

Our purpose is to document and publicize the values and conservation needs of horned lizards, to promote horned lizard conservation projects, and to assist with horned lizard management initiatives throughout their ranges.

Volume 18, Issue No. 1

FEBRUARY 2013

HLCS Caps Off Biennial Meeting with Outdoor Movie Event

by Lee Ann Linam

HLCS held its biennial meeting in Wimberley, Texas, in October, and members and guests in attendance were treated to the first Texas screening of *Where Did the Horny Toad Go?* at Wimberley's scenic outdoor Corral Theater. The event was also open to the public.

After members dodged raindrops during the business meeting (see minutes elsewhere in this issue), the clouds lightened just a bit as a chili dinner was served outdoors. As the sun set, the movie began with a handful of local residents joining the HLCS crowd, along with some Texas Master Naturalists who traveled from as far as Fort Bend County.

Where Did the Horny Toad Go? is a full-length documentary that was produced by Stefanie Leland of Jar of Grasshoppers Productions with financial and logistical help from HLCS. The documentary traces the cultural and natural history of Texas horned lizards, and includes commentary from several HLCS members, including Bill Brooks, Lee Ann Linam, Carolyn Todd, Ruthann Panipinto, Wendy Hodges, and Wade Phelps. After the movie screening ended, Bill, Lee Ann, Carolyn, and Wade offered a Q&A session for the audience. One highlight was a report from Wade Phelps that horned lizard declines noted in Kene-



Catherine Masey (Amy Trost's daughter) standing in front of the Corral Theater's sign the day of the event.

dy, Texas, in the documentary seemed to have reversed slightly in 2012.

With ticket proceeds, chili sales, and merchandise sales, HLCS cleared a couple hundred dollars for the evening, but the good company enjoyed in the evening under the stars sharing information with the public about horned lizards was priceless.

HLCS wishes to thank Stefanie Leland and Jar of Grasshoppers Productions for their generosity in allowing the screening of the film. For more information on the documentary, please visit: <http://jarofgrasshoppers.com/>.



National Board of Directors

President

Jill Heatley DVM
College of Veterinary Medicine
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843
979-845-1202
jheatley@cvm.tamu.edu

President-Elect

Member Services

Amy Trost
604 Corral Lane
Austin, Texas 78745
amystrost@gmail.com

Secretary

Beth Bendik
Austin, Texas
bethmoellerbendik@yahoo.
com

Treasurer

Carolyn Todd
carolyn@thetoddreport.com

Director At Large

Danny Martin
Natural Resource Ecology Lab
Colorado State University
1499 Campus Delivery,
Fort Collins, CO 80523
dannym77@lamar.colostate.edu

on the web at — www.hornedlizards.org

Colorado Contact

Danny Martin
Natural Resource Ecology Lab
Colorado State University
1499 Campus Delivery,
Fort Collins, CO 80523
dannym77@lamar.colostate.edu

Southern California Contact

Lester G. Milroy III
14321 Ricaree
Apple Valley, CA 92307
(760) 946-1094
les4toads@aol.com

Texas Contact

Lee Ann Linam
Wildlife Diversity Branch
Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.
200 Hoots Holler Rd
Wimberley, TX 78676
leeann.linam@tpwd.state.tx.us

New Mexico Contact

Tom McCain
PO Box 53095
Albuquerque, NM 87112
tom@httom.com



Phrynosomatics Copy Editor

Leslie Nossaman
poppies14@comcast.net

Phrynosomatics Design Editor

Fannie Messec
fmessec@yahoo.com

Please Send Membership Applications or Requests for Information to:

**HLCS
P.O. Box 122
Austin, TX 78767**

info@hornedlizards.org

HLCS Meeting Notes—October 13, 2012

by Beth Bendik

Board Nominations

- Director-at-Large – Megan Lahti
- Secretary – Reilly Dibner
- President-elect – David Wojnowski resigned because he is moving to North Carolina.
- Bill Brooks will volunteer to run for President.
- Need to find someone for President-elect.
- Carolyn Todd will volunteer to stay as treasurer.

Carolyn has finished the last two horned lizard masks. There is a \$135 – \$175 one-time fee for the die to make them.

