

American

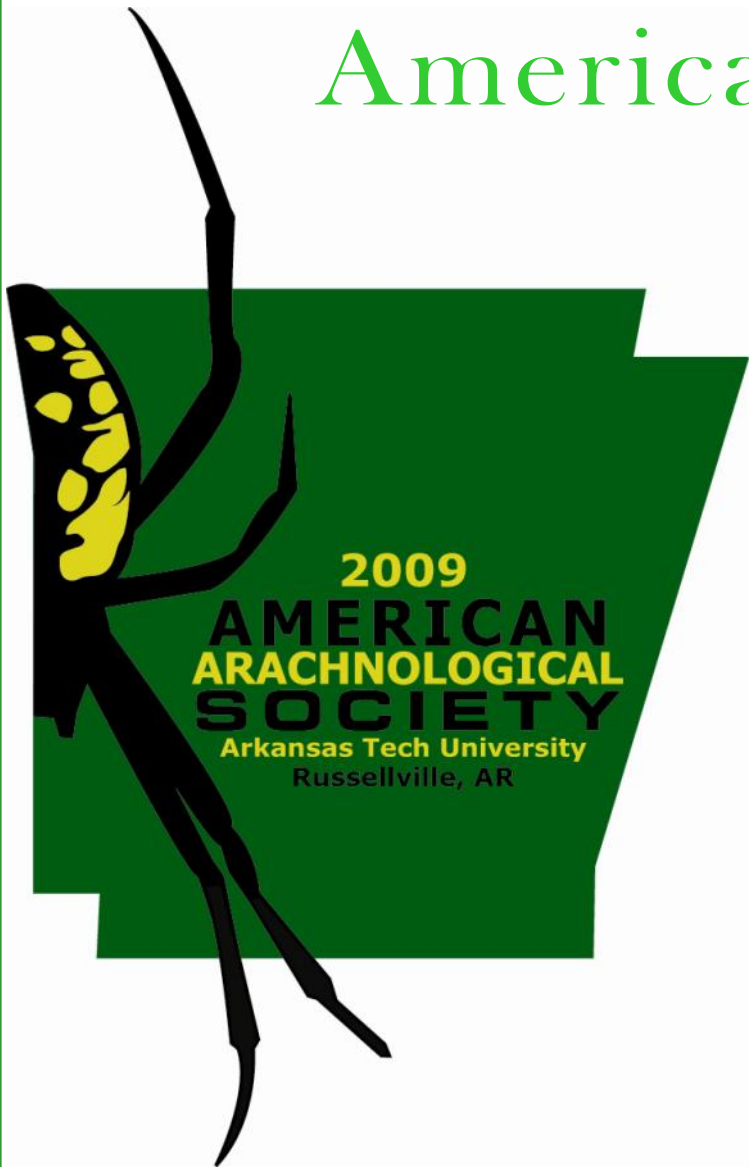


Arachnology

Newsletter of the American
Arachnological Society

Number 79

May 2009



In This Issue ...

33 rd A.A.S. Meeting General Info	2
Registration Forms	5
Call For Papers	9
Student Presentation Guidelines	11
A.A.S./ Roth Research Awards	13
Field Guide to Spiders of North America	14

2009 A.A.S. Annual Meeting
Arkansas Tech University
Russellville, Arkansas
Friday 26 June -
Wednesday 1 July

Hosted by:

Dr. Tsunemi Yamashita

Abstract submission deadline

→ 29 May 2009 ←

Registration deadline

→ 10 June 2009 ←

Future A.A.S. Annual Meeting Sites

2009 — Arkansas Tech,
Russellville, Arkansas

2010 — Greenville, N.C.

2011 — Lewis & Clark Col-
lege, Portland. Oregon

2012 — Univ. Wisconsin —
Green Bay

Please note that all information concerning
the 2009 Meeting is available online at the
A.A.S. website :

([HTTP://WWW.AMERICANARACHNOLOGY.ORG/
AAS_MEETINGS/2009_RUSSELLVILLE/
INDEX.HTML](http://www.americanarachnology.org/AAS_MEETINGS/2009_RUSSELLVILLE/INDEX.HTML)).

**It is preferred that Registration and abstract
submission be done via the website.**

2009 A.A.S. Annual Meeting
Arkansas Tech University
Russellville, Arkansas
Friday 26 June -
Wednesday 1 July

Hosted by:

Dr. Tsunemi Yamashita

This year's meeting will be hosted by Arkansas Tech University and its Lake Point Conference Center. Enrolling approximately 6,000 students, Arkansas Tech University (Tech) is a smaller regional undergraduate university located in the Arkansas River valley between the Ozark and Ouachita mountain ranges. The main campus is in Russellville, Arkansas approximately halfway between Little Rock, the state capitol, and Ft. Smith on the western Arkansas boundary. It is easy to find the Tech campus as Russellville is on the Interstate 40 corridor through Arkansas. The Lake Point Conference Center is a few miles to the west on Lake Dardanelle and offers meeting rooms, dining, and housing facilities for an excellent meeting venue. The local area offers many recreational activities as two national forests and three state parks are within a leisurely drive. To learn more about the Tech campus, Lake Point Conference center and the river valley, visit these following websites:

<http://www.atu.edu/>

<http://lakepoint.atu.edu/>

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

Abstract Deadline is May 29th. The Registration Deadline is June 10th. Late fees will apply if registering after June 10th.

Venues and Talks

Poster session: The posters will be placed outside the Event Center's auditorium on large boards. Each poster must fit within a 123 cm X 123 cm space (4' x 4').

Oral presentations: All oral presentations are scheduled in the Event Center's auditorium. This auditorium seats up to 130 people. The presentation computer has MS Office 2003 with a compatibility pack for MS Office 2007. Your presentation can be loaded via a flash drive or a CD. Unfortunately, laptops cannot be wired into the computer system. Specific details concerning loading your presentation will be given as the abstracts are organized. See the conference website in June for more details.

Call for symposia: If AAS members are interested in organizing a symposia, please email T Yamashita arachnology@atu.edu.

arachnology@atu.edu.

