



Anansi, the spiderman trickster central to West Indian folklore

AMERICAN ARACHNOLOGY

The Newsletter of the American Arachnological Society

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*****PLEASE NOTE*****

We are electing two officers this year. Be looking for your ballot in the mail soon. Please do not delay sending your ballot.

--DATES & DEADLINES--

- ◆ A.A.S. Research Fund - 31 October
- ◆ 1999 - 27 June - 3 July, St. Augustine, Trinidad
- ◆ 2000 - 15 - 20 July, Transylvania University, Lexington, Kentucky USA
- ◆ 2001 - Keene, New Hampshire USA
- ◆ 2002 - Riverside, California USA
- ◆ 2003 - Denver, Colorado USA
- ◆ 2004 - Norman, Oklahoma USA

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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, (513/727-3258, FAX: 513/727-3223; E-mail: CADYAB@MUOHIO.EDU). Deadline for receipt of material for the Fall issue (Vol. 60) is 15 September, 1999. 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. (FAX: 212/769-5277). Members of the Society also receive the JOURNAL OF ARACHNOLOGY, published triannually.

23RD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ARACHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY, 27 JUNE - 2 JULY 1999, ST. AUGUSTINE, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

Introduction

The American Arachnological Society will meet in the tropics for the first time next year at the University of the West Indies (UWI), St Augustine, Trinidad & Tobago. The Local Organizing Committee for the meetings is drawn from organizations representative of the national biological/conservation/naturalist community: Caribbean Union College, Trinidad & Tobago Biological Society, Trinidad & Tobago Field Naturalists' Club, University of the West Indies, UWI Biological Society, Wildlife Section: Government of Trinidad & Tobago, Zoological Society of Trinidad & Tobago.

The languages of the meetings will be English and Spanish. As emphasized by Chris Starr at the recent international congress in Chicago, arachnologists accustomed to attending annual meetings in North America will find the costs of attending these meetings much the same except in one item: travel.

A Spanish version is going to the Latin American arachnology network, ARACNOL@NET.USP.BR. If you are certain not to attend the meetings, or if you receive bulletins through the Latin American network and need not receive them in English, please let us know. And if you know someone who should be added to the list, please let us know.

Housing Accommodation

Two housing options are available for meeting participants. All prices are in US dollars. Payment can be made in US\$ or TTS (i.e. Trinidad & Tobago dollars). In some cases these or other meeting expenses can be met in other currencies, by arrangement.

Most participants will probably prefer to stay in an on-campus student dormitory. The meetings take place during the summer vacation, so that there will be few other occupants at the time. The dormitory is much like familiar accommodations from past meetings. Cost per person per night: Single—\$15 Double—\$13 Single in double room—\$20. The alternative is the Pax Guest House, on Mt. St. Benedict above St. Augustine. Accommodation is comfortable, although not luxurious, with very friendly management and a lovely setting. Bill & Marina Peck stayed there during a recent visit and pronounced themselves satisfied. Break-