Carolyn asked that we reimburse Bill for his hotel and travel. Bill said it might be nice someday, but now he would not feel right doing so because then HLCS would not make any profit. Lee Ann Linam said that at one time they had agreed to give up to \$100 toward out of pocket expenses.

Carolyn motioned and Amy Trost seconded in favor of allowing a field trip organizer or outreach event organizer to be reimbursed up to \$100. The motion carried.

Bill's Sales Update

- We sold \$247 of goods and received \$15 of donations at Eastland. Bill stated that we could get a booth at Eastland's Old Rip BBQ cookoff. We make about half profit on our sales. Cookie cutters

are the best sellers. We may need to advertise in the TCU magazine, but it usually has no ads. Nancy Bartosick is the contact. Another option is the TCU school paper, the *Skiff*, which may run ads.

- Bill says we need to order more fact sheets. Also, we can reorder some more color sheets but can put that off.

Carolyn's Treasurer's Report

- Checking \$12,461.26
- Catalog Sales \$4,867.12

Carolyn proposed a vote to purchase a business *Quick books* software – small version to get our payable and receivable records off a paper ledger sheet. The vote was approved.

Webmaster Discussion

Three options

- Beth Harris—She broke down some of her costs. She could design the membership management.
- Shawn Herrin
- Michelle Crossley

There was a motion by Joyce Roach to accept Beth Harris. The motion carried. We will ask her for a more detailed plan.

Calendar Update

- We need to put the standard festivals (Eastland etc.) and the two horned lizard field trips on the calendar (website and newsletter).

Grant Update

- We have awarded the grants for last year.

- We put the announcements in the newsletter for this year.
- Jill will review all the grant applications this year since David is leaving.
- There will be two grants of up to \$500 each with one focused on research and one focused on education. There was general agreement that \$1000 is the most we want to spend.

Wendy Hodges is the contact to email about website access. Tanya Phillips volunteered to help with updating website access.

End of Old Business

New Business

- Joyce Roach – Texas Tech is publishing her short story set in Horned Toad, Texas. Joyce asked if the horned lizard logo could potentially be used in the publication. The answer was that if they do use it, it must be associated with the HLCS name, address, and website.
- Bill suggested we get more copies of the Jane Manaster book. There is agreement we should restock. He also noted that we should continue to have a booth at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center Nature Nights (particularly the night focused on snakes) given that it went so well this year.

Continued on page 4

• Lee Ann reported that the recent field trip to the experimental horned lizard release site went very well. It was extremely hot, and then the temperature dropped 40° after a front came through. The Fort Worth Zoo has released 13 lizards by soft release, and they are finding good site fidelity. They are using a 15 acre pasture in a 60 acre property. There was pretty good survival the first summer, but survival was not as good this summer. They found one transmitter in a copperhead. One lizard was found dead with no obvious cause of death. They had one other documented mortality and some lost/ non-functioning transmitters. They

have relocated three lizards with still working transmitters this summer, and there may be five more alive. There are plans to release a fairly large group next summer because the zoo will have a bunch of one-year olds.

• Lee Ann stated that it is fortunate that the Fort Worth Zoo will take any stray horned lizards.

Business Plan

- Carolyn will work on a contract etc. with the webmaster.
- Nate suggests making a calendar, but others pointed out that calendars have a shelf life. Tanya suggests perhaps

we could make a day planner with blank squares.

- Carolyn suggested that we need some sort of marketing budget so that we can place ads in the Texas Parks and Wildlife magazine, the Texas Highways magazine, and others.
- Joyce stated that Texas Co-op Power is a great place to advertise and to write for and that HLCS should look into it. Tanya says they have a good deal for non-profits. There was discussion of Google ads. The suggestion was also brought up of putting ads in our newsletter.

End of Meeting



Calling All Horned Lizard Survey Ideas!

By Lee Ann Linam

Do you know of some great locations for horned lizard surveys? Are you involved in a horned lizard project where you need some volunteer help? Is there just a neat place that you

think we should explore?

We're looking for horned lizard survey ideas for 2013 and 2014. We'd welcome ideas for any state or any horned lizard species. Please send ideas to Lee Ann Linam (leeann.linam@

tpwd.state.tx.us) to help HLCS offer some great opportunities to its members.

