

THE TURTLE TRIBUNE

Volume 3, Issue 3

MAY-JUNE 2011

First the Frogs, Now the Turtles? Global Extinction Event Revealed in New Report.

SINGAPORE, Feb. 21, 2011 - -
Source: Turtle Survival Alliance

The plight of the planet's tortoises and turtles -- creatures that have roamed the Earth for 220 million years -- has never been greater, according to a detailed report released today by the Turtle Conservation Coalition. It shows the world's 25 most endangered tortoises and freshwater turtles will become extinct in the next few decades without concerted conservation efforts.

Worldwide the hunting of turtles is at vastly unsustainable levels. For example, in just one market in Dhaka, Bangladesh close to 100,000 wild caught turtles are butchered for consumption during a one-day religious holiday each year. Furthering the problem is a lucrative international black-market trade in pet turtles and tortoises that has escalated prices of some of the more rare species into the tens of thousands of dollars. Rumors even exist that some of the rarest Asian species are now commanding prices in the hundreds of

Continued on page 2



Photos by Kevin Norred – (above & below) Adult Male Western Pond Turtle basking with several Red Ear Sliders in Stow Lake in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 3** The Tortoise Home – Editors Notes
- 5** Turtle of the Month – Eastern Box Turtle
- 7** Gus's 26th B-day Flyer
- 10** 2011 Calendar of Events
- 15** Top 25 Critical Endangered Turtles & Tortoises
- 17** Turtle & Tortoise Classifieds –Supplies for Sale / Turtles & Tortoises for sale / Wanted Ads/ Private Adoptions

Continued from page 1

thousands of dollars. “Turtles are in serious trouble. They are some of the world’s most endangered vertebrates, more than mammals, birds, and even amphibians. Half of their species are threatened with extinction,” notes Anders Rhodin. “They’re being collected from the wild for food, perceived medicinal beliefs, and pets, while their habitats are being polluted and destroyed every day.”

Of the 25 most endangered turtles, over two-thirds (17) are from Asia, a result of decades of massive exploitation of the region’s turtle. Evolutionary marvels, their armored shells no longer ensure their survival. “Shells work great against natural predators, but are no match against humans armed with fire, knives and trucks” said Peter Paul van Dijk.

Number one on the list is the Pinta Island Tortoise, one of the Galapagos tortoise species that contributed to Charles Darwin’s theories on Natural Selection. Sadly, only a single male of this species, ‘Lonesome George’, remains alive today. Ironically, Darwin and other travelers often ate many of the islands’ tortoises and released rats, goats, and other animals, which significantly contributed to their decline. Close behind is the Red River Giant Soft-shell Turtle of China and Vietnam, weighing over 250 lbs. with a shell over three feet long. With only four animals left (three males and one female), the stakes have never been higher.

Some species are in danger of disappearing before scientists even find out where they live. Zhou’s Box Turtle (6th most endangered) has occasionally appeared in the turtle markets of China, but to date no one has located a wild population.

TROUBLE: The World’s 25+ Most Endangered Tortoises and Freshwater Turtles - 2011(PDF) at <http://www.iucn-tftsg.org>

About the Turtle Survival Alliance: is dedicated to conserve tortoises and turtles through a global network of species recovery efforts and captive breeding programs. More information can be found at www.turtlesurvival.org.

About the Turtle Conservation Coalition: is an informal alliance of the following turtle- and conservation- focused organizations currently working together on behalf of chelonian and biodiversity conservation: the *International Union for Conservation of Nature’s* Tortoise and Freshwater Turtle Specialist Group, the Turtle Conservation Fund,

the Turtle Survival Alliance, the Turtle Conservancy / Behler Chelonian Center, Chelonian Research Foundation, Conservation International, Wildlife Conservation Society, and San Diego Zoo Global.

Quotes provided by the following:

Dr. Anders Rhodin, *Chair, IUCN/SSC Tortoise and Freshwater Turtle Specialist Group*

Dr. Peter Paul vanDijk, *Deputy Chair, IUCN/SSC Tortoise and Freshwater Turtle Specialist Group*

Rick Hudson, President, Turtle Survival Alliance

Media Contact:

Heather Lowe, MS

Program Coordinator

Turtle Survival Alliance

817-759-7262 Hlowe@turtlesurvival.org

www.turtlesurvival.org

All info reprinted with the written permission of the TSA



Zhou’s Box Turtle – Picture from [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zhou's_Box_Turtle)

The Tortoise Home

By Kevin Norred
Publisher & Editor

Welcome to another issue of the **Turtle Tribune**. I look back over the past couple years and what started out as a simple local club newsletter has grown to a full on newsletter about education, preservation and conservation throughout the world. With everyone's help, I encourage each and everyone of you to pass the link for this newsletter to as many people as possible and promote the www.tortoisehome.org website to new and old keepers so they can learn about the proper care and husbandry, conservation and everything associated with turtles and tortoises. The Tortoise Home supports many non-profit organizations such as the Tortoise Trust, Turtle Survival Alliance and the California Turtle and Tortoise Club, just to list a couple. You can always visit the website for links to all the organizations. It is very important that each of us support at least one organization if not more because they are the source to help preserve what turtles and tortoises are left in the wild today. In the end, even though they are all different organizations, they are all one when it comes to saving turtles and tortoises.

Before I get too far into my article, I have to apologize for getting this issue out a month late. I am doing these newsletters now bi-monthly, but as many of you know, this is my own publication which I voluntarily do and with our son now being 6 months old, time to sit down in a quiet house and gather all the articles and put together this publication is sometimes challenging. So please forgive me as I am running a little behind.

