



# Echoes From SOUTH DAKOTA

SOUTH DAKOTA BAT WORKING GROUP



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## Make Your Plans To Attend The 8th Annual SD BAT FESTIVAL

It's that time of year again...the SD Bat Festival will be held on **Saturday, August 17th at Custer State Park's Tatanka Theater** (located next to the Game Lodge Campground). The SD Bat Working Group sponsors this annual celebration of bats and their contributions to healthy ecosystems around the world.

The Festival provides the public an opportunity to learn more about these important animals and have a good time in the process. There are presentations about bats and the conservation work being conducted here in SD and around the world.

The Festival is free and there is something for all ages. (Please Note: The Park does charge an entry fee.)

The Festival begins at 5pm with a formal presentation beginning at 7pm. Bats usually begin to show-up 30 minutes either side of sunset (occurring approx. 8pm on the day of the Festival).

One of the highlights is getting to watch and hear bats flying around the Festival location once the sun sets. Detectors provide Festival-goers the opportunity to hear the echolocation calls of the bats as they forage for insects.

A variety of displays pertaining to bats will be exhibited, including equipment used to study them. Crafts for kids of all ages and free refreshments...including the ever popular homemade bat cookies. (No bats are harmed in making of the cookies.)

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2013 BAT FESTIVAL  
AUGUST 17TH!

# BAT NEWS

## from South Dakota...

If you plan to attend the **Outdoor Campus West's OUTDOOR UNIVERSITY** in Rapid City on July 20th, be sure to look for the **SD Bat Working Group** table.

Focus will be on bat houses. Stop by and say hello!



Everyone has room for another refrigerator or filing cabinet magnet! Ours is a magnet of substance and helps SDBWG raise money for bat-related educational materials for SD public elementary schools.

Magnets are approximately 4" by 2¾" and are \$3 each. They will be available at the Outdoor Campus' Outdoor University and the

### **BAT FESTIVAL.**

We can also make them available by mail for an additional charge for postage. Email [joeltigner@gmail.com](mailto:joeltigner@gmail.com) if you are interested.

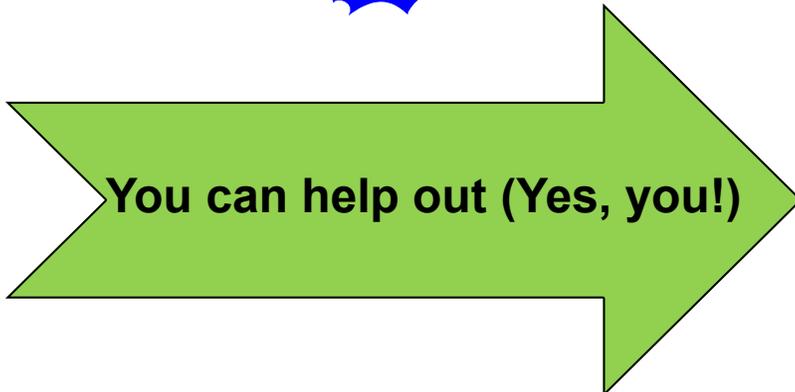
*All of the money raised* will be spent only on purchasing educational materials for SD public elementary schools (nothing goes toward administrative or postage costs).

# ...More **BAT NEWS**

Our apologies for the brevity of the newsletter this time and also the lack of content pertaining to bats in South Dakota.



There is a lot going on and we promise to do better next issue!



Do you have any bat-related news? Have you put up a bat house? Done an exclusion of bats from a building? Done any bat-watching?

We would love to hear about any of your bat-related experiences.. and photos are welcome! (and your contribution can be kept anonymous, if you'd prefer)

Send us a newsletter contribution and, if selected for inclusion, receive a free SD bat-theme t-shirt for your trouble! This offer lasts only as long as the t-shirts...  
*so hurry!*

\*\* Did you know there is a listserv for the SDBWG?

It is a way of posting announcements or questions that go out to all subscribers via email. There is no charge to join, simply visit the following link and select "join or leave the list" and you're all set. Here is the link:

<http://listserv.state.sd.us/archives/sdbwg.html>

The listserv is provided and administered by SDGFP.



