

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.

## **July 2007 Horned Lizard Conservation Meeting in Fort Worth, Texas**

*By Joyce Roach*

The National Horned Lizard Conservation Society in concert with TCU, the Fort Worth Zoo, the Nature Center, and Crosswinds Ranch will hold their biennial meeting in Fort Worth, July 27th, 28th, and 29th.



It's one of the few times in the history of the organization, founded in 1990, that a meeting takes place in an

urban setting. Fort Worth is home to a successful breeding program for Texas horned lizards at the Fort Worth Zoo in the Texas Wild section. And TCU is home to the TCU Horned Frogs where a larger-than-life bronzed horned lizard sits enthroned at the front of the campus and a collection of horned lizard art resides at the alumni center. For those who want to get back to nature there is a tour of the Fort Worth Nature Center and on to Crosswinds Ranch for a look at the Cross Timbers region, lunch, swimming, and a little herping.



The meeting begins on Friday, July 27th, at the Fort Worth Zoo with tours through Texas Wild to see the breeding program guided by John Ward, Assistant Curator of Texas

Wild, who says the little critters, hatched several months ago and featured on the back cover of one of the latest issues of TCU Magazine, are

getting pudgy. Also check out the *Phrynosomatics* November 2006 issue article named "The Horned Lizard at the Fort Worth Zoo" for more information about the exhibit and for pictures of the hatchlings.

Papers of scientific and popular interest will be presented on Saturday at the Dee Kelly Center at TCU. The TCU Library will provide a small exhibit of printed materials having to do with horned lizards, one of which is the thesis of Dr. Willis Hewatt, who taught at TCU for many years, on *Phrynosoma cornutum*. Jane Manaster, author of a popular treatment entitled *Horned Lizards* (Texas Tech Press) will be the luncheon speaker. Her book, as well as other titles, and other horny toad items will be for sale with proceeds benefiting HLCS.



On Sunday, the group will convene at the Fort Worth Nature Center then move to Crosswinds Ranch, Joyce Roach's home, west of the Nature Center with wrap-up activities.

The public is invited. Registration is \$30.00 which includes the zoo, luncheon, and breaks. Partial registration (without meals) is \$10. For additional information, go to [www.hornedlizards.org](http://www.hornedlizards.org).



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## President

Lee Ann Johnson Linam  
Diversity Wildlife Branch  
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department  
200 Hoots Holler Rd  
Wimberley, TX 78676  
(512) 847-9480  
lalinam@wimberley-tx.com

## President-Elect

Joyce Gibson Roach  
P.O. Box 143  
Keller, TX 76244  
jroach35@earthlink.net

## Secretary-Treasurer

Rollo Newsom  
4 Longwood Rd.  
Austin, TX 78737  
rnewsom@austin.rr.com

## Member Services

Fannie Messec  
8406 Argentina  
Jersey Village, TX 77040  
fmessec@houston.rr.com

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*on the web at — [www.hornedlizards.org](http://www.hornedlizards.org)*

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## New Mexico Chapter

Tom McCain, Contact  
PO Box 53095  
Albuquerque, NM 87112  
htinc@juno.com

## Oklahoma Chapter

Richard Stark, President  
1820 Lexington Rd  
Claremore, OK 74017  
starkkrv@prodigy.net

## Southern California Chapter

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

## Texas Chapter

Lee Ann Linam, President  
Wildlife Diversity Branch  
Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.  
200 Hoots Holler Rd  
Wimberley, TX 78676  
lalinam@wimberley-tx.com



## Phrynosomatics Copy Editor

Leslie Nossaman  
poppies14@houston.rr.com

## Phrynosomatics Design Editor

Fannie Messec  
fmessec@houston.rr.com

**Please Send Membership Applications or Requests for Information to:**

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

# Photos of *Phrynosoma douglasii*



Three great photos of *Phrynosoma douglasii* and their habitat in Siskiyou County, California. All photos taken by Jackson Shedd in 2006.



