

ANNUAL STATEWIDE MEETING

This is your invitation to the Society's annual statewide meeting, exhibit, and election of officers for 1963-1964, which will be held at:

CAMP SHAWONDASEE, near Chesterfield Court House, Virginia

on: Saturday and Sunday, OCTOBER 20 and 21, 1962

Camp Shawondasee, the Robert E. Lee Council (Richmond) Scout Camp, is located south of Richmond near Chesterfield C.H. and at the edge of Pocahontas State Forest in Chesterfield County. The invitation to return to Shawondasee has been extended by the Scouters and Scout Executives of the Robert E. Lee Council, BSA. We have invited scouts holding reptile study merit badge, or candidates for that honor, and the adult counselors in reptile study, zoology and nature merit badges to join us. VHS will use center-of-camp facilities as designated by Mr. DesChamp, the camp ranger.

CAMPING: Tourist tents, trailers, etc., are welcome in the area near the Camp trading post and the main parking lot of the camp. Ranger DesChamp will direct you. His home is at the entrance to the camp. Saturday arrival, early morning, is preferred. Departure by Sunday at dusk. Bring own food supplies and bedding. Family groups encouraged.

MOTELS and HOTELS are available on the approaches to the camp or in the Richmond area. VHS is not handling reservations but would urge these accommodations for non-camping families or ladies who plan to attend the Saturday and Sunday sessions. (See program, next page.)

FOOD: Bring your own box lunch and box supper. No meals served in camp messhall this season of year. OVERNIGHTERS: Plan for five meals.

BACHELOR QUARTERS: One cabin is available at camp, first-come-first-served basis. Ranger DesChamp will direct you. Bring own blankets or bedroll. Bring non-perishable food for four or five meals. Men only.

COMFORT: Bring cushion or folding chair for seat. Stone council ring seats are hard, sometimes damp. Dust socks and shoes or boots with flowers of sulphur to keep chiggers off. LADIES rest facilities will be designated by sign, visable from all directions, nearest exhibits.

EXHIBITS: Exhibits will be set up in open pavilion near council ring on Saturday morning. Unusual and representative Va. species welcome. Bring your trading material, too! Make certain that your cages are sound and can be fastened. Better specimens should be locked-in, or sealed in by tape, to prevent accidental escape or tampering.

VIRGINIAN SPECIMENS PARTICULARLY DESIRED FOR EXHIBIT IN SOUND CAGES

Cages, vivariums, aquariums, terrariums must be supplied by exhibitor.

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(detach along dotted line)

SEE YOU OCTOBER 20-21 AT CAMP SHAWONDASEE!! BRING SPECIMENS!!

DRIVING INSTRUCTIONS: THROUGH RICHMOND TO ROUTE # 10 which can be picked up south of the James River from Routes 161, 60, 360, 1, or 301. Turn off Route # 10 on 604 at curve marked with big SHAWONDASEE sign. Watch for VHS markers near camp. COMING UP FROM SOUTH OF THE STATE CAPITAL: Take Exit No. 6 PETERSBURG TOLL ROAD to Route # 10, head west toward Chester and Chesterfield Court House. From Rte 1 or 301 take Route # 10, or No. 144 and No. 145 through Centralia, pick up Route # 604 on left after going through Chesterfield Court House. Area is well marked. Route numbers and directions on better road map.

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT CAMP SHAWONDASEE ON OCTOBER 20-21, 1962 !!!

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Families and friends of members are welcome at the VHS annual meeting. If you can't be there both days you may wish to plan your visit by the rough guide provided below.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20: Morning

Move into camp and set up exhibits in open-air pavilion just beyond the council ring.

Set up tent or trailer in main parking area of camp as directed by camp ranger.

Label and seal (or lock) your cages in pavilion.

Noon luncheon break -- hot water at fireplaces.

Afternoon: Sessions begin in council ring at 1:30 p.m. at latest. If weather is bad these sessions may be held in the camp messhall.

Come prepared to: (1) say something about your interest, activities, wishes relating to VHS program and activities. Bring ideas to share. (2) provide a thumbnail sketch of your work. (3) a ten or fifteen minute address on your favorite topic (within herpetology) would be welcomed by all members and friends.

Suppertime break: 5:00 or 5:30 p.m.

7:15 to 9:00 p.m. Slides, films, etc., in camp messhall on hill between parking lot and lake. Bring slides, films, projector.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21: Early morning hunt in area designated by Camp ranger, or area away from camp or park. Any wood piles disassembled will be re-stacked!

Sunday afternoon -- exhibits, bull sessions.

Camp must be cleared by dusk, Sunday evening, October 21.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR VHS 1963-1964:

Come prepared to nominate and vote on officers for the Society for 1963-1964. All positions*open. Nominations from the assembled members. Opportunity will be provided to bring your membership status up-to-date before voting. Non-members should refrain from hand or voice vote during these sessions -- part of the business session Saturday. We will make the business as brief as possible. Help us.

