

IGUANA NEWSBRIEFS

1993 IIS IGUANA CONFERENCE

On 16-19 October 1993 the International Iguana Society, Inc. hosted an iguana conference. **The First Annual IIS B-B-Q** was held on the beach at Bahia Honda State Park. 36 members and guests ate quantities of lobster salad, jerk chicken, conch fritters, Cuban pork, black beans and rice, tabouli, guava duff, and many other exotic tropical dishes. The weather was picture perfect despite 3 inches of rain that fell the previous day. The B-B-Q provided an opportunity for many members to become better acquainted.

The IIS Board of Directors held two meetings in the **Hidden Harbor Turtle Hospital** board room. Members were permitted to sit in at the starting session each morning, providing all attendees the opportunity to address the board, express their opinions, and provide input with regard to prioritizing IIS projects.

The **General Membership Meeting** was held at the same location on the evening of 18 October and **was attended by 76 members**. The featured speaker, **Thomas A. Wiewandt** mesmerized the audience with his presentation on the conservation of Cycluran iguanas. Slide presentations on the natural

histories of the Mona Island iguana, *Cyclura cornuta stejnegeri*, and the Jamaican iguana, *C. colleii* that were shown following the B-B-Q and conference were a great success.

Members and guests were also invited to participate in various field trips in the Florida Keys, including a guided tour of the **Dolphin Research Center**, an education and research facility located on Grassy Key.

Many thanks to the people that made it all possible: hosts Richie Moretti and Capt. Tina Brown of Hidden Harbor Turtle Hospital, Vicki Andrews, Linda Aurenhammer, Deborah Neufeld, Lori Hurd, Tina Henize, Laurel Canty and David Ehrlich, Greg and Pam Scott, Joyce Newman, Jeff Winnes and the Indianapolis Zoo, Richard Montanucci, Terry Gentry, Curtis Kruer and Robin Lewis Associates, Tom Wiewandt, Mike and Janet Ripca, Marcie Ehrig, Manny and Peggy Lorenzo, Erik Beers, Mike Worwietz, Laymond Hardy, Steve Howe, Dee Fick, and to anyone we may have forgotten.

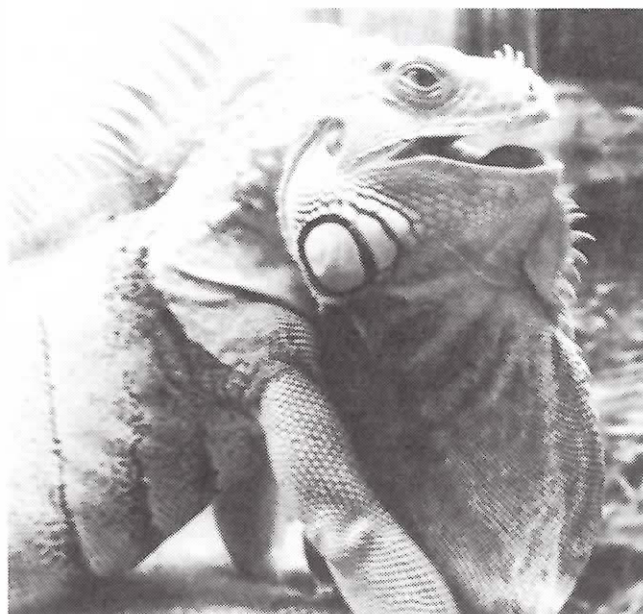
For all those members unable to attend this year, we look forward to seeing you at the next conference. Announcements will be posted in future issues of *Iguana Times*.

WORLD COMMERCE IN GREEN IGUANAS

The World Conservation Monitoring Center, in Great Britain, reports that the green iguana, *Iguana iguana*, is the second most traded vertebrate species in world commerce today. In 1992, over 300,000 live green iguanas were items of commerce. Over 242,000 green iguanas were imported into the United States alone in 1992. This represents a tremendous increase in the number of iguanas sold in recent years. The U.S. trade was 25,000 yearly as recently as 1986. This also indicates tremendous carnage as well. In spite of improvements in husbandry in recent years, most of these iguanas live less than 6 months. *Source: Gordon Rodda.*

WILD BORN IGUANAS

Dan Crowley of Big Pine Key, Florida reports wild breeding of green iguanas on northern Big Pine Key. 6 September 1993 three hatchling iguanas were observed grazing in his yard. One hatchling was caught in a Jamaican Dogwood tree, *Piscidia piscipula*, where the group would retreat when threatened. Hatchlings were observed for several weeks and spotted by neighbors along the same canal system. Adult green iguanas had been sighted in the area for several years. Green iguanas have become established in south Florida in several locations. Rare freezes cause high mortality and seem to prevent expansion of range. In the frost-free lower Keys this would not be a factor.



Statement of Purpose

The International Iguana Society, Inc. is a non-profit, international organization dedicated to the preservation of the biological diversity of iguanas through habitat preservation, active conservation, research, captive breeding and the dissemination of information.

The Iguana Times, the newsletter of the society, is distributed quarterly to members and member organizations. Additional copies are available at a cost of \$4.50 including postage. Annual dues for The International Iguana Society are \$25.00 for individuals and \$30.00 for organizations which receive double copies of the newsletter.

Write to:

The International Iguana Society, Inc.
Route 3, Box 328
Big Pine Key, FL 33043



Solicitations

Members of the I.I.S. are encouraged to contribute articles for publication in the *Iguana Times*, following a format like that shown in the most recent issue of the newsletter. Articles can deal with any aspect of iguana biology, ecology, behavior, husbandry, systematics, etc. Manuscripts must be typed, DOUBLE-SPACED, with wide margins, on 8½" x 11" paper. Include your address and telephone number on the manuscript. Members are also welcome to submit letters to the Editor for publication in future issues of the newsletter. Authors of one page or more of print are entitled to three copies of the issue in which their article appears.

The Editors

Advertising policy of Iguana Times

We advertise only non-living products (except feeder insects). All products have been examined and been found to be high quality and fairly priced. Contact IIS, RT 3, Box 328, Big Pine Key, FL 33043, for more information.

I.I.S. Bookstore

As a service to our members, a limited number of publications will be distributed through the I.I.S. Bookstore. We believe this will become a valuable source of information. The following publications are now available:

- 1) **The Green Iguana Manual**, by Philippe de Vosjoli. 1992. **\$7.00** (including postage); **\$8.75** (non-members)
- 2) **Guide to the Identification of the Amphibians and Reptiles of the West Indies (Exclusive of Hispaniola)**, by Albert Schwartz and Robert Henderson. 1985. **\$19.00** (including postage); **\$27.00** (non-members)

Write to: I.I.S. Bookstore
Route 3, Box 328
Big Pine Key, FL 33043

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