In this issue, The Turtle of the Month is the Eastern Box Turtle which is one of my personal favorites. Eastern Box Turtles have one of the most striking color patterns known to turtles and are unfortunately in high demand due to its vibrant colors. With this demand, prices of captive bred box turtles have risen and also even with state and federal laws protecting them, many are poached from the wild as adults and sold into the pet trade.

In the March issue, I noted I was going to do an article on Aquatic habitats until I saw the June issue of Reptile Magazine which has a section on building ponds. I felt that having the two articles out at the same time was not good, plus mine was still in the works. Instead of rushing my article, I wanted to hold off and wait till the article was complete and ready.

I would like to share pictures of "simple" ponds from the readers so if any of you have ideas that you would like to share, please let me know. The more ideas and info that I can share in the article, the better care our turtles will have.

In the past couple months; we have had some exciting things going on. On March 26th for those that didn't make the SF Zoo lecture from Dr. Nick Geist from Sonoma State University on the Western Pond Turtle, you missed an awesome presentation. Dr. Geist covered not only the Western Pond Turtle, but the history and biology of Turtles and Tortoises. He was limited on time, but he could have kept the audience going all day. If Dr. Geist is available for another presentation, I highly recommend you attend. His presentation was very energetic and full of info. Afterwards, I was able to go behind the scenes where they do the head start program. A couple of Dr. Geist's students were taking their scheduled record keeping and by measuring each and every baby Western Pond Turtle to record their progress in growth. If you ever attend the SF Zoo, visit the educational center where the Head Start Western Pond Turtles can be viewed by everyone. They are displayed so everyone can see them. Also on display are a couple Western Pond Turtles in the children's section of the zoo in a small outdoor pond.

That same weekend, after we wrapped up the WPT presentation, Paul Haskins took me on a tour of Golden Gate Park to visit some of the habitats he has studied in the past concerning turtles. We visited Lily Pond where we spotted a couple Red Ear Sliders (Non-Native) and then visited Stow Lake. The day was warm but overcast but we did find about a dozen Red Ear Sliders swimming around. On a log near the shore, I was stoked to see piled on top of the Red Ear sliders a male Western Pond Turtle. It was a shame to see him mixed in with all the Sliders, but at least there was one. Talking to Paul, it has been observed in Stow Lake alone, 6 male Western Pond Turtles and over 200+ Red Ear Sliders in one day. I plan on as the weather gets better to start venturing out to the many lakes and streams to see if I can spot any Western Pond Turtles locally. It is a rare sight, but I know they are out there. If anyone else has sightings of Western Pond Turtles that are in the creeks, ponds or lakes please send me an email and let me know. In the upcoming months, I am going to be putting together a survey to help us learn where populations are being established and try to monitor which ones are growing.

Continued on page 4

(Continued from page 3)

Since March, The Tortoise Home adoptions have been going good. We have placed the following into loving homes:

- (3) Sulcata Tortoises
- (5) Leopard Tortoises
- (2) Russian Tortoises
- (40) Red Ear Sliders
- (2) Red Belly/Yellow Belly Sliders
- (2) Eastern Box Turtles
- (2) 3-Toed Box Turtles

We have currently available:

- (1) Greek Tortoises – Males (Home Pending)
- (115) Red Ear Sliders
- (1) Sulcata Male (Home Pending)

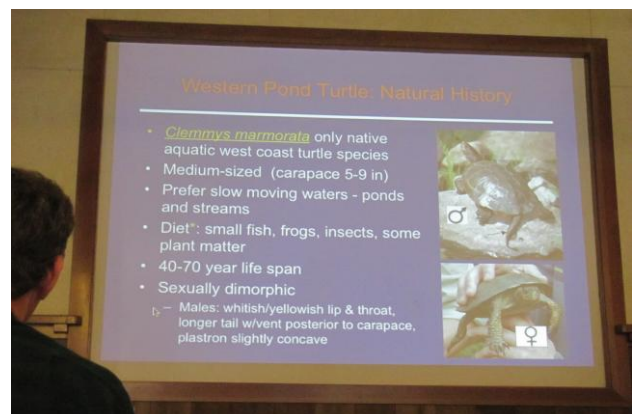
The website has been a learning experience. I am a rookie when it comes to websites so please forgive me if there are any errors. I have been experimenting with a couple different programs to see which one is user - friendly. The current version of the site is what I have been using for a while. I have been using Site builder to set up the page. I have had some complaints as to the adoption application not being available and there is a reason for that. I haven't found the best way to accept them. I was using a simple survey program to get the info emailed back to me, but there has been a lot of confusion and loose ends with that. I have been looking at using Adobe PDF to fill out and email, but the program is about \$300. So in the meantime, I have been just listing everything up on the website that comes available and taking request through our inquiry section. At times I will stop taking applications as well as at times, the files gets pretty full.

Also up and running on the www.tortoisehome.org website is the Vet Listings, Western Pond Turtle pages and much more. Like I mentioned in the beginning, this is a long process over the next year to make and get everything I want up onto the webpage. I have had some request to put an edible plant list up which I am compiling info for at this time.

Again, I want to thank everyone who has been supporting my efforts with the Western Pond Turtles, The Adoptions and Rescue and support with the new website and Turtle Tribune. I could not do it without everyone's help and support.

Thanks!!

-Kevin



Newsletter Notes:

For information, please contact Kevin @ Kevin@Tortoisehome.org

Publisher/Editor – Kevin Norred
Editor – Jessica Norred

Turtle of the Month

Welcome to the May/June turtle of the month. One of the most vibrant colored turtles in the world is located in the Eastern part of the United States. The Eastern Box Turtle, (*Terrapene carolina carolina*) is known for its brightly colored yellow, orange and red markings.

