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Newsletter of the American Society of  
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Summer 2009

## American Society of Parasitologists Newsletter, v. 31, no. 2, Summer 2009

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ASP Newsletter

Vol 31. No. 2.

Summer, 2009

The American Society of Parasitologists

# Newsletter

*Published Quarterly by the American Society of  
Parasitologists*

**ASP Newsletter:** Released on the ASP web-server  
[\[http://asp.unl.edu\]](http://asp.unl.edu) 14 September, 2009

## From the *Editor* of the Newsletter

Consider publishing your parasite poems, posting a link to your favorite "parasite lecture," providing an actual parasite lecture, or otherwise send "something" in to the editor. Your contribution is valuable and anything sent in to me will be considered for publication. See below.

Advertising rates are variable - contact the editor for information.

Sincerely,

Scott Lyell Gardner, Ph.D.  
Editor

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## CONTENTS

Pages	Topic
1.	Editors note and contents.
2.	Field Photography.
3.	The Dick and John Column!
7.	Report from the AIBS - public policy
17.	Book Review. Coccidia of Snakes.
21.	Poetry.
23.	JOBS.
24.	Credits / ASP Affiliates.

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## FIELD PHOTOGRAPHY



Figure 1. The most dangerous road known to humans (from La Paz to Coroico, Bolivia). This is a two way road, but many times the road is not wide enough for two trucks to pass so one ends up backing up to a turn out, shown here. This is typical Yungas habitat in the Departamento de La Paz, Bolivia.



## THE DICK AND JOHN COLUMN

### COLUMN 9: HOW TO GIVE YOUR SPOUSE REASON FOR JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDE aka "I didn't have a plan" RETIREMENT

HELP ME Dick & John:

My husband has just retired from the University. Before retirement he spent most of the day over at the University doing his thing, while I spent the day working at home. However, since retirement he is constantly under my feet. He follows me around the house just like our old dog. He makes suggestions on how I can better dust, wash the clothes, redesign my letter head for a business I run from our home, etc. HE EVEN TRIED TO TELL ME HOW TO BACK THE CAR OUT OF THE GARAGE! I explained to him that I had been backing the car out of this particular garage for thirty years with out a scratch and he did not need to instruct me now!

During his career, he was an active investigator with graduate students and lecturer of hundreds of students each year. I believe because of his experimental background he wishes to test the work of others and many times will suggest, for example, that I try different detergents and compare them with what I have used for years. He also wants me to take notes concerning any differences in the success in spot removal, their lasting power and even to do a cost analysis. He has also made some other suggestions that I can not print in polite society.

He is a great guy and I love him dearly, but he is driving me absolutely crazy. I have tried to use several of the suggestions that you mentioned in your columns but none of them have worked. Can you suggest any other ideas and help me. If I can not find a way out of this situation, he may find himself sharing the same garbage dumpster with his old reprint files.

Signed: Simply overwhelmed



Dear Simply overwhelmed:

Take a deep breath, we have seen this problem before, and we think we can help. Please remove the thoughts of homicide from your mind. It is likely that your spouse is still the wonderful person you married. We find his behavior is not unusual. The poor guy is simply out of his routine and has not yet found a suitable substitute for all his energy. Remember for the 30 years or more of his career, he was devoted to his teaching, students, research, and writing publications. All that has all been lost in a matter of weeks, and if he ignored your question "what are you going to do after you retire?" we commonly find exprofessors showing signs of the trying-to-run-my-home-as-my-laboratory phenomenon.

So what you need to do is help him find a new vocation that he can be engaged in. Previously we have made a number of suggestions, from becoming politically active, making creative sculptures with lawn shrubs, even to creatively using his old paper clips to make jewelry and Christmas ornaments. Since none of these seem to have been of interest to the Professor Emeritus, we have tried very hard to come up with additional ideas. They are listed below.

1.) Since experimentation was a big part of his life, one suggestion would be bird watching. In this capacity, he can sit on the porch with binoculars and take notes on bird numbers, different species, and even bird behavior. By altering the type of bird food, he can begin to experiment with differences in the type of birds attracted, etc. Writing up the observation for the Audubon Society will ease his transition from manuscript writing and publication. We do have a warning to share with this activity. We know that just trying to keep the @#%# squirrels out of the bird feeders has been an intellectual challenge for Dick. (Some of the authors are more challenged than others.) The score is currently squirrels 9, Dick 1 in reference to winning that battle. It can be frustrating so make sure the Professor Emeritus is in good physical shape and not prone to cardiovascular problems. Dick has stated that if he already did not enjoy a good drink, the squirrel problem would have driven him there anyway. The only other damper to this activity is what the neighbors will think about someone constantly using binoculars that seem too point directly at their back yard. By planting the appropriate shrubs this problem can be eliminated. A final warning: we do not recommend that he take the binoculars, camera and notebook when you vacation at the beach. There the definition of bird watching can take on very different connotations and can cause the involvement of the constabulary.

