

# BULLETIN

NEWSLETTER OF THE KANSAS ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

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## COUNTDOWN TO 135<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

APRIL 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> 2003

PITTSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY - PITTSBURG, KANSAS

Come help PSU celebrate its Centennial! Travel through some of the prettiest vernal scenery in Kansas. Co-hosts Joe Arruda and Jim Triplett have arranged some memorable events including a renown speaker, a paleontology symposium (the 4<sup>th</sup> annual of such), field trips, banquet and an assemblage of papers in a variety of scientific disciplines.

### WANT TO EAT?

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR TICKETS TO APRIL 11<sup>th</sup> BANQUET AND APRIL 12<sup>th</sup> LUNCHEON. It is necessary that the food caterer knows how many meals to prepare and the Academy must prepay for those meals. For this reason, tickets will not be available "at the door." Pre-registration is available until 24 March and is \$45.00 for KAS members, \$55.00 for non-members and ranges from \$10.00 to \$23.00 for students. Student presenters (both oral and poster) are eligible for free luncheon tickets.

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### DR. JAMES A. DUKE, ETHNOBOTANIST

Dr. James A. Duke, world authority in ethnobotany, will provide public and plenary lectures. The KAS is honored by having Dr. Duke as the speaker at a public lecture at 7:00 PM, Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup> and at the plenary lecture at 10:00 AM on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. Titles for the two lectures respectively are: "A Tale of Two

Gardens" and "Herbal Alternatives: Herbs vs Pharmaceuticals."

Dr. Duke, a native of Birmingham, Alabama, earned his Ph.D. degree in botany at the University of North Carolina in 1961 and performed postdoctoral re-search at Washington University (St. Louis, MO) and at the Missouri Botanical Garden. There, he began what would become his lifelong interest: neo-tropical ethnobotany (For those from Stony Lonesome, IN., ethnobotany focuses on the useful and/or economic plants utilized by a particular ethnic group.) and concentrates on tropical ecology, medical botany and crop diversification. Dr. Duke worked 30 years for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, retiring from there in 1995. He now is involved full time in lecturing, research, travel, (principally to warm places), and maintenance and updating of various USDA and other online databases. Schedules, registration form, and pertinent information about the 135<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting can be found at: [http:// www.pittsburg.edu/biol/kas135](http://www.pittsburg.edu/biol/kas135). If your answers are not there: contact Dr. Joe Arruda: voice (620)235-4738| fax(620)235-4194

e-mail [jarruda@pittstate.edu](mailto:jarruda@pittstate.edu). Alternative is Dr. Jim Triplett, same fax, voice (620)235-4732 e-mail [jtriplett@pittstate.edu](mailto:jtriplett@pittstate.edu).

## DUES\*DUES\*DUES



### GET THE PICTURE?

As of this date, 90 members or nearly 35% of membership have not paid dues for 2003. Other than an occasional donation, dues are the only source of income available to the Academy. Please examine your check register and if you have no record, send your check to the treasurer at the earliest possible date. If you're not sure whether you've paid, check with Pieter Berendsen at 785-864-2141 or [pieterb@kgs.ku.edu](mailto:pieterb@kgs.ku.edu)

### KAS ELECTION RECORDS SURPRISING VOTING TURNOUT.

Nearly 31% of KGS members returned their completed ballots for officers and council members this last election. This is more than the average county-level election turnout in Kansas. The names and addresses for elected and appointed officers are listed on the Academy webpage. Check it out.

### FALL FIELD TRIP ON SLATE

The annual KAS Fall Field Trip is scheduled for Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. The subject is yet uncertain but probably will be the Tall Grass Prairie Preserve at Strong City. Come and watch the antelope play! Check the KAS website ([www.wuacc.edu/KAS](http://www.wuacc.edu/KAS)) for updates.

## **KARDEL CONNECTS WITH CALIFORNIA – CUTS KANSAS COLDI TO BE SUCCEEDED BY STRONG REPLACEMENT!**

Scott Kardel, the director of the Kansas Junior Academy of Science, staff member of the Fairmount Center for Science and Education (WSU) and of the Lake Afton Public Observatory has resigned his positions and is bound for sunny southern California. Scott has been selected as Public Outreach

Director for the Palomar Observatory. This is a great opportunity for Scott and we in KAS wish him and his family the best of everything.