They occur as far north as southern Maine and the southern and eastern portions of the Michigan Upper Peninsula, south to southern Florida and west to eastern Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. The Eastern Box Turtle is considered uncommon to rare in the Great Lakes region; however, populations can be found in areas not bisected by heavily traveled roads. In the Midwest, they are a species of Special Interest in Ohio, and of Special Concern in Michigan and Indiana. Eastern box turtles prefer deciduous or mixed forested regions, with a moderately moist forest floor that has good drainage. They can be also found in open grasslands, pastures, or under fallen logs or in moist ground, usually moist leaves or wet dirt. They have also been known to take "baths" in shallow streams and ponds or puddles. Most people think that Eastern Box Turtles are semi-aquatic, but this is false. They do occupy shallow streams and ponds but mostly found in the shallow parts where they can easily enter and exit. Eastern Box Turtles do not have webbing on their feet therefore not allowing them to swim in deeper waters.

The eating habits of eastern box turtles vary greatly due to individual taste, temperature, lighting, and their surrounding environment. Unlike warm-blooded animals, their metabolism doesn't drive their appetite. Instead, they can just lessen their activity level, retreat into their shells and halt their food intake until better conditions arise. In the wild, eastern box turtles are opportunistic omnivores and will feed on a variety of animal and vegetable matter. There are a variety of foods which are universally accepted by eastern box turtles, which include earthworms, snails, slugs, grubs, beetles, caterpillars, grasses, fallen fruit, berries, mushrooms, flowers, bread, duck weed, and carrion. Many times, they will eat an item of food, especially in captivity, just because it looks and smells edible, such as hamburger or eggs even though the food may be harmful or unhealthy. Diets should consist of food and items they would encounter in their native habitats. In recent times, the Eastern Box Turtle has

(Continued on page 6)



Photos by Kevin Norred – Two prime examples of Eastern Box Turtles. These two were brought to the TORTOISEHOME for adoption. They now have a wonderful home with an awesome setup.

Continued from page 5

been over collected for the Pet Trade. Laws in almost all the States that Eastern Box turtles can be found have been put in place to protect them from wild populations going extinct. Unfortunately, supply and demand has placed them in a bad spot and many are illegally collected and poached and placed into harsh conditions until they can be sold. Most Eastern Box turtles sold that are less than 4" can be presumed are captive bred, but not 100%.

It is said that Florida Box Turtles, 3-Toed Box Turtles, Gulf Coast Box Turtles, Mexican Box Turtles, Yucatan Box Turtles are all subspecies of the Eastern Box Turtle. The Eastern Box Turtle in many parts of its habitats will co-habitat with the 3-Toed Box turtle, (*Terrapene carolina triunguis*) allowing for such cross breeding's to occur. Many 3-Toed Box Turtles can be found with colors similar to the Eastern Box Turtle. To determine the difference between the Eastern Box and the 3-Toed, Count the toes on their back feet. Eastern and many of the other subspecies have 4 toes and the 3-Toed which it gets its name from has 3 toes on each of its rear legs & feet.

In general, many species of Box turtles make great pets, but many fall to death due to improper lighting, diet and habitat size. Box turtles will do best if housed outside in a habitat that is self-contained with many safe plants. In my habitat, I planted several different plants that attract snails and slugs, and it was like heaven for my Box Turtles. All Box Turtles are expert diggers so if you plan on having one outside, special flooring will have to be used to keep them from escaping. Some people use chicken wire covered with dirt, I dug down about 12", laid down 12" pavers and then covered it with dirt. I don't prefer chicken wire personally as it can get tangled and break causing harm to the turtles. Using the pavers, this allows them to dig down for hibernation or to escape the heat in the daytime. If you live in a climate that is extreme low temps, a deeper substrate may be needed for them to escape the extreme low temps or you will have to bring them inside to artificially hibernate. One of the other things when setting up habitats in captivity is I prefer to set up the enclosure to receive morning sun. All my habitats for Box Turtles have always been on Eastern side of the house so as the sun reaches it hottest times of the day, the sun will become a shade for them so they don't become overheated.



Photos by Kevin Norred

Happy 26th Birthday Gus!!!



Come celebrate Gus's 26th hatch day party. Bring a story to tell about your turtle and/or tortoise as an "ice breaker". Bring some Romaine or celery for Gus and shelled friends (both have long handles), and be prepared to see, learn about, and interact with some of the largest turtles in the world. Gus shares his home with several Aldabra Tortoises, Galapagos Tortoises, Sulcata Tortoises and Leopard Tortoises.

Date: Saturday August 6th
Time: 11am to 4pm

Terry and Nadia live next to John D Morgan Park where parking should be available. John D Morgan Park is located on the NE corner of San Tomas Expressway and Budd Ave in Campbell.

Contact information is:
Terry and Nadia Burtz
345 Budd Ave
Campbell, CA 95008
1-408-378-2773
terryandgus@hotmail.com

Don't forget your camera !

Announcement and Call for Papers
The Turtle Survival Alliance will host the
9th Annual Symposium on the Conservation and Biology of
Tortoises and Freshwater Turtles

14 – 17 August 2011, Orlando, Florida

**Joint Annual Meeting of the Turtle Survival Alliance and IUCN/SSC Tortoise and
Freshwater Turtle Specialist Group**

The Turtle Survival Alliance (TSA) and the IUCN/SSC Tortoise and Freshwater Turtle Specialist Group (TFTSG) are pleased to announce the dates of their joint Symposium, Sunday – Wednesday, August 14– 17, 2011 in Orlando, Florida. This is the 9th annual conference hosted by the TSA, and has become the world's largest gathering of tortoise and freshwater turtle biologists, turtle enthusiasts, and captive breeding specialists in the world.

