

THE FORKED TONGUE

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE GREATER CINCINNATI HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Vol. XXXIII, No. XI

www.cincyherps.com

November 2008

Calendar of Events

November 5 – Monthly Meeting featuring Will Bird and Phil Peak speaking on Kentucky Field Herpetology

November 28 & 29 – Annual Cincinnati Museum Center Thanksgiving Show. See Peggy Fille for more details and to sign up to volunteer your time and animals for this great event!

December 3 – Monthly Meeting featuring Chris Bauer speaking on African Herping. This will be our Holiday Meeting.

Annual Holiday Meeting

Date: Wednesday, December 3, 2008

Time: 6:00pm room is available

Location: Golden Corral
4394 Glen Este Withamsville Rd
Cincinnati, OH - (513) 943-3700

Speaker: Chris Bauer, 2008 Africa Trip

Admission to meeting is free, however you must pay for your own meal upon arrival. Tip and tax are not included in the prices listed below. Tip is to be left on a per person basis.

Adults 12 +	- \$12.80	(including drink)
Kids 8-12	- \$ 4.99	(including drink)
Kids 4-7	- \$ 3.99	(including drink)
Kids 3-under	- FREE	

Introducing our 2009 GCHS Officers

It has been quite some time since we have had such a large change in the officers for our society. We want to make sure that each and every member of the Greater Cincinnati Herpetological Society gets to know their new officers so that we can all work together to continue to be a great society and make improvements along the way. We would also like to thank Grady Calhoun, Dean Alessandrini, Peggy Fille, and Bruce Fille for being an integral part of the society and being great role models for our new officers.

It is my pleasure to introduce to you the new 2009 GCHS Officers:

President:	Matthew Fille
Vice President:	Chris Bauer
Treasurer:	Lori Becker
Secretary:	Kyle Becker
Sergeant at arms:	Bill Creasey

I'd like to introduce myself to those of you who may not know me, I'm Matt Fille and I have accepted the position of President. I have grown up with the society since I was 13 where I have seen the society go through a number of ups and downs over the past decade or so. Thankfully, with the dedication of the core membership we were able to keep going and now, in my opinion are as upbeat and growing as fast as I ever remember. After graduation, I left for Maine for college spending roughly a year at a tiny school named College of the Atlantic. I then moved back to Ohio where I finished my degree in Biology with an emphasis on ecology at Bowling Green State University. Upon completion of my degree I made the decision to hold off on Grad School and moved back to Cincinnati.

Within the society, I have held a number of appointed positions including Rescue Chairman and Co-Chair of Education and Conservation with Chris Bauer. I always looked forward to the day of being able to be President of our society. Now here I am, and I can't explain how excited I am for the opportunity. I have a lot of ideas to share over the coming months, and hopefully some of them can help put in us in a position to grow our membership, as well as have a stronger presence in the academic and governmental arenas.

I currently have a collection of roughly 20 animals, and have had or worked with hundreds of other species at a couple of different venues. Groups that I have always had a special interest in are the monitors, crocodylians, and large constrictors. Lastly, I would like to encourage as many members who can, to come out and support our mission. For those who may have not been around for awhile, I can tell you that we

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are not the same society we were 5 or so years ago. We have grown and have become better and better. I sincerely hope to see you all at our meetings.

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Chris Bauer has been a member of the Society since 1996, and in that time has served as the Hospitality Chair, Rescue Chair and Education /Conservation co-chair. In that time he has worked with numerous species of herps as an employee of both the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History and Science as well as the Kentucky Reptile Zoo. Recently he spent three months in Swaziland, Africa, as a consultant to the Nisela Safari and Reptile Park.

Although he is not currently keeping any animals personally he is most interested in insular herps such as Bismarck ringed pythons because of their unique adaptations and limited geographic range.

He looks forward to serving the Society as Vice-President, where he hopes to bring in speakers on a wide-range of herpetological topics. As well as the GCHS, Chris is heavily involved in the survey and mapping of cave systems in Southern Kentucky. He is a member of both the National Speleological Society and the Greater Cincinnati Grotto and spent over 400 hours underground in 2007, and is also a certified SCUBA diver. Chris lives in Oxford, Ohio where he is an undergraduate student in the Miami University Department of Geography.

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I'm Lori Abrams-Becker, accepting the position of Treasurer. I have a BS in Biology from the University of Cincinnati, where I was a research assistant at the U.C. College of Medicine, where I met my husband of 30 years, Larry. (Also met Sergeant-at-arms Bill Creasey then too!) Mother of Logan and Kyle. I am currently working as Medical Transcriptionist. I am also probably your first officer who is terrified of Herps. I became involved with the society because of my zealous son and husband who continued to badger me about the exciting meetings I was missing. I would love to see the society extend invitations to school groups, either as individuals or classrooms, to inform students that there is a society that is concerned with both conservation and education in this area of science. Even perhaps, hold a meeting on a Saturday, to make a meeting especially available for younger students.

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My name is Kyle Becker and I hold the position of Secretary. I have loved animals my whole life, but growing up I developed a huge fascination with herps -particularly with snakes. Still to this day I'm intrigued at how they move and their many different dispositions. I also have a love for monitor lizards and the brute strength and intelligence that they possess.

