

EDITORIALS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NON-PEER REVIEW SECTION

FIRST BUSINESS MEETING AND SOCIAL OF HERPETOLOGICAL CONSERVATION AND BIOLOGY

GOVERNING BOARD

Herpetological Conservation and Biology

We convened the first Business Meeting and a Gala Social Event on Sunday afternoon 26 July 2009 (Fig. 1). This meeting was part of the *Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (JMIH)* held in late July 2009 in Portland, Oregon, USA. *Herpetological Conservation and Biology (HCB)* was one of three participating organizations to the *JMIH* gathering, which is an important step of its own.

Our meeting was convened on the patio of the Cheerful Bullpen Bar and Grill, sister establishment of the Cheerful Tortoise. Besides being within walking distance to the larger *JMIH*, we selected the site based on value (best prices in town on microbrews and a table of finger food), its relaxed atmosphere, and a visit by the

‘Tortoise’ mascot (Fig. 2). Attendees enjoyed the environs. We held a short business meeting to announce several matters of wide concern or interest:

1. We thanked all who attended, and we toasted our mutual comradeship in the success of *Herpetological Conservation and Biology*. The Governing Board was especially appreciative to the entire Editorial staff and Editorial Guild for their input, help, and enthusiasm because the journal would not have been possible without their efforts.

2. Each attendee then introduced themselves and their role in *Herpetological Conservation and Biology* (e.g.,



FIGURE 1. Attendees at the first meeting and social for *Herpetological Conservation and Biology*. See Table 1 for names of those photographed.

Herpetological Conservation and Biology 4(3):iii-iv. Editorials and Announcements.

TABLE 1. Attendees at the first meeting and social for *Herpetological Conservation and Biology*. Names are listed as they appear in the photograph from left to right (Fig. 1).

Front Row	David Bradford, Malcolm McCallum, Robert Lovich, Karen Pope, Hartwell Welsh, and Roy Averill-Murray (at table)
Second Row	Richard Inman (mostly blocked), Todd Esque, Kristina Drake, Bridgette Hagerty, Gerald Johnston, Dick Vogt, and Sharyn Marks.
Third Row	Unknown, Greg Green, Marc Hayes, and Will Selman.
Back Row	Glenn R. Stewart (standing), Joe Mitchell, J. Sean Doody, Brian Horne, Andrew D. Walde, Raymond A. Saumure, David J. Germano, Stan Trauth, Gwen Bury, David M. Green, and R. Bruce Bury (far right).
Far left, under tent	Stan Hillman (Co-Chair, Local Host Committee, JMIH), Robert Brodman (just behind Hillman), Harvey Lillywhite, Nancy Karraker, David Sever, Phil Medica (sitting), Fred Janzen (just over Sever's shoulder)

Associate Editor) or as a guest.

3. All members of the Governing Board were present and we spoke to several issues:

—Malcolm McCallum, Managing Editor, presented an overview of our history, structure, etc. Three issues of *Herpetological Conservation and Biology* will be released in 2009 compared to two issues in prior years.

—Stan Trauth, Special Sections Editor, reported that *Herpetological Conservation and Biology* is working on two special issues with expected release of material in early 2010. These issues represent products of the two symposia we co-sponsored at the World Congress of Herpetology in Manaus, Brazil, in August 2008.

—Raymond Saumure, Section Editor, summarized the

production and distribution of archival issues (hard bound) of *Herpetological Conservation and Biology* to major museum and university libraries in the United States, Canada, and Europe. The effort is supported by The Springs Reserve, Las Vegas, Nevada.

—Bruce Bury, Editor-in-Chief, spoke for the Governing Board and proudly announced that *Herpetological Conservation and Biology* had published > 100 articles since its first issue in Fall 2006. We raised our glasses in a group toast.

We also introduced the other two Board members present: David Bradford and David Germano.

4. Although some were shy or not wanting recognition, the Editor-in-Chief noted the intensity and long hours provided by the core editorial team. Thus, R.B. Bury, on



FIGURE 2. Nancy Karraker (left) and Sharyn Marks pose with the Cheerful Bullpen Bar and Grill's tortoise mascot at the *Herpetological Conservation and Biology* meeting in Portland, Oregon, USA.