Planning is well underway to ensure that this is the best conference you attend in 2011!

As the tradition continues, we are grateful for the generous support of our **conference title sponsor, ZooMed**. This promises to be a major international conference, with over 100 presentations. Kicking off the conference will be the traditional icebreaker on Sunday evening, 14 August, with a chance to catch up with old friends and meet new ones. Monday evening (15 Aug) we will celebrate with the always fun Pizza & Beer Chelonian Video Night. A BBQ dinner at the Central Florida Zoo will be followed by the live auction on Tuesday evening (16 Aug). Finally, we will wrap up the conference with the Banquet and Award Presentations on Wednesday (17 Aug) so you will have the weekend to enjoy the National Reptile Breeders' Expo in Daytona. The TSA will also be planning field trips this year on August 14 and 18, space is limited and more details will be available soon on the TSA website.

For the sixth year, Turtle Survival Alliance and IUCN Tortoise and Freshwater Turtle Specialist Group will be awarding the Behler Turtle Conservation Award to a leading turtle conservationist. And once again, the Chelonian Research Foundation is sponsoring the annual Best Student Presentation Awards for papers and posters, providing cash prizes for the most outstanding presentations.

The venue this year is the Rosen Plaza Hotel and rooms are available at a conference rate that is less than \$100/night. Early registration for TSA members is \$150; discount pricing is available for students. Conference hotel and registration information is posted on our web site at <http://www.turtlesurvival.org/get-involved/2011-conference>.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Ultimately, the success of the conference is based on the quality of presentations offered. Here is your chance to make this conference even better by giving a presentation of your research, community achievements, or captive husbandry experiences.

We have many special sessions arranged including:

- South American Turtles – Vivian Páez (vivianpaez1@gmail.com)
- Turtle Ecology – Ben Anders (casichelydia@hotmail.com)
- Asian Chelonians – Torsten Blanck (cuora_yunnanensis@yahoo.com)
- Box Turtles – Ross Kiester (rkiester@gmail.com)
- Biology of North American Tortoises – by invitation
- Role of Zoos in Turtle Conservation – Charles (Chuck) Becker (charlesb@centralfloridazoo.org)
- Captive Husbandry – Cris Hagen (chagen@turtlesurvival.org)

All of these sessions are still accepting presenters with the exception of the “Biology of North American Tortoises” session. Please contact the session chair directly if you are interested in presenting in one of these sessions. In addition to the “special sessions” there are many presentation slots left open for a wide variety of other topics including Community Projects, Husbandry, Field Conservation, and Genetics. Please submit your abstracts early this year; **abstract submission deadline is June 3**. If you have any questions please contact Andrew Walde (awalde@turtlesurvival.org).

Instructions for abstract submission can be found here

http://www.turtlesurvival.org/storage/documents/2011_Conference/TSA_Abstract_Submission.pdf.

CALL FOR POSTERS

In addition to oral presentations, there is the opportunity to present in the poster session. If you are interested in presenting a poster, or have any questions, please contact Beth Walton (bwalton@turtlesurvival.org).

TRAVEL GRANTS

Speakers must register for the conference to be considered for a presentation and/or travel grants. Due to the success of the restructured Travel Grants Application format last year, we will continue to use it this year. This means you must be presenting (oral or poster) and have submitted an abstract to be eligible for a travel grant. Additional details and the application are available at <http://www.turtlesurvival.org/get-involved/2011-conference/travel-grants>.

Vendor booths are available for \$250 and those interested in vendor space, or in sponsoring a particular event or speaker, should contact Conference Chair Lonnie McCaskill (Lonnie.McCaskill@disney.com) or Heather Lowe (hlowe@turtlesurvival.org) for more information. Alternatively, you can view our vendor and sponsor opportunities online at <http://www.turtlesurvival.org/get-involved/2011-conference>.

We look forward to seeing you in Orlando.

Andrew Walde & Beth Walton
Program Co-chairs, TSA 9th Annual Symposium



2011 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 2011

- MAY 14TH – 15TH LAS VEGAS REPTILE SHOW –**
LAS VEGAS, NV
WWW.GETREPTILES.COM
- MAY 21ST CTTC VALLEY CHAPTER TURTLE &**
SHOW – EMAIL:
THEFLYINGTURTLE1953@YAHOO.COM
- MAY 22ND CTTC LONG BEACH CARE SOCIETY**
CHAPTER TURTLE & TORTOISE SHOW
WWW.TORTOISE.ORG/TTCS
- MAY 23RD WORLD TURTLE DAY**
WWW.TORTOISE.COM

JUNE 2011

- JUNE 24TH BAARS CLUB MEETING –MONITOR / TEGU**
NIGHT
- JUNE 25TH – 26TH REPTILE SUPER SHOW –**
SAN DIEGO, CA
WWW.REPTILESUPERSHOW.COM

JULY 2011

- JULY 16TH CTTC EXECUTIVE MEETING**
LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM -
ARCADIA, CA
- JULY 16TH-17TH SAN DIEGO TURTLE AND TORTOISE**
SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW AND PLANT
SALE - WWW.SDTURTLE.ORG
- JULY 22ND BAARS CLUB MEETING – DR. ROBERT**
NORRIS – VENOMOUS SNAKES
- JULY 23RD CHINO VALLEY CTTC CHAPTER**
TURTLE & TORTOISE SHOW
EMAIL: JL.CALI2@AOL.COM
- JULY 23RD – 24TH HERP WORLD EXPO – SAN JOSE, CA**
WWW.HERPWORLDEXPO.COM

