

# SVTTC News

*Silicon Valley Turtle & Tortoise Club*

*Chapter of the California Turtle and Tortoise Club since 2008*

[www.tortoise.org](http://www.tortoise.org) or [www.tortoise.org/siliconvalley](http://www.tortoise.org/siliconvalley)

## *January 2010*



Gilbert Castro and Mary Whitley at the Holiday Potluck Party. Mary brought her Red Foot Tortoise along to show off. Photo by Lesa Montoya

### Next Meeting:

Next club meeting is **Monday, January 4th** at 7pm. Banquet room is open at 5pm

### Topic of Interest:

This month's presentation will be "The Importance of Proper Lighting" for our turtles and tortoises that live inside. The presentation will be presented by Matt from Zoo Med Products. If you have inside turtles and tortoises, you may want to hear the negatives and positives with artificial lighting. This can save your shelled family members life. Also, Matt will be going over some of Zoo Med's Tortoise and Turtle Products.

### Location:

#### **Round Table Pizza**

14940 Camden Avenue (Corner of Union and Camden Ave)  
San Jose, CA 95124  
(408) 371-9550

# From the Editor

By Kevin Norred

Hi Everyone,

Happy New Year!!!!

For those that missed the Holiday Potluck Party, you missed a great time. There were lots of varieties of food, lots of people and a few shelled friends. Overall, I think we had about 60 people. The party was a lot of fun. Thanks to Jennette Petrak and family, Jessica Gopp, Paul Woodring, Dorothy and Gilbert Castro and everyone else for putting the party together. It turned out awesome. We had a game that I lost in the first second it started. Everyone who walked in the door was given a safety pin with instructions. The point of the game was to not lose your safety pin by saying the word "turtle" or "tortoise". The 3 people at the end of the night with the most safety pins won. As Jessica was putting my safety pin on me, Jennette held up a box of Chocolate Turtle Candies and said that was one of the prizes....stupid me, I said cool....turtles. Well before Jess could finish putting the pin on me, Joseph stole my pin. I was tricked. These guys play dirty. It went on like that the whole night. It was hard especially when everyone comes to me to talk about their turtle or tortoise. Oh well. Another event we had was the white elephant gift exchange. All I have to personally say was I was robbed. I got what I deserved. I was picked about half way through the list of people so I figured I would steal a cool prize. Well, I think I had the most stolen gifts as every time I took a gift, someone had stolen from me. I was up at the table more than anyone in the whole room. At the end, I got a silver dog dish. There were some awesome gifts brought. I can't wait to see what pops up next year. Also at the end of the evening, we had a great Raffle that included over \$280 in gift cards, bottles of wine, and donated raffle prizes from Zoo Med, SF Bay Brands and Hagen. Everyone walked away with at least a prize or two. What will the girls have in store for the next year's event? Come and find out.

With the season change, please make sure you have your turtles and tortoises setup with proper heat. Hibernating species must be kept cooler to allow them to hibernate. The 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the Turtle Trust Hibernation article is included in this newsletter. For those that missed the first part, you can visit [www.tortoise.org/siliconvalley](http://www.tortoise.org/siliconvalley) for past issues of the newsletter. The first part was included in the October newsletter.

This month's newsletter is a little lengthy, but is full of information. You will begin to see more participation from officers and members with reports and articles. If you would like to contribute to the newsletter with an experience, maybe have a tip to share or would just like to share some pictures of your turtles and tortoises, send it in. Please no copyrighted material. Habitat pictures are also welcome.

At this time, the newsletter is going out to almost 700 people including a few businesses. This is a great source of advertisement for the classifieds section, if you are a retailer, here is an opportunity to sponsor the club and offer discounts to the general membership. If you are not a member, this is a great time to join the California Turtle and Tortoise Club. We at the SVTTC would love to have you as a member. In the next year, I see lots of promise for membership. It is only \$20 a year and it is full of social activities and most importantly, you will learn lots. You get the official Tortuga Gazette which is a bi-monthly newsletter.