**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 .....

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

# Does the Roundtail Horned Lizard Still Occur in Oklahoma?

By Richard Stark

The extreme northwestern corner of the Oklahoma panhandle is a unique Oklahoma ecosystem called the Black Mesa ecoregion (Oklahoma Biodiversity Task Force, 1996). It is the coolest and driest region of the state and is characterized by flat-topped sandstone mesas capped with black, basaltic lava. The highest point in the state is found there.

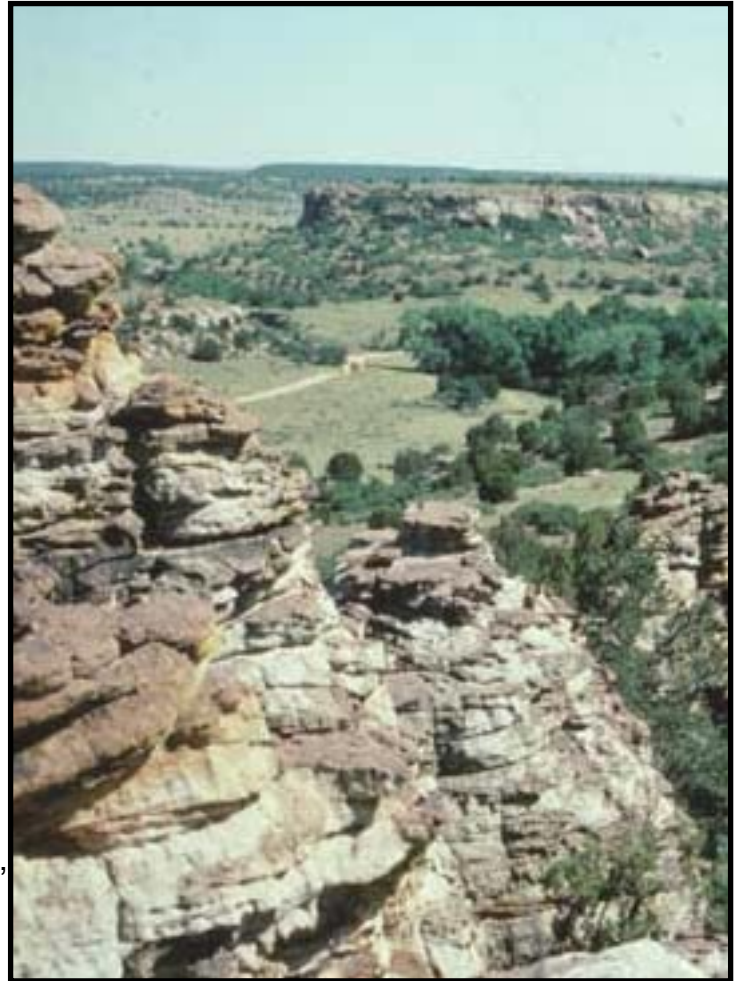
Ten species of reptiles and amphibians found at Black Mesa are listed by the Oklahoma Natural Heritage Inventory as Rare Oklahoma Vertebrates including the Texas horned lizard *Phrynosoma cornutum*. Additionally, the roundtail horned lizard *P. modestum* is historically reported from the area. This population represents a disjunct population, separated from the rest of its range in Texas and New Mexico by some 250 km. The disjunct population at Black Mesa is known from only two museum records (Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History) and two verified sight records (Oklahoma Natural Heritage Inventory). The most recent record is from 1990. Nevertheless, personnel at Black Mesa State Park and local landowners of the area have indicated as recently as 2002 that *P. modestum* is seen

within the park and nearby.

This summer will be the third and final field season of an extensive Herp Survey of the Black Mesa area in Oklahoma by Oklahoma State University. Survey methods include utilizing drift fences with pitfall and funnel traps, systematic visual sampling, road cruising, nocturnal surveys at amphibian breeding sites,

and opportunistic encounters of reptiles and amphibians. The study also includes radio telemetry on Texas horned lizards. One of the survey priorities is to find the roundtail horned lizard, which has yet to be found during this survey effort (summers of 2005 and 2006).

The OK State Chapter has some funds to cover expenses for food and camping fees for HLCS members interested in helping out with the survey.