Watch for details in upcoming newsletters.



Please renew your annual HLCS membership!!! HLCS depends on its membership for its conservation and educational presence in the community.

Categories for *annual* memberships include:

- Regular \$25
- Student or Senior \$10
- Family \$25 Each additional family member \$10
- Contributing \$50
- Corporate \$250
- Lifetime* membership \$300

The HLCS welcomes contributions in any amount you wish to submit and is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

Old Rip Festival

By Bill Brooks

The first Saturday in October should be a Red Letter Day for all horned lizard lovers. This is the day Eastland, Texas pays homage to their native son, the horned lizard, Old Rip. (Named after Rip Van Winkle.) If you don't know about Old Rip and his trip to see President Coolidge, you should look it up. It's a great Texas story.

Bill Brock has been our leader at the Old Rip Festival for the last ten years or so. He reserves our booth. Saturday, Bill helped me set up our displays. A little later, Jim and Bette Armstrong arrived.



We took turns working our booth and visiting the carnival, food booths, and watching the parade. We couldn't miss the music. It was on the courthouse steps right in front of us.

This is a great small town festival and the people were very good to us. We made a nice amount in sales and talked to a lot of folks about horned lizard conservation. I encourage everyone to experience Eastland's Old Rip Festival. See you there the first Saturday in October, 2013!



Internship to Study Lizards

The Arizona Game and Fish Department is offering paid summer internships in cooperation with participating colleges and universities. This year there will be a Flat-tailed Horned Lizard Occupancy study in the Yuma Desert of Arizona. Internships last much of the summer and pay \$11/hourly for newcomers and \$12/hourly for returning interns. This is a great opportunity to get experience in lizard work and become familiar with some pretty amazing Sonoran desert herps. To be eligible you will need to be enrolled in a curricu-

lum leading to a Bachelor's or Post-Baccalaureate degree on a substantially full time basis and pursuing a major in Wildlife Biology or closely related field. Resumes must be submitted to the site no later than March 22, 2013.

Please see the announcement at the following website and forward all information requests to Milani Barron at (623) 236-7319.

http://www.azgfd.gov/inside_azgfd/edits/employment_internships.shtml

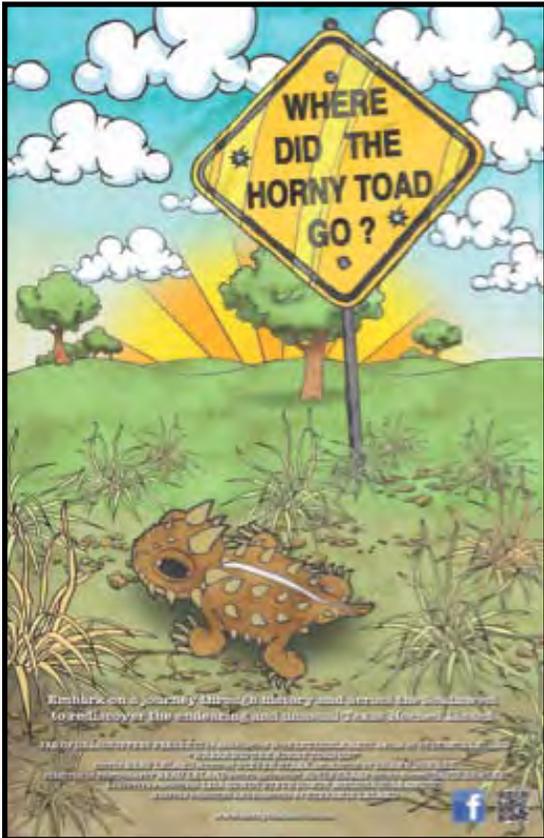


2011 Grant Recipient Research Summary

In 2011 HLCS awarded three grants to people who submitted a plan to perform research on the horned lizard. The following article is from one of the HLCS 2011 grant recipients, Stefanie Leland.

That's A Wrap!!!

by Stefanie Leigh Leland



The idea to produce a documentary about the Texas Horned Lizard came to me during the Spring of 2009. When I first started research for the film I was nervous that there wouldn't be an audience, but shortly after beginning the research process I realized that horned lizards weren't just important to me, but to others that have come into contact with them.

