise not readily available to be the subject of student projects. However, the data are only as good as the collector, so the faculty member must commit precious time to training and supervising these research projects. If care is taken, the results of student projects may even be publishable. Undergraduate-authored or co-authored papers are a tremendous plus for students applying to competitive graduate programs, and they can provide "bragging rights" for college administrators interested in what their students and faculty are doing.

Field research in exotic locales and more intensive research is also within the reach of faculty at small schools if they are willing to invest the time and energy to acquire extramural funding. This is often difficult because the investigator may be competing with research institutions and dealing with peer review panels who have never heard of either the person or the institution. Applying to local or regional agencies and diligent attention to detail, taking full advantage of every available opportunity, and perseverance in the face of initial frustration can often overcome these obstacles, especially if the faculty member is willing to work with undergraduates and/or teachers, for whom dedicated funding programs exist and who many research institutions cannot reach as effectively as the smaller, more flexible college.

So, being a herpetologist at a small college is tough, but it can be done and done well. However, hard work and accepting and dealing with obstacles is essential. Those lacking energy, imagination, commitment, and perseverance will soon become generic teachers of biology instead of active herpetologists.

Herpetotrivia: The specific name of the Madagascan gecko, *Ebenavia inunguis*, is a misnomer. "*Inunguis*" means "without claws", but only males match that description; females have claws on their toes.

-- Nussbaum, R.A. and C.R. Raxworthy. 1998. *Herpetologica* 54:18-34.

**20-Year Index
to Herpetologica
available soon!**

Mac Hardy (LSU-Shreveport) has recently compiled a complete index to the last 20 years of *Herpetologica*, cross referenced by author, subject, and taxon. We anticipate publication this fall. All HL members will be notified of publication date and cost (reduced for members) when that information is available.

Conferences, Conventions, Conclaves

The Animal Behavior Society:

July 18-22, 1998

The national meeting of the Animal Behavior Society will be 18-22 July 1998 at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. Deadline for submission of abstracts is past, but there is still time to register to attend the conference (deadline for early registration is 15 May). This year's Keynote Address will be given by Sidney Gauthreaux and Fellows Lectures will be given by B. G. Galef, Jr. and Jane Brockmann.

For more information, see the ABS web-site at <http://www.cisab.indiana.edu/ABS>.

Second Conference on Partnership opportunities

for federally-associated collections: San Diego,

November 18-20, 1998

The purpose of the conference is to provide practical strategies for fostering practical and useful partnerships among Federal, tribal, institutional and amateur interests. There will be two days of pre-conference activities, followed by three days of formal presentation sessions.

Who should attend?: Representatives of state and private institutions that hold Federally-associated collections, Federal curators and other collections professionals, Managers of Federal agencies, Tribal representatives, University collections managers and curators, collections users, staff of private consulting firms and contractors, representatives of professional societies, and responsible amateur collectors and organizations.

The deadline for submission of abstracts is past. If you are interested in attending the conference or getting more information, please send your name, address, phone, FAX, and e-mail information to the following: **Second Conference on Partnership Opportunities for Federally-associated Collections, Sally Shelton, Director, Collections Care, San Diego Natural History Museum, P.O. Box 1390, San Diego, CA 92112. Phone: 619-232-3821 X 226; Fax: 619-232-0248; e-mail: sshelton@sdnhm.org.**

Herpetotrivia:

Body temperature and development

In Idaho, body temperatures of pregnant rubber boas (*Charina bottae*) were consistently higher and less variable than that of nonpregnant snakes. This difference may be important for maintaining a high developmental rate for the embryos.

Dorcas, M.E. and C.R. Peterson. 1998. *Herpetologica* 54:88-103.

In Ontario, female painted turtles (*Chrysemys picta*) were observed to bask more frequently and longer than males during the nesting season. This difference was not observed during the pre-nesting or post-nesting months. Therefore, basking behavior does not appear to be correlated with egg development.

Krawchuk, M.A. and R.J. Brooks. 1998. *Herpetologica* 54:112-121.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Notice on *Alytes*

The International Society for the Study and Conservation of Amphibians (ISSCA) announces a special offer to institutions (universities, libraries, museums, associations, etc.). ISSCA will donate a free complete set of Volumes 1-14 (1982-1996) of its journal *Alytes*, an international journal devoted to amphibian biology, to any institution that (a) agrees to take the journal for 5 years, and (b) pays postage on sending the journal to the institution. In North America, the cost would be US\$640.00 (subscription plus surface mail shipping). Checks payable to "ISSCA" should be sent to Dr. Mark Wygoda, Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, P.O. Box 92000, McNeese State University, Lake Charles, LA 70609.

