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VIRGINIA HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY

VOL. 25 NO. 2 AUGUST 2015

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OCT. 24, 2015 FALL MEETING

Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) Rice Center, 9am-5pm

The Fall Meeting includes presentations from herpetological professionals and researchers, silent & live auctions, photo contest, poster session for students, and a great opportunity for comradery with other herpetological enthusiasts. This year will also provide a beautiful setting at the VCU Rice Rivers Center, which is in a very rural setting along the mighty James River.

The Rice Center is located 35 minutes southeast of Richmond, along the James River and off the historic John Tyler Memorial Highway (Route 5) between the Berkeley and Shirley plantations in Charles City County, Va. From Richmond either take Route 5 out of Richmond or take I-64 East to I-295 South, exiting at Exit 22A East onto Rt. 5 (New Market Road). New Market Road is later named John Tyler Memorial Highway. The entrance to the Rice Center is on the right, approximately 11 miles from I-295 and exactly one mile east of the intersection of Rt. 5 with routes 106 and 156. Take our gravel road one mile to the James River and our buildings.

Note: If using Google Maps, please use the following address: 3701 John Tyler Memorial Highway, Charles City, VA. When using this service, please pay careful attention that the entrance for the Rice Center is on the south side of Route 5.

Research
Presentations

Research Posters

Live Animals

Photo Contest

Silent Auction

Live Auction

Items for Sale

Business Meeting

Free Parking

Free Admission



<http://www.vcu.edu/rice/>

1. CAN YOU IDENTIFY THEM ALL?



2. Snake in the Washer?!?

The VHS received an entertaining poem and photo from Melissa Parkinson about finding a juvenile of this snake in her washer. Can you name this native species?

3. Why is this Eastern Rat Snake so

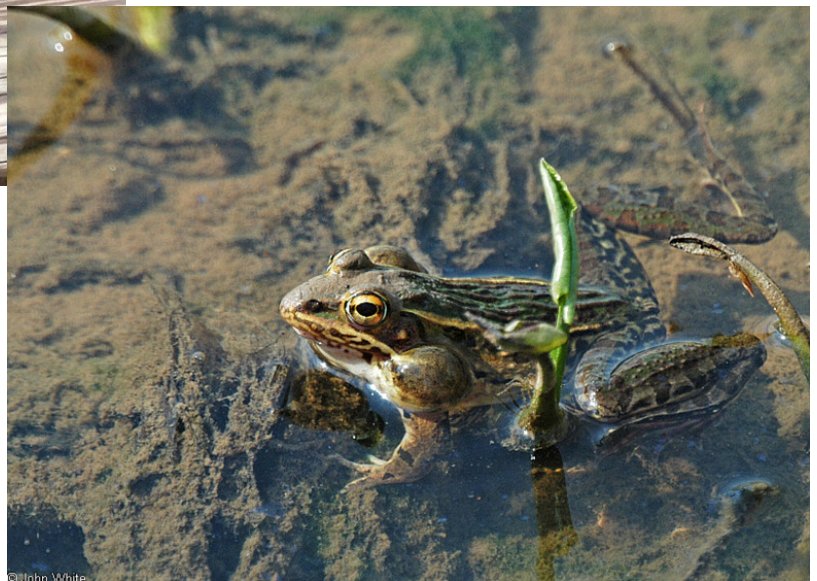


4. Froggy Calling:

Male frogs in Virginia can make four different types of calls. Can you name their purposes?

5. True or False:

A single adult female Southern Leopard Frog may deposit up to 3,000 eggs in one egg mass!



Solutions
on page 10



2015 Annual Spring Meeting Survey & Summary



We had great weather and a great turnout!

The VHS conducted their Annual Spring Meeting & Survey at Westmoreland State Park on May 8-10, 2015. Approximately 60 participants attended and documented approximately 33 species of herpetofauna.



2015 HerpBlitz Summary

The VHS Annual HerpBlitz took place on June 13-14, 2015.

21 participants attended; approximately **30 species** of herpetofauna were documented.

A Special Thanks to the Park for their gracious hospitality at their beautiful property, to the VHS members who were able to participate, and to Paul Sattler for all the photos.

VHS performed a survey here several years ago in the month of July. It was deemed necessary to return for an earlier time of year to complete an evaluation of the Park's herpetofauna. We were unable to find our target species, the Mountain Chorus Frog and Northern Map Turtle. The river where the turtles may have been present was difficult to access in the steep gorge. Another target species, Green Salamander, did not disappoint and was found and photographed several times. For everyone who made the long trip to this site, the weekend was well spent.