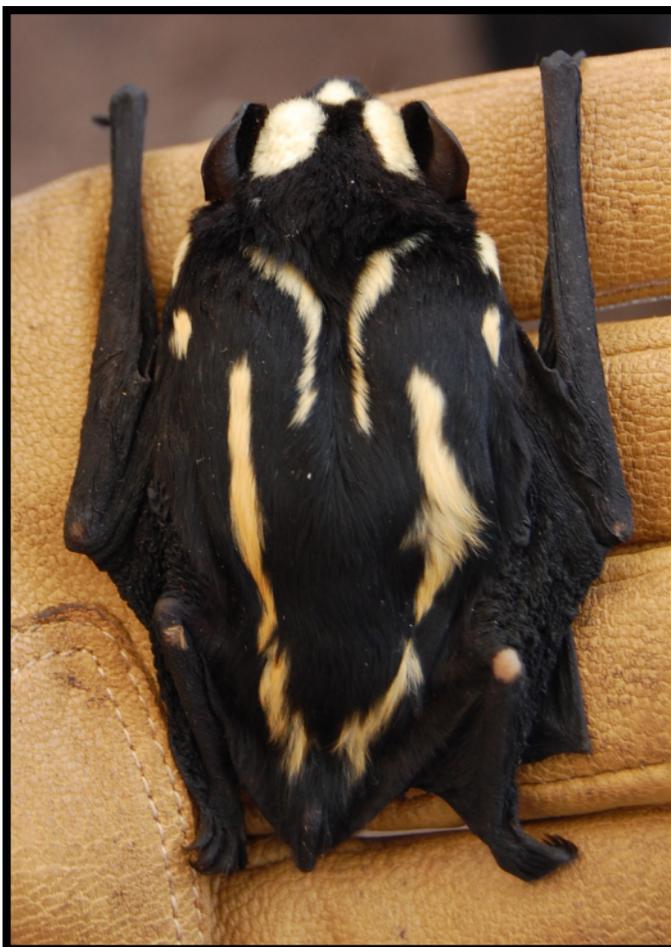
# **NEW BAT GENUS IDENTIFIED**

Recently, a new genus of bat was identified from surveys conducted in South Sudan. The surveys were conducted by Dr. DeeAnn Reeder, Associate Professor of Biology at Bucknell University, with personnel from the South Sudanese Ministry of Wildlife Conservation and Tourism, and Fauna & Flora International (FFI) Programme. The new name is *Numbaha superba*. *Numbaha*, meaning “rare “or “unsusal” is in the local language from the area in which the bat was found.

The description appears in the following publication:

Reeder DM, Helgen KM, Vodzak ME, Lunde DP, Ejotre I., 2013.  
A new genus for a rare African vespertilionid bat: insights from South Sudan.  
ZooKeys 285:89–115. [doi: 10.3897/zookeys.285.4892]

Photos provided courtesy of Dr. D. M. Reeder and Bucknell University.

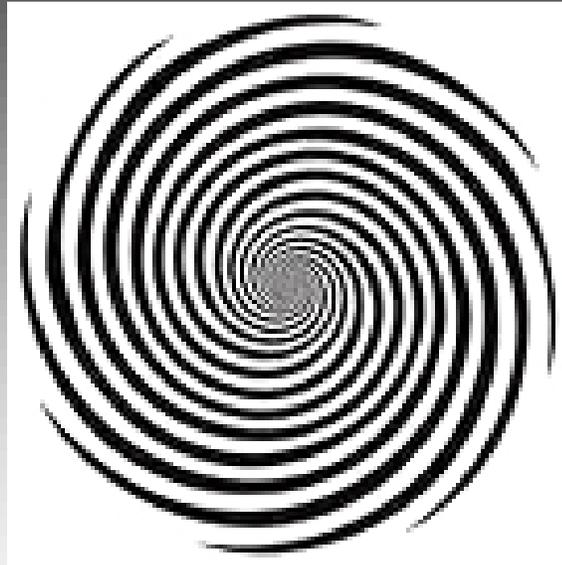


Many thanks to Dr. Reeder for allowing us to share these cool photos with our readers!





## Echoes From South Dakota



Gaze deeply into the circle above and repeat the following continuously for as long as it takes or until you realize you're just wasting time.....

"I must attend this year's Bat Festival....I must attend this year's Bat Festival....I must attend this year's Bat Festival....I must attend this year's Bat Festival...." (*ad nauseam*).