My crew and I spent several summers traveling all over the Southwestern United States conducting interviews. The interview subjects consisted of researchers, horned lizard enthusiasts, and every day average citizens. Last year my editor, Beau Leland, and I began spending our days in the editing suite cutting together the footage that we had spent all those years gathering. Meanwhile,

composer Steven Stark worked on putting together an original musical score for the film, and artist Shawn Downey began creating the film's various animated sequences.

"Where Did the Horny Toad Go?" is not your stereotypical nature film driven by fancy b-roll and laden with dialogue. Instead "Where Did the Horny Toad Go?" is an inspirational-drum beat for conservation. The film engages the audience with the intriguing horned lizard while connecting viewers through the passion and stories of the interview subjects. This film isn't just about the biology and decline of horned lizards, it is about the future conservation of horned lizards and all species of native wildlife.

The film was completed in April of 2012, and since the release of "Where Did the Horny Toad Go?" the film has screened at the Arizona International Film Festival in Tucson, the deadCENTER Film Festival in Oklahoma City, Dreamer Concepts in Norman, Oklahoma, Oklahoma BioBlitz in Foss, Oklahoma, and at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, Oklahoma.

These screenings have given us the opportunity to promote our film both in Tucson, Arizona and Central and Western Oklahoma. We are still working on putting together screenings in the state of Texas and Oklahoma and had a screening scheduled with the Cimarron group Sierra Club on February 21st, 2012. If anyone is interested in screening the film please contact us at info@jarofgrasshoppers.com.

At this point we are self-distributing the DVD of "Where Did the Horny Toad Go?" at our website, www.jarofgrasshoppers.com, library distribution is available through AVCafe, and are seeking television distribution with our newly edited 52 minute version of the film. We also hope to have educa-



Beau and Stefanie Leland at the Arizona International Film Festival last Spring in Tucson, AZ



Stefanie Leland and Wade Sherbrooke at the Arizona International Film Festival

tional versions of the film available for varying age groups in the near future.

We at Jar of Grasshoppers would like to thank The Horned Lizard Conservation Society for their continued support.

To learn more about the film, to see a short glimpse of the movie, or to purchase a DVD you can visit Jar of Grasshoppers Productions' web-site at www.jarofgrasshoppers.com



GoodSearch: A Search Engine that Raises Money for Us!

By Wendy Hodges

GoodSearch.com is a search engine that donates half of its revenue, about a penny per search, to charities that users designate. The HLCS has been set up as a charity through their web site. You use it like any other search engine, and it's powered by Yahoo!, so you get great results. Stop Googling and use GoodSearch!

Go to www.goodsearch.com

and enter the Horned Lizard Conservation Society as the charity you want to support. You will earn us money doing a normal web search every time you use it! You can see how much money we earn at any time. Please use it as often as you can! Set it as your home page or bookmark it or put it on your web browser's tool bar. We could earn thousands of dollars a year just by having our members designate us whenever they do an internet search.

GoodSearch has now added GoodShop. By following the links from the GoodSearch page to stores you already purchase from, a percentage will go to your charity of choice – designate HLCS! Examples of stores that donate are ebay, Barnes & Noble, Alibris books, and REI.

Thanks for contributing - and SPREAD THE WORD!!!



Meet Our Nominees for HLCS Board of Directors

Enclosed with this issue of *Phrynosomatics*, is the ballot for our incoming Board of Directors. Elections for our new leaders occur every two years, and we have a great slate for the incoming board. We've included an autobiography for each person on the ballot so you can get to know them. Please review the candidates, make your selections and mail the completed and stamped ballot to the address preprinted on the reverse side of the ballot by April 1, 2013. Thank you for voting!

Bill Brooks – *President*

I feel most of you know me or have read my articles in the newsletter. I am a self taught herpetologist who has been giving educational programs for over 40 years. I am a charter, lifetime member of the HLCS. I was at the very first HLCS meeting called by Bart Cox on Nov. 6, 1990. In 2001 I was elected the National President and later became the Texas Chapter President. (We no longer have chapters.) I have been in charge of sales for the last ten years. If you choose to elect me, I will stress communication, do more education and outreach, and improve our on-line services. Thank you for your kind consideration.