Breaks Interstate State Park

The Organization of Fish & Wildlife Information Managers (OFWIM) 2015 Conference & Annual Meeting, hosted by VDGIF in Williamsburg, September 27 – October 1. OFWIM is an international organization that VDGIF was instrumental in helping form in the 1990's. OFWIM's mission is to promote the management and conservation of natural resources by facilitating technology and information exchange among managers of fish and wildlife information. Their annual meeting is held in a different state each year to help accommodate all the different agencies and organizations involved. <http://www.ofwim.org/>



U p c o m i n g R e p t i l e E x p o s

	Northern Va/Manassas	Richmond
Dates	8/29, 10/10, & 12/12	7/25 & 10/24
Location	Prince William County Fairgrounds Manassas, Virginia 20108	Richmond International Raceway Colonial Bldg, 602 E Laburnum Ave Richmond, VA 23322
Price	\$8/ \$3 Child	
Time	9 am to 3 pm	
Contact	http://mdreptilefarm.com/category/shows/	

For the latest zoo updates and events, please visit the following pages or click the logos below:

- Reptiles Alive!: <http://www.reptilesalive.com/publicevents/publicevents.htm>
- Virginia Living Museum: <http://thevlm.org/events/museum-events/>
- The Virginia Zoo in Norfolk: <http://virginiazoo.org/events/>
- Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center:
<http://www.virginiaaquarium.com/visit/events>
- Mill Mountain Zoo in Roanoke: <http://www.mmzoo.org/events>



Virginians Interested in Protecting Every Reptile



VIIPER is a reptile enthusiast and rescue organization based out of Virginia Beach, VA, that formed in February 2008. They intend to:

- Educate the public about the roles that reptiles play to balance the ecosystem.
- Provide information on which reptile might suit you best, proper housing, feeding techniques and general information.
- Take in unwanted, abandoned and abused reptiles, provide necessary medical attention and find them new homes.
- Present at expos and pet stores to spread the word about reptiles and help potential buyers with questions or concerns about potential pets.
- Find homes for adoptable animals.

Current pets available for adoption:



This Red Tail Boa is available for adoption.

- 6 ball Pythons
- 1 baby Red Tail Boa
- 1 Subadult Red Tail Boa
- 1 Corn Snake
- 2 King Snakes
- 1 Veiled Chameleon

Email: viiper2008@yahoo.com
 Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/viiper.us

Virginia Reptile Rescue (VARR)



Bonnie Keller has operated VARR since 1999 out of her home. She has tons of experience with captive reptiles along with plenty of compassion for them. VARR currently has several ball pythons, bearded dragons, and Russian tortoises up for adoption. Check out their website (vareptilerescue.org) and the Cleo the Ball Python, one of many available animals:



Cleo is ready for a new home!

Cleo - a ball python, is approx. 8 years old. 36" long. She is quite healthy in appearance, and was well cared for. She is friendly, and has an interesting light pattern.

VARR expects potential adopters to research the species prior to contacting us. We will ship using FedEx overnight, if temperatures are reasonable.

Adoption info is at our website, and should be read before emailing for more information. www.vareptilerescue.org

Also, checkout the VARR store for a plethora of items you can purchase with their logo and the "Don't Let It Loose" logo. Plus, a portion of the proceeds supports the rescue!



Virginia

HYLA CINEREA



CHARACTERISTICS

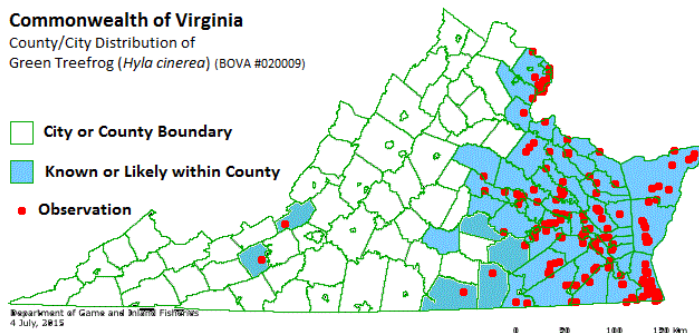
This species is small, slender, usually bright green but variable, with a conspicuous light stripe along each side extending from beneath the eye over the forelimb and back toward the hip. The length is approximately 1.5 to 2 inches (40-53 mm). Many individuals have tiny gold specks on their backs. This species breeds from April to August. The eggs are black or brownish and white laid in small packets or films at or near the surface. This species breeds in swamps, pond margins and most wet places.





