

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 (LancHerpSociety@gmail.com). *Hope to see you there!*

Upcoming Meetings

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Comments</u>
7/21/12	Zach Barton	Outdoor Turtle Enclosures	DIY
8/17/12	Jesse Rothacker*	Iguanas and Gators*	Forgotten Friend Reptile Rescue
9/21/12	Dr. Walter Meshaka	Snake Habitat Conservation and Management	State Museum of Pennsylvania
10/19/12	Aura Stauffer	Timber Rattlesnake	Update on Continuing Research

* Subject to change

Upcoming [Havre de Grace](#) Herp Shows: Aug 11th, Sept 8th, Oct 6th

Upcoming [Hamburg](#) Herp Show: Aug 4th

Upcoming [Philadelphia](#) Herp Show: Aug 25th, Sept 29th

Upcoming [Reading](#) Herp Show: July 28th

Upcoming [Baltimore](#) Herp Show: Sept 22nd & 23rd

Club Happenings

April found our very own Adam Mattel presenting on the care of boa constrictors. Adam has considerable experience keeping boas and has even bred them on numerous occasions. Adam brought in several animals in his care, and they calmly sat on the front table through his entire presentation. It is obvious from his presentation and how he handles his boas, Adam is deeply dedicated to his animals.

In May, Bill Humbert shared his research on American toads. The presentation was highly technical and informative. You've got to admire anyone who takes the time to measure the vas deferens of amphibians! LHS encouraged Bill to extend his research to the prolific population that inhabits our local Overlook Park where we have gone on several herp excursions.

Finally, June brought Members' Night! As always, many members brought herps to share. A ball python, a northern pine, an albino northern pine, a uromastix, and a pair of crested geckos were in attendance. Zach Barton brought in some rescues: a spotted turtle and a pair of eastern box turtles that PA Fish & Boat have loaned to his classroom. However, undoubtedly it was Adam Mattel's cribo (Bosco) that stole the show!

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Forgotten Friend Reptile Rescue Update

By Jesse Rothacker

This summer we are excited about the completion of our outdoor iguana house! It is a solid structure that promises many years of outdoor basking for our iguanas, tegus, and alligators. Initial quotes for the structure came in over \$4,000. But we were able to build it ourselves for about \$1,500! Big thanks to everyone who supported this project.



Aside from the iguana house project, the rescue has had a steady stream of boa and python calls. One call brought us four boas from Maryland. The owner had passed away and had no family to care for them, so we made an emergency pickup of three dumerils boas and one red tail boa. All four are now available for adoption at www.forgottenfriend.org/adopt.

We have lots of community outreach programs this summer all over Pennsylvania. Please visit www.forgottenfriend.org/events to find a reptile show at a school, church, or community event near you this summer.



Remembering Spike "Larry" Rothacker

On a sadder note, Forgotten Friend lost one of our favorite reptiles ever this month. Larry the ornate nile monitor lizard finally passed away at the ripe old age of 16, after spending his last five years in retirement with us. He has been laid to rest under the iguana house with a big basking rock to memorialize him. We'll always remember this special reptile basking on the back deck with the pups.

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Remembering Kathy Tyson

Kathy Tyson, a founding member of LHS, has passed away. Kathy was very instrumental in getting the club started, and scheduled a number of our speakers, especially early in the club's history. Kathy had a special knack for getting well-informed, under-paid herp professionals to volunteer their time for presentations to club.

Kathy, thanks for all the help. You have left the club in capable hands.



Kathy Tyson

Kathy and other LHS Board Members

Requests

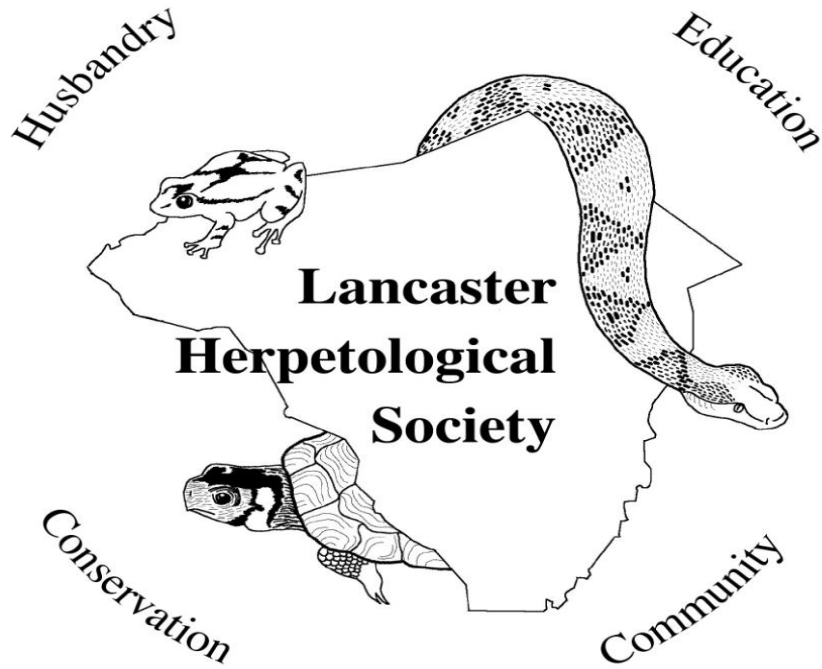
LHS exists solely as a volunteer organization. The club would not survive without the constant and continual input of its members. Arranging speakers, organizing field trips, and producing the newsletter take volunteered time. If you have ideas for and are willing to take the lead in arranging speakers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

If you wish to contribute to the website, please contact Caleb Hulse (bursur83@gmail.com).

If you wish to contribute to the newsletter, please contact Zach Barton (zbarton@ytech.edu). 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 Fall 2012 Newsletter is approaching fast!

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Summer 2012 Newsletter

www.lancasterherp.org