Well, I hope everyone has safe and Happy New Years. See everyone at the club meeting in January.

Kevin

# 2010 Club Officers & Committees

## 2010 SVTTC Officers

President	Joseph Alvarado	<a href="mailto:info@reptilecompany.com">info@reptilecompany.com</a>
Vice President	Jessica Gopp	<a href="mailto:foxee_77@yahoo.com">foxee_77@yahoo.com</a>
Secretary	Philip Edholm	<a href="mailto:philipbmi@aol.com">philipbmi@aol.com</a>
Treasurer	Gilbert & Dorothy Castro	<a href="mailto:DotBoop@earthlink.net">DotBoop@earthlink.net</a>

## 2010 SVTTC Board Of Directors

Board of Director	Setiva Woodring	<a href="mailto:gobaars@yahoo.com">gobaars@yahoo.com</a>
Board of Director	Paul Woodring	<a href="mailto:woodringpaul@yahoo.com">woodringpaul@yahoo.com</a>
Board of Director	Yvonne "Corky" Mariani	<a href="mailto:cmari2235@aol.com">cmari2235@aol.com</a>

## 2010 SVTTC Committee Chairman's & Assistants

Librarian	Martha Pugno	<a href="mailto:kayaklady56@yahoo.com">kayaklady56@yahoo.com</a>
Show/Event Chairman	Jennette Petrak	<a href="mailto:jen0139@gmail.com">jen0139@gmail.com</a>
Fundraiser Chairman	Lisa Montoya	<a href="mailto:Doublemm_lesa@sbcglobal.net">Doublemm_lesa@sbcglobal.net</a>
Adoption Chairman	Kevin Norred	<a href="mailto:tortoisehome@yahoo.com">tortoisehome@yahoo.com</a>
Newsletter	Kevin Norred	<a href="mailto:tortoisehome@yahoo.com">tortoisehome@yahoo.com</a>
Membership	Dorothy Castro	<a href="mailto:Dotboop@earthlink.net">Dotboop@earthlink.net</a>

## SVTTC Internet Connections

Turtle and Tortoise related Yahoo Groups:

SVTTC Chapter:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SVCTTC>

The SVTTC Website where you can find all forms including past newsletters:

[www.tortoise.org/siliconvalley](http://www.tortoise.org/siliconvalley)

# President's Report

By Joseph Alvarado

Hello Everyone:

I hope you all had a great Christmas and will have a fantastic New Year.

I would like to start off by thanking Jessica Gopp, Jennette Petrak and the rest of the Show/Event Committee for all the work they put into our first Christmas Party and to Paul Woodring for securing the Santa Clara County Horsemen's Association building for us. A special thanks to San Francisco Bay Brands, Zoo Med and Hagen reptile products for generously donating raffle prizes to our club.

The party was well attended and the potluck items made up a great big spread. The Committee lined up entertainment with music, games and a raffle. Some members brought their "shelled reptiles" with them. I was lucky enough to win one of the games and got a box of turtles (candy!). All together, it was a success and everyone had a great time.

I look forward to our next event. Once the weather improves, a day of turtles and tortoises in the park would be great. I can already smell the barbeque.

On a different subject, remember to attend our monthly meetings the first Monday of every month. Our current meeting location at Round Table Pizza has become a little more crowded and there is an issue with the sound in the room. It's becoming more and more difficult to hear during our meetings. It may be time to start thinking about a new meeting location.

Restaurants have the benefit of on site food but this limits us from having animals inside. We could bring animals into a non-food facility and still bring snacks or potluck items. Bring up any suggested locations at a monthly meeting, or if you are not able to attend please contact me.

Happy Turtling,  
Joseph Alvarado

# Vice-President's Report

By Jessica Gopp

Hi Everyone,

I would like to thank everyone who participated in the Holiday Potluck Party. We had a lot of fun and can't wait for next year.

