



THE MONITOR

NEWSLETTER OF THE HOOSIER HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY

A non-profit organization dedicated to the education of its membership and the conservation of all amphibians and reptiles

Volume 20 Number 6

June 2009

President's Message

Jim Horton

The HHS would like to apologize to our members who had made the trip to Butler University only to find that the doors were locked. The university had called us at the last minute to make sure we cancel our programs for the evening. Unfortunately, a power failure was the cause and it was going to last most of the night. I showed up at 7:00pm with signs and met a few members who were not aware of the cancellation. Thank you for your understanding.

By the way, you didn't miss the talk. We have rescheduled Mr. Jonn Roe for the next meeting, coming up this Wednesday.

I would like to thank our members who attended the Herpout at Hardin Ridge Recreation Area. The weather was not as good as past years, in fact, it was horrible. But those of us who camped had found that the next day was sunny and beautiful. We also found a decent number of herps!

We are considering having another outing in the field later in the season. We are also toying with the idea of having the Herpout at Brown County State Park next year.

The Bioblitz at Brown County State Park appeared to be a success! There was a huge number of species of all life forms found that weekend. But the herpers prevailed and found almost all species that occur in the park! Thanks to Brittany Davis (park naturalist) for inviting us along and coordinating the event.

WELCOME NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERS!

Renewals:

Thanks for you membership and continued interest in the HHS!

HHS T-shirts are in!

The new shirts feature a Kirtland's snake and our logo beside it. They will be available for \$10.00 each at the general Meeting and at the reptile show.

Printing – Courtesy of
HardingPoorman Graphics

Hoosier Herpout 2009



Young eastern box turtle (with egg tooth).



Herpers in the field



Holly Carter with black racer



Roger Carter with northern copperhead

LOCAL TURTLE RESCUE WINS AWARD

The Hoosier Herpetological Society had nominated Marty LaPree's Indiana Turtle Care into a contest for the rescue and rehab they do for Chelonians. The Turtle Universe has awarded Indiana Turtle Care 3rd prize. With that award comes a check for \$100.00. Congrats to Marty and crew for this award.

Got Rodents?

Hoosier Mouse Supply can take your orders for rodents and they will deliver to the monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 17th. (317) 831-1219

“Herpers”, the First Feature Length Documentary on the Great Reptile Culture wins big with Independent Film Competitions and Fans alike!

When Dāv Kaufman, a multiple award winning filmmaker whose previous film, *13 Hours in a Warehouse* broke records and won national awards, decided to take a break from the more mainstream forms of filmmaking, and make a documentary on a subject he himself has a deep passion for, the result is a funny, informative, and entertaining film that celebrates our reptile culture and the passion people have for it. Turned off by the “shock effect” used in most media that deals with reptiles, Kaufman was meticulous in doing the opposite, showing Herpers and our culture as a real, diverse and intelligible group of people. In a recent interview, Kaufman said “I wanted to make a film that was not only fun and engaging for herpers—from novices to professionals, from kids to adults—but also to answer the most common question I got asked from all the non-herpers in my life; ‘why do you love reptiles so much?’ What came out of that idea was something that I think is as entertaining for Herpers as it is important for non-herpers.”

The 94-minute movie was shot on HD 1080i and literally covers the entire country. The film’s segments feature *Field Herpers* on Snake Road in southern Illinois, *Famous Herpers* featuring **Slash**, **Chad Brown** and **Henry Lizardlover**, *Herpetological Societies* featuring the Minnesota Herpetological Society with guest speaker **Kathy Love**, and a section on *Breeders* featuring **Brian Sharp**, **Brian Barczyk**, **Marc Bailey** and others. Not only do we get to know the breeders as never before but we venture deep into their breeding facilities where not a lot of people get to go. The movie concludes with one of the nation’s top reptile shows, the N.A.R.B.C. in Tinley Park, Illinois. The segment features the song “*I’m a Herper*” written by Dāv Kaufman and performed by Shawn Armenta and former members of **No Doubt**. The DVD is presented in 16X9 Anamorphic Widescreen, and is loaded with extra interviews and deleted scenes.