AUGUST 2011

- AUG 13TH & 14TH REPTILE SUPER SHOW - POMONA, CA**
WWW.REPTILESUPERSHOW.COM
- AUG 14TH -17TH TURTLE SURVIVAL ALLIANCE**
CONFERENCE – 9TH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM
ON THE CONSERVATION AND BIOLOGY OF
TORTOISES AND FRESHWATER TURTLES –
ORLANDO, FL

SEPTEMBER 2011

OCTOBER 2011

- OCT 8TH CTTC EXECUTIVE MEETING**
LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM -
ARCADIA, CA
- OCT 29TH – 30TH KODY'S EXPO OF EXOTIC REPTILE**
LONG BEACH, CA
WWW.KODYSEXPO.COM

NOVEMBER 2011

DECEMBER 2011

If you have an event in the USA and would like to publish it here, please email me at Kevin@tortoisehome.org.



Photos by Kevin Norred

Help Support Turtle & Tortoise Conservation!

Surplus for Sale:

The Behler Chelonian Center (BCC), established in 2005, is a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation and research of freshwater turtles and tortoises whose wild populations are under pressure. Our work includes conservation projects where turtles are threatened in the wild, protection of habitat, conservation education, and field based research of endangered turtle biology.

The BCC's mission to ensure the survival of turtle and tortoise species in the wild will be achieved through conservation and education. Towards this end, the Center cares for an assurance colony of threatened animals, and maintains a captive reproduction program of endangered species. The BCC houses nearly 500 turtles and tortoises, representing 26 taxa, and has successfully bred 15 threatened and endangered species.

Currently, the BCC is offering a limited quantity of captive hatched surplus animals for sale to experienced keepers. 100% of the income generated from the sale of these animals will go towards turtle and tortoise conservation. Purchasing captive hatched animals from the BCC directly supports our Conservation initiatives and reduces the demand for wild caught animals.

Prices will vary according to size, age, color, sex and quantity:

- **Indian Spotted Pond Turtle (*Geoclemys hamiltonii*): \$200 – 300**
- **Indian Star Tortoise (*Geochelone elegans*): \$500 – 800**
- **Radiated Tortoise (*Astrochelys radiata*): \$800 – 1500**
(sexed hatchlings and yearlings available)
- **Burmese Star Tortoise (*Geochelone platynota*): \$800 – 1500**
(sexed hatchlings and yearlings available)
- **Spider Tortoise (*Pyxis arachnoides arachnoides*): \$350 – 1200**
- **Burmese Black Mountain Tortoise (*Manouria emys phayrei*): \$250**

All animals have photographs and are inspected by a veterinarian before they are delivered. Each individual comes with health records, including hatch date, age, weights, and sex (through endoscopy if available). Sales of *A. radiata* and *G. hamiltonii* are to CA residents or those with CBW permits ONLY. Animals under 4" are for educational or research purposes. An application must be submitted to begin the process. The application can be found at:

<http://turtleconservancy.org/bcc/hatchlings/>

Please submit completed applications to the following (email is preferred):

james@turtleconservancy.org

Behler Chelonian Center
P.O. Box 1289
Ojai, CA 93024



Sacramento Turtle & Tortoise Club

By Felice Rood

President: Felice Rood

Website: www.turtlebunker.com

TURTLERAMA

on July 16th from 11 - 4

2011 Meeting Dates:

Spring Meeting:

October 22nd, 2011

1:30pm to 4pm

Free hibernation checkups will be available as well as lots of hibernation talk and what to do if you would rather keep your pet awake all winter.

All meetings are held at:

Belle Cooledge Library

5600 South Land Park Drive 95802

Adoptions: Lot of Red Ear Sliders and Sulcata Tortoises- Please inquire

For more information about the Sacramento Turtle and Tortoise Club, please contact Felice at feliecerood@compuserve.com



Tortoisehome.org Adoptions

The Tortoise Home adoptions has been slow the past couple months. We had a handful of tortoises come in and found homes quickly. Some homes didn't work out as they could not meet the requirements of the species, so we have a couple Greeks back up for adoption. I am going through applications now to find these guys homes. By the publication of the newsletter, they should find homes.

Since March, The Tortoise Home adoptions have been going good. We have placed the following into loving homes:

- (3) Sulcata Tortoises
- (5) Leopard Tortoises
- (2) Russian Tortoises
- (42) Red Ear Sliders
- (2) Red Belly/Yellow Belly Sliders
- (2) Eastern Box Turtles
- (2) 3-Toed Box Turtles

We have currently available:

- (1) Greek Tortoises – Males (Home Pending)
- (115) Red Ear Sliders
- (1) Sulcata Male (Home Pending)

We are also assisting in several adoptions with the current owners. Sometimes people need assistance in relocating homes for their pets and through connections, events and friends of Tortoise Home, we are able to find suitable homes and let the owners and potential pet parents finalize the adoption. This also creates less stress on the animals as they are only moved once.

I have currently stopped taking applications for adoptions at this time. I received over 200 applications and request when the website first went up. I am still taking emails if people are just looking for something in particular and filing them away. Many of the applications have already been reviewed and deemed not suitable as many live in apartments or don't have the yards to take in large tortoises. Keep watching the newsletter, yahoo groups for the tortoise home or the website for updates.