Tim Tristan – *President-Elect*

I received my Bachelors degree in Biomedical Science in 1995 from Texas A&M University and my veterinary degree from Texas A&M University in 1999. Born and raised in Texas, I left Texas to work in the Florida Keys for 2 years before returning. I completed an avian and exotic animal internship at Gulf Coast Avian and Exotics in 2001 in Houston and then moved to Corpus Christi where I currently work at VCA Oso Creek Animal Hospital and Emergency Center, the largest and only 24 hour hospital in south Texas. In addition to my current position, I also am the veterinarian for the ARK, Downtown Aquarium-Houston, and the Aquarium at Rockport Harbor. Though terrestrial herps have been a large part of what I work with, I also work with local rehabilitation facilities on sea turtles, Texas tortoises, and other wildlife. As founder and CEO of the Texas Sealife Center, a new nonprofit wildlife hospital and rehabilitation facility, conservation efforts are a major component of my career. Publications related to reptiles and

conservation efforts have included *Mycoplasmosis* in Texas tortoises and *fibropapillomatosis* in green sea turtles on the Texas coast.

Carolyn Todd – *Treasurer*

I am a founding member of HLCS and have been involved with the Society for over 20 years. During the past 20+ years I have served HLCS as Education Chair on the board for several years but have only been Treasurer for this last term. The By-Laws state that an officer can hold office for two terms and I feel like I have just scratched the surface with my ideas and vision for managing our funds, generating additional funds, and improving the cash flow for the Society. Being a Treasurer is a very time consuming role and I will generously offer my time dedicated to these plans and ideas for the next two years along with a history and passion in helping the Society as we grow with new leadership.

I have plans to improve our marketing products, develop a product marketing plan, and work on projections of those items that sell well, drop products that do not, and design new products to boost our financial future. I also have other ideas on how the Society can increase its funds. I have plans for new accounting software approved by the board to better organize our treasury funds. And plan to submit to the board fundraising goals and a legacy plan for long term, reliable contributions from the general public and the membership.

Also, if elected, I will be the only person who will be returning from the current Board of Directors. Everyone else on the ballot would be completely new to the Board except for Bill Brooks who was on the Board several years ago. This will be very important in adding diversity to the leadership team and in the continuity of the history of the organization, along with working with the new Board and new committee chairs to achieve our goals and vision for the long-term future of the organization.

My passion for horned lizards has extended for over 20 years with practical, hands-on experience with horned lizard conservation. I have given

Continued on page 11

HLCS Officer ballot on other side.

Thank you for voting.



PLACE
STAMP
HERE

**Lee Ann Linam
200 Hoots Holler Rd.
Wimberly TX 78676**

Cut on this line

2013 HLCS Ballot

Please select a candidate below or write in a candidate of your choice.

President

_____ Bill Brooks

_____ other (write-in): _____

President-Elect

_____ Tim Tristan

_____ other (write-in): _____

Treasurer

_____ Carolyn Todd

_____ Jared Fuller

_____ other (write-in): _____

Secretary

_____ Reilly Dibner

_____ other (write-in): _____

Director At-Large

_____ Megan Lahti

_____ other (write-in): _____

BEFORE YOU VOTE:

Read about the nominees on pages 8 and 11.

TO MAIL BALLOT

- 1) Cut off this entire page.
- 2) Fold on dotted lines on other side of this page.
- 3) Tape or staple edge shut.
- 4) Attach appropriate postage.
- 5) Mail **BEFORE April 1, 2013**

presentations around the entire state during these 20+ years to four zoos and their respective personnel about horned lizard rehabilitation. I am the Society's expert and go-to person on housing lizards collected from the public for 18+ years to boost their survival rates for return to places on private and public land where they were collected. Several lizards could not be released in the wild and through board approval; they were transported to two zoos for public education. In fact, I worked with zoo staff to contact Southwest Airlines who donated the airfare for staff from the El Paso Zoo to take the lizards directly to the zoo and reduce any stress on the lizards associated with the trip.