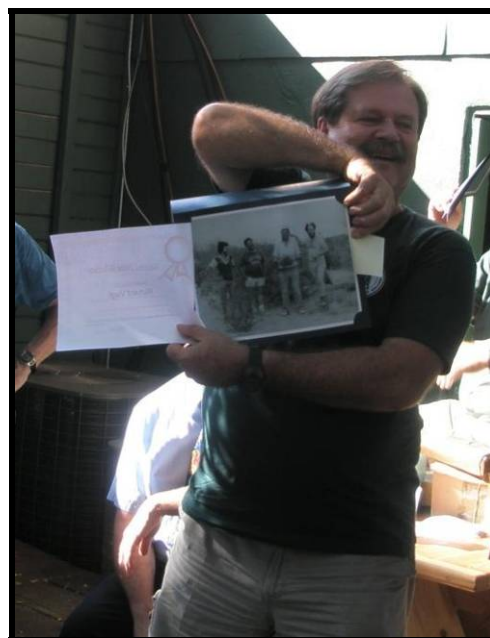


FIGURE 3. Dick Vogt receives a gift from the old days!



FIGURE 4. Left to right: Brian Horne, Will Selman, Raymond A. Saumure, and J. Sean Doody.



FIGURE 5. Left to right: Andrew D. Walde, Todd Esque, and David J. Germano.



FIGURE 6. Left to right: Glenn R. Stewart and Phil Medica.



FIGURE 7. Left to right: Kristina Drake, Roy Averill-Murray, and Joe Mitchell.



FIGURE 8. Left to right: Mascot and Governing Board members Stan Trauth, Malcolm McCallum, David J. Germano, R. Bruce Bury, and Raymond A. Saumure.



FIGURE 9. Left to right: Sharyn Marks, Nancy Karraker, Hart Welsh, Amy Lind, and Governing Board member David Bradford.

behalf of all supporters and members of *HCB*, made several well-deserved presentations:

Award of Appreciation for 'Selfless Dedication to HCB as an Associate and Section Editor 2006–2009'

David J. Germano
Raymond A. Saumure
Stanley E. Trauth

Special Achievement Award for "Exemplary and Dedicated Effort as the HCB Managing Editor in Its Formative Years 2006–2009".

Malcolm L. McCallum

Further, we made two presentations to some of our members who travelled far to attend the meetings of *HCB* and *JMIH* in Portland and for some levity:

Foreign Language Award for “Almost Mastering Australian, Matey.”

Sean Doody (Post-doc in Australia)

Second Place Winner “You Will Always be Underrated, So Get Used to It” and “If We Knew What We Were Doing, It Wouldn’t be Called Research. A. Einstein”

Richard Vogt

Dick also received a copy of the infamous photograph of his mentor (Fig. 3), Clarence “Jack” McCoy, standing in the Bolson de Mapimi, Durango, Mexico, alongside some his compatriots: Gustavo Aquirre (then at the Mexican Instituto de Ecología), Bruce Bury (holding an adult Bolson Tortoise with both hands, so defenseless), and David Morafka (with one finger in his belly button and the other one stuck in Bury’s ear). The scene produced a huge smile on Jack’s face. Both McCoy and Morafka are no longer with us,

yet would have been major leaders in *Herpetological Conservation and Biology* because of their passion for field work and herpetological natural history.

We then had a photo session, samples of which are included here (Fig. 1–9). We now realize that this event had more of a party atmosphere than a formal business meeting; yet, we wanted a mix of functions at our first get together. Many of us had not met one another in person, and we were finally able to talk face-to-face. Future conventions may require more of the traditional ‘business meeting’ atmosphere (e.g., 2–4 h in a closed room); yet, we hope time is found to sit around a table with a pint in hand (or other beverage of choice) and talk to one another. We wanted this meeting to be a time to update attendees of progress; as well as, serve for congratulations to all who have worked so diligently to make our fledging journal a huge success. You have made our online *gratis* experiment work. The journal *Herpetological Conservation and Biology* is truly off to a flying start!