Student poster and oral presentation competitions:

Any undergraduate or graduate student presenting a poster or a talk are welcome and encouraged to enter the student paper competition. If you have won a previous AAS poster competition, you cannot enter in the poster competition. Similarly, if you have won a previous oral presentation award, you cannot enter in the oral presentation competition. Former poster award winners can enter the oral presentation competition and oral presentation winners can enter in the poster competition.

Silent and live auction: Any suitable item with ties to arachnology can be placed in the silent and live auction. Generally, the live auction materials are those that will provide a good monetary return to the AAS and provide lively entertainment at the banquet. You can send auction items to T Yamashita at the address below. Please include a note about which auction you would like your items to go to.

Casual night with arachnids: Once again, we will schedule short, entertaining talks about arachnids and arachnology. Short films, slide shows, and travel experiences about arachnids will be shown. The casual night is scheduled for the third evening (Sunday, June 28th) from 7 – 9pm. These presentations will be moderated and limited to 15 minutes.

AAAFF: Members and groupies of the AAAFF (Arachnological Association for the Absorption of Federal Funds) will convene at the casual night to further present their yearly findings.

Upward Bound Opportunity: ATU will host about 100 under represented high school students from the river valley region and Arkansas in the summer Upward Bound Program. If you are interested in presenting a short talk about arachnids or science careers to these students please email T. Yamashita. We would like to put together several short talks for these students on Saturday night at 7pm.

Reprints:

If you have extra publications you would like to exchange with others, please do so. We will set up a table for reprint exchange.

Lake Point Housing

On site meeting rooms are limited to 80 persons, so get your room reservations early. All onsite housing arrangements are handled separately and housing arrangements can be made through the reservations coordinator at the Lake Point Conference center by calling this number 479-356-6240. Room reservations can also be made through this online form: <http://lakepoint.atu.edu/EC6-LodgingReservations.htm>. Lodging costs at the Conference center are \$65.00 per night for single

occupancy and \$75.00 per night for double occupancy. A tax rate of 9% is added to these rates. WiFi access is available throughout the Lake Point Center.

Offsite Housing

Rooms have been requested at two local hotels in Russellville a few miles to the east of the conference center. The Best Western in Russellville (479-967-1000) offers five double and five single rooms at \$60.00 + tax per night and the Fairfield Inn (479-967-9030) offers five double rooms and five single rooms at \$74.00 + tax per night. Both these hotels are located on Arkansas State highway 7 in Russellville (Interstate 40, Exit 81 then south 200 yards).

Alcoholic Beverages

The city of Russellville, in Pope County, is in a dry county. There are no alcohol sales in the county. Alcohol can be purchased in Conway county 20 miles east of Russellville at Blackwell (Interstate 40, exit 101) and in Franklin County 50 miles west (Interstate 40, exit 37). An open bar will be available at the Conference center during evening meals.

Travel:

Automobile:

The Lake Point Conference Center is conveniently located off of Interstate 40 near London, Arkansas. From either east or west on Interstate 40, take exit 78 south to highway 64 (it's the smaller highway that parallels the interstate). Once on highway 64, turn west and drive about one mile to highway 333. Turn south, following the signs to Arkansas Nuclear One (ANO). The conference center is to you left, directly across the railroad tracks.

For a map, see this site:

<http://lakepoint.atu.edu/directions.htm>

Bus or Train

Bus services are available to Russellville through Greyhound Bus Lines. See the following link for more information: <http://www.greyhound.com/home/>

Train services are available to Little Rock, AR through Amtrak: <http://www.amtrak.com/>

Airplane

Flights are available to Little Rock through most major carriers: Delta, United, Continental, American Airlines, US Airways, & NorthWest Airways (<http://lrn-airport.com/>). Automobile rentals are also available at the airport. A shuttle to Russellville can be reserved through A & A Taxi (479-967-8294). It costs \$110.00 for a shuttle. You can ride with up to four people and reduce

your individual costs.

Courtesy University Shuttles:

We plan to offer limited shuttles (two daily) to the meeting site on Friday, June 26th and again on June 30th and July 1st. Please indicate on your registration form if you would like a shuttle. After purchasing your airline tickets, contact T Yamashita with your flight information. We will update shuttle information on the website as the meeting dates approach, and we will attempt to get as many people to the site as possible. We plan to have a van available at 3pm and then again at 7pm on Friday, June 26th. This schedule may change based upon the number of requests.

Meals

All individuals lodging at the conference center are provided with a continental breakfast in the lodge atrium. A full breakfast and other meals can be purchased at the conference center for the following rates: Full breakfast (\$9.90), Lunch (\$11.25), Dinner (\$20.33).

There are local and fast food eateries a few miles to the east on Highway 7 south. Immediately south of the interstate, the usual restaurants can be found: Cracker Barrel, IHOP, Waffle House, Burger King, Arby's, Colton's, MacDonald's, Ruby Tuesday, and others. A restaurant guide will be published in the program.

Weather

Two words can summarize summer in Arkansas: hot and humid. Typically, temperatures can soar into the 90° F range with high humidity. Most people stay indoors until the sun sets or wear loose clothing to mitigate the heat. We may be lucky and experience lower temperatures, but preparation for the heat is a good precaution. May and June are the most pleasant of the summer months, and evenings during these summer months are ideal for the porch sittin' that Southerners enjoy. Due to the heat, individuals from cooler climates may find difficulty in this weather; therefore, drinking plenty of fluids is also a must. In addition to the heat, we also have all sorts of biting, chewing, stinging, and sucking creatures as well as poison ivy. Among these critters, chiggers are usually the most unpleasant surprise to newcomers. One bright side to all these invertebrates is that spiders are plentiful.