The industry buzz surrounding this project prompted invites to submit the movie to several national film competitions where it was nominated for nine awards in three competitions including the prestigious **Telly Awards**, which are the non-broadcast division of the **Emmy Awards**. Those nominations resulted in the film winning

top honors with **Platinum—Best of Show** in the Documentary-Culture category of the **Aurora Film and Video Competition**, and winner of the **Award of Merit** in the **Accolade Film and Video Competition**, and an astounding **4 wins** in the **Telly Awards Competition!**

The DVD is available by direct order through www.herpersmovie.com Specialty shops and pet stores can email herpersmovie@gmail.com for more information on carrying the DVD in your stores. Dāv Kaufman will be touring with the film, and DVDs will be available at select shows and expos across the country over the next year including the NRBE in Daytona, Florida, and of course the N.A.R.B.C. shows. Visit the website to order the DVD and to see a schedule of show appearances.

HERPERS

WWW.HERPERSMOVIE.COM

REPTILE TRADING CARDS ANNOUNCED

Diamondback Trading Cards has released a series of trading cards for the reptile enthusiast. Their first release entitled REPTILES-SERIES ONE is available for purchase at select retailers or from their website at

<http://www.diamondbacktradingcards.com/>

The cards are produced to the trading card industry standards for size and quality, printed on a traditional press using heavy board stock and varnished for a glossy appearance. This initial series includes reptiles from around the world with favorites like the Bearded Dragon alongside some lesser known but equally intriguing reptiles. REPTILES SERIES ONE is a limited edition set, but don't worry, if you miss it Diamondback Trading Cards plans to follow it up with many more sets each featuring new reptiles.

Note: Trading cards are planned for the following North American species:

Mexican Rosy Boa--*Lichanura trivirgata*
Blanding's Turtle--*Emydoidea blandingii*
Eastern Milk Snake--*Lampropeltis triangulum*
Northern Pacific Rattlesnake--*Crotalus oreganus*
Northwestern Garter Snake--*Thamnophis ordinoides*
Common Garter Snake--*Thamnophis sirtalis*
Ringneck Snake--*Diadophis punctatus*
Southern Alligator Lizard--*Elgaria multicarinata*
Northern Alligator Lizard--*Elgaria coerulea*
Ground Snake--*Sonora semiannulata*
Desert Blind Snake--*Leptotyphlops humilis*

Sidewinder--*Crotalus cerastes*
Common Kingsnake--*Lampropeltis getula*
Gray-banded Kingsnake--*Lampropeltis alterna*
Northern Copperhead--*Agkistrodon contortrix*
Gilbert Skink--*Plestiodon gilberti*
Eastern Corn Snake--*Pantherophis guttatus*
Speckled Rattlesnake--*Crotalus mitchellii*
Common Musk Turtle--*Sternotherus odoratus*
Northwestern Short-horned Lizard--*Phrynosoma douglasii*
Longnose Snake--*Rhinocheilus lecontei*

May HHS Meeting: Wednesday, June 17th, 7:30 p.m.
Guest Speaker: John Roe, Indiana-Purdue University, Ft. Wayne

Topic: "Field Studies and Reintroduction Strategies for the Copperbelly Water Snake"
Butler University, Gallahue Center (science building)

Room #108

This month's guest speaker is John Roe from Indiana-Purdue University at Fort Wayne. He will be sharing his studies, natural history and reintroduction strategies for the copperbelly water snake in Northern Indiana. Be sure to attend to find out the latest information of this rare and beautiful snake.

