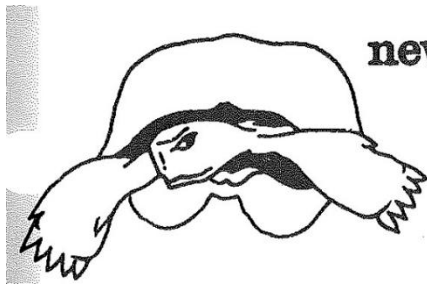




This is a reproduction of a previous Gopher Tortoise Council newsletter. This document has been altered from its original presentation so that information, news, and notable content can be preserved. Formatting, spelling, and grammar have been maintained to the extent possible. If possible, original images from the document have been included in these reproductions. The current and recent newsletters of the Gopher Tortoise Council, *The Tortoise Burrow*, can be found on the Council's website [here](#). Personal information, such as addresses and phone numbers have been redacted from this document.



newsletter of the GOPHER TORTOISE COUNCIL

Image: Original artwork and letterhead for the newsletter of the Gopher Tortoise Council

GOPHER TORTOISE COUNCIL ANNOUNCES STUDENT AWARD RECIPIENT

The first annual GTC Student Award was presented to Ren Lohofener, a Ph. D. candidate in zoology at Mississippi State University. The award of \$200 will support Mr. Lohofener's research project on gopher tortoises in the DeSoto National Forest, Harrison County, Mississippi. Based on tortoise surveys he did last year, Mr. Lohofener hypothesized that present abundance or lack of tortoise colonies on seemingly identical tracts is a result of past forest management practices. His GTC-sponsored project includes population surveys of four similar sites and correlation of population sizes with the history of land use practices on each site. When his study is completed, Mr. Lohofener will provide the Council with a final report of his activities and copies of scientific papers that result from his investigations.

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

The GTC was established two years ago for the purpose of assuring the continued survival of viable populations of the gopher tortoise, *Gopherus polyphemus*, throughout its existing range.

We believe that the Council's efforts at slowing the species' decline are beginning to pay off. We hope that you will continue to support the Council.

DETACH AND MAIL GTC MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

ANNUAL DUES (includes GTC newsletter)

Regular Membership (\$10.00)	-----	☐
Student Membership (\$5.00)	-----	☐
Contributing Membership for Individuals		
or Sororities (\$25.00)	-----	☐
Sustaining Membership (\$100.00)	-----	☐
Would you be interested in a leadership		
position in the GTC	-----	☐

Total Enclosed -----\$_____

Your Name _____

Address _____

(Please Print)

PLEASE RETURN THIS RENEWAL FORM which check or money order to GOPHER
TORTOISE COUNCIL to Ms. Lesley H. Hayne, P.O. Box ####, Albany, GA 31706

PAMPHLET ON GOPHER TORTOISES IN THE WORKS

GTC is currently putting together a pamphlet outlining the natural history of the gopher tortoise. The pamphlet will include information on distribution, status, habitat, and behavior as well as a sketch of the problems facing the species and some possible solutions to them. The purpose of the pamphlet is to introduce people to this unique reptile and to the activities of the GTC. Cathy Puckett, an environmental writer at the University of Florida, recently completed a first draft of the pamphlet's text, and illustrations are being made especially for it. We hope to publish it by early fall.

SLIDE SHOW ON THE SANDHILL COMMUNITY AVAILABLE FROM GTC

The Council has acquired two copies of a slide show on the sandhill plant community for use by community and conservation organizations. The show emphasizes the uniqueness of this plant community and highlights the gopher tortoise's important role in it. It was prepared by Howard Lawler, Chairman of the Council's Public Relations and Education Committee, and the Curator of Reptiles at the Knoxville Zoo. The show includes a set of color slides and a written script providing slide-by-slide interpretation. Interested groups should contact Ms. Bette Bechtel, Dept. of Biology, Valdosta State College, Valdosta, GA 31603 for further information. The slide show is available at no cost, but borrowers are responsible for returning it to the Council.

SECOND ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR AUTUMN

The next general meeting is being planned for Friday evening and Saturday, 1 November, 1980, at Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama. The meeting is being organized by Dr. Robert Mount, GTC Co-Chairperson and Professor of Zoology-Entomology, at Auburn. Over 200 people attended the first such meeting in Gainesville last November, and we hope that you will join us again this year. More information on the meeting is forthcoming.

SEND US YOUR NEWS! Research reports, protection efforts, population status information, legal developments, recent publications (copies appreciated but citations are welcome) ... anything which you think Council members should know about ... send to Roger Weill at the Mississippi Museum or to Karla Heimann, #### ## #### Street, Gainesville, FL 32601.

This document was created and transcribed by Bradley O'Hanlon
March 2026