2.) A second suggestion would be to insure that his job jar is always full and involved jobs that get him out of the house, i.e., like taking the garbage to the dump, or mow the lawn, wash the car, etc. Both of us know how effective this tactic can be. The voice of reason keeps telling us that "Now that you are retired and have all that free time you can get to do some of those chores that you need to do but never had time for". We suggest that you start conversation at the breakfast table with, "I added several more to jobs to your 'to-do' list. Which ones will you be doing today? It is amazing how quickly he will find ways to be busy that did not involve



our job jars. We know that from personal experience. If your spouse's problem of finding activities remains an issue, our spouses have found that asking the question about which job will be done the night before forces a little fore planning and it will become a matter of habit in no time: "Oh, I can't work on those jobs, I am playing golf." In fact now that same voice says "Why can I never find you when I need you." So, this suggestion can be a double edged sword. In fact, we know of at least one case in which the recipient of a full job jar gave their spouse an equally full job jar in return. OUCH, that hurts!

3.) A third suggestion is to find some way that the Professor Emeritus can feel creative. One possibility is to suggest that they cook the evening meals. Flattery will help, "Dear, you always enjoyed cooking and your meals are always so delicious, possibly you could even write a cook book." Assuming that they really can cook eatable meals this could satisfy their creativity, keep him restricted to the kitchen, or out of the house shopping for the evening meals and if the old saying "One glass of wine for the pot, and one for me" is in effect, it will certainly keep the old professor in a good mood and make for very pleasant evenings! For those of you considering this, be aware that there are still many males of retirement age that know little about the kitchen and you may find that you are eating some very original recipes, such as train wreck, left-overs mélange, and meals at which you may be tempted to say, "I've never seen that green thing before?" A copy of Dick's cook book may help those Emeritus Professors, unfamiliar with the kitchen. [We need to know where we can purchase a copy of this book! -ed.] We hear [hear? Ed.] the crab dip is outstanding. One more warning John has found that if you are involved in cooking, DO NOT, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, REORDER THE KITCHEN SHELVES AND DRAWER FOR YOU LOGICAL COOKING STYLE. Note retiree cooks, you are a guest in a foreign land and even though it makes sense and you are tempted to put all the spatulas in one drawer, do not do it! The ensuing disruption of marital harmony is not worth it.

4.) One final suggestion will give your spouse an opportunity to use his experimental approach. Get him interested in gardening. It can serve four purposes: One, it will get him out of the house; two, it can be very creative; it can help to insure a good diet lastly; lastly, it does not necessarily involve using dangerous instruments. If one goes to the local garden center, you will find as many as a dozen different varieties of tomato plants. Each one has a different color, different size, shape and taste. If one buys several of each different variety, the Professor can test each one for its ability to grow in your area and for all its other properties. Each type of plant can be obtained in all sorts of varieties. It does not matter if it is flowers, shrubs, trees or vegetables, there will be not end of possibilities to stimulate the active mind. The advantage to this activity is that it takes months and sometime years to get observations and correlate results. In addition, if one gets on the appropriate mailing lists, you can probably receive one seed catalog each week. If you put them away they will make good reading material on those dark cold winter nights. There are also catalogs and books about starting plants from seeds, building greenhouses, appropriate lighting for starting plants

indoors, even about plant parasites, a whole new world for the animal parasitologist. Once started you could have fresh vegetables all year long. It is good physical and mental labor and after a full day of digging in the garden or reading a long essay on the appropriate fertilizer for the growth of asparagus, the old professor would probably be too tired to think about some of those unprintable suggestions that were made to you.

Signed: Dick and John,

**If we can not help with your  
retirement problems,  
perhaps no one can.**







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## **AIBS PUBLIC POLICY REPORT**

AIBS Public Policy Report - Report from the American Institute of Biological Sciences

Volume 10, Issue 18, August 31, 2009

- NSF announces new ethics rules
- Five-year plan for USGS climate wildlife science center released
- NSF accepting comments on environmental impacts of NEON
- NOAA asks the public to help share its future
- Funding available for ocean exploration
- From the Federal Register
- In the AIBS Bookstore
- Now in BioScience - "A Rising Tide of Support for a National Climate Service"
- Become an advocate for science: Join the AIBS Legislative Action Center

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The AIBS Public Policy Report is distributed broadly by email every two weeks to the AIBS membership. Any interested party may self-subscribe to receive these free reports by email or RSS news feed, by going to [www.aibs.org](http://www.aibs.org) and clicking on Public Policy Reports.

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### **NSF ANNOUNCES NEW ETHICS RULES**

On 20 August 2009, the National Science Foundation (NSF) announced plans for implementation of Section 7009 of the America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science Act (America COMPETES Act), which was signed into law in 2007. This section of the law requires that "each institution that applies for financial assistance from the [National Science] Foundation for science and engineering research or education describe in its grant proposal a plan to provide appropriate training and oversight in the responsible and ethical conduct of research to





undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers participating in the proposed research project." These requirements will be instituted as of 4 January 2010 for all research proposals submitted to NSF. The agency will not require that training plans are included in proposals, but they are subject to review upon request. The new policy will be formally described in the NSF Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide (PAPPG).

During the public comment period for the new guidelines, 188 comments were received. Included among these were concerns about guidance for training and online resources. NSF noted that it does not intend to issue standards for training, recognizing that such standards will depend upon the needs of each institution and circumstance. Therefore, guidelines for training will be left to individual institutions. NSF also noted that supports two websites that will provide resources on ethics education in science and engineering. These online resources will serve as a foundation for ethics education in science and engineering. The resource will contain community-developed information on research findings, pedagogical materials, and promising practices regarding the ethical and responsible conduct of research, and will be used to train future generations of scientists and engineers.

#### FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR USGS CLIMATE WILDLIFE SCIENCE CENTER RELEASED

Plans for the National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center (NCCWSC) continue to take shape. The Center was established at the United States Geological Survey (USGS) in 2008 with funds appropriated by Congress. In 2008, the agency formed an interim steering committee to develop guidelines and identify priorities for the Center. In fiscal year 2009, Congress provided a total of \$10 million to support the development of NCCWSC.

Following a series of national and regional workshops held since December 2008, the Center completed a draft 5-year strategy document on 13 July 2009. This document outlines the Center's history, mission, goals, science priorities, operations, and governance, and details how both the national office and regional hubs will work closely with science and resource partners and partner advisory groups. As described, the NCCWSC will be comprised of a small national office supporting a network of regional hubs across the country. The primary functions of the national office will be to provide leadership and direction for the Center's science, information management, and communication efforts, coordinate with USGS and national partners, support the advisory board, develop minimum guidance and national



standards, facilitate and fund research on national-level information on the effects of climate change on wildlife and aquatic resources, promote collaboration between hubs, and synthesize and deliver results to the conservation community.

The hubs will work to create models and tools that link physical factors with biological and ecological response variables, to develop response models and projections for priority species and habitats, to help partners define ecological outcomes and endpoints for their adaptation activities, and to facilitate and fund research on the effects of climate change on wildlife and aquatic resources. These hubs will be located at non-USGS institutions, such as universities, and will be selected based upon the interests of hosts and partners. Current resources for the NCCWSC are sufficient to support the establishment of three to four hubs.

The Center also announced that the internal Request for Proposals to conduct integrated, multi-scale research was strong, with over 150 proposals submitted. These proposals ranged from comprehensive, collaborative, multi-scale projects to population assessment and analysis at regional and local scales. Proposal funding decisions were announced on 21 August 2009.

For more information on the NCCWSC and the proposal awards, go to <http://nccw.usgs.gov/>.

#### NSF ACCEPTING COMMENTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF NEON

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has requested public comment on its preliminary environmental assessment for the National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON). The proposed network would collect ecological and climatic observations in all 50 states and Puerto Rico. NSF expects the environmental impacts of NEON to be minimal, given that the program "would use existing infrastructure and research programs to the extent possible." The proposed network will consist of environmental sensors and research experiments, linked by cyber infrastructure to record and archive ecological data. Permanent core sites will collect stream, soil, climate, and biota data for a 30-year period, whereas temporary sampling sites will collect data over periods of 3 to 5 years.

Two public meetings will be held in September to provide information regarding NEON. The first meeting will be held on 15 September 2009 in



Arlington, Virginia, and the second meeting will be held on 17 September 2009 in Boulder, Colorado. Both meetings will be webcast. For information on how to participate in the public meeting via the internet, please visit [http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=13440](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=13440).

To view the preliminary environmental assessment or to submit comments, visit [www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=13440](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=13440). Public comments will be accepted through 28 September 2009.

## NOAA ASKS THE PUBLIC TO HELP SHAPE ITS FUTURE

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is seeking public input for the development of its Next Generation Strategic Plan, a blueprint for how NOAA will meet the needs of the nation and the world in the coming decades. In a short survey, stakeholders are asked to provide thoughts and insights on the trends that will shape NOAA's future, the challenges and opportunities NOAA will face, and what NOAA should strive to accomplish. NOAA employees, stakeholders, and partners in academia, government, private industry and nonprofit organizations are welcome to participate. To take the survey, go to [www.noaa.gov/ngsp](http://www.noaa.gov/ngsp) by 11 September 2009.

## FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR OCEAN EXPLORATION

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has announced the availability of \$3 million for grants "to search, investigate, and document poorly-known and unknown areas of the ocean and Great Lakes through interdisciplinary exploration, and to advance and disseminate knowledge of the ocean environment and its physical, chemical, and biological resources." Funds will only be awarded to exploratory proposals. Pre-proposals are due by 8 October 2009. For more information, go to [http://www.aibs.org/federal-register-resource/2009\\_08\\_28.html#011132](http://www.aibs.org/federal-register-resource/2009_08_28.html#011132).

## FROM THE FEDERAL REGISTER

The following items appeared in the Federal Register from 17 to 28 August 2009. For more information on these or other recent items, please visit the AIBS Federal Register Resource at [www.aibs.org/federal-register-resource/index.html](http://www.aibs.org/federal-register-resource/index.html).