Taking on the Vice President role doesn't seem all that hard but trying to arrange for a presentation for each meeting each month can be a bit challenging. I have been working hard to get this year's presentations scheduled so we don't have any last minute surprises. We are always looking for people who would like to take on the challenge of doing species specific presentations. I did one last year on Russian Tortoises as I was introduced to them and didn't know a whole lot about them, so I put together a presentation to help educate everyone else on what I learned. It is a great way to get informed.

Here are the 2010 Presentations:

January 4<sup>th</sup> – Matt Panos      Zoo Med Labs  
-Product Presentation and Artificial Lighting for indoor Turtles /Tortoises

February 1<sup>st</sup> – Kevin Norred   SVTTC Adoptions  
-Presentation on Radiated Tortoises

March 1<sup>st</sup> – Rene Gandolfi, DVM  
Castro Valley Companion Animal Hospital  
-Herpes Virus in Tortoises

April 5<sup>th</sup> – Open

May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Kevin Norred   SVTTC Member   -  
Presentation on Red Foot Tortoises

Cont. on next page

# Vice-President's Report( Cont.)

By Jessica Gopp

Here are the 2010 Presentations (Cont.):

June 7<sup>th</sup> – Open

July 5<sup>th</sup> – Open

August 2<sup>nd</sup> – Open

September 13<sup>th</sup> – Setting up the proper Aquatic Habitat (presentation still in the works)

October 4<sup>th</sup> – Open

November 1<sup>st</sup> – Open

December 6<sup>th</sup> -Open

If you are interested in doing a Presentation, please contact me. I would be more than happy to help you out.

We are looking for the following items at a discount or to be donated to the club:

Projector (Table Top)

Projection Screen 60" x 60" minimum size

Turtle / Tortoise Videos / DVD

Thanks,  
Jessica

# Meeting Agenda:

- I. Membership Introductions
- II. Officer Introductions
- III. Officer's Reports
  - President
  - Vice President
  - Secretary
  - Membership (Renewals)
  - Treasurer
- IV. Adoption Chairman's Report
- V. Librarian Report
- VI. Event Coordinator Report
  - 2010 Events/Shows
- VII. Raffle Report
- VIII. Fundraiser Chairman Report
  - I-Give
  - S.H.A.R.E.
  - Round Table Pizza
  - Baked Goods
- IX. General Announcements
  - CTTC
  - SVTTC
    1. Local Events
  - Non Club Events
    1. B.A.A.R.S
  - Open Floor for anyone to announce events or activities
- VI. Newsletter
  - Articles
  - Highlights and Info in newsletter
  - \*\*\*Stretch Break\*\*\*
- VIII. Zoo Med Presentation
- IX. Open Floor
- X. Adjourn

The next meeting is Monday, February 1st, 2010 at 7:00 pm, same location.

# Membership Report

By Dorothy Castro

If your name is on this list, it is time to renew. Renewal Memberships can be extended by filling out a new application and mailing to:

SILICON VALLEY TURTLE AND  
TORTOISE CLUB  
Attn: Adoptions  
P.O. Box 64135  
Sunnyvale, CA 94088-4135

You can also give to an officer of the club or bring to the next general club meeting. If you have already sent your renewal in, just ignore the list.

Membership packages are as follows:

Yearly Dues:

\$20.00 Individual & Family  
Membership

\$30.00 Supporter Membership

\$50.00 Benefactor Membership

\$100.00 Patron Membership

\$25.00 Canada / Mexico Membership

\$40.00 Other Foreign Membership

\$500 Life Membership

Donations are always welcome.

