

28th Annual Meetings of the Tennessee Herpetological Society
29 - 30 September 2022
Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, TN

Business Meeting Notes
Recorded by Jessica Grady

Award Recipients

Congratulations to the 2022 recipient of the Chad Lewis Memorial Grant: **Julia Thulander** from Tennessee Tech University. She will use the funds to study thermal adaptation of *Ambystoma barbouri* during early development.

Three students received Niemiller Travel Awards this year: **Timothy Calhoun** from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, **Kaitlyn Murphy** from Auburn University, and **Lydia Dudley** from Tennessee Tech University.

The award for best student poster was given to **Ori Bergman** from Middle Tennessee State University for presenting results on the interactions between skin bacteria and the snake fungal disease pathogen (*Ophidiomyces ophiodiicola*) across a nutrient gradient mimicking host skin chemistry.

The award for best student oral presentation was presented to **Marley Machara** of Tennessee State University for presenting results on the comparing survival rate from two field seasons of reintroduced zoo-raised Eastern Hellbenders.

The Bob Hatcher Conservation award was given to **O. Ray Jordan**, retired faculty from Tennessee Tech University.

Awards Committee Report

Stephen Nelson informed the society of the committee's plans to add verbiage to the Chadwick Lewis Grant application encouraging historically underrepresented groups to apply. Per decision at the previous meeting, the grant is now a \$1000 award.

Outreach and Social Media Committee

Lisa Powers and Carlin Frost continue to be actively involved in the society's social media presence. Please follow and interact with the Tennessee Herp Society on Facebook, Instagram (@tnherpsociety), and Twitter (@TennesseeHerper).

Treasurer's Report

As of the meeting date, the balance in the checking account was \$7,084.69 and the investment balance was \$25,572.52. These balances reflect the movement of funds from the checking account to the investment account, as approved at the previous meeting.

New Business

Lisa Powers requested the formation of a new committee to consider the effects of current laws regarding venomous snakes on research progress. The motion was approved and Lisa Powers, Aubrey Hill, Danny Bryan, and Bill Sutton were appointed to the committee.

Kristen Cecala, *in absentia*, requested to pass the responsibility of editor for the Tennessee Journal of Herpetology to a successor. A motion was approved to appoint co-editors to replace her. Matt Grisnik and Joshua Hall were appointed as co-editors, and they will assume responsibility for the journal in January of 2023.

Elections

Vice President: Stephen Nelson
Treasurer: Chris Ogle
Middle TN Representative: Matt Grisnik
East TN Representative: Scott Dykes

2023 Annual Meeting: September 28-29
Discovery Park of America, Union City, TN