FOODS

The green treefrog is attracted to insects near lights. It is very active in the breeding season and may leap when foraging.



DISTRIBUTION

The green treefrog occurs throughout the coastal plain, including the Eastern Shore, as well as in eastern portions of the Piedmont. This species prefers the floating and emergent vegetation along the swampy edges of ponds, lakes, marshes, and streams. During the day, these well-camouflaged frogs rest motionless, often on cattail plants: at night, they are sometimes attracted to insects near lights. It is often found in campground bathrooms, on kitchen windows, or on the side of well-lit buildings actively foraging for insects. In fact, a breeding population has been documented in Pulaski County, at Claytor Lake State Park, where it is believed individuals likely hitched rides on camping vehicles and/or equipment and started this introduced population. This species was also recently recorded in Craig County, where it is believed that it was introduced by human activity.

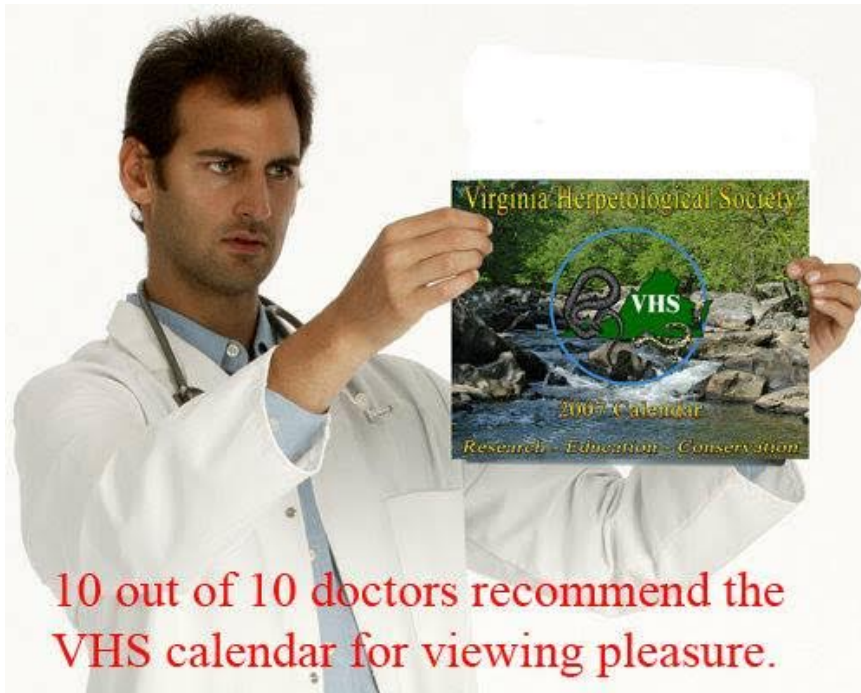


IRGINIA IS FOR FROGS

Check out the following webpage on the Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries website:

<http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/virginia-is-for-frogs/>

2016 Calendar:



We need your photographs for the 2016 VHS Calendar! Ideally, the photos should show a native reptile or amphibian in a natural setting. The minimal image requirements are 2300 pixels in width x 1800 pixels in height at 200 DPI. Please send submissions to:

Merchandise@vaherpsociety.com

Herp Trivia Solutions:

1. Identification:
 - a. Northern Red-bellied Cooter
 - b. Pickerel Frog
 - c. Too little information to determine if the lizard is a Common Five-lined Skink or a Southeastern Five-lined Skink.
 - d. American Bullfrog
2. Snake in the Washer: Juvenile Eastern Ratsnake
3. Bumpy Snake: Thermoregulation. The shown position helps the snake to reach operating temperature. For additional information see:
<http://web.csulb.edu/~acarter3/pdfs/pinou-carter-HerpReview2002=snake-flattening-behavior.pdf>
4. Froggy Calls:
 - a. Advertisement – to attract a female
 - b. Encounter – to defend a territory from an intruding male
 - c. Release – to tell another male to let go during explosive breeding events
 - d. Distress – to startle a predator into releasing it or getting away from it.
5. True or False: True!