## WEEK ENDING 21 AUGUST 2009

## AGRICULTURE



-National Aquatic Animal Health Plan for the United States; Notice of Availability

-Soil and Water Resources Conservation Act

#### COMMERCE

-Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program--Re-opening of FY 2010 Competition

-Taking and Importing Marine Mammals: Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Navy Operations of Surveillance Towed Array Sensor System Low Frequency Active Sonar

#### ENERGY

-Biological and Environmental Research Advisory Committee

#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

-Availability of the External Peer Review Draft of Using Probabilistic Methods To Enhance the Role of Risk Analysis in Decision- Making With Case Study Examples

-Gulf of Mexico Program Citizens Advisory Committee

-Regulation of Fuels and Fuel Additives: Changes to Renewable Fuel Standard Program; Notice of Availability of Expert Peer Review Record

-Science Advisory Board Staff Office; Notification of an Upcoming Meeting of the Science Advisory Board; Ecological Processes and Effects Committee

-Science Advisory Board Staff Office; Notification of Two Public Teleconference Meetings of the Chartered Science Advisory Board

#### HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

-National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences; Notice of Meeting

-Notice of Meeting: Secretary's Advisory Committee on Genetics, Health, and Society

-Office of the Director, National Institutes of Health; Notice of Meeting

#### INTERIOR

-Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Partial 90-Day Finding on a Petition To List 206 Species in the Midwest and Western United States as Threatened or Endangered with Critical Habitat

#### NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

-Responsible Conduct of Research

WEEK ENDING 28 AUGUST 2009



## ARCTIC RESEARCH COMMISSION

-Arctic Research Commission; Meeting

## COMMERCE

-Applications for the FY 2010 Ocean Exploration (OE) Program  
-Fisheries in the Western Pacific; Bottomfish and Seamount Groundfish Fisheries; 2009-10 Main Hawaiian Islands Bottomfish Total Allowable Catch  
-Listing Endangered and Threatened Species: Change in Status for the Upper Columbia River Steelhead Distinct Population Segment  
-Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Experimental Permitting Process, Exempted Fishing Permits, and Scientific Research Activity

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

-Science Advisory Board Staff Office; Notification of an Upcoming Teleconference of the Science Advisory Board Committee on Science Integration for Decision Making

## HOMELAND SECURITY

-Standards for Living Organisms in Ships' Ballast Water Discharged in U.S. Waters  
-Standards for Living Organisms in Ships' Ballast Water Discharged in U.S. Waters; Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

## INTERIOR

-Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; 90-Day Finding on a Petition To List the Black-Footed Albatross (*Phoebastria nigripes*) as Threatened or Endangered  
-Notice of Public Meeting, North Slope Science Initiative--Science Technical Advisory Panel  
-Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board; Meeting

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

-Advisory Committee for International Science & Engineering; Notice of Meeting

## IN THE AIBS BOOKSTORE

- "COMMUNICATING SCIENCE: A PRIMER FOR WORKING WITH THE MEDIA"

Evolution, climate change, stem cell research -- Scientists are frequently called upon to provide expert information on hot button issues that pervade the daily news headlines, yet most find themselves woefully unprepared for



the bright lights of the television studio or leading questions from a newspaper journalist. A new publication from AIBS, "Communicating Science: A Primer for Working with the Media," by Holly Menninger and Robert Gropp in the Public Policy Office, will prepare scientists for successful and effective media interviews.

Recognizing that many scientists are reluctant to engage in media outreach, "Communicating Science" outlines compelling reasons for scientists to interact with the media and describes key differences between journalism and science that may not be apparent to practicing scientists. Step-by-step, Menninger and Gropp walk scientists through the entire interview process - from appropriate questions to ask when a reporter calls to practical advice for looking and sounding one's best on-air or on-camera.

The information and advice in "Communicating Science" is presented in eight easy-to-read chapters that provide vital information for scientists new to media outreach, as well as a quick refresher for seasoned experts - an ideal text for a graduate course on science communication or a professional development course for students and faculty. The primer's authors speak from their own experiences as PhD scientists in the biological sciences with years of experience in media outreach.

The concise, user-friendly volume has several unique features that set it apart from other media guides for scientists. "Communicating Science" includes first-person interviews with nearly a dozen scientists who have successfully navigated print, radio, and television interviews. The scientists-including the "Island Snake Lady," Kristin Stanford, recently featured on the Discovery Channel show, "Dirty Jobs" - share advice and experiences on a number of topics, including safely speaking on behalf of an organization, avoiding trouble when discussing socially or politically controversial topics, and reflections on first interviews.

"Communicating Science" also provides worksheets to assist readers with interview preparation: building a message framework with talking points and transition phrases, developing analogies, and using illustrative props or images. It includes pages for readers to organize contact information of journalists with whom they have worked directly and those who have reported on stories related to their own research to keep as potential contacts for future story pitches.

"Communicating Science: A Primer for Working with the Media" is available now at [www.aibs.org/bookstore/](http://www.aibs.org/bookstore/).



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## NOW IN BIOSCIENCE - "A RISING TIDE OF SUPPORT FOR A NATIONAL CLIMATE SERVICE"

In the July/August 2009 issue of BioScience, Robert Gropp reports on growing support for the creation of a new federal program to coordinate and synthesize climate information. An excerpt from the article follows, but the complete article (along with prior Washington Watch columns) may be viewed for free at [/www.aibs.org/washington-watch/](http://www.aibs.org/washington-watch/).

Climate change is a hot topic in the halls of Congress. News coverage has centered on the Waxman-Markey climate change bill, The American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 (HR 2454), which the House passed by a slim margin-219 to 212-on 26 June. The House Committee on Science and Technology has also been busy, crafting legislation to create a National Climate Service.

