

AMERICAN ARACHNOLOGY

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Dates & Deadlines

- **PLEASE NOTE** the A.A.S. Research Fund deadlines for proposals are 30 November and 30 May. More information is available on page 13.

- Highlands Arachnology Course is . . .
15 – 26 July, 1996

- 1996 A.A.S. International Meeting . . .
28 – 31 July, Tucson, AZ

- 1997 A.A.S. National Meeting . . .
Dickenson, ND

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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 B. Cady, Dept. Zoology, Miami Univ.-Middletown, 4200 E. Univ. Blvd., Middletown, Ohio, 45042, USA. (E-mail: ACADY@MIAVX3.MID.MUOHIO.EDU). Deadline for receipt of material for the spring issue (Vol. 53) is 15 March, 1996. All correspondence concerning changes of address and information on membership in the American Arachnological Society should be addressed to the membership secretary, Norman I. Platnick, American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th St., New York, N.Y., 10024 U.S.A. Members of the Society also receive the JOURNAL OF ARACHNOLOGY, published triannually.

REPORT ON THE 1995 A.A.S. MEETING

The 1995 meeting of the AAS was hosted by Jim Carrel, Jan Weaver, and Matt Greenstone (and their minions) at the University of Missouri in Columbia, MO. The Editor is sure the other meeting participants join in expressing their gratitude to Jim & Jan & Matt for providing such a fine, well-organized meeting.

The 1995 AAS annual meeting took place at the University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri from 20 through 25 June. The weather was hot with hearty midwest thunderstorms, all normal for central Missouri in mid-June. The meeting was attended by over 100 participants from all over the USA and abroad. The festivities started on Tuesday evening with an informal reception where there were specialty beers on tap adding a local flavor to the occasion. A collection of various slides and pictures depicting past meetings were available for viewing.

The main program started Wednesday morning with a plenary lecture by a physician who has treated 40 years of *Loxosceles* bites inflicted upon those in the Show-Me state. The address was well-received and very informative to those in attendance (the traditional treatments for *Loxosceles* bites have changed.) The subsequent paper sessions covered a wide range of topics, and those held on Thursday also were diverse, and the poster session that afternoon was certainly one of the best ever held at an AAS meeting. An informal slide & movie show that same evening previewed the 1996 meeting at Tucson, and we were treated to ice cream from Mizzou's own Ice Cream Institute.

Friday morning was devoted to the last group of presented papers, and the business meeting took place that afternoon. Activities that evening began with a social hour and "silent bidding" for books, papers, and other arachnoparaphernalia. Everyone then moved to the banquet room, where we were treated to a good meal and fine fellowship. The Society once again called upon one of its foremost members to be auctioneer at the Third Annual Arachno-auction. George Uetz presided over the proceedings, which featured some very rare books from Bill Peck's library, items from past AAS meetings, and other spider-related artwork and publications. Thanks to great planning and substantial donations, this Arachno-auction was the most successful ever, raising over \$2,000 for the Society.

The Society also honored two of its charter members for their contributions to the Society and arachnology. Bill Peck and Vince Roth each received a commemorative plaque, a long round of hearty applause, and heartfelt appreciation. The Honorees were genuinely surprised and moved. The winners

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