Student Opportunities at the American Museum of Natural History's southwestern Research station

Volunteers.

Approximately 30 volunteer positions are open in 1998 at the American Museum of Natural History's Southwestern Research Station in Portal, Arizona. The volunteer program is run annually and offers students in biological sciences outstanding opportunities to observe and become involved with scientists doing field research. Food and lodging are provided to volunteers in exchange for 24 hours per week of routine chores, with the remaining time available for research activities.

The program is open to both undergraduate and graduate students; the latter may pursue their own research projects. Faculty knowing of promising students should alert them to this opportunity for professional experience toward, development of, and evaluation of their career goals.

Volunteers are needed between March 15 and November 1. Appointments are for part of this period, with a minimum appointment of 6 weeks. Applicants for spring positions (March-May) should submit applications by February 15, summer volunteers (June-August) by April 1, and fall volunteers (September-November) may apply any time.

For applications write: Dr. Wade C. Sherbrooke, Director, Southwestern Research Station, American Museum of Natural History, P.O. Box 16553, Portal, AZ 85632 USA; phone/fax: 520-558-2396, e-mail: swrs@amnh.org.

Southwestern Research Station Student Support Fund. The American Museum of Natural History awards several grants each year of approximately \$400800 to graduate students or postdoctoral students pursuing research at its Southwestern Research Station in the Ciricahua Mountains, Portal, Arizona. Information and application forms for this program and other Museum grant programs can be obtained by writing: Office of Grants and Fellowships, American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th Street, New York, NY 10024-5192. This year's deadline for applications was Feb. 15, 1998 (but you can plan ahead now for next year). For future deadlines and other information concerning the station, contact: Dr. Wade C. Sherbrooke, Director, Southwestern Research Station, American Museum of Natural History, P.O. Box 16553, Portal, AZ 85632 USA; phone/fax: 520-558-2396, e-mail: swrs@amnh.org.

Herpetotrivia: Unlike most plethodontid salamanders, females of the tropical genus *Nototriton* abandon their clutches. Hypotheses to explain this deviation from the norm include, small body size rendering females inefficient at protection against egg predators, high energetic costs for a lengthy brooding period (2-3 months), and compensatory changes in the

structure of the egg capsule. -- R. C. Bruce. 1998. *Herpetologica* 54:13-18.

PUBLICATION NOTICES

BIOLOGIE UND OEKOLOGIE DER KREUZKROETE (*BUFO CALAMITA*). (In German)

By Ulrich Sinsch. 222 pp. 100 figures, 4 colour plates, 15 x 21 cm softbound. ISBN 3 933066 01 8. 44 DM (\$25). This monograph about the natterjack toad can be ordered from: Laurenti Verlag, Dr. Burkhard Thiesmeier, Akademiestr. 39, D-44789 Bochum, Germany. Fas: +49 234 309 312. E-mail: thiesmeier@css.de. Include \$3 for postage. Payment by Mastercard is possible.

DEVELOPMENT OF CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEMS: Molecules to Organisms

Ed. by

Warren W. Burggren and Bradley B. Keller. 1997. Cambridge University Press. ISBN 0-521-56072-1. Hardback \$74.95. Of special interest to members of the Herpetologists' League are chapters on "Amphibian cardiovascular development" by W. W. Burggren and R. Fritsch and on "Reptilian cardiovascular development" by S. J. Warburton.

Policy for Advertisement of New Books As a service to our readers, *Communications* is pleased to publish announcements of new books of interest to HL members. However, we do not accept formal "advertisements". We will include the "standard" information (title; author; publisher; price (HB/PB); no. of pages, maps, illustrations), plus, optionally, a very brief 1-2 sentence description of the book and an address for orders. This information should be sent to the editor of *Communications*. Announcements will be included as space allows and content may be edited.

Communiqués to *Communications*

Target dates for distribution of *Communications* are March and September. Herpetologically-relevant announcements are included as space allows. Send submissions/questions/comments to: Dr. Alicia Mathis, Dept. of Biology, Southwest Missouri State University, Springfield, MO 65804-0095. Phone: 417-836-5699; FAX: 417-836-4204; e-mail: sam477f@vma.smsu.edu.

Sites of Future Meetings

1998 University of Guelph

1999 Penn State University

HL WEBSITE!

You can find HL on the web at:

<http://fishead.by.ua.edu/HL/HL.html>