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# BAT FESTIVAL

is

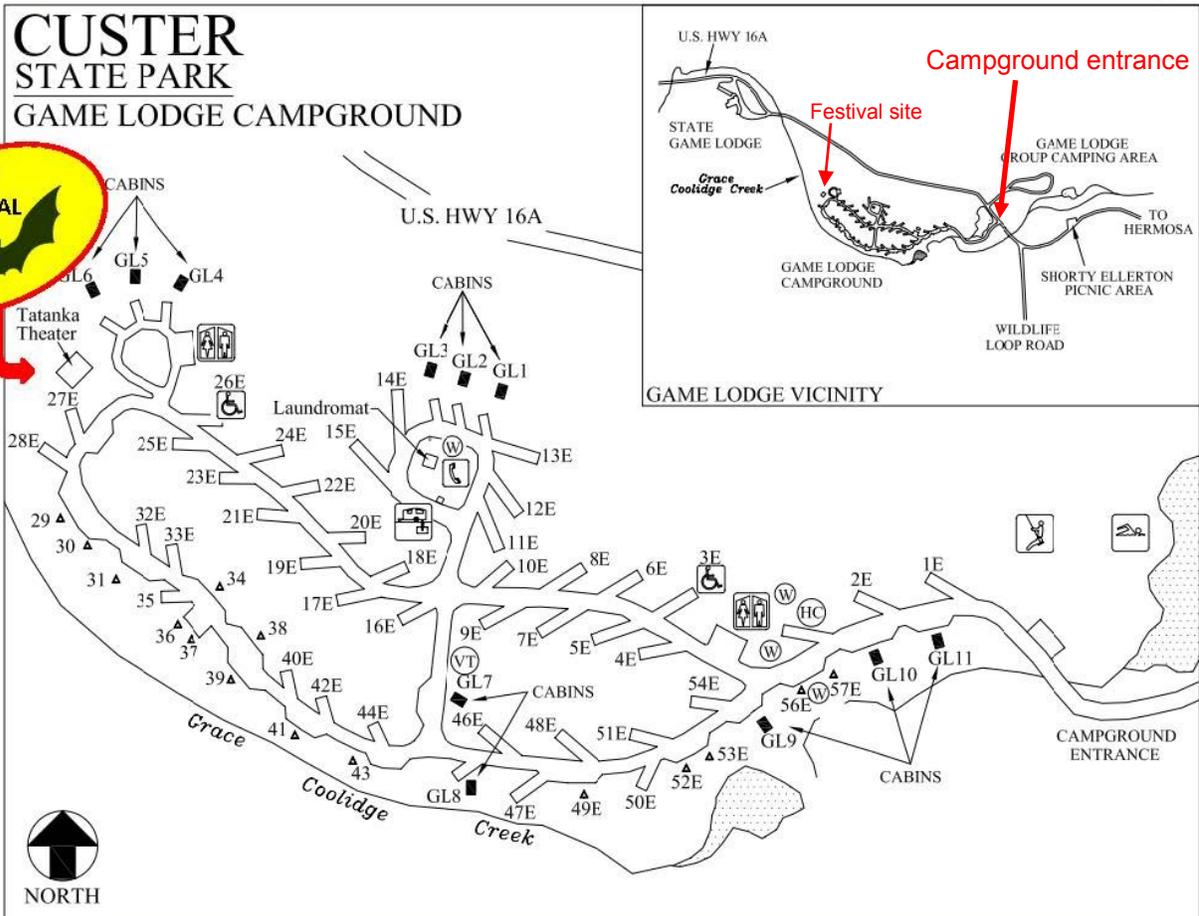
# Saturday, August 17th

# We hope to see you there!



# BAT FESTIVAL MAP

Held at the **TATANKA THEATRE** adjacent to **GAME LODGE CAMPGROUND**



Enter through **GAME LODGE CG** entrance located off **HWY 16A**



Last May, NPR ran a story on one of the bats found in Central and South America that feed on the nectar within flowers (Pallas's long-tongued bat [*Glossophaga soricina*]). The link to the story is below which also contains some great video footage of one of these bats feeding. The photo below is a close-up of this amazingly adapted tongue.