About 4 years ago, my iguana that I grew up with died and I then got a ball python. Ever since, I wished to learn more and more about herps, so I found the Cincinnati Herpetological Society and began regularly attending meetings. Being a vegan, I'm extremely interested in conservation efforts. That is why in the year to come, I hope we, as a society, can get out and do whatever possible to conserve the wildlife and the beauty around us -after all, we belong to the earth, the earth doesn't belong to us.

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Sergeant-At-Arms. Hi, I'm Bill Creasey. I've worked at Cincinnati Nature Center for over 35 years, and I currently serve as Chief Naturalist and Safari Coordinator. I joined the society when it was meeting at NKU. When looking for a new meeting location, Ted Grannan and I invited the group to check out CNC -- where we have been meeting ever since. I have been purchasing the refreshments for the past few years, so getting the meetings started on time and counting the number of attendees should not be too much of a problem. My main goal for the society this coming year is for the transition of new officers to be as seamless as possible. We've had great leadership and programs over the past few years, and I hope to support the new officers to maintain this quality in the coming year.

I also direct the summer camp program at CNC's Rowe Woods where we began a *Reptile Invasion* camp about four years ago. The success of this program has increased from just 60 campers a year to 120 campers this last summer. This is due in part to the speakers from GCHS bringing live animals to camp every summer. All campers love to see live animals! Here at the Cincinnati Nature Center we have a small collection of four red rat snakes which we use for educational purposes. This coming year I'm hoping to gain information from members of the society on how to breed a pair of them.

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Classified Advertising Policy

GCHS Members may run a free classified ad of 7 lines or less at no charge for an unlimited time; however, the ad will be canceled after one month unless the editor is informed to continue it. Please include scientific names for the animals with your ad as well as your phone number and area code. Ads of up to 7 lines for non-member are \$5 per issue; ad charges for items more than 7 lines long are as follows:

- Business card size** \$ 5 per issue
 - 1/4 page** \$10 per issue
 - 1/2 page** \$15 per issue
 - Full page inserts*** \$15 per issue
- *120 sheets per issue provided by advertiser

The GCHS is not liable for the quality of the merchandise advertised. The Society also reserves the right to refuse any ad considered inappropriate.

Requirements for Submitting Articles to the Forked Tongue

Articles can be submitted via CD or hard copy to Editor, GCHS, 4015 Brandy Chase Way, # 387, Cincinnati, OH 45245

Articles may be e-mailed to Brittany Gibson at mbFille@yahoo.com.

Black and white photographs can be included with articles. Photo submissions should include your name, phone number, and description of photo on the back. Photos can be returned.



All time dependent submissions must be in the editor's possession no later than the meeting previous to the publication.

Classifieds

Discount: A 10% discount is offered to all card-carrying members of the GCHS at *All Creatures Animal Hospital*. Dr. Dan Meakin, All Creatures, 1894 Ohio Pike, Amelia, OH 45102, 513-797-7387.

Discount: A 10% discount is offered to all card carrying members of the GCHS by Dr. Dahlhausen at the Avian and Exotic Medical Center, 9951 Springfield Pike, Cincinnati, Ohio 513-576-1990

(Number to left of decimal indicates males; number to right of decimal indicates females; number to right of second decimal indicates number of unknown sex. For example, 3.2.1=3 males, 2 females, and 1 unsexed specimen)

	Steven E. Hubbard, D.V.M. John Weininger D.V.M. Nicole Waidelich D.V.M. John Gatens D.V.M. Justin Calhoun, D.V.M.	
Bright Veterinary Clinic		Dearborn Co. Animal Clinic
24505 Stateline Road		44 Doughty Road
Lawrenceburg, IN 47025		Lawrenceburg, IN 47025
For Appointment Call:		For Appointment Call:
(812) 637-1345		(812) 537-3545

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Currently Held Positions

President	Matthew Fille	(513) 515-9669	Vice President	Chris Bauer	(859) 609-1846
Treasurer	Lori Becker	(513) 831-4898	Editor	Brittany Gibson	(419) 464-8529
Sergeant-at-Arms	Bill Creasey		Education Committee Chairman		
Secretary	Kyle Becker	(513) 831-4898	Peggy Fille		(513) 528-4452
Advisor	Grady Calhoun	(812) 926-1206			
		(513) 564-6041			

About the GCHS

The Greater Cincinnati Herpetological Society holds monthly meetings which typically consist of a short business section, a refreshment intermission, and a program related to herpetology. Both members and nonmembers are invited to attend. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in reptiles and amphibians. New members may sign up by mail or at the monthly meetings. Members receive monthly issues of *The Forked Tongue* and free classified advertising. Annual dues should be directed to the secretary at the society's mailing address, according to the rates below:

Student	\$10.00	Corresponding	
	\$10.00		
Individual	\$15.00	Sustaining	\$25.00
Family	\$20.00	Institutional	\$30.00
Contributing	\$50.00		

Why Be a Member?

- Receive monthly issues of *The Forked Tongue*
- Meet individuals knowledgeable about herpetoculture
- Have access to captive-bred herps and feeder animals
- Participate in society-sponsored field trips, and outings.
- Receive a 10% discount on herp-related items and services when you show a valid membership card at the following establishments:

Delhi Pet Center	(513) 451-4015
Kentucky Reptile Zoo	(606) 663-9160
Harrison Pet Center	(513) 367-1115
All Creatures Animal Hospital	(513) 797-7387
Dr. Dahlhausen's	(513) 576-1990

P.O. Box 14783
Cincinnati, OH 45250

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