Scott's successor as **KJAS Director is Amy Strong**. I had the pleasure of knowing Amy when she was a graduate student and know that she will be an outstanding KJAS director. KJAS is widespread in the state and requires a lot of coordination with local school science teachers and students. Amy, like Scott, will require assistance at annual state KJAS meeting which will be held at WSU in Wichita on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Last year, more than 100 student presentations were made. Help is needed in judging the entries. If you can/will help, contact Amy at (316) 978-6503 or [amy.strong@wichita.edu](mailto:amy.strong@wichita.edu). Remember, these high school kids are your future students and may be your future replacements. Help keep them interested in science!

### **IN THE PERSPECTIVE OF GEOLOGIC TIME,**

IT IS NOTHING; BUT... it has been pointed out to us that the Kansas Academy of Science which has long trumpeted that it is the oldest such academy west of the Mississippi River has been trumped by the California Academy of Science which celebrates its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, having been founded in 1853. Alas...

**DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SPEAKERS** and their topics also are named on the KAS website. This KAS-sponsored program presents well-known scientists-scholars who are available at no cost other than transportation and overnight lodging when necessary. Each offers three different presentations in their areas of expertise, which presentations are tailored to groups ranging from the general public to academia. This year's lecturers are: Dr. Larry Dean Martin, Professor and Senior Curator of Paleontology at K.U.'s Museum of Natural History; Dr. Orley R. Taylor, Jr., Professor of Entomology/Ecology and Evolutionary Biology in the Division of Biological Sciences at KU; and Dr. Norman A. Slade, Curator of Mammals and Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Division of Biological Sciences at KU. Their e-mail addresses, phone numbers, etc. are on the KAS website.

ICCB- The Seventh International Conference on Coelenterate Biology will be convened at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, 6-11 July 2003. This will be the first ICCB to be held in the United States. One or more sessions will include the 2003 North American meeting of the International Society for Reef Studies. For details: <http://web.nhm.ukans.edu/inverts/iccb/>

### **DR. J.R. BERG**

Dr. John Robert Berg, Professor emeritus of Geology and past Dean of Liberal Arts at the Wichita State University passed away Friday, March 7, 2003. Berg was editor of *Transactions of the Kansas Academy of Science* for several years, served twice as President of the National Association of Geology Teachers (the only person to serve two terms) and a 50-year member of the American Chemical Society, The American Association of Petroleum Geologists and the Society of Petroleum Engineers. He was an Honorary Member of the Kansas Geological Society and an Honorary Lifetime Member of the Wichita Gem and Mineral Society. He also held memberships in a host of professional and honorary scientific and educational societies. Memorials are established with J. Robert Berg Distinguished Lecture Fund, Department of Geology, Wichita State University, Wichita, KS 67260.

**And you asked, "How do I get there?"**



(Maps omitted in the web version of the BULLETIN)

### **KAS IN THE PAST: RESEARCH PUBLISHED IN THE TRANSACTIONS 50 AND 100 YEARS AGO:**

1903 -

- \*E.H.S. Bailey: A Study of Dietaries at Lawrence, Kansas.
- \*Alva J. Smith: Geology of Lyon County, Kansas.
- \*B.R. Smyth: Preliminary List of Medicinal and Therapeutic Plants, with their Reputed Therapeutic Properties.
- \*C.H. Sternberg: Experiences with Early Man in America.
- \*C.H. Sternberg: The Permian Life of Texas.

1953 -

- \*R.H. Baker: Mammals from Owl Pellets in Coahuila.
- \*R.D. Comer & P.G. Roofe: Effects of Radium Chloride on the Thymus of the Albino Rat.
- \*Maxine Fish: Effect of Glaciation upon Pteropsida.
- \*H.H. Nininger: The Pirceville Oxidized Siderite.
- \*W. H. Schoewe: The Geography of Kansas—Part III concluded.