Picture of the Black Mesa area. Permission to reprint from The Nature Conservancy of Oklahoma

Because the roundtail horned lizard has not been found during this survey, HLCS volunteers are encouraged to focus their efforts on searching for the roundtail horned lizard. Camping at the Black Mesa State Park is available for any interested volunteers. If interested and would like more information, contact Tim Periard or Richard Stark at [timothy.periard@okstate.edu](mailto:timothy.periard@okstate.edu) or [starkkrv@prodigy.net](mailto:starkkrv@prodigy.net), respectively.



# Amateur Photography



Texas Horned Lizard hatchling at the Fort Worth Zoo in Fort Worth, Texas. Taken in August 2006 by Linda Kaye. Reprinted with permission from the editors of The TCU Magazine, Fall 2006 issue.



Abby Linam with Horned Lizard. Taken in June 2005 at the Beach Ranch in Garza County, Texas.



Texas Horned Lizard. Taken July 10, 2006 at Lubbock Lake Landmark in northwest Lubbock, Texas by Jerry Hatfield.

## Check Your Address Label



Something new has been added to your newsletter address label. Now your membership expiration date is right on your label and easy to check. We hope this little addition helps all our members.

## Texas Chapter News

By Fannie Messec

*Where are they?* Do you have any ideas where horned lizards may be found? The best way to know if any horned lizards inhabit an area is to do a survey.

What do you do on a survey? Well, you walk around looking at the ground hoping to see a *Phrynosoma cornutum* or related species. While looking, you get to see lots of other critters too: spiders, scorpions, ants, centipedes, and more. You might even notice teeny flowers you would have never seen otherwise.

Ruthann Panipinto of the Texas chapter is requesting information on possible survey sites. Please contact her at 512-439-9085 or through her email at [artgecko20@austin.rr.com](mailto:artgecko20@austin.rr.com).

# HLCS National News

by Lee Ann Linam

I want to start this message with a sincere thank-you to everyone who has shown kindness and support to me since my 12-year-old daughter's accident. In the very long and frightening days following the accident my family and I were wrapped in an embrace of caring that truly helped us to make it through.

I'm so very happy to share with you that Abby has made miraculous progress since the accident in October. In fact, as I write this message, she is scheduled to begin school again tomorrow (March 19), and I have great hopes that she will be joining us for our national meeting this summer and in upcoming lizard surveys. Thank you for the love and prayers you offered to us.

Speaking of national meetings... I hope that you are planning

to join us in July in Fort Worth. Fort Worth is not the desert, but it is home to a successful breeding program for Texas horned lizards (the Fort Worth Zoo), to a potential reintroduction project site (the Fort Worth Nature Center), to a large collection of horned lizard art (Texas Christian University), and, of course, to the TCU horned frogs! These attractions, the unique cultural flavor of Fort Worth, and a broad-based program that Wendy Hodges is putting together should make this a "don't miss" event. Please do contact Wendy (wendyh@mail.utexas.edu) if you'll be able to give a presentation about research, management, conservation or outreach focusing on any of the species of horned lizards.

And speaking of field surveys...be sure to let us know if you need volunteers for field surveys or if you know

of sites where landowners would like to have surveys done. Ruthann Panipinto (artgecko20@sbcglobal.net) is trying to organize surveys in Texas, and we have contacts in other states who might be able to assist with surveys in those areas. Field surveys are one of our most enjoyable events, but we need to hear from you about potential sites. If you would like to receive email updates about upcoming field surveys and other events, please let Bill Brooks know (bgbrooks@mail.utexas.edu).

Finally, just a word of advice from someone who's had some long hours to sit and think lately—I hope each of you can make some time to get out this spring and summer—smell the daisies and watch some horned lizards—life is rich when we grasp it...



## The Horned Lizard in Literature, Music Lyrics, and Movies Contest

The Society is still sponsoring this contest. We are looking for mentions of the horned lizard in books, songs, poetry, and movies.



First prize is a painted set of Texas Horned Lizard family members, second prize is the book *Horned Toad Canyon* by Joyce Gibson, and third prize is a

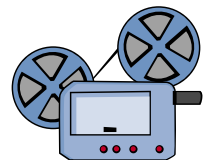
choice of a HLCS t-shirt or hat.