Field Trip

We have planned an excursion into the Ozarks to view, hike, and collect from both upland and streamside habitats. We plan to take a short ride to the Alum Cove recreational area and visit a north slope habitat. This area is a popular destination as it contains a large rock arch and a hiking trail. For lunch, we will stop in the valley west of Alum Cove at the Haw Creek recreation area. This site is located next to a perennial stream and showcases rock formations typical of the Ozarks. It is also located next to the Ozark Highlands Trail (OHT), and

hiking trails abound in this region. If time permits, we will stop by the Pedestal Rocks scenic area- a south slope habitat with many rock formations.

The Ozark National Forest website provides further information regarding these sites: <http://www.fs.fed.us/oonf/ozark/maps/>

Informal trips:

As the meeting site is located in an area with many national forest and state recreational sites, many different short trips are possible. We will provide maps and directions to several sites for touring and arachnid collection. Collection permits are available for these areas and must be in the collector's possession when collecting occurs. Many of the nearby Ozark National Forest recreation areas are listed in the website above. The Buffalo National River is 70 miles north in the Ozark Mountains: <http://www.nps.gov/buff/>. In addition, three state parks are close to Russellville: Petit Jean, Lake Dardanelle, and Mount Magazine State Parks. See this website for more details: <http://www.arkansasstateparks.com/>.

In addition, the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission maintains lands in cooperation with the Arkansas Chapter of the Nature Conservancy with sites close to Russellville: <http://www.naturalheritage.com/natural-area/map.aspx>.

Lastly, the Arkansas Wine country (maybe hard to believe, but true) is just a few counties to the west in Altus, Arkansas: <http://www.arkansas.com/things-to-do/wineries-micro-breweries/>.

Other activities

As the conference center is on Lake Dardanelle, many aquatic activities can be pursued on site. You can bring a small boat or canoe to fish or explore the lakefront. Fishing licenses are required of all adults. No beach exists at the conference center, but swimming can be enjoyed at the nearby Lake Dardanelle State Park or at the Long Pool Recreation area in the Ozark National Forest. The conference center has a sand volleyball pit that can be used by any participant. Late June is a great time to sample the local produce. Information will be available concerning nearby berry farms, peach orchards, and farmer's markets.

Preliminary schedule

Friday, June 26th:

Registration and check in

Informal mixer with burgers at the pavilion

Saturday, June 27th:

Oral and Poster sessions

Group photo at Lunch

Sunday, June 28th:

Oral Sessions

Casual Arachnid Evening

Executive meeting

Monday, June 29th:

Oral Sessions

Business Meeting

Evening Banquet & Student Awards, Auction

Tuesday, June 30th:

Field Trip to Ozarks

Local Host contact Information

Dr. Tsunemi Yamashita

Department of Biological Sciences

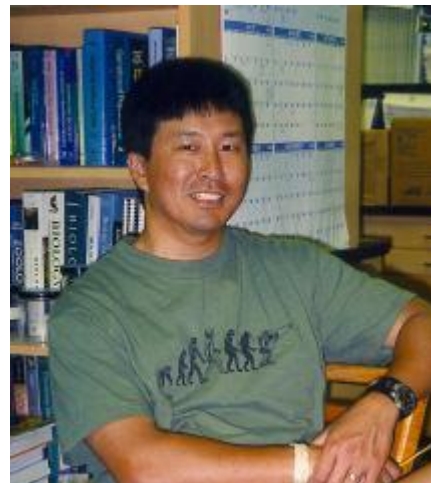
Arkansas Tech University

1701 N Boulder Ave.

Russellville, Arkansas 72801 USA

*****Note -The postal abbreviation for Arkansas is AR, not AL, AZ, ARK, AS, or AK. {:~)**

Phone (479) 968-0327 arachnology@atu.edu



33rd Meeting of the American Arachnological Society

Arkansas Tech University

Russellville, Arkansas

Friday 26 June – Wednesday 1 July, 2009

Hosted by: Tsunemi Yamashita

(479) 968-0327; FAX (479) 964-0837; E-mail: arachnology@atu.edu

This form can be used for registration or you can register online at http://www.americanarachnology.org/AAS_Meetings/2009_Russellville/index.html; (you can also pay online through PayPal).

Registration and abstract submission through the website is preferred but not required!

Deadline: 29 May for abstract submission and **10 June** for registration deadline. After the deadline, a late fee will be charged (see below) and you must contact the host for permission to present a paper or poster. Abstract updates will be placed on the AAS meeting website in early June.

The Final Deadline is 10 June 2009

Personal Information

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Affiliation _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____

Country: _____ Zip code/country code: _____

e-mail: _____ Phone & FAX: _____

Registration Fees

_____ **\$90** - AAS Member _____ **\$120** - AAS Member PLUS 1 Non-participant guest

_____ **\$110** - Non-Member _____ **\$145** - Non-Member PLUS 1 Non-participant guest

_____ **\$65** - AAS Student member

_____ **\$85** - Non- AAS Student (*Join AAS for \$30 student membership and register at the lower rate!*)

_____ **\$50** - Non-participant (Taking part in breaks and socials)

Name of non-participant guest(s): _____

_____ **\$30** Late Fee per person (if you register and/or pay after 10 June)

Special Events (please check all those events you plan to attend and include fees if relevant)

_____ Friday evening (26 June) Hamburger social (\$16); Cash bar available

_____ Monday evening (29 June) Banquet and auction (\$30 regular; \$25 student); Cash bar available

_____ **Salmon en Crute**- Alaskan salmon fillets wrapped with puff pastry and baked to perfection. Served with a lemon butter sauce.

_____ **Prime Rib**- Hand rubbed with special seasonings and roasted.

_____ Tuesday (30 June); Field Trip to Ozarks (\$15 – includes transportation and box lunch)

_____ **Airport shuttle request.** Contact T Yamashita via email (tyamashita@atu.edu).

Indicate if your name can be placed on a spread-sheet with flight arrival information in case another attendee can carpool with you to the conference center.

