



New Mexico Herpetological Society


Holiday Party

Saturday, December 8, 5-9 p.m.









 **Cost:** \$25 per person (pay at the door, cash or check)

 **RSVP (required):** email Josh Emms (joshemms@hotmail.com) your name and the number in your party

 **Location:** Christ Lutheran Church (Education Building), 7701 Candelaria Road NE, Albuquerque, 87110

 **Program:**

-  **Mix & Mingle (5-6pm):** Enjoy a variety of savory hors d'oeuvres and non-alcoholic beverages (no alcohol permitted at the church)
-  **Dinner (6-7:30pm):** Catered by **Garcia's Kitchen**, plus an assortment of home-made desserts provided by members of the NMHS
-  **Silent Auction (5-7:30pm):** Please feel free to bring items to donate to the silent auction to raise funds for NMHS and to make the party merrier!
-  **Raffle (5-7:30pm):** Purchase raffle tickets for a variety of restaurants, behind-the-scenes tour at the ABQ BioPark, and more, all to benefit the work of the NMHS!
-  **NMHS Board Election (7:30pm)**
-  **Speaker (8-9pm):** Tom Hudak, *The Timber Rattlesnake Recovery Program & Operation Shellshock*

In 2017, Tom Hudak co-founded High Desert Reptile Specialists in New Mexico. Prior to moving to the southwest, he spent more than 40 years working with venomous reptiles and other amphibians in New York. Tom was responsible for training New York State Department of Environmental Conservation officers in the safe identification, handling and relocation of dangerous reptiles they may encounter in the job. During his tenure with the NYSDEC, Tom was involved in several search-and-seizure operations, including the largest undercover operation in New York state history, **Operation Shellshock**. Tom has contributed countless hours in the Timber Rattlesnake Recovery Group based in Western New York, that tracks the movement, reproduction and homing habits of the state's largest endangered rattlesnake.