HHS MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT PROFILE

Name: Ed Ferrer AKA "Snakehead Ed"

City: Indianapolis

Age you found an interest in herpetology: As a very young child my family would travel to the Cincinnati Zoo about every year. Although I was interested in all wildlife, I was particularly fascinated by snakes. Later as a science teacher, I started keeping snakes in my classroom to encourage my students to become more interested in science and nature.

What amphibians/reptiles do you like? I like them all but I am partial to snakes, especially pythons and boas.

What amphibians/reptiles do you keep? I currently own 24 snakes.

How long have you been a member of HHS? I joined in 1997.

Do you exhibit your animals at HHS shows? Yes, I try to attend as many shows as possible.

What do you like most about HHS? I first joined HHS to meet other people who shared my interest in reptiles and learn more about keeping snakes. I enjoy all the speakers, and meeting other "herpers" and learning from their experience. Over the years, I have become more involved in HHS. I am currently serving as vice-president and program chairman and contribute articles for our newsletter.

Do you field herp? With my schedule of following the activities of my four grandchildren and doing snake programs, I don't get out in the field as much as I would like. I hope to improve on that this year. I particularly like to field herp in Brown County State Park because there is always a chance to find one of my two favorite Indiana snakes, timber rattlers and Northern copperheads.

Where do you get your herps? I buy most of my herps at the semi-monthly Midwest Reptile Shows at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. I also have adopted a few from people who no longer wanted their snakes.

Have you bred any herp species? (If so, what kind?) I don't actively try to breed my snakes, but last year my two Brazilian rainbow boas had 13 babies.

Other Hobbies? I am one of the few "herpers" who is also a sport fan. I follow basketball and baseball and play tennis when I can.

Anything else you would like to ad? Now that I am retired from teaching, I now provide educational snake programs for schools, museums, libraries, scout troops and birthday parties throughout Indiana and parts of Illinois. For information, check out my website: snakeheaded.com or email me at: pythonpals1@msn.com

HHS ASSISTS IN BIOBLITZ

Several HHS members participated in the Bioblitz the weekend of June 5-8 at Brown County State Park in Nashville, IN

HHS members in attendance were Elliot Stahl, Dave Stahl, Pat Hammond, Rick Marrs, Clint Cunningham, Jim Horton, Dale Shoentupe and Andrew Hoffman.

Sarah

HHS members Rick Marrs and Jim Horton aided park naturalists with a snake education program for park visitors. The volunteer staff on hand for the day were courteous and helpful! There was plenty of food and drink available throughout the day for bioblitzers. Dinner was provided afterwards by the Friends of Brown County State Park. Head naturalist Jim Eagleman gave thanks to everyone and provided the last tally of species numbers counted.

Bioblitz pics





Classifieds

For Sale: 1- pair 2007 Womas (High contrast) 1000.00 for the pair, 1- female albino brooks kingsnake high yellow 75.00 C.B. 2008, 1- male albino brooks kingsnake het Ghost 100.00 C.B. 2007, 1-female red blood python C.B. 2008 250.00 High Red parents.

Tarantulas: I-Fringed ornamental P. Ornata 7 inches C.B. 2007 female 125.00 I-unsexed Fringed ornamental P. Ornata 4 inches 50.00, C.B.2008 1-unsexed 6 inch Red Slate Ornamental P. Rutilata C.B

2007 75.00. All animals are guaranteed healthy, properly sexed, and come with all records.

Mike Wood, 574-269-3441 E-mail twobears@embargmail.com

For Sale: Hatchling Crested geckos, \$20.00 Jim Horton Stardali84@hotmail.com (317) 865-0464

HERP HAPPENINGS

June 17, 2009 – HHS General Meeting – Special Guest Speaker: John Roe, Indiana-Purdue University, Ft. Wayne. Topic: “Field Studies and Reintroduction Strategies for the Copperbelly Water Snake.” Butler University, Gallahue Hall, Room # 108.

June 20, 2009 – Reptile Roundup, Wesselman Woods Nature Preserve, Evansville.