SIDNEY	MONDSCHNEIN	08-01-2009
JAVIER	TORRES	08-09-2009
TERRY NADIA	BURTZ	09-01-2009
PHILIP	EDHOLM	09-01-2009
STIEG	KLEIN	09-01-2009
YVONNE (CORKY)	MARIANI, RVT	09-01-2009
ERLINE	MELLO	09-01-2009
JIM, PIERCY & PAMALA	MILLIGEN	09-01-2009
JOHUNA	PUENTES	09-01-2009
ROBI	ROBERTSON	09-01-2009
ROBERT	SHIELDS	09-01-2009
SCOTT	ALEXANDER	10-09-2009
CAROL	ANAYA	10-09-2009
STEVAN & CHRISTIE	CURTISS	10-09-2009
DEBBIE	FITZGERALD	10-09-2009
COLEN & DIANE	FLAGG	10-09-2009
JEFF	GOODALL	10-09-2009
MICHAEL	TRAPP	10-09-2009
JERRY	GACH	11-01-2009
JOSEPH	LODOLCE	11-01-2009
CARA & ROBERT	MADDEN-WATSON	11-01-2009
JENNIFER	MOORE	11-01-2009
STEVAN & NINA	DUQUETTE	11-09-2009
LISA	STAROBIN	11-09-2009
SETIVA	WOODRING	11-09-2009
CLIFFORD & CATHERINE	ESCOBAR	12-01-2009
MEG	HILLMAN	12-01-2009
TERRI LYN	MURPHY	12-01-2009
HANK AND JUDY	WOROPAY	12-09-2009
John	Dicus	01-01-2010
MARIA	ESCOBAR	01-01-2010
Lindy	Patania	01-01-2010
PAUL & LAURENE	SKINNER	01-01-2010
KATE	LIPMAN	02-01-2010
CAHTERINE	McKEEFERY	02-01-2010
LIZ	CLARK	03-02-2010
PATRICK	COFFEY	03-02-2010
XIAOBO	CHU	03-06-2010
MARTHA	PUGNO	03-06-2010
SERGIO	THORSON-GARAY	03-09-2010

# Event Coordinator's Report

By Jennette Petrak

The SVTTC had its first holiday party on Saturday December 12, 2009 from 4-7pm at the Horsemen's Association in San Jose. Thanks to Paul Woodring, we were able to use the SCC Horsemen's Association facility for free. The Holiday party was a blast! Friends and family gathered for a wonderful raffle and white elephant gift exchange. Everyone who came brought delicious food and some even brought their tortoises for show and tell. I would like to give my thanks to all the folks who helped set up and clean up the holiday party. I am planning an event for the spring and organizing a few reptile shows for the SVTTC to attend. Please stay tuned for upcoming details on these events. Thank you!

Jennette



Photos by Jennette Petrak & Family



# FUNDRAISER CORNER

By Lesa Montoya

Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas and Happy New Years to all!

Starting with the first January monthly meeting, I will be bringing sweet goodies to be sold at the meeting. Of course all proceeds will go to our Treasurer as will any of our future fundraiser endeavors. For future monthly meetings, I am hoping to get other members to volunteer to make goodies each month. That way we have a chance to taste everyone's creations. It could be as simple as cookies to cake, pies etc. I would be very happy to supply any recipes if needed. The next fundraiser idea is a Clothing Outlet Sale consisting of used clothing donated by members and their families. The clothing will be sold at future events. Clothing has to be in good condition. No tears or stains. All clothes turned in need to be washed. All sizes welcome from babies to teen, men and women. All clothing can be taken to the monthly meeting. I will sort, price and store the clothes until the first sale.

This is it for right now. There will be more ideas to come.

Lesa



Photo by Jennette Petrak & Family

## **Rare Sea Turtle Found**

By Sea Turtle Restoration Project 12/1/09

Stinson Beach, CA-- A rare and endangered Olive Ridley Sea Turtle, normally found along Mexican shores and southward, washed up on Sea Drift Beach in Stinson Beach, Marin County on Wednesday afternoon, November 25, 2009.

“This is definitely a rare find, one of only three live Olive Ridley turtles I know of reported in the scientific literature since 2001 along the Central California coast,” said Todd Steiner, biologist and Executive Director of the Sea Turtle Restoration Project, based in Marin County, California

The sub-adult female turtle weighed approximately 60 lbs and its carapace (top shell) measured about two feet. It was lethargic and cold-stunned when located and was initially transported to the Marine Mammal Center in the Marin Headlands where it was stabilized with fluids, vitamins, and precautionary antibiotics, and then onto Sea World in San Diego for further rehabilitation, where it currently remains in guarded condition. The turtle appeared malnourished and had algae, barnacles, crabs and shrimp attached, suggesting it had been floating for some time.