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OFFICERS OF THE VIRGINIA HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY 1960-1962.

- *PRESIDENT W. Leslie Burger, Franklin College of Indiana
- *CHAIRMAN O. King Goodwin, 14 Moyer Rd. Newport News,
- *CO-CHAIRMAN Dr. H. G. M. Jopson, Bridgewater College, Va.
- *TREASURER Dr. Phoebe H. Knipling, Arlington, Virginia
- *SECRETARY Franklin J. Tobey, Jr., Rockville, Maryland

Medical Adviser . . John Thornton Wood, M.D. (Pres:VHS '58-'60)
Chairman, Maryland Section, VHS: Charles J. Stine, DDS, Towson, Md.
Supervisor, Distribution Data: Wm. L. Witt, Arlington, Virginia

CORRESPONDENCE should be addressed to the Editor,
4706 Tallahassee Avenue, Rockville, Maryland

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HERPETOFAUNA COLLECTED BY VHS MEMBERS DURING FIRST ANNUAL MEETING AT CAMP SHAWONDASEE, CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, VIRGINIA

by John Thornton Wood, MD, and William L. Witt, Co-founders, Virginia Herpetological Soc.

On October 18 and 19, 1958 the younger herpetologists attending the first annual meeting of the Virginia Herpetological Society wasted little time before giving the area an intensive reptile hunt. Energy and enthusiasm paid off; twenty-three different species were collected -- and one additional was observed and positively identified. The variety and abundance of the fauna was noteworthy since the fieldwork was done at "half-past October", a time when many of us think it is time to hang up the hooks for another year.

The following list includes common names, scientific names and, occasionally annotations that may be of interest. Sorry we could not get the collectors' names, but they worked too fast for us!

Several of the specimens constituted county records and are now preserved in the U.S. National Museum and other nearby collections. A number were released to the area in which they were found. None of the Northern Copperheads were released. List follows:

- 1. Eastern Box Turtle (Terrapene c. carolina).
2. Fence Lizard (Sceloporus undulatus).
3. Ground Skink (Lygosoma laterale).
4. Blue-Tailed Skink (Eumeces sp?).
5. Banded Water Snake (Natrix s. sipedon). Observed only.
6. Northern Brown Snake (Storeria d. dekayi).
7. Eastern Ribbon Snake (Thamnophis sauritus).
8. Rough Earth Snake (Haldea striatula).
9. Northern Ring-necked S. (Diadophis p. edwardsi).
10. Eastern Worm Snake (Carphophis a. amoenus).
11. Northern Black Racer (Coluber c. constrictor).
12. Northern Copperhead (Agkistrodon c. mokeson).
13. Marbled Salamander (Ambystoma opacum).
14. Spotted Salamander (Ambystoma maculatum).
15. Red-spotted Newt (Diemyctylus v. viridescens). Abundant.
16. Northern Dusky Salamander (Desmognathus f. fuscus).
17. Northern Two-lined Salamander (Eurycea b. bislineata).
18. Northern Red Salamander (Pseudotriton r. ruber).
19. Eastern Mud Salamander (Pseudotriton m. montanus).
20. Three-lined Salamander (Eurycea longicauda guttolineata).
21. Northern Cricket Frog (Acris c. crepitans). Common.
22. Bullfrog (Rana catesbeiana).
23. Northern Greenfrog (Rana clamitans melanota).
24. Pickerel Frog (Rana palustris).

Additional notes on next page:

(See page four.)

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE VIRGINIA HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY
(name)
(address)
(city or p.o.)
(county, if Va.)
(occupation)
(State)
PLEASE TYPE or HAND-LETTER.

Dues: \$1.00 a year--covers membership card, bulletins, postage. Send money order or check to: Dr. Phoebe H. Knipling (Treasurer). Note on check "for VHS dues" and mail with this detachable stub to: Mrs. P.H. Knipling, 2623 Military Rd., Arlington, Virginia. Member's card will be mailed with the next issue of the VHS Bulletin.

NOTES ON HERPETOFAUNA OBSERVED AT CAMP SHAWONDASEE (continued from page three)

Re: 18 and 19: The two species of Pseudotriton were found in a mucky seepage habitat in a wooded ravine below a spring. As the habitat was explored Pseudotriton eggs were also found, accompanied by adults of both species. These are the first records of eggs of this genus found in Virginia; I have not made microscopic examinations or measurements of these eggs at this time, so I don't know which species (or both)? deposited them. We know when and where to seek these eggs. Let's find more nests this year!

John Thornton Wood, MD
Past President, VHS (1958-1960)

William L. Witt, Co-founder
Supervisor, Distribution Data

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE SOCIETY'S ANNUAL MEETING OCTOBER 20-21, '62

VIRGINIA HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN No. 30
Treasurer: 2623 Military Road, Arlington, Va.
Secretary: 4706 Tallahassee Ave. Rockville, Md.
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