Photo & Shirts

_____ **Group photo (\$10 each)**

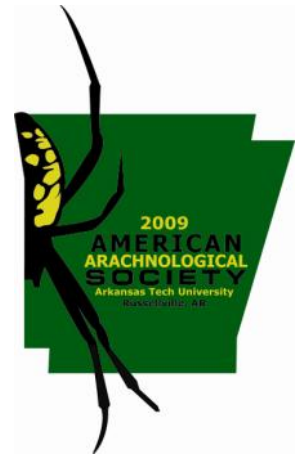
T-shirts

Yellow background with logo design (right) (\$15 each; add \$2 for XXL & XXXL):

_____ Small; _____ Medium; _____ Large; _____ X-Large; _____ XXL; _____ XXXL

Lime green background with logo design (right) (\$15 each; add \$2 for XXL & XXXL):

_____ Small; _____ Medium; _____ Large; _____ X-Large; _____ XXL; _____ XXXL



Housing

All housing arrangements can be made through the reservations coordinator at the lake Point Conference center by calling this number 479-356-6240. Room reservations can also be made through this online form: <http://lakepoint.atu.edu/EC6-LodgingReservations.htm>. Lodging costs at the Conference center are \$65.00 per night for single occupancy and \$75.00 per night for double occupancy. A tax rate of 9% is added to these rates. See the information above (**pages 2 & 3**) about other local housing arrangements

Meals

Light refreshments will be served during the morning and afternoon breaks. Light refreshments will also be provided at the poster session on Saturday evening. A continental breakfast is available in the lodging facility with all onsite lodging. A full breakfast is available for \$9.90 per person; Lunch is \$11.25 per person; Dinner is \$20.33 per person (costs include the tax). A cash bar is available at Dinner. Here's a short description of the menu items:

Breakfast: Sunrise Start- Scrambled Eggs, Hickory Smoked Bacon, Country Style Sausage Patties, Hash Brown, Potatoes, Biscuits, Sausage Gravy, Fresh Fruit, Mini Pastries

Lunch Selection—Themes:

Saturday June 27-Italian—Mini Salad Bar with Fire and Ice Salad, Penne Pasta, Spaghetti, Sauce Bolognese, Mariana Sauce, Alfredo Sauce, Italian Style Meatballs, Zucchini Italiano, Tiramisu

Sunday June 28-Mexican—Tacos with all the toppings, Super chicken Burritos, Spanish Rice, Refried Beans, Tortilla Soup, Peach Shortcake

Monday June 29- Dagwood sandwiches—Mini Salad Bar with Tuna Salad, New York Chicken Noodle Soup, Assorted Breads and Rolls, Variety of Meats and Cheeses to include Mesquite Smoked Turkey, Honey Ham, Deli Style Roast Beef, Old English Cheddar, Big Eye Swiss Cheese, and Provolone Cheese, Apple Pie

DINNER SELECTION—Saturday-

Mesquite Broiled Chicken Breast- Mesquite seasoned chicken breast charbroiled and coated with a light smoky glaze.

Tortilla Ancho Crusted Tilapia Filet- Crushed tortilla chips flavored with ancho chilies & cilantro coating a tilapia filet. Salad Bar with one Combo Salad, Rice Pilaf, Key Largo Blend Vegetables, Orange Honey Glazed Baby Carrots, Pecan Pie

Sunday- Pork Chops- 5 oz. bone in pork chop breaded country style and grilled to a golden brown and served with country gravy or can be served unbreaded and charbroiled.

Southern Fried Catfish- Farm raised catfish breaded with cornmeal and deep fried and served with hushpuppies.

Salad Bar with one Combo Salad, Homemade Mashed Potatoes and Country Gravy, Buttered kissed Whole Kernel Corn, Sautéed Green Beans with Bacon and Onions, Chocolate Bundt Cake

Meals Worksheet

Breakfast

_____ Saturday ___ Sunday ____ Monday

_____ Tuesday ____ Wednesday

Total breakfast X \$9.90 = _____

Lunch

_____ Saturday ___ Sunday ____ Monday

Total Lunch X \$11.25 = _____

Dinner

Saturday

_____ Mesquite Broiled Chicken Breast

_____ Tortilla Ancho Crusted Tilapia Filet

Total Dinner X \$20.33 = _____

Sunday

_____ Pork Chops

_____ Southern Fried Catfish

Meals Total = _____

Miscellaneous

Moderator: We will need individuals willing to serve as moderator for particular oral talk sessions. Please indicate if you are available below:

_____ I am willing to serve as a moderator at the meeting

Session type you are willing to moderate:

_____ I will not be able to serve as a moderator at the meeting _____ Ecology and Evolution _____ Taxonomy

If you checked yes above, please check all preferences below that apply: _____ Behavior ___ Anatomy & Physiology

Date to moderate: _____ June 27, _____ June 28, _____ June 29 _____ Other (AAAFF etc.)

Vince Roth Memorial Auction: If you have items for the annual arachno-auction (during the banquet) you can mail them to T Yamashita at the address below. If you plan to bring items instead of mailing them in advance, please let Ty know how many and what items you plan to bring so a list could be started.

Reprints: Do you have stacks of old reprints cluttering your office shelves? Bring them to the meeting to exchange with colleagues. We will have a room available during the meeting where reprints will be available for exchange.

AAAFF: We will try to put together some talks for the Arachnological Association for the Absorption of Federal Funds (AAAFF) during the Casual Night with Arachnids, depending on a critical mass of contributions. Please indicate whether you have a AAAFF presentation for the meeting.

_____ Check here if you have a presentation. Presenters Name: _____

Title: _____

Abstract: No more than 250 words. (Please send as either an e-mail attachment or on a separate sheet of paper with your registration). See separate instructions to authors for abstract submission.

Casual Night with Arachnids: The traditional informal presentations will be held on Sunday evening (28 June) from 7 – 9 p.m. contingent on the number of presentations. There will be a time limit of no more than 15 minutes and the session will be moderated. This year all talks must be reviewed beforehand. Please contact Rick Vetter (rick.vetter@ucr.edu); additional information is at the meeting website.