I am told by current board members that I have served the Society very well in my first term as Treasurer and am ready to carry out my plan for improvements and again provide value as Treasurer. Please consider re-electing me to a second term as Treasurer.

Jared Fuller – Treasurer

Although I grew up in the south Texas countryside, I unfortunately did not encounter a horned lizard until I was twenty-one years old. I have always found these little creatures fascinating, but became even more awestruck by them upon finally seeing one in the wild; a feeling I'm sure most people experience when they meet their first horned lizard. I have since dedicated my master's degree research at West Texas A&M University to examining the genetic structure of Texas horned lizard populations. My focus has been on how a single population has genetically responded to an extreme exotic grassland fire after suffering a major reduction in population size. I am also examining the effects of habitat fragmentation within the Texas Panhandle on the genetic structure of local horned lizards. I strongly feel that my experience and insight into these interesting lizards makes me an ideal candidate to serve on the board.

Reilly Dibner – Secretary

I have a broad ecological research background with experiences varying from long-term butterfly studies and grassland restoration to amphibian habitat selection, but I have always had a particular fondness for horned lizards. I am currently in the fortunate position of studying greater short-horned lizards (*Phrynosoma hernandesii*) in the Program in Ecology at the University of Wyoming.

For my dissertation research I am exploring which traits are most limiting to these lizards, how specialization varies between populations, and which traits most strongly determine lizard response to disturbance. More specifically, I am studying the potential sensitivity of greater short-horned lizards to land cover disturbance in Wyoming. When not working directly on my research, I spend much of my time working with the Science Posse. We are a group of 10 graduate students that develop curriculum for students in grades 5-12 and teach ecology lessons to these same students in the classroom and in the field. I hope to garner more interest in the Horned Lizard Conservation Society through my own research, my outreach work with Wyoming schools, and my increasing involvement in the Society.

Megan Lahti – Director At-Large

I have been studying horned lizards since 2003. My research focuses on natural history the short-horned lizards which are often underrepresented in the literature. For my M.S. research I investigated habitat use, movement, and diet of the pygmy short-horned lizards in Washington. For my Ph.D. research I investigated morphology, genetics, and population dynamics (including diet) of a dwarfed and isolated population of the short-horned lizard in Colorado. I have also helped with other horned lizard work through NatureMapping (Waterville, WA—helped elementary students learn how to radio-track horned lizards on farm fields), Southwest Conservation Corps (Salida, CO—taught junior high and high school kids about local biodiversity and conservation issues surrounding horned lizards, as well as how to conduct field work and collect scientific data), published a book chapter (species account) for pygmy short-horned lizards, and have been a member of HLCS for about 10 years. I'm currently a professor at Arizona Western College in Yuma, where I teach biology and environmental science courses. I routinely take students herping to learn about desert biodiversity and observe flat-tail horned lizards. I am also an adjunct professor at Northern Arizona University Yuma. My vision for HLCS is to continue to improve the scientific outreach to the Society, and increase awareness of western species of horned lizards for a more comprehensive understanding of these taxa.



HLCS Member Highlight: Stefanie Leland

by Stefanie Leland

Hello, my name is Stefanie Leland. I spend my time working on video production, photography, gardening and cooking. I have always had an interest in the outdoors and in college I developed an interest in biology.

In 2003 I graduated from Southwestern State University in Weatherford Oklahoma with a B.S. in Biology. I went on to receive degrees in both theatre arts and film. In 2007 I began blending all of these disciplines creating films on topics such as locally grown food as an alternative to the global food system and toxic fly ash plaguing a small Oklahoma town.

In 2009 I began working on a film about the decline of the Texas Horned Lizard. While researching the film I found out about the Horned Lizard Conservation Society.

As a child I remember catching horned lizards and was fascinated with their appearance and of course the softness of their stomach. It had been close to twenty years since I had seen a horned lizard and I had nearly forgot about them when my husband and his officemates began talking about horned lizards. It had been a really long time since we had seen these crit-



Stefanie Leland promoting her film at the Arizona International Film Festival

ters and we wondered what had happened to them. I said in that moment that I was going to make a film about the decline of the horned lizard and so the journey began.