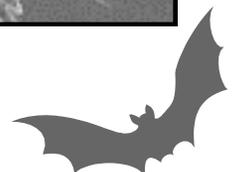
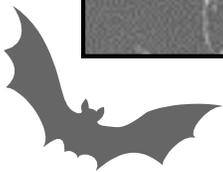
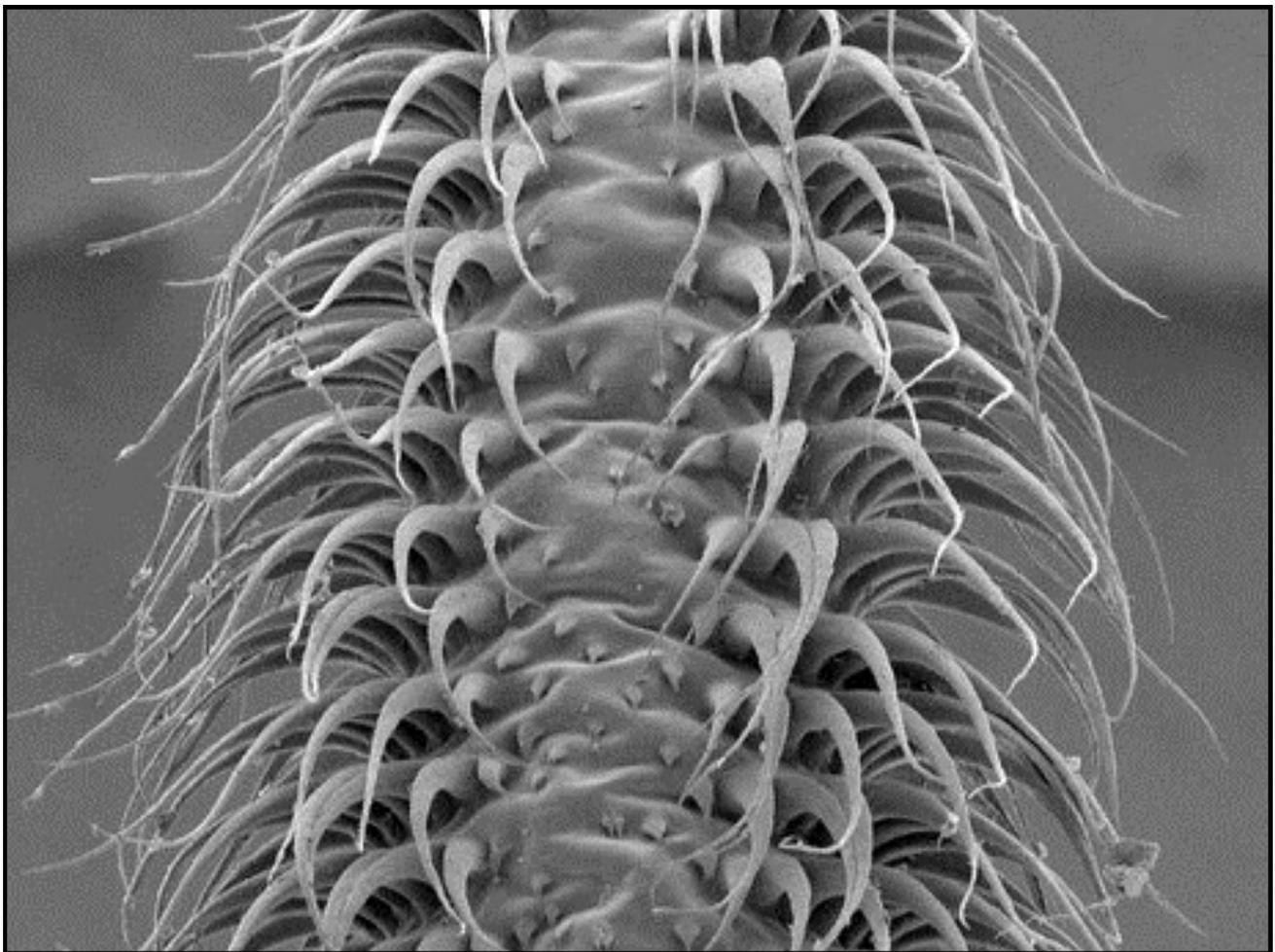
**This Bat Knows How to Drink** by RHITU CHATTERJEE -

<http://www.npr.org/2013/05/07/181634051/this-bat-knows-how-to-drink>

The research article on which the story is based is:

Harper C.J., Swartz S.M., and Brainerd E.L. 2013  
Specialized bat tongue is a hemodynamic nectar mop  
Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA 110(22):8852-8857  
doi: 10.1073/pnas.1222726110

We greatly appreciate the permission of the authors to include one of their photos of this amazing tongue.



Visit us on the web!  
[www.sdbwg.org](http://www.sdbwg.org)



**SDBWG**

# BAT FESTIVAL

is

**Saturday,  
August 17th**

**We hope to see you there!**

## **SOUTH DAKOTA BAT WORKING GROUP**

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The purpose of the SD Bat Working Group is to work to protect bats and bat habitat through action, education, and cooperation with Federal, State, Tribal, and private landowners.

Our objectives are two-fold: to raise awareness about the role bats play in maintaining healthy ecosystems; and to work with public land managers and private landowners and provide alternatives that will reduce possible adverse affects to bats or bat habitat.

Everyone is welcome to become a member of the SD Bat Working Group!

The only requirement is an interest in bats and their conservation.

There are no membership dues, so it's priced right for everyone!

**Get involved.....because bats need friends.**