_____ Check here if you have a presentation (no abstract necessary).

Presenters Name: _____

Title: _____

Payment Totals

Registration:	\$ _____	Field Trip:	\$ _____
T-shirt(s):	\$ _____	Hamburger Mixer	\$ _____
Group Photo:	\$ _____	Banquet:	\$ _____
Meals:	\$ _____	Late Fee:	\$ _____ (if applicable)

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Please make your check payable to "ATU/AAS Meeting 2009" or pay and/or register online through PayPal at:

[HTTP://WWW.AMERICANARACHNOLOGY.ORG/AAS_MEETINGS/2009_RUSSELLVILLE/INDEX.HTML](http://www.americanarachnology.org/aas_meetings/2009_russellville/index.html)

If you are not registering/paying online, send registration form, abstract and payment to:

Dr. Tsunemi Yamashita

Department of Biological Sciences

Arkansas Tech University

1701 Boulder Ave.

Russellville, Arkansas 72801 USA

All payments must be received by **10 June 2009** to avoid the late registration fee.

Please see next page for abstract submission.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Abstract Submission

Deadline: 29 May, 2009

Type of presentation

Oral (15 min total including questions)

Poster (Posters must fit in a 42-inch space. Height may be as high as four feet)

AAAFF (for Sunday evening)

Casual presentation for Sunday evening (remember to submit the talk to Rick Vetter first; enter details on pg. 7)

Not presenting but plan on attending

Check here if you would like to be considered for the student competition. This is open to any student who has not previously won the student competition. Former runners-up may enter. Additional information can be found at the Meeting Website (at the AAS website) – look under information about presentations in this Newsletter (pg. 11).

Check the category below that best describes your formal presentation

Anatomy/Physiology Behavior Evolution Ecology Systematics/Taxonomy

Other. Describe: _____

Would you be available to moderate a section of the oral presentations? Yes No

If yes, indicate preferred day(s) you would be available:

Saturday, June 27th Sunday, June 28th Monday, June 29th AAAFF Master of Ceremonies

If yes, indicate preferred section(s) you would like to moderate:

Anatomy/Physiology Behavior Evolution Ecology Systematics/Taxonomy

Other. Describe: _____

Presenters Name: First: _____ Last: _____

Presenter's e-mail: _____

Title of oral presentation or poster:

Presenter's Address:

Address Line 1: _____

Address Line 2: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Country: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

First Author's Name: _____

Institutional Affiliation of First Author (if any):

Any other authors and their respective affiliation indicate below:

Slide and overhead projectors are discouraged for oral presentations with the exception of casual night with arachnids or AAAFF.

Please indicate if you require any other specialized media for your presentation:

_____ Powerpoint _____ Slide Projector (only allowed for casual night) _____ Overhead Projector _____ VCR

_____ Other: please describe: _____

Abstract submission

Abstracts should be no more than 250 words. Presentation Title, author's names and institutions are not included in the word count. Do not include your full address, only institutional affiliation, State, and Country. Following the abstract, include the presenter's name, whether the abstract is for an oral presentation or poster. Please include a title for any AAAFF or casual night with arachnid presentations. Abstracts for these informal presentations are not necessary, but are encouraged with the exception that Casual Night presentations must be submitted to Rick Vetter first (rick.vetter@ucr.edu).

(An example abstract is available on the AAS website and below)

Abstracts must be submitted either via email to tyamashita@atu.edu or through the American Arachnological Society Website (<http://www.americanarachnology.org/>). No paper copies will be accepted.

For email submissions, include "AAS Meeting 2009" as the subject heading. The abstract must be included as a word or RTF document

Use the following format for abstracts:

Submissions must be in English. For the entire document, please use 12 point text, either Arial or Helvetica.

Predation risk of males and females of the wolf spider *Pardosa milvina* (Araneae: Lycosidae) during courtship and copulation

Bryant T. Upton

Department of Biology, Susquehanna University

Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania USA

Ann Rypstra

Department of Zoology, Miami University

Hamilton, Ohio USA

Matthew H. Persons

Department of Biology, Susquehanna University

Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania USA

Courtship and mating may impose substantial predation risk to wolf spiders due to reduced vigilance, conspicuous courtship displays, and lack of mobility during copulation; however, the level of risk may differ between males and females. The wolf spider, *Pardosa milvina*, modify their courtship and mating behavior in the presence of silk cues from a larger co-occurring predatory wolf spider, *Hogna helluo*. We compared male and female *Pardosa* predation by *Hogna* during courtship interactions and copulation with and without silk cues from *Hogna* (21 pairs/treatment). We measured mating success, courtship latency, courtship intensity, and copulation duration in the presence of predator cues and a live predator. We also measured attempted and successful predation by *Hogna* or female *Pardosa* in the presence of predator cues. We compared four treatments introducing the predator, *Hogna*, either during courtship or during copulation and either with or without the presence of associated *Hogna* silk and excreta. We found that females have significantly higher predation rates during copulation with predator cues compared to males, however, the other three treatments showed no significant difference in predation between males and females. We also found no significant difference in lunge rates by *Hogna* toward males across silk deposition treatments. Females were also significantly more aggressive towards males when there were no predator cues present suggesting females may reduce sexual cannibalism while under predation risk. Male *Pardosa* delay courtship in the presence of chemical cues from *Hogna* and male courtship display rates were greatly reduced after *Hogna* introduction.

Presenter: Bryant Upton

Poster

Student poster competition

STUDENT PAPER PRESENTATION AWARD GUIDELINES

I. ELIGIBILITY

A. The student should submit a copy of the paper's abstract* to the meeting organizer by the specified deadline (10 June, 2009). A letter containing a statement from the student's major professor or supervisor indicating the extent to which the work was independently developed and executed by the student also must be sent to the meeting host**. The name and mailing address of the Meeting Host are:

Dr. Tsunemi Yamashita

Department of Biological Sciences

Arkansas Tech University

1701 N Boulder Ave.

Russellville, Arkansas 72801 USA

E-mail: arachnology@atu.edu

*The abstract may be submitted via the A.A.S. Website

**The letter should be sent either electronically or by post to the host.

B. The presentation either represents independent or joint research in which the student's contribution has been substantial. In case of a co-authored paper the student presenting the paper must be first author.