To date, we have had no entries and are hoping we can get some. This information would make a nice addition and article for one of our newsletter issues.



Please research the horned lizard references and send in your

entries, we would love to hear from you! For the details, look at February 2007 and November 2006 issues of *Phrynosomatics*.



Any questions or entries can be sent to Joyce Roach (jroach35@earthlink.net) or Leslie Nosaman (poppies14@houston.rr.com).



# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## HLCS 6<sup>th</sup> National Meeting – Fort Worth, TX

### Friday, July 27<sup>th</sup>

*Fort Worth Zoo* Tours of the horned lizard breeding program at Texas Wild section on the hour beginning at 1:00 PM, 2:00 PM, and 3:00 PM; Texas Wild remains open until 5:00 PM and staff will be on hand until then. Host: John Ward, assistant curator, Texas Wild

Dinner on your own



### Saturday, July 28<sup>th</sup>

*Dee Kelly Alumni Center and Mary Coats Burnett Library, TCU Campus*  
Host: Dr. Tony Burgess, Environmental Science Department

8:00-9:00 AM Registration and coffee

9:00-11:30 AM Papers

11:30-1:00 PM Luncheon with speaker, Jane Manaster

1:00-4:00 PM Papers

4:00-5:00 PM Horned Lizard Conservation Society business meeting

Dinner on your own



### Sunday, July 29

10:00 AM Tour of Fort Worth Nature Center

1:00 PM Lunch, exploration, relaxation, and adjournment at Crosswinds Ranch, located in Wise county, about one hour west of Ft. Worth (We will try to provide transportation to those needing it.) Host: Joyce Roach



# Places to Stay

## July 27 - 29, 2007, Fort Worth, Texas

Here are some suggestions for where to stay if you are coming to the meeting.

**Area Motels near T.C.U.**

*Courtyard by Marriott* (817) 335-1300  
 3150 Riverfront Drive (800) 321-2211  
 Fort Worth, TX 76107 (817) 336-6926 Fax

*Fairfield Inn* (817) 335-2000  
 1505 S. University Drive (800) 228-2800  
 Fort Worth, TX 76107 (817) 335-2000 Fax

*Homestead Studio Suites Hotel* (817) 338-4808  
 1601 River Run (888) STAYHSD  
 Fort Worth, TX 76107 (817) 338-4779

*Ramada Inn Midtown* (817) 336-9311  
 1401 S. University Drive (800) 336-3000  
 Fort Worth, TX 76107 (817) 877-3023 Fax

*Residence Inn* (817) 870-1101  
 1701 S. University Drive (800) 331-3131  
 Fort Worth, TX 76107 (817) 877-5500 Fax

*Spring Hill Suites* (817) 878-2554  
 3250 Lovell (888) 287-9400  
 Fort Worth, TX 76107 (817) 820-0044 Fax



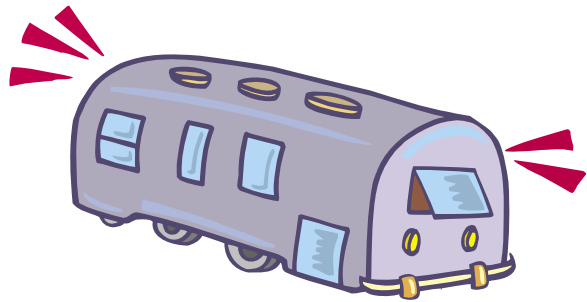
**RV Sites**

*RV Ranch Burleson*  
 2301 S. Burleson Blvd, Burleson, TX 76028  
 Ph: (817) 426-5037 Fx: (817) 426-3039  
 RESERVATIONS: 1(888) 855-9091

Daily prices range from \$29.95 to \$32.95 depending on the site location. Weekly prices range from \$180 to \$200. The RV Ranch is located on the southern edge of Fort Worth. Take I-35W to exit 32 (Bethesda Road). Take the east side service road six tenths of a mile north and turn in at the big Austin stone entrance.

*RV stay at Crosswinds Ranch*

A limited number of places are available at Crosswinds Ranch with bed, proximate bathroom, and air conditioning. Places for two RV hookups; no sewer connection. The Ranch is an hour and a half from TCU but rides might be shared with others. The cost is \$10.00 per person, same per RV. First come, first served.