Hot air emanating from some media talking heads might lead the casual observer to believe that Congress routinely creates new agencies; in fact, however, lawmakers rarely direct the establishment of a new federal office. Nonetheless, stakeholders ranging from scientists to local utility managers have been encouraging Congress to create a new climate forecasting function-a "National Climate Service" or "Climate Services Program," which would be housed in NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration).

To continue reading this article for free, visit  
[http://www.aibs.org/washington-watch/washington\\_watch\\_2009\\_07.html](http://www.aibs.org/washington-watch/washington_watch_2009_07.html).

## BECOME AN ADVOCATE FOR SCIENCE: JOIN THE AIBS LEGISLATIVE ACTION CENTER

Quick, free, easy, effective, impactful! Join the AIBS Legislative Action Center today!

The American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS) has launched the AIBS Legislative Action Center. The online resource allows biologists and science educators to quickly and effectively influence policy and public opinion. The AIBS Legislative Action Center is located at [www.aibs.org/public-policy/legislative\\_action\\_center.html](http://www.aibs.org/public-policy/legislative_action_center.html).

This new tool is made possible through contributions from the Society for the Study of Evolution, American Society for Limnology and Oceanography,





Association of Ecosystem Research Centers, and the Botanical Society of America.

Each day lawmakers must make tough decisions about science policy. For example, what investments to make in federal research programs, biodiversity conservation, how to mitigate climate change, or under what circumstances to permit stem cell research. Scientists now have the opportunity to help elected officials understand these issues.

This exciting new advocacy tool allows individuals to quickly and easily communicate with members of Congress, executive branch officials, and selected media outlets.

AIBS and our partner organizations invite scientists and science educators to become a policy advocate today. Simply go to <http://capwiz.com/aibs/home/> to send a prepared letter or to sign up to receive periodic Action Alerts.

For additional information about the AIBS Legislative Action Center, please visit [http://www.aibs.org/public-policy/legislative\\_action\\_center.html](http://www.aibs.org/public-policy/legislative_action_center.html). To further help AIBS advance biology and science education, consider joining AIBS. To learn about other membership benefits and to join AIBS online, please visit [www.aibs.org](http://www.aibs.org).

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- Give your society or organization a voice in public policy. See [http://www.aibs.org/public-policy/funding\\_contributors.html](http://www.aibs.org/public-policy/funding_contributors.html)
  - Become an AIBS Individual Member and lend your voice to a national effort to advance the biological sciences through public policy, education, and science programs. Visit <http://www.aibs.org/individual-membership/> to join AIBS.
  - Become an advocate for science, visit the AIBS Legislative Action Center at <http://capwiz.com/aibs/home/>
  - Know the news as it happens, sign-up to receive AIBS press releases and policy statements (<http://www.aibs.org/media-inquiries/>).

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scientific association dedicated to advancing biological research and education for the welfare of society. Founded in 1947 as a part of the National Academy of Sciences, AIBS became an independent, member-governed organization in the 1950s. Today, with headquarters in Washington, DC, and a staff of approximately 50, AIBS is sustained by a robust membership of some 5,000 biologists and 200 professional societies and scientific organizations; the combined individual membership of the latter exceeds 250,000. AIBS advances its mission through coalition activities in research, education, and public policy; publishing the peer-reviewed journal *BioScience* and the education website [ActionBioscience.org](http://ActionBioscience.org); providing scientific peer review and advisory services to government agencies and other clients; convening meetings; and managing scientific programs. Website: [www.aibs.org](http://www.aibs.org).

## BOOK REVIEW

In this newsletter we have a review of the very popular book “The Biology of the Coccidia (Apicomplexa) of Snakes of the World” by Don Duszynski and Steve Upton.

See: <https://www.createspace.com/Customer/EStore.do?id=3388533> to order your copies!