C. Entry is limited to one standard paper per meeting.

D. Previous winners of the Student Paper award are not eligible. Runner-ups are eligible.

II. JUDGES

A. A panel of three judges will be appointed by the President -Elect before the meeting. Abstracts of all student papers and a copy of the judging guidelines will be mailed to each judge prior to the meeting. An appropriate number of evaluation sheets (listing the criteria as below) shall accompany the abstract package for each judge. Judges will be chosen from different disciplines (systematics, morphology, physiology, ecology, behavior).

B. Efforts should be made to avoid bias or conflict of interest in judging, either by appointing judges with no students in the competition or, if that is unavoidable, by having judges abstain from voting on their own students.

C. Judges should meet twice: once before the paper presentation to review the guidelines and once afterward to make a decision on ranking.

D. At least one hour should be available between the last eligible presentation and the scheduled announcement of the award.

III. EVALUATION

A. Judges should rate presentations as "Outstanding, Good, Adequate, or Poor" based on the criteria listed below. In co-authored papers, the judges will carefully evaluate the student's contribution to the presented research. In case of a tie

or very close ranking, the judges may decide on a joint award.

B. Scientific Criteria

1. Introduction:

- Was there a clear introduction to the research problem?
- Was the importance of the research question explained? Why was the work done?
- Did the speaker provide a background and context for the research? What was the state of the field prior to this study? A review of the entire field is not necessary, but the speaker must provide a reference framework in which to assess the work.
- Was a clear statement of the hypothesis(es) provided?

2. Methods:

- Was there a clear explanation of the techniques used in the project?
- How creative was the work? If the presentation involved techniques commonly used by the advisor, did the student utilize the technique to approach novel issues or novel questions?

3. Results:

- Were the results of the study a valuable contribution to the field? Was the significance of the results clearly demonstrated? Could the student convince the audience they should care about their results?!
- Were the experiments or results approached from several perspectives?

4. Discussion & Conclusions:

- Were the results well summarized and placed in context relative to the introduction?
- How sound were the conclusions?
- Did the student extend the work beyond other projects associated with their advisor, or was it simply a minor increment of similar work?
- Was the research sufficiently independent, unique, or creative?
- Were the conclusions put in a broader context extending the value of the work beyond a small area in arachnology to better understanding within the field of systematics/ behavior/ ecology/ etc?

C. Presentation Style and Logistics (oral):

- Did the speaker speak clearly and logically or was the organization of the talk confused and disorganized? Did the speaker communicate clearly and easily? Was eye contact made with the audience, or was the paper simply read from notes or the screen?
- Were the graphics lucid? Were all of the figures intelligible with axes clearly labeled? Were tables broken into decipherable segments? Did the student clearly put effort into making the graphics used for the talk self-explanatory or informative?
- Were the techniques used explained with a minimal use of specialist jargon so that a nonspecialist or non-scientist could understand how the project was done?
- Did the student project a professional demeanor, or were unnecessary 'humor', inappropriate references, or excessive excuses made?
- How poised was the speaker? Was the presentation "timed" correctly?
- How well did the speaker respond to questions?

D. Presentation Style and logistics (poster):

- Was the poster clearly organized and well planned or was it clearly done at the last minute?

2. Were the graphics lucid? Were all of the figures intelligible with axes clearly labeled? Were tables broken into decipherable segments? Were the text, tables, and graphics self-explanatory or informative?
3. Were the techniques used clearly explained with a minimal use of specialist jargon, such that a non-specialist or non-scientist could understand how the project was done?
4. Was the poster clearly arranged such that there was minimal text for maximal effect? Were the visuals used appropriate for the point being made?
5. How well did the presenter respond to questions?

IV. ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES

Traditionally, the award is announced at the society's banquet. Students are strongly encouraged to attend the banquet since this is an ideal setting to "schmooze" with established arachnologists and to see George Uetz, auctioneer extraordinaire, and his faithful companion, Al Cady, at their best.

V. AWARDS

The top ranking and runner-up individuals traditionally receive a monetary award. Other awards vary according to donations and other philanthropy.

SAMPLE JUDGING SHEET

Name of Student: _____

Co-authors: _____

Title of Paper: _____

OVERALL RATING - _____

Scientific criteria:

- Clarity of Introduction; background & context.
- Abstract; summarize main results of research?
- Scope of research problem; hypothesis(es) stated?
- Approach, design, and creativity of study
- Quality and details of analysis; clearly explained?
- Significance of results; different perspectives used?
- Soundness of conclusions; relation to Introduction?
- Contribution to field; impact outside immediate field?

Rating of Scientific Criteria - _____

Presentation (oral):

- Overall organization and clarity; proper timing?
- Oral presentation skill; presence, poise, & demeanor.
- Graphics were high quality and easy to read and interpret.
- Ability to respond to questions.

Rating of Oral Presentation Criteria - _____

Presentation (poster):

- Overall organization and clarity.
- Minimal text for maximal effect?
- Graphics were high quality and easy to read and interpret.
- Ability to respond to questions.

Rating of Poster Presentation Criteria - _____

Scientific Criteria:

- Give a clear introduction to your research problem. Provide a background to your research and inform the audience about the state of the field prior to this study. You need not provide a review of the entire field, but your listeners deserve to have your contribution to the field put into context. Explain the *importance* of your research question and why the work is of value.
- Clearly state the hypothesis(es) tested.
- Clearly explain the techniques or experiments used in the project. Explicitly describe any novel or uncommon apparatus or protocol.
- Explain your results clearly. The audience only has a minute or two to digest the content of your figures, so make the figures easy to read and to understand (uncluttered). It is often much better to present smaller portions of your data rather than large, unintelligible tables or figures ("less is best"). Provide telegraphic titles that help the audience grasp the meaning of the results more easily. Try to minimize abbreviations and jargon that only you understand. Basically, make it *easy* for your audience to understand your data as you guide them through it.
- Explain why the results of your study are a valuable contribution to your field. In your talk or poster, you should put the research in context so that the audience *cares* about your results. Do your conclusions extend beyond a small question in arachnology? Does your work contribute to better understanding within the broader field of systematics/ behavior/ ecology, etc.?