June 21– Midwest Reptile Show, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Southwest Pavilion, Indiana State Fairgrounds, Indianapolis. \$5.00 admission, reptiles, amphibians, books, cages, feeder animals, and other supplies. Sell your herps and dry goods free of charge at our H.H.S. information booth. For info: (317) 861-5550, www.midwestreptile.com

June 27, 2009 – Evansville Reptile Show and Sale, National Guard Armory, 10-4 pm
www.theevansvillereptileshow.com

July 18, 2009 – HHS live herp exhibit, Johnson County Library. 10am-2pm (exhibitors needed, please contact Holly Carter 873-6561)

www.hoosierherpsociety.org

The Hoosier Herpetological Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to the education of its membership and the conservation of all reptiles and amphibians. General monthly meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Butler University, Gallahue Hall, Room 105 or 108. Membership is open to all interested individuals. **No venomous animals are allowed at the General Meetings.**

Your HHS OFFICERS for 2009

PRESIDENT stardali84@hotmail.com	Jim Horton	(317) 865-0464
VICE-PRESIDENT pythonpals1@msn.com	Ed Ferrer	(317) 787-7448
SECRETARY drymarchonzz@hotmail.com	Holly Carter	(317) 873-6561
TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP turtlelovin@att.net	Dave Mitchell	(317) 570-9643
SERGEANT AT ARMS bluemoosey8@yahoo.com	Brittany Davis	

Appointees for 2009

EDITOR Stardali84@hotmail.com	Jim Horton	(317) 865-0464
PROGRAM DIRECTOR pythonpals1@msn.com	Ed Ferrer	(317) 787-7448
WAYS AND MEANS necali@insightbb.com	Angela Thomas	Cell - 727-7553 (317) 882-5266

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Richard Searcey	(765) 349-2347	ighaus@comcast.net
Dave and Elliot Stahl	(317) 842-2648	copperhead210@sbcglobal.net
Pat Hammond	(317) 241-2793	gnawbone92@yahoo.com
Roger Carter	(317) 873-6561	drymarchonzz@hotmail.com
Rick Marrs	(317) 549-3673	
Mike Wood		twobears@embarqmail.com
Amy Baird		

Suggestions, submissions and articles for *The Monitor* are welcome. Submit your typed or legibly hand written articles by the first Wednesday of each month to: PO. Box 40544, Indianapolis, IN 4620-0544 or 7712 Miracle road, Indianapolis, IN, 46237. Email articles to: stardali84@hotmail.com

Articles on PC or compatible, formatted, 3½ discs or CD's are accepted. Back issues of *The Monitor* are available. Send requests to our PO. Box, or contact Holly Carter. Quarterly Advertisement Rates for publishing your ad in *The Monitor* are: ¼ Page - \$10.00; ½ Page - \$15.00; and Full Page - \$25.00. Classified Ads are free to all paid H.H.S. members and will be printed for two months. All ads must be submitted to the Editor by the first Wednesday of each month. All artwork is copyrighted and cannot be reproduced without written permission from the artist.

Hoosier Herpetological Society

MEMBERSHIP FORM

___ New Member

___ Renewal

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Email Address _____

___ Corresponding Member \$12.00

___ Individual Member \$15.00

___ Sustaining Member \$25.00 or more

Herpetological Interest(s)

Hoosier Herpetological Society
P.O. Box 40544
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46240-0544

Dated Material Enclosed

Address Correction Requested

If this area is checked, your membership will expire this month!

Antivenin is derived from antibodies created in a horse's blood serum when the animal is injected with snake venom. In humans, antivenin is administered either through the veins or injected into muscle and works by neutralizing snake venom that has entered the body. Because antivenin is obtained from horses, snakebite victims sensitive to horse products must be carefully managed. The danger is that they could develop an adverse reaction or even a potentially fatal allergic condition called anaphylactic shock.