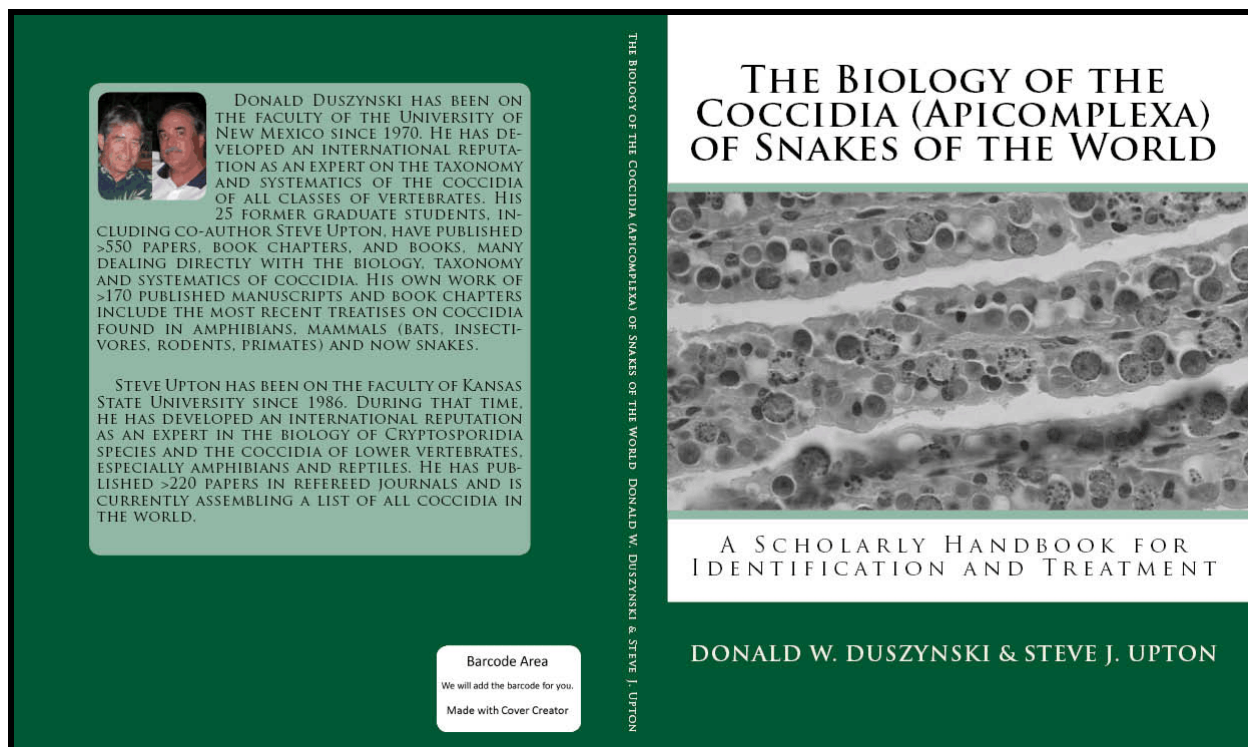


Figure 2. Front and back cover of “Biology of the coccidia (Apicomplexa) of snakes of the world.”



Don and Steve's book has been reviewed by several eminent scientists, so I will not add my personal review here, but will just reprint theirs:

*The authors hold first rank among the world-class parasitologists who study coccidia. Both have published extensively in the best peer-reviewed journals. The senior author has set a gold standard for critical studies on these apicomplexans. The writing style is exactly at a level consistent with the kind of book presented here. The "jargon" required for reading the material is readily comprehended and properly explained. Both authors are meticulous in their work, and this book is further evidence of that characteristic of them. There are no omissions. The emphasis is balanced. This is the sort of book that serves as a source for those who write college-level textbooks. It is also an invaluable source both for parasitologists and herpetologists. [This book] should be in the library of every research university. Also, both parasitologists and herpetologists would find the material at least useful, and in some cases, essential to have at hand.* **William C. Marquardt, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Zoology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523.**

*Both authors have had many years of experience in research on the identification, description, biology and taxonomy of the Coccidia, and are known as experts in this field. They have published extensively on this group of parasites, and most certainly have the necessary technical ability to write on this subject. The text is written in a good, even and eminently understandable writing style, the subject is covered very thoroughly and logically, and I note no serious omissions or over-emphasis on any aspect of their text. The information is up-to-date, the illustrations are appropriate and the references are current and adequate. [This book] fills a distinct void in available information on the coccidian parasites of snakes and will make a very useful text-book. I am not aware of a better or similar text or title on this subject, [and I] enthusiastically recommended it.* **Prof. Ralph Lainson OBE, DSc, FRS, Avenida Visconde de Souza Franco 1237, Apto 902, 66053-000 Belém, Pará, Brazil.**

*The authors are renowned experts on the coccidian parasites of vertebrates. They have published extensively in this field (including primary publications on the coccidia of snakes and other reptiles) and likely know the literature better than any other coccidiologists. The writing is clear and concise—ideal for this subject. For instance, the **Remarks** section for *Caryospora simplex* contains many taxonomically important details, but they are presented lucidly and with great economy. Thus, the publication will be useful to a wide variety of workers who may not have extensive training in parasitology, e.g., veterinarians, zoo professionals, etc. The subject has been covered thoroughly and in a manner that is very concise and logical. The sections for the hosts and their respective coccidia are well-organized and well-written. I found no omissions and no topics were overemphasized. I used our college*



library's database search engines and found no recent publications that were not included in the chapters I read. The illustrations are very nicely organized and work well with the material presented in the chapter. To my knowledge, there is nothing of this scope that is available to date. **John A. Hnida, Ph.D., Professor of Biology, Department of Natural Science, Peru State College, Peru, Nebraska 68421.**

Both authors are famous and reputable specialists in this field. They have worked on coccidian parasites for decades, described/redescribed many coccidia species from many hosts, their morphology, life-cycles and phylogenetic relationships. They published reviews on coccidia from many host groups (e.g., insectivores, chiropterans, etc.), including the largest online database of Coccidia of the World (<http://biology.unm.edu/biology/coccidia/home.html>). The work is written understandably and lucidly, in accordance with the established and generally accepted rules for description of coccidian parasites. The chapter I reviewed (Chapter 6) is covered very thoroughly with no omissions and no overemphasis on any aspect. The information is up to date. It summarizes the present knowledge on coccidia of snakes, covering all available information from the early beginnings (1930's) up until now. The illustrations are appropriate, [as] they are adopted from the original descriptions of coccidia species. **Jana Kvicerova, DVM, Institute of Parasitology, Biology Centre, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Branisovska 31, 370 05 Ceske Budejovice, Czech Republic.**