Presentation Style & Logistics:

- It is much easier to understand a talk or poster that is logically organized rather than one that is confused and disorganized.
- As indicated above, your graphics should be lucid and easy to follow. Are your figures intelligible with the axes clearly labeled? Without you talking or you being present, would it be possible to look at the graphics and interpret the figures? Are the tables broken into intelligible segments? Are your graphics self-explanatory and informative?
- Few biologists are specialists in everything. For those biologists who work outside of your area of specialty, it is helpful if you explain your project with minimal use of specialist jargon or explain the unusual terms in your presentation. Your project should be understood by anyone in the audience, regardless of his or her field of expertise.
- You should project a professional demeanor. While humor may lighten a talk or a poster, humor that misses the mark can be jarring. Groveling excuses about problems with your data or your slides or visuals, inappropriate jabs at members of the audience, or private jokes generally do not go over well in a professional setting.

Student Research Awardees 2009

Award winners from the AAS Research Fund:

Re'ut Berger-Tal—Mitrani Dept. of Desert Ecology and Dept. of Life Sciences, Ben Gurion Univ. of the Negev, Sede Boqer, Israel: *Cost of inbreeding in a social spider with kin mating.*

Jason Ryndock—University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS: *The impact of ecological restoration on spider communities of an upland deciduous forest in northern Mississippi.*

Iara Sandomirsky—Mitrani Dept. of Desert Ecology and Dept. of Life Sciences, Ben Gurion Univ. of the Negev, Sede Boqer, Israel: *Life history traits and sexual cannibalism in the invasive Brown Widow spider *Latrodectus geometricus*, a field study.*

Ryan Storck—University of Texas at Arlington, Dept. of Biology, Arlington, TX: *A potential temperature immunity tradeoff in an ecologically important spider *Rabidosia rabida* (Araneae: Lycosidae).*

Kelton Welch—Dept. of Entomology, College of Agriculture, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY: *Niche partitioning in a web-building spider community: The dietary significance of web height.*

Award winners from the Vince Roth fund:

Renee Barba—Nuevo Vedado, Plaza de la Revolucion, Ciudad de la Habana, Cuba: *Systematic, biogeography, and natural history of Sternophoridae and Opiidae (Arachnida: Pseudoscorpiones) in Cuba.*

Chris Hamilton—University of Texas at Arlington, Dept. of Biology, Arlington, TX: *Determining the dynamics of the edge relationships in the *Aphonopelma hentzi* complex and its neighbors along the Colorado River basin.*

Zeeshan Mirza—Marol Police Camp, Andheri (East), Maharashtra, India: *Scorpions and spiders in the family Theraphosidae: A survey of forests of the northern Western Ghats.*

Gabriel Pompozzi—Depto. de Biología Universidad Nacional Del Sur, Buenos Aires, Argentina: *Distribution and ethological reproductive isolation between two possible sympatric species of *Grammostola* (Araneae: Theraphosidae) in Buenos Aires, Argentina.*

Casey Richart—Dept. of Biology, San Diego State Univ., San Diego CA: *Testing phylogenetic and phylogeographic hypotheses of *Acuclavella* (Opiliones, Ischyropsalidoidea) from the Western Hemlock Zone of the Pacific Northwest.*

Yong-Chao Su—Dept. of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS: *An exploration of the Phillipine kleptoparasitic spider fauna (Theridiidae: Argynrodinae) and its species phylogeny.*

Congratulations to the awardees! Information on the 2010 round of funding may be found at the AAS Website. Deadline for submission is 15 January, 2010.

Arachno-Auction!

(OR—"One Man's Trash Is Another Man's Treasure")

As you thrash around your office, home, trailer, RV, tent, hammock, or spider-hole, please be thinking of what things might go to this year's Vince Roth Memorial Auction at the 33rd annual AAS meeting and conclave. A suspense-filled silent auction is held before the AAS Annual Banquet, then an action-packed live auction starts after the Feast where sated participants vie for obscure, sometimes priceless, but always unique treasures from the world of arachnology. Most anything is fair-game for both auctions (books, reprints, artwork, t-shirts, undergarments, curios, hats, jewelry, movies, toys, etc.). Please contact the meeting's host, Ty Yamashita, about possibly shipping your mountains of auction materials ahead of time. (If you do intend to contribute, please let Ty know so he may begin deciding what to keep.) All proceeds go to support the AAS Student Research Fund.

Illustrated catalog of scorpions. Part I. Introductory remarks; keys to families and genera; subfamily Scorpioninae with keys to *Heterometrus* and *Pandinus* species.

An often encountered problem in estimations of animal diversity is a paucity of illustrated reviews allowing those not engaged in descriptive taxonomy fast orientation in given groups. Whereas for some invertebrates, namely butterflies and beetles, such reviews are available for most families, no such work has so far existed for the scorpions. To fill the gap, I have prepared the present volume. It consists of introductory remarks (morphology, toxicity, reproduction, ontogeny etc.), keys to all families and genera described by the end of 2008, a list of genera with their distributions and numbers of species, and 650 color photos depicting most species of the subfamily Scorpioninae (*Heterometrus*, *Pandinus*, *Scorpio* and *Opisththalmus*). Many of the illustrated specimens are types, whose study has in several instances necessitated taxonomic changes. The treatment of *Heterometrus* and *Pandinus* includes species diagnoses and keys to species. All species of *Pandinus* are illustrated, most of them for the first time. The genus *Scorpio* includes characterizations and photos of all 11 valid subspecies.

The volume is printed in A4 format, with a hard cover, and the enclosed pdf of 10 selected pages gives an idea of its internal arrangement and appearance. It can be ordered either directly from the publisher (Clarion Productions, Slavikova 11, CZ-120 00 Praha 2, Czech Republic, jakub@cleridae.cz) or through the author frantisek.kovarik@pre.cz. The price is 80 euros (ca. 105 US\$).