-Kevin

Illegal, tiny turtles seized at Mushroom Mardi Gras

May 30, 2011
By Lindsay Weaver
From the Morgan Hill Times, newspaper of Morgan Hill, California

Perhaps more popular than mushrooms Saturday at the Mushroom Mardi Gras were half-dollar sized red-ear slider turtles for sale from a vendor near the west end of Third Street Promenade. By Saturday afternoon, however, the vendor from San Francisco, also selling bamboo, had his remaining 117, 1-inch long turtles seized by the California Department of Fish and Game.

Turtles smaller than 4-inches have been banned for sale - unless for educational purposes - by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services via the Food and Drug Administration for two decades. The turtles are prone to carrying salmonella because children tend to touch the turtle and then their mouths, nose or eyes; and their small size is risky because children can fit the turtle in their mouths, and even choke.

Several Morgan Hill Police Department officers were on hand at the booth Saturday awaiting the arrival of Fish and Game warden Tyson Quintal, whose jurisdiction it is to handle the incident. MHPD questioned the vendor after receiving phone calls from worried Mardi Gras visitors who saw the tiny turtles.

The vendor initially told police officers that he was not selling turtles and kept his plastic 40-gallon bin under a table, but he eventually gave up the box that contained 117 turtles. The turtles were especially prone to carrying salmonella because of how they were housed in a plastic box of water, stacked on top of each other and sitting in feces-infested water.

The vendor said he had sold about 80 turtles that morning for \$8 each. Many children and teens were seen carrying clear plastic cages around the festival. Quintal said anyone handling a turtle should always wash their hands after. He did not know if the turtles would have to be surrendered since they are illegal to have as pets.

Several children who found the "turtle guy" were disappointed to find out the turtles were illegal and no longer for sale.

Jennifer Swifteagle, a San Jose resident, called the Dept. of Fish and Game once she saw that the turtles were being sold at the festival. She said the vendor was telling children to wash their hands after handling the turtle, but despite his

"honesty" she said, selling turtles that small is clearly illegal in the U.S.

"He was under the impression he could sell them because someone sold the turtles to him," she said. The vendor said he paid about \$400 for 200 turtles.

"It's the law, and it happens a lot. People shipping turtles around. But now he's going to have to pay for the consequences," Swifteagle said. Swifteagle is Native American and was born and raised a reservation in South Dakota where she said she witnessed illegal sales of animals and animal products. She knows the law well, Swifteagle said.

"I've seen a lot of illegal things happen. And for me some things are for ceremonial purposes, so I don't jive with that when I see this happening. (The vendor) was honest enough to tell the kids to be careful and wash your hands or you can get sick. But, he's not familiar with the law."

Quintal seized the turtles and was waiting to hear from the U.S. Department of Agriculture on how to proceed; whether he would turn the turtles over to an educational facility, release them or humanely dispose of the turtles.

It's unknown if the vendor will be fined for the violation, though it likely will be referred to the District Attorney's Office.



A close-up photograph of some of the 117 turtles that remained at a booth on third street promenade Saturday afternoon at the Mushroom Mardi Gras Street Fair. Photo by Morgan Hill Times Staff



The plastic box where the 1-inch long turtles were housed before being sold by the vendor at the Mushroom Mardi Gras Saturday. About 80 were sold to the public, though it was done illegally because Morgan Hill requires a city permit to sell animals to the public and the vendor was in violation of Federal Law because of the size and risk of salmonella the turtles posed. Photo by Morgan Hill Times Staff

The Tortoise Home NEEDS You!!

As many of you know, it takes a great deal of time and effort to put these newsletters together. There is lots of time in research and writing of many of the articles that are placed inside this newsletter.

We are looking for people who would like to contribute one or more articles, tips and tricks or pictures to publish. We are looking for articles, ideas and anything related to individual species of turtles and tortoises, articles on care and husbandry, medicine and preventative care. Also, if you have pictures of your pets doing funny things or just being cute, we would love to share your photos with everyone.

For more information, please contact
Kevin@tortoisehome.org

Thanks
-Kevin



Top 25 Turtles and Tortoises in Critical Danger!

1. **Pinta Island tortoise** (*Chelonoidis abingdonii*)
2. **Yangtze giant soft-shell turtle** (*Rafetus swinhoiei*)
3. **Yunnan Box Turtle** (*Cuora yunnanensis*)
4. **Northern River terrapin** (*Batagur baska*)
5. **Burmese roof turtle** (*Batagur trivittata*)
6. **Zhou's box turtle** (*Cuora zhoui*)
7. **McCord's box turtle** (*Cuora mccordi*)
8. **Yellow-headed box turtle** (*Cuora aurocapitata*)
9. **Golden coin turtle** (*Cuora trifasciata*)
10. **Ploughshare tortoise** (*Astrochelys yniphora*)
11. **Burmese star tortoise** (*Geochelone platynota*)
12. **Roti Island snake-necked turtle** (*Chelodina mccordi*)
13. **Asian narrow-headed softshell turtle** (*Chitra chitra*)
14. **Vietnamese pond turtle** (*Mauremys annamensis*)
15. **Central American river turtle** (*Dermatemys mawii*)
16. **Madagascar big-headed turtle** (*Erymnochelys madagascariensis*)
17. **Red-crowned roofed turtle** (*Batagur kachuga*)
18. **Southern River terrapin** (*Batagur affinis*)
19. **Sulawesi forest turtle** (*Leucocephalon yuwonoi*)
20. **Western swamp tortoise** (*Pseudemys umbrina*)
21. **Hoge's side-necked turtle** (*Mesoclemmys hogei*)
22. **Geometric tortoise** (*Psammobates geometricus*)
23. **Philippine forest tortoise** (*Siebenrockiella leytensis*)
24. **Magdalena River turtle** (*Podocnemis lewyana*)
25. **Painted terrapin** (*Batagur borneoensis*)



Photo found on Wikipedia – Lonesome George, the only surviving Pinta Island Galapagos Tortoise. He is #1 on the list of Critically Endangered Turtles/Tortoises

The Tortoise Home Yahoo Groups Page

This page is for up to date info about Activities, Adoptions and Current Events that are sponsored by The Tortoise Home. Sign up Today!!!

