

The American Arachnological Society

Office of the President

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Dear _____:

Thank you for renewing your membership in the American Arachnological Society! We greatly appreciate your support and membership. I want to welcome you and remind you of your membership benefits.

As an AAS member you will receive three issues per year of the *Journal of Arachnology* – the premier journal for the dissemination of arachnological research worldwide. You will also receive electronic copies of our society newsletter, *American Arachnologist*. In addition, you will receive, on the back cover of your issue of the journal, a userid and password that will allow you to obtain free access to electronic versions (in pdf format) of articles published within the last year in the *Journal of Arachnology*. These electronic copies can be accessed via the society website at <http://www.americanarachnology.org>.

Also via this website, you can download order forms to purchase another society product, the book *Spiders of North America: an identification manual*. This is the only reliable manual available allowing the identification of spiders from all North American families down to the genus level. This book can be purchased at a very discounted price for society members using the mail-in order form. It can also be purchased at a non-discounted price at www.amazon.com or from www.bioquip.com.

In addition to these benefits, members (regular and student members) receive a discount on registration costs at the annual meeting of the society. Annual meetings are held in a variety of places throughout North America. In 2008, the AAS meeting will be held in Berkeley, California from June 25-30; in 2009, the meeting will be held in Quebec, Canada; in 2010, the meeting will be held in Russellville, Arkansas; in 2011 it will be in Portland, Oregon; and in 2012, it will be in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

In addition to these benefits, student members and regular members without institutional support are eligible for monetary research awards to support their research and students are eligible for travel awards to provide monetary support for attendance at annual meetings and at meetings of the International Society of Arachnology (held every three years). Information on these research and travel awards can be found on the society website.

I also wish to draw your attention to our program to sponsor the membership of arachnologists from developing nations who might not otherwise be able to afford to join the AAS. If you would like to sponsor a member, please contact Beth Jakob, Past President (ejakob@psych.umass.edu). You may choose to sponsor either a student or regular member.

Sincerely,
Paula E. Cushing, Ph.D.
President, American Arachnological Society