I began doing research immediately and later that spring I travelled to Western Oklahoma to begin my search for horned lizards. I remember that first day so vividly. My mother and I spent several hours scouring my grandmother's farm for a sign of horned lizards, we checked near harvester ant beds for hours with no luck. It was a very hot morning and being unprepared we had forgotten to bring water on our journey. As we drove back in town to grab supplies I saw something move. I thought my eyes were

playing tricks on me but despite my instincts I jumped out of the car and to my surprise there was a juvenile horned lizard resting on the road.

From there I developed Jar of Grasshoppers Productions and for the next three years my crew and I travelled all over the Southwestern United States conducting interviews and in the Spring of 2012 we completed the feature film, "Where Did the Horny Toad Go?".

Since completing the film we have had several public screenings and began selling DVDs on our website. We are still in the process of seeking out television distribution for "Where Did the Horny Toad Go?" and hope to have something in place in the near future.

In the meantime, I have been working on another passion of mine, photography. My main interest is macrophotography with a focus in both plants and insects. I love being able to take a closer look at things that are often overlooked in our everyday lives. Earlier this year I was honored to show my work along side six other women as part of Visions in the Paseo's "Emerging Women in Photography Exhibit."



Education Booth at the Prairie Heritage Festival in Rosenberg, Texas

By Leslie Nossaman and Fannie Messec

On November 3, 2012 Fannie Messec and Leslie Nossaman, your newsletter editors, worked an information booth at the Prairie Heritage Festival in Seabourne Creek Nature Park. The park is located in Rosenberg, Texas south and west of Houston. This annual Festival was hosted by the Coastal Prairie Texas Master Naturalists.

There were around twenty exhibitors with booths at the event. Nature tours through the prairie were made available and facilitated by the Katy Prairie Conservancy and the Coastal Prairie Master Naturalists.

There were also six different program presentations from experts in their field including



pioneer life, vultures, bird rescue, and reptiles. There were also lots of kids crafts set up in a tent. The Rosenberg mayor also showed up and made the opening remarks.

We had the horned lizard terrarium which looked like an environment that the horned lizards are found in with plaster painted life-like horned lizards. Soil and dried plants used in the terrarium were actually from places where the Society had surveyed and found horned lizards. Most of the people who came by thought they were real. Other booths had real snakes, lizards, birds, prairie dogs, and other animals. We even had a sign on the terrarium that said they were not real but people still thought they were.



There were some flower bushes along a walking path that were covered in butterflies that we had some time to walk through and enjoy.

Continued on page 14

Around 160 people attended the Festival with most of them coming by our booth. We had lots of fun talking to people about the horned lizard and handed out loads of informational brochures, horned lizard masks, coloring placemats and the ant maze. For more information about the gulf coast prairie, go to www.coastalprairie.org.



This realistic terrarium, shown in photo on the right, was on display at both the Rosenberg and Jersey Village events. It was the biggest attraction at the booths. The label reads as follows:

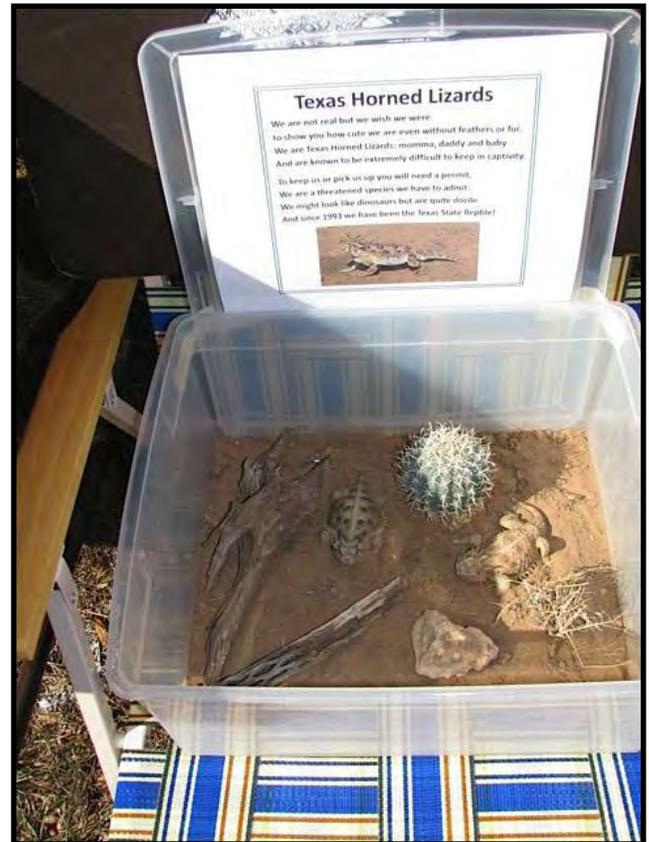
Texas Horned Lizard

We are not real; but, we wish we were
To show you how cute we are even without
feather or fur.

We are Texas Horned Lizards: momma, daddy,
and baby

And are known to be extremely difficult to keep
in captivity.

To keep us or pick us up you will need a permit.
We are a threatened species we have to admit.



We might look like dinosaurs; but, are quite docile
And since 1993 we have been the Texas State
reptile!



Upcoming Booth Sitting Opportunities

The HLCS will have a booth at the Old Rip BBQ Cook-off in Eastland April 13th. We will also be booth sitting at the Smithville Wildlife Expo April 20th. If you would like to help or for further information, please contact Bill Brooks <b.brooks@utexas.edu>.



HLCS Booth at the Annual Holiday-in-the-Park in Jersey Village, Texas

By Fannie Messec and Leslie Nossaman

What a beautiful, yet very warm day, for December 2, 2012. Many Jersey Village citizens took advantage of the good weather to attend this local event. Jersey Village, a northwest suburb of Houston, hosts the Holiday-in-the-Park event every year in early December. Vendors are solicited to sell, demonstrate a product or idea, or just entertain people who attend. Snow was provided for the children to play in. As a citizen of Jersey Village, Fannie was provided booth space at no charge.

Leslie again brought her horned lizard terrarium with the realistic lizards. This display attracts lots of attention. Adults and children both ask, “Are they real?” This question provided an opportunity to talk about the lizards, their habitat, and their threatened status.

We were able to educate many with the handouts, displays, Leslie’s photo album, and the coloring pages for the children. We enjoyed talking to the many people who had very little knowledge about horned lizards. They were fascinated by the little creatures. Others en-



joyed relating stories about ones they saw—and played with—as a child.

Several scouts and their leaders were glad to get our literature to help the scouts earn nature badges.

Fannie was pleased to see many local residents she knew stop by as well as several of the city officials. Approximately 60 people stopped by the booth. Most went away with the pamphlet *Horned Lizard Facts*. And we even got a monetary donation.





Post Office Box 122, Austin, Texas 78767

Return Service Requested

PLEASE JOIN US! Students/Seniors: \$10; Regular: \$25; Contributing: \$50; Corporate: \$250; Lifetime: \$300
Families: \$25 for the first person and \$10 for each additional member
HLCS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Contributions are deductible to the extent allowable by law.

Printed on Recycled Paper

Table of Contents

HLCS Caps Off Biennial Meeting with Outdoor Movie Event.	page 1
Lee Ann Linam	
HLCS Meeting Notes—October 13, 2012	pages 3 - 4
Beth Bendik	
Calling All Horned Lizard Survey Ideas!	page 4
Lee Ann Linam	
Old Rip Festival	page 5
Bill Brooks	
Internship to Study Lizards	page 5
2011 Grant Recipient Research Summary	page 6
That's A Wrap!!!	pages 6 - 7
Stefanie Leigh Leland	
GoodSearch: A Search Engine that Raises Money for Us!	page 7
Wendy Hodges	
Meet Our Nominees for HLCS Board of Directors	pages 8 & 11
Election Ballot	pages 9 - 10
HLCS Member Highlight: Stefanie Leland	page 12
Stefanie Leigh Leland	
Education Booth at the Prairie Heritage Festival in Rosenberg, Texas	pages 13 - 14
Leslie Nossaman and Fannie Messec	
Upcoming Booth Sitting Opportunities	page 14
HLCS Booth at the Annual Holiday-in-the-Park in Jersey Village, Texas	page 15
Fannie Messec and Leslie Nossaman	

***Phrynosomatics* is now sent electronically.**