Don't miss out on Current Turtles and Tortoises for Adoption or Current events.

**NEW
GROUP!**



Look for **“TORTOISEHOME”**

For help on joining, please contact Kevin at:
Kevin@tortoisehome.org

Turtle & Tortoise Classifieds

Supplies for Sale

Tortoise Pellets

2lb \$ 8.00ea
5lb \$16.00ea
Contact Kevin
tortoisehome@yahoo.com

Aquatic Turtle

Pellets

12oz. \$ 4.50ea
2lb \$10.00ea
5lb \$20.00ea
Contact Kevin
tortoisehome@yahoo.com

Reptaid-

All Natural Health Remedy
www.reptaid.com
1oz Bottle Reptaid (1-250grms)
\$24.99
1oz Bottle Reptaid XL (250grms)
\$31.99
Contact Kevin Norred
tortoisehome@yahoo.com
See Flyers attached in this newsletter!!

Waterland Tubs

Now selling Waterland Tubs and
Supplies – Call for pricing.
Contact Kevin Norred
tortoisehome@yahoo.com

Turtles/Tortoises for Sale

Map Turtles

-False Map Turtles (Graptemys
pseudogeographica) \$25ea

-Ouachita Map Turtle (Graptemys
ouachitensis ouachitensis) \$25ea

-Mississippi Map Turtle
(Graptemys kohnii) \$25ea

All are captive bred hatchlings
2-1/2" to 4"
Contact Kevin
tortoisehome@yahoo.com
(408)482-5437

Red Ear Sliders

I have several Red Ear Slider Turtles
looking to be adopted by homes that
have outdoor habitats. These sliders
are all adults and come from homes
that could no longer provide for
them. If you have an outdoor pond
and would like to add some turtles to
your pond, these are the perfect guys.
Red Ear Sliders are very social and
are always active sunbathing. There
are no fees.

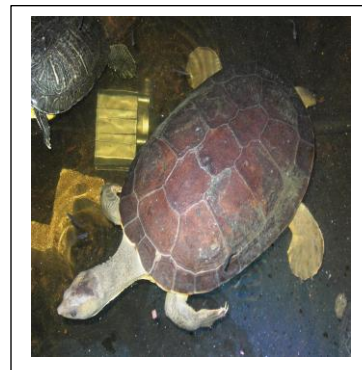
For more information, please contact
Kevin Norred (408) 482-5437
Kevin@tortoisehome.org

New Guinea Side neck Turtle

Eelseya branderhorsti (aka New
Guinea snapping turtle - I have had
this guy since he was about 3", and
that was about 10 yrs. ago. He is
now about 13" straight carapace
length (SCL) –

Central American Wood Turtles

0.3.0 Rhinoclemmys pulcherrima
incisa, Central American (Honduran)
Wood Turtles - I have had one for
over 10 yrs., and she was an adult
when I got her; the other two were
rescues. They are about 8-9" SCL



Asian Leaf Turtles

2.5.0 Cyclemys dentata, Asian Leaf
Turtles - I have had two of these
turtles for 10 yrs. and were adults
when I got them; they are 8-9" SCL;
the others are rescues and vary in
size from about 5-7" SCL

**Note: all of these turtles are large
and will require either a very large
tank or a pond. Also, the wood
turtles really need a habitat with
both land and water. They are
also all tropical species and need
warm water year-round, and so
will not survive outdoors in the
winter, except maybe in Florida. I
am asking \$100 each for these
turtles, but finding them good
homes is my top priority.**

Contact Diane Flagg at
dlcf123@yahoo.com or
(408) 966-4642

Turtle & Tortoise Classifieds

Turtles/Tortoise

-Reeves Turtles Hatchlings \$25ea
-European Pond Turtles \$75ea
-Leopard Tortoises \$75ea
-Herman's Tortoises \$75ea
-Elongated Tortoises \$75ea
-Red Footed Tortoises \$75ea
-Star Tortoises \$250ea
Prices are for CTTC and SVTTC
Members only
Contact Bob or Judy Thomas
(805) 481-5222
Thomas-turtles@juno.com

Leopard Tortoises

(10) Baby Leopard tortoises
Discount for multiple purchases
Contact: Jimmy Chu
Hubertfirst22@hotmail.com

Turtles/Tortoises

1yr old Box Turtles \$45ea
Greek Hatchlings \$85ea
Sulcata Hatchlings \$75ea
Contact: Gary & Ginger Wilfong
(510) 677-5552

Turtles/Tortoise

All turtles/tortoises are 2010 captive
bred babies
-Ibera Greek Tortoises Hatchlings
\$100ea
-Loggerhead Musk Turtles \$75ea
-Mexican Giant Musk \$125ea
-Concentric Diamondback Terrapins
\$100ea

Pictures available upon request
Contact Don Do
donsturtles@yahoo.com
www.Donsturtles.com

Wanted

Red Foot Tortoise Female Wanted

Looking for Adult/Semi Adult Female
Red Foot Tortoises
Contact Philip Krotz
pekrotz@gmail.com