# Pre-registration Form HLCS National Meeting

## July 27 - 29, 2007, Fort Worth, Texas

Please print name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Meeting Registration:</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Amount Submitted</b>
Full registration (includes all events, two lunches, and snacks)	\$30	_____
Partial registration (includes all events; does not include lunch or snacks on Saturday)	\$10	_____
Guest registration (includes lunch on Saturday and Sunday)  Name of guest(s): _____	\$20	_____
<b>Total amount submitted:</b>		_____

**Notes:**

- Registration deadline is July 10. After that date only partial registration (without meals) will be available on-site.
- Entrance to the Fort Worth Zoo is complimentary for registrants and their families.
- Joyce Roach is hosting a complimentary lunch on Sunday for all pre-registered attendees and their families.
- Children 18 and under may attend all events for free, but must have a guest registration if they wish to have meals or snacks on Saturday.
- Registration fees may be refunded until July 10.



For catering purposes, please indicate how many people plan to partake in the two meals:

Lunch at TCU on Saturday \_\_\_\_\_

Lunch at Crosswinds Ranch on Sunday \_\_\_\_\_



**Make checks payable to: HLCS**

Mail checks and registration form to:

**Horned Lizard Conservation Society**  
**P.O. Box 122**  
**Austin, TX 78767**





# Call for Papers: 6th National Horned Lizard Conservation Society Meeting

By Wendy Hodges

The Horned Lizard Conservation Society invites your participation in its 6th National Meeting to be held July 27 - 29, 2007 - a meeting we anticipate will stand tall above all previous 5! In addition to activities on Friday and Sunday, the Society will host a day of talks Saturday at Texas Christian University to offer land-owners, biologists, and interested citizens a chance to share knowledge and understanding of all horned lizard species.

We encourage presentations from all aspects of horned lizard biology, including (but not limited to) conservation, ecology, habitat management, behavior, captive propagation for reintro-



duction, population-level natural history studies, population monitoring and census techniques, genetics, and systematics. Twenty minutes will be allotted per presentation.

Following this year's meeting, we may publish a set of papers based on the presentations in an edited and peer-reviewed volume. Publication is not required for your participation, and we are currently assessing the level of interest in producing a published volume. Additional information about this year's meeting and presentations will be available on the HLCS website: [www.hornedlizards.org](http://www.hornedlizards.org).

If you would like to present your work at our meeting you may submit your abstract to Dr. Wendy Hodges. email address: [wendyh@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:wendyh@mail.utexas.edu). The preferred format for submission is a Microsoft Word document. You can download our pre-formatted form from our website or if you do not have Word, please send your name along with co-author names and addresses, presentation title, 4 keywords, and a 250-word abstract. Please indicate on your submission if you are interested in publishing. Deadline for abstract submission is June 1, 2007 except for students applying for travel awards, who need to submit their abstracts by May 25, 2007.



## Travel Awards to the Biennial Meeting in Fort Worth, Texas

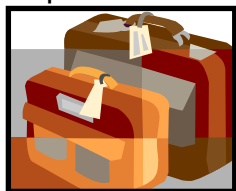
By Wendy Hodges

This year, we are excited to offer travel awards for undergraduate and graduate students to attend the national meeting and present their research. Two Research Awards will be given to the best student abstracts submitted. Amount of the award is dependent on the student's residence, \$500 for out of state travel and \$300 for in-state travel.

An annual membership to the HLCS will also be awarded to the recipients. Recipients of this

award must be the first author on the presentation.

Additionally, Travel Assistantship awards will be given to



deserving students presenting their work. Three awards of \$100 plus a waiver of registration fees will be granted in exchange for student assistance during the meeting. Students who are HLCS members will be given priority over non-members for these assistantships.

To be eligible for either award, students must give a presentation during the biennial meeting in Fort Worth in July 2007. Research Award recipients must be first author.

They should indicate they would like to be considered for either travel award at the bottom of their abstract submission. Abstracts must be submitted by 5pm, May 25, 2007 to be eligible for award consideration and students will be notified by July 1, 2007.





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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.

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