

Lancaster Herpetological Society

Husbandry, Education, Conservation, Community

The Lancaster Herpetological Society (www.lancasterherp.org) is a small club that meets once a month to discuss herps and herp-related issues. The club meets at the North Museum (www.northmuseum.org, 400 College Ave., Lancaster, PA 17603) on the 3rd Friday of every month. Meetings are open to the public, free of charge (donations accepted), and begin at 7pm. Please feel free to attend by entering through the back door (ring bell if locked). The membership requests that all children under the age of 16 be accompanied by an adult. For more information, contact Roy Mellott (aggrocroc@yahoo.com). *Hope to see you there!*

Upcoming Meetings

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Comments</u>
10/15/10	Aura Stauffer	Timber Rattlesnakes	Update on field research
11/19/10	Chris Urban	PA Herp Regulations	PA Fish & Boat Officer
12/17/10	Members' Night	Sharing Our Own Herps	Bring Your Own Herps
1/21/11	TBA	TBA	

****December meeting will also include officer elections*

Upcoming [Havre de Grace Herp Shows](#): Nov 6th, Dec 18th

Upcoming [Hamburg Herp Show](#): Oct 16th, Dec 4th

Upcoming [Reading Herp Show](#): Nov 20th

Club Happenings

In July, LHS and [Forgotten Friend Reptile Sanctuary](#) manned a table at the [Lancaster Herp Show](#). The table was able to raise much needed money for both organizations through the sale of donated supply equipment. The new LHS tshirt also made its debut at the show. Get yours today!

July's meeting was entitled a "Crash Course in Cornsnake Genetics" by our very own Zach Barton. Zach was able to bring fifteen very different cornsnakes demonstrating a variety of genetic mutations. Normals, single recessives, double recessives, and even a triple receive corn were all displayed. The mellow corns were handled by all in the audience. Also, Zach received the unlikely honor of being the only LHS speaker who attracted an audience from across the ocean! A family from Germany on vacation decided to show up at LHS that night.

August brought Lee Amigh who shared her lifetime's experiences with herps. Unfortunately, all of Lee's pictures were on slides and the slide projector was broken. Lee persevered without the visual aids and was able to tell many humorous stories about reptiles and amphibians.

George Gress spoke at September's meeting about the [Nature Conservancy](#)'s work with endangered bog turtles. George and the [Nature Conservancy](#) have several bog turtle populations that they survey through radio telemetry every year. Besides a wonderful presentation, George was happy to answer a barrage of questions from LHS members. Hopefully the bog turtle will continue to endure due to the work done by George and others.

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Forgotten Friend Update

Currently we have a few animals for adoption at Forgotten Friend Reptile Sanctuary, including a savanna monitor lizard, green anole, and multiple corn snakes and ball pythons (*some pictures included below*). And as always we have several red ear sliders for adoption. We have also been caring for an Argentine Tegu for several weeks that was abandoned by its owner and came in severely emaciated. This is perhaps the hungriest tegu we've ever cared for!



Our native turtle garden was a huge success in its first full year. We enjoyed caring for several eastern box turtles, spotted turtles, wood turtles, and red ear sliders, and a few other odd species. We just added our hibernaculum area for the box turtles this week, which is always a fun time. For several weeks before hibernation begins, the box turtles, wood turtles, and spotted turtles can be observed "playing" in the hibernaculum before they are ready to go to bed for the winter. Imagine two feet of dirt, compost, and autumn leaves, with half a dozen colorful turtles half-buried toward the top of it at all times!



To adopt a reptile, please visit www.forgottenfriend.org/adopt. To inquire about reptile assemblies for schools or family events, please visit www.forgottenfriend.org/learn or contact Jesse at info@forgottenfriend.org.



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Requests

LHS exists solely as a volunteer organization. The club would not survive without the constant and continual input of its members. Arranging speakers, organizing field trips, and producing the newsletter take volunteered time. If you have ideas for and are willing to take the lead in arranging speakers or field trips, please contact Roy Mellott (aggrocroc@yahoo.com).

If you wish to contribute to the website, please contact Chad Arment (lancwildlife@verizon.net).

If you wish to contribute to the newsletter, please contact Zach Barton (zbarton@ycstech.org). Possible original contributions include: book reviews; species care sheets; notes from a field herping trip; herp news summaries; and opinionated essays. The deadline for the Winter 2011 Newsletter is approaching fast!



Both pictures from the LHS Library

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FORGOTTEN FRIEND



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