North American Wood Turtles Wanted

Contact John Nickols
ljnickols@comcast.net

Elongated Tortoise Females Wanted

Looking for Adult/Semi Adult
Females Contact Kevin
Tortoisehome@yahoo.com
(408)482-5437

North American Wood Turtles Wanted

Contact Philip Edholm
philipaedholm@aol.com

Caramel Red Ear Sliders Wanted

Looking for young to adult Caramel
Red Ear Sliders
Contact Vin Ma
Turtlemorphs@gmail.com

Razor Back Musk

Turtles Wanted

Looking for Adult Razorback Musk
Turtles for outdoor Pond
Contact Vin MA
Turtlemorphs@gmail.com

Golden Greek Tortoise Females Wanted

Looking for Female Golden Greeks for
lonely males
Contact Marco
marco_paco@yahoo.com

Turtle & Tortoise Classifieds

Private Adoptions

165lb+ Male Sulcata Tortoise



I would like him to go to a home with at least a bigger pen than he is now living in. Which is 12' wide x 40' long. He is curious and can be very aggressive. Meaning he will ram you. He has never bitten or even offered to. He loves roses. When I last weighed him (at least a year ago, he was 165 pounds).

Please Contact Nancy @
nancy@flyingcritters.com

Home Visit required to new home.



**GREAT NEWS FOR REPTILE
KEEPERS!!**



**NOW THERE ARE 2 OVER-THE-
COUNTER DISEASE FIGHTING
IMMUNITY BOOSTING PRODUCTS
DESIGNED ESPECIALLY WITH
YOUR REPTILE IN MIND**



REPTAID™

**FOR REPTILES WEIGHING LESS THAN
250g**



REPTAID XL™

FOR REPTILES 250g OR LARGER



**AVAILABLE
THRU
KEVIN NORRED**

Email:
TORTOISEHOME@YAHOO.COM
OR Call
(408) 482-5437 (Leave message)

**READ WHAT CUSTOMERS HAVE
BEEN SAYING ABOUT
REPTAID™**

"A female bearded dragon I rescued had a nasty case of mouth rot and in many cases mouth rot can't be treated in bearded dragons. I had great success with Reptaid on a dragon with a Respiratory Infection so I decided to give it a try and in about 10 days the females mouth rot was 100% gone..." Nicole [SEE BEFORE AND AFTER PHOTOS at CHAMELEONSNORTHWEST.COM]

"After treating him with Reptaid, our chameleon is free of Coccidia for the first time since we got him. We tried other products for months and they didn't work. His fecal exams are now clean."

"I was able to finish my first course of treatment this weekend and wanted to share with you how amazing I think the product is. I treated a WC melleri that I thought was in pretty good health. After the 10 days he had a grip twice as strong and his color changed to a more consistent color. He is more active. What a difference." R.J.

"For lack of a better way to put it...This stuff ROCKS! I used the original version, and it's literally a miracle in a bottle. Don't hesitate to buy this stuff. It will last you forever. And it's completely natural!" J.C.

**FOR ALL SPECIES
OF
REPTILES**



**AN AID IN THE
FIGHT
AGAINST
REPTILE
DISEASE**

Your Animal's Health is Our Concern

REPTAID™

WHAT IS REPTAID™?

Reptaid™ is designed to help your reptile overcome viral, bacterial and microscopic infections without the complications one would get from a traditional antibiotic. Reptaid™ is gentle to the system allowing the reptile to feel comfort in it's environment which will help keep the reptile thriving

THREE REASONS TO PURCHASE REPTAID™

1. PARASITES

It is well known in the reptile world all known traditional medications have limited success with parasites afflicting reptiles (especially troubling for Coccidia in its various forms). Some veterinarians feel there is no drug which can conquer this persistent parasite. In addition, while undergoing treatments for parasites, the reptile often suffers loss of appetite and general lethargy from drugs being administered. Reptaid™ has been used to successfully rid reptiles of Coccidia in just ten days of steady treatment. It is also effective against Roundworm and Pinworms, and possibly any other

An herbal
ANTIBIOTIC with an
ANTI-PARASITIC
designed to help your
REPTILE overcome
viral, bacterial and
microscopic parasitical
infections.*

parasite which may afflict your reptile.

2. BACTERIAL INFECTION

One of the more serious medical conditions which reptiles encounter is a respiratory infection. It can be treated with antibiotics but the side effects of such treatment often include loss of appetite and general malaise. Eye infections are also common among some breed of reptiles. Reptaid™ has proven very effective in the treatment of bacterial infections. Instead of a loss of appetite, the reptile usually responds with a very noticeable increase in appetite and vitality after just 2 days of treatment. And where antibiotics failed to work Reptaid™ has helped the reptile completely defeat the infection with no reoccurrence.

3. LOSS OF APPETITE

Reptiles suffer from a loss of appetite from time to time. Sometimes the reason is never determined. But Reptaid™ has been used as an appetite stimulant when no other medical issues were apparent. The result is a healthy, happy, hungry pet.



Organic

Nutraceuticals For Pets

(Continues on reverse side)

California Turtle and Tortoise Club
Inland Empire Chapter



A Non-Profit Organization
is having their

Annual Turtle & Tortoise Show

Saturday, August 13, 2011

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Admission: **FREE**

- ★ Live Exhibits
- ★ Adoption Information
- Educational Displays
- ★ Fund Raising Table
- ★ Raffle
- ★ Baked Goods & Soft Drinks

Redlands Senior Citizen Center
111 W. Lugonia Ave. Redlands, CA

COME JOIN THE FUN!!

For show Information

Call: (951)785-6991

or

Check out: www.tortoise.org