Frantisek Kovarik, P. O. Box 27, CZ-145 01 Praha 45, Michle, Czech Republic <http://kovarex.com/scorpio>

FIELD GUIDE TO SPIDERS OF NORTH AMERICA

HELP MAKE IT HAPPEN!

From President **Paula Cushing**:
Dear AAS Members and Arachnophiles:

I have excellent news to pass on about Rich Bradley's *Field Guide to the Spiders of North America* project. Rich has signed a contract with the University of California Press! We have also received a promise from the anonymous donor who contributed to the *Spiders of North America: an identification manual* project that he will contribute \$45,000 to the AAS to pay the illustrator. The illustrator Rich has chosen for this project is Steve Buchanan, the artist who illustrated the US Postal Service's insect and spider stamp series (<http://www.amazon.com/INSECTS-SPIDERS-cents-Postage-Stamps/dp/B00136F4LU>). Steve has also signed a contract to do this work.

The artist has agreed to do this work for a total of \$50,000. Thus, the society must raise an additional \$5000. The AAS Executive Committee has agreed to launch a donation campaign to solicit donations and support for this worthy project. In fact, one member has generously agreed to provide matching funds in this campaign. For every dollar donated by an AAS member, the EC member will donate matching funds up to \$1500!

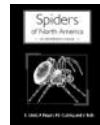
For its support of this project, the Society will receive prominent acknowledgment in the Field Guide. We will also be able to sell the Field Guide to AAS members for a discounted price.

If you would like to donate towards this fund, you can do so one of two ways:

1) Send a check clearly earmarked to the "Field Guide Project" to AAS treasurer, Karen Cangialosi; Department of Biology, Keene State College, Keene, NH 03435-2001 (kcangial@keene.edu).

2) Go to the AAS website at www.americanarachnology.org; click on "How to Become a Member"; click on "Use a Visa, Mastercard..." link; scroll down and click on the "Make a Donation to one of the AAS Research Funds or an unrestricted gift to the AAS" link; and click on the Field Guide project link to make your donation.

Thank you in advance for support of this great project!



Spiders of North America — An Identification Guide

Spiders of North America: an identification guide is now in its 3rd printing with over 3000 copies sold! It can be purchased via any major online bookseller or through the AAS website.

ORDER AT: [HTTP://
WWW.AMERICANARACHNOLOGY.ORG/](http://WWW.AMERICANARACHNOLOGY.ORG/)

Joey Slowik is doing a M.S. project looking at the phylogenetics and phylogeography of the the *groenlandica* subgroup of the wolf spider *Pardosa*. The five species are *P. groenlandica*, *P. tristis*, *P. bucklei*, *P. dromea*, and *P. prosaica*. If you happen to be out collecting in an area where one of the five species of this group occur or other members of the *modica* group, which could be used as outgroup species, and could collect fresh specimens for this project it would be appreciated. Correspondence can be made with Joey at:

University of Alaska Museum, 907 Yukon Drive, Fairbanks AK 99709 ftjas4@uaf.edu

World Spider Catalog Version 9.5

This work is by **Norm Platnick** and edited by Peter Merrett and H. Don Cameron. Access it at the following URL...

<http://research.amnh.org/entomology/spiders/catalog/>

American Arachnology

The Newsletter of the American Arachnological Society
Number 79 May 2009

AMERICAN ARACHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY WEBSITE

[HTTP://WWW.AMERICANARACHNOLOGY.ORG](http://www.americanarachnology.org)

Ken Prestwich has developed our website where one may find membership information, **Annual Meeting Information & Registration**, announcements & Bulletin Board, officers, meeting minutes, instructions to JOA authors, an electronic JOA index, graduate study opportunities, a photo gallery, links to other arachnological sites, and **JOA OnLine** (electronic versions of the Journal of Arachnology; available to A.A.S. Members). Many, many thanks and kudos to Ken for applying his time and skill to the Website!! Thanks too to Holy Cross for sponsoring the site.

ARACHNOLOGY IN CYBERSPACE

International Society of Arachnology- [WWW.ARACHNOLOGY.ORG](http://www.arachnology.org);

The Arachnology Homepage – [WWW.ARACHNOLOGY.BE](http://www.arachnology.be)

European Society of Arachnology—[WWW.EUROPEAN-ARACHNOLOGY.ORG/](http://www.european-arachnology.org/)

British Arachnological Society - [WWW.BRITISHSPIDERS.ORG.UK/](http://www.britishspiders.org.uk/)

Australasian Arachnological Society— [WWW.AUSTRALASIAN-ARACHNOLOGY.ORG/](http://www.australasian-arachnology.org/)

The Canadian Arachnologist—[HTTP://CANADIANARACHNOLOGY.DYNDNS.ORG/](http://canadianarachnology.dyndns.org/)

AMERICAN ARACHNOLOGY

Department of Zoology
Miami Univ.- Middletown
4200 E. Univ. Blvd.
Middletown, Ohio, 45042

AMERICAN ARACHNOLOGY

is the official newsletter of the American Arachnological Society, and is distributed biannually to members of the Society. Items for the Newsletter should be sent to the Editor, Alan Cady, Dept. Zoology, Miami Univ.-Middletown, 4200 E. Univ. Blvd., Middletown, Ohio, 45042, USA,
Voice:(513)727-3258, Fax:(513)727-3450;
E-mail:CADYAB@MUOHIO.EDU.

All correspondence concerning changes of address and information on membership in the American Arachnological Society should be addressed to the Membership Secretary, Jeffery Shultz, American Arachnological Society, Dept. of Entomology, Univ. of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742; Voice:(301) 405-7519, Fax:(301)314-9290, E-mail: jshultz@umd.edu.

Membership information may be found at the AAS website: [http://WWW.AMERICANARACHNOLOGY.ORG](http://www.americanarachnology.org). Members of the Society also receive the JOURNAL OF ARACHNOLOGY (published triannually) and have access to electronic resources (JOA OnLine).