Both authors are the leading experts in this field. The book is well written and in a logical progression. The authors combine the biology of the hosts and parasites in a logical manner which is critical for a work such as this. This is the most comprehensive coverage of the subject material I have seen, and it is organized in a logical manner, without omissions and without overemphasizing any particular group. Clearly this is a very well written and concise document considering its comprehensive coverage. The information is up to date (2008). Both of these authors contain the world collection of literature on the subject matter, which is scattered in a variety of obscure journals and is difficult to obtain. To my knowledge none is omitted from the document. The illustrations are critical to the quality of this publication. Additionally they are arranged in a logical and concise format throughout the document. This book can most certainly be adopted as a text book for advanced herpetology and parasitology courses as well as specialty courses in protozoology, coccidian biology, and veterinary medicine. This book will be the definitive source on the biology of the coccidia of snakes for the next decade or more. **Matthew G. Bolek Ph.D., Department of Zoology, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK 74078.**

This book is exceptionally well written at a level appropriate for the target audience. The authors, Duszynski and Upton, are world leaders in the study of the taxonomy and systematics of this important parasite group. Their work has set the standard for others researching the coccidia and this book adheres closely to that standard. The writing style is clear and concise and importantly the authors follow



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*the clear description format they helped established for taxonomic research on the Coccidia. The text covers all that is known about coccidia in snakes and clearly identifies gaps in knowledge. Given the rapidity of publication in today's digitized/internet world the chapter is as up to date as can be expected and all available illustrations are provided as is appropriate for this piece. Their summary materials and comments would be important information for inclusion in texts on parasitology, herpetology, and potentially veterinary medicine. This work constitutes an important contribution to our knowledge of coccidia in reptiles and vertebrate hosts in general. In particular it will be an important reference for researchers and veterinary practitioners.* **R. Scott Seville, Ph.D., Professor of Zoology and Physiology, University of Wyoming/ Casper Center, 125 College Drive, Casper, Wyoming 82601.**





## POETRY - ANOTHER VIEW OF LIFE

### The Night Before the Practical or The Saga of Wanner the Thief

by A. Proteus

Tw'as the night before the practical, and all through the lab,  
Not a creature was stirring, not even a crab.  
Dr. Rich<sup>1</sup> had gone home to his family life  
But his students were passing an evening of strife.  
Both Hank and O'Hara<sup>2</sup> lay snug in their beds,  
While visions of Nudibranchs danced in their heads.  
When out in the hall there arose a great clamor,  
It was Wanner<sup>3</sup>, the thief, breaking in with a hammer!

Flung over his back was a cumbersome bag,  
The contents of which would make Dr. Rich gag.  
There were specimens there from each phase of the course,  
Which were skillfully swiped without any remorse.  
There were hundreds of slides of all shapes and description,  
(If Rich had known, he'd have had a conniption).

There were free-living flatworms—not only *Planaria*—  
But almost every genus in Class Turbellaria.  
There were flukes of all colors, shapes and sizes;  
And dozens of Cestodes, and other surprises.  
There were Nematodes too, vermiform bilateria;  
*Trichinella*, for sure, and good old *Wuchereria*.

There were animals here never found in a zoo,  
Like Nemertines, Rotifers and Ctenophores too.  
The Brachiopods were present in troops,  
With at least one example from all major groups.  
There were mollusks, indeed, from all five Classes  
(They are the ones with their mouths near their asses).  
Some of them had shells, some just a mantle,

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<sup>1</sup> Earl Rich, Invertebrate Zoology instructor at the University of Miami when I took the course (Fall, 1959).

<sup>2</sup> Graduate Teaching Assistants in the Invert Zoo Lab. Imagine more than one TA per lab!

<sup>3</sup> Robert Wanner, a Senior from New Jersey. He had to pass this course in order to graduate. For each organism studied in the lab, Wanner surreptitiously stuffed an example in his backpack for subsequent study at home.





There were almost more than Wanner could handle.

There were squids which exhibited heterocotylus;  
There were cuttlefish also, and one chambered nautilus.  
There were numerous veligers going through torsion,  
And even a snail which had had an abortion.  
There were bivalve clams with at least one lamella,  
And a chiton resembling Roy Campanella<sup>4</sup>.  
There were earthworms and leeches from all walks of life,  
And a monoecious clam-worm who was his own wife.

Bob replaced the specimens like a busy elf,  
Put back every jar—filled every shelf.  
He returned them all, for he knew best,  
That without them Rich could never assemble the test.  
And I heard him chuckle as he started to leave,  
"Tis better to give than to receive."

So friends, while you're failing, amidst all your grief,  
Take heed of the story of Wanner the Thief.  
Keep your wits about you and be on your toes,  
And smuggle your specimens from under Hank's nose.  
Then, like Wanner, you'll say, "That's the way things go  
When you have Dr. Rich for Invertebrate Zoo."

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<sup>4</sup> Tasteless reference to the Brooklyn Dodgers catcher whose career was cut short in 1958 when he was paralyzed in an automobile accident.



## **JOBS**

For the most current and up to date list of jobs - check the job site on the ASP web site. Often positions are posted there much sooner than they appear anywhere else. Especially if someone actually sends me the announcements of the jobs via e-mail. Which is encouraged! [ed.]

