

L. Brian Patrick, Membership Secretary
Department of Biological Sciences, Dakota Wesleyan University
1200 W. University Ave., Mitchell, SD 57301, USA
Email: brpatric@dwu.edu, Voice: 605-995-2712

2017

Thank you for joining or renewing your membership with the American Arachnological Society! For life members, thank you for sustaining your interest and passion for arachnology and AAS! We greatly appreciate your support and membership. I want to welcome you and remind (or introduce, for new members) you to some of your membership benefits.

As an AAS member you will receive three issues per year of the *Journal of Arachnology* – the premier journal for the dissemination of arachnological research worldwide. Many of you have opted to receive *JoA* electronically with our Green Membership, while others have opted for the traditional hard copy to be mailed. Only AAS members receive access to the most recently published articles in *JoA*. The current AAS member user ID and password to access the most recent issues are **levi16** (user ID) and **neogea16** (password). *JoA* recent issues and issues older than one year are freely available online at <http://www.americanarachnology.org/JoA.html>.

Members of the AAS are also entitled to 30% off the purchase price of Richard Bradley's exceptional field guide, *Common Spiders of North America*. To take advantage of this offer, go to <http://www.ucpress.edu>, search for *Common Spiders of North America* and type in the discount code: 13W7123 on your order form.

In addition to these benefits, student members and regular members with little to no institutional support are eligible for monetary travel and research awards to support travel to the AAS annual meeting and to meetings of the International Society of Arachnology (held every three years) and to support small research projects. Travel awards are up to \$1000 and research awards range from \$1000 (students) to \$2000 (non-students). Information on these research and travel awards can be found at http://www.americanarachnology.org/grants_and_awards/grants_and_awards.html.

Membership fees also support the publication of *Spiders of North America: An Identification Manual*. This is the only reliable manual available allowing the identification of spiders from all North American families down to the genus level. The second edition of this important manual is currently in revision!

In addition to these benefits, members (regular and student members) receive a substantial discount on registration costs at the annual meeting of the society. Annual meetings are held in a variety of places throughout the Americas. Locations and details are posted online at <http://www.americanarachnology.org/meetings/meetings.html>.

Welcome again and thank you for joining!

L. Brian Patrick
Membership Secretary, American Arachnological Society