

**Dragonfly Society of the Americas  
2014 Northeast Gathering**

## **GENERAL PLAN and ITINERARY**

The meeting headquarters will be the **BEST WESTERN MOTEL**, Johnson City. The group will gather informally starting Thursday evening, June 26, at about 6 PM. We usually break into small dinner groups then. We will meet at the hotel at **8 AM on Friday, June 27** to discuss and begin the field trips.

All participants should know that presently there is extensive highway and bridge construction in Binghamton. The western junction between Interstate 81 and NY highway 17 is being re-configured so as to upgrade highway 17 to become Interstate 86. This two-year project is in its second year. So far, the work has caused only minor inconvenience to local traffic, but detours are rerouted weekly. The **Binghamton Area** map shows the principal streets that local people use to avoid delays.

### **Directions to Best Western:**

From all of these directions the goal is to reach the junction of NY 201 (= Reynolds Road) and Harry L drive (see Binghamton Area map). The Best Western Motel is within the complex of stores and motels on the NE corner of this intersection. (Note that NY 17 is the eastward extension of I-86.) Possible detours (details not available at this time) may involve using various streets shown on the map.

- From the NORTH (Syracuse): The normal route will be to proceed south on I-81, continue west at the junction with NY 17 beyond exit 5, and continue west to Exit 72 ("201", "Shopping mall").
- From the NORTHEAST (Albany): I-88 joins I-81 just north of exit 5 on I-81. Proceed as though from the NORTH.
- From the EAST (Middleton): Proceed on NY 17 westward. The normal route is to pass through Binghamton (joining I-81 briefly) to exit 72 ("201", "Shopping mall") on NY 17.
- From the SOUTH (Scranton): Follow I-81 north to junction with NY 17. Continue west on 17 to exit 17 ("201", "Shopping mall"). Beyond the junction with Harry L Drive, the motel is with a complex of stores on the NE corner of highway 201 (= Reynolds Road) and Harry L Drive.
- From the WEST (Jamestown): Driving east on I-86, NY 17 is the continuation of I-86 east of Elmira. On NY 17, exit at exit 72 ("201", "Shopping mall").

### **FRIDAY, June 27**

On Friday we have the use of the meeting room at the Best Western. We will gather there before the field trips at **8 AM**. We will also be able to use this room on Friday evening. On Saturday the hotel management has assured us that we can use the breakfast room to spread out in during the day and in the evening if we want to.

The group should split into three groups for the Friday field trips (see the Field Trips sheet). These will be to (1) **Chenango Valley SP**, led by Paul Novak and (2) **Hawkins Pond Natural Area**, led by Nick Donnelly, and (3) to **Greenwood Park** (and the bog) led by Bryan Pfeiffer. **PLEASE PLAN TO CAR POOL!** Parking space may be tight.

### **FRIDAY EVENING, JUNE 27**

At the hotel, Erin White will present an overview of the recent New York Dragonfly and Damselfly Survey (NYDDS). Kevin Hemeon may offer insights in *Stylurus* nymph identification. Other presentations are possible.

### **SATURDAY, JUNE 28**

We will gather at 8 a.m. for a field trip to **Weirs Pond** (Nature Conservancy property) in northern Pennsylvania. **IT IS IMPORTANT TO CARPOOL FOR THIS TRIP!**

### **SATURDAY EVENING 6:30 pm**

We will gather for a barbeque picnic dinner at Otsiningo County Park (see the Binghamton Area map) starting at 6:30. We will pass the hat to cover expenses. We are not allowed to serve beer unfortunately.