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### **Plant Nematologist – Research Triangle Park – 1187**

#### **Role Purpose –**

We are inviting a talented scientist to join a team to work on discovering gene leads for the control of the plant parasitic nematodes. The responsibility are:

- Maintaining and optimizing a pipeline for soybean cyst nematode bioassay on transgenic tissues.
- Discovering new gene leads for the purpose of nematode control.
- Design and conduct experiments to test nematode trait delivery strategies
- Explore technology that could better enable nematode trait delivery

#### **Accountabilities**

- Maintain nematode cultures on plant hosts and provide nematodes to the bioassay pipeline
- Transform plants and generate transgenic tissues
- Conduct nematode bioassays on the transgenic tissues and report the results
- Constantly explore and implement new methodology to improve the data quality and throughput of the nematode bioassay pipeline
- Identify genes leads and develop novel strategies for nematode control

#### **Knowledge, Experience & Capabilities –**



Critical knowledge

- A Ph.D. or M.S. degree in plant nematology
- Experience in plant transformation, tissue culture
- Knowledge in plant and nematode genomics
- Broad knowledge in agricultural biotechnology in addition to accomplishments in all aspects of transgenic work

Critical experience

- Agrobacterium-mediated plant transformation
- Plant parasitic nematode maintenance and bioassay on in vitro plant tissues
- Experience in functional genomic research towards the discovery of gene leads for nematode control
- Experience with any other types of GM nematode control research is a plus
- Industrial experience is a plus
- Working in a team environment

Critical technical, professional and personal capabilities

- Plant transformation and tissue culture
  - Nematology lab and greenhouse skills
  - Molecular biology and basic bioinformatics skills
  - Detail oriented, with strong troubleshooting abilities
  - Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written
- Able to work proficiently in a team and project environment
- A good communicator
  - Has a can-do attitude

**Additional Information –**

A minimum of 2 years in current position is required (requirement for internal applicants only)

- All applicants must be eligible to work in the US.

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## **POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT**

Assistant Professor, Large Mammal Ecologist  
Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology  
College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences  
University of Minnesota

**Position:** The Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology at the University of Minnesota invites applications for the position of Large Mammal Ecologist. This is a tenure-track Assistant Professor, 9-month appointment with responsibilities for research (50%) and teaching/outreach (50%). The position is located on the St. Paul Campus of the University of Minnesota.

**Responsibilities:** (1) develop an externally funded and nationally recognized research program focused on landscape ecology and addressing wildlife management issues; (2) contribute to undergraduate and graduate education by teaching an undergraduate course (Habitats and Regulation of Wildlife) and other courses as required by the department; (3) advise undergraduate and graduate students; (4) participate in faculty governance and service in the department, college and university; and (5) interact with government agencies.

**Required Qualifications:** (1) Ph.D. or international equivalent; (2) research program focused on large mammal ecology and landscape scale habitat relationships; (3) evidence of work in applied wildlife research; (4) strong quantitative skills as demonstrated in publications; (5) demonstrated ability to attract research funding; and (6) a commitment to excellence in undergraduate and graduate teaching, including evidence of advising and training students.

**Desired Qualifications:** (1) postdoctoral experience with large mammals; (2) leadership in a research program with a conceptual focus on landscape ecology that addresses wildlife management issues; (3) strong publication record in refereed journals; (4) demonstrated teaching ability; and (5) ability to interact collaboratively with colleagues in the department, college and government agencies.

**Salary and Benefits:** Salary is competitive and commensurate with experience and qualifications. Benefits include University retirement; group life, medical, and dental insurance plans; and sabbatical and semester leave



opportunities. Salary will be supplemented with two months of summer salary for the first two years of the appointment to help establish a strong, externally funded research program.

Date Available: Fall 2010 or earlier by negotiation

Application Process: As an institution committed to demonstrating excellence through diversity, the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences is committed to hiring a diverse faculty and staff, and actively encourages candidates from historically underrepresented groups to apply.

Applicants must submit their application materials online at <https://employment.umn.edu>; search for Requisition #161573. Documents that must be attached include: a cover letter (1 page), curriculum vitae, statement of research accomplishments and interests (1 page), statement of teaching experience and/or interests (1 page) and contact information for 3 references. References will be contacted only for those applicants judged most appropriate. Visit <http://fwcb.cfans.umn.edu> for information on the department.

Review of applications will start on 1 September 2009; position is open until filled. Direct questions about the position and application process to Nancy Rothman, [rothm005@umn.edu](mailto:rothm005@umn.edu).

Visit <http://fwcb.cfans.umn.edu> for information on the department and its programs and <http://www1.umn.edu/wishyouwerehere/> for an overview of life in Minnesota and the Twin Cities.

The University of Minnesota is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, or sexual orientation.



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## Note to Members -

The ASP Newsletter welcomes news stories, articles, poetry. Please send your text electronically to the editor as an e-mail and attach as an MS Word document. Drawings, photographs, charts, or tables can be sent as B/W TIF files at 300 dpi. Please send TIF files one at a time. A general rule is to limit photograph size to 3x5". You may attach both text and graphic files to your email message.

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