“The nearest nesting beach for Olive Ridley turtles is Mexico and this turtle was probably sick or injured and may have been floating around for weeks or even months,” Steiner said. Though Steiner doubted global warming was responsible for the sighting, he noted that climate change is likely to lead to more and more unusual sightings of wildlife, displaced from their normal range.

“Climate change is a triple-whammy for sea turtles due to their unusual life history traits that include temperature-dependant sex determination, rising seas that submerge natal

nesting beaches, and expected changes to ocean currents that will impact their long migrations,” Steiner commented.

The other live Olive Ridley sightings include a captured by a salmon fisher 1/2 mile west of Muir Point off the Marin County coast On October 10, 2001 by salmon fishers and a turtle on Shell Beach in Tomales Bay, south of the town of Inverness, on November 28, 2002, that appeared healthy, and returned to the water on its own. (The previously mentioned sightings were reported in a scientific note published by Steiner and Walder



Olive ridley sea turtle found cold-stunned at Stinson Beach, CA is stabilized at the Marine Mammal Center. (Photo by Marine Mammal Center)

# SVTTC Donations

**Donate to support the SVTTC every time you search and shop online!** Simply by visiting the following online sites, every time you make a purchase with sponsoring sites such as Amazon or other big name sites, each company will contribute a small donation back to the club - *at no additional cost to you.*

- **iGive:** Sign up to donate to the Silicon Valley Turtle and Tortoise Club and shop at over 700 stores through this online shopping portal. iGive will donate a percentage of your purchase, and will make an additional \$5 donation when you shop within 45 days of registering. [www.igive.com](http://www.igive.com)
- **GoodShop:** Select Silicon Valley Turtle and Tortoise Club at GoodShop and every time you make an online purchase, we will receive a contribution to benefit our club. GoodShop donations average approximately 3% of the sale, but go up to 20% or even more (depending on the retailer). [www.goodshop.com](http://www.goodshop.com)
- **GoodSearch:** powered by Yahoo!, GoodSearch gives approximately 1 cent to SVTTC per search. Add their toolbar to your browser and help raise funds for the SVTTC. [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com)
- **S.H.A.R.E. Cards:** Every time you shop at Lucky's, Save Mart or other participating retailers, show them your S.H.A.R.E. card prior to paying and 3% of all sales go back to the club. You can obtain a card from Kevin Norred
- **Round Table Pizza ( Meeting night only ):** Attached to this newsletter is a print out for those who will be eating at Round Table Pizza the evening of the meeting. 15% of all club member pizza sales go back to the club. Please print out the form and bring with you.

# Librarian Report

By Martha Pugno

The library is slowly coming together. Right now I am teaching myself Microsoft Office (I purchased the student edition and a training program the other day) so that I can set up a database for the collection of literature. So far we have copies of the following:

## Periodicals:

- Chelonian Conservation and Biology
- Journal of Herpetology
- Herpetological Review
- Reptiles USA
- Vivarium Magazines

## Books:

- Turtles: a complete Owner's Manual
- General care and Maintenance of Popular Tortoises
- Step-by-Step Book About Tortoises
- Russian Tortoises
- Mediterranean Tortoises
- Keeping and Breeding Corn Snakes
- Understanding Reptile Parasites
- A Complete Introduction to Turtles and Terrapins
- Desert Tortoise: Status-of-Knowledge Outline with References

I wanted to have bookplates for the books before checking them out and am waiting for the logo artwork to be available to put on the bookplates. However, since that is taking a little time, I could bring the books and one copy of each of the periodicals to the next meeting if members would like. I figure on using an old-fashioned 3x5 card for each book to check them out. I don't know what the checkout period will be, but propose that the books be returned at the meeting following the one that the book is borrowed (if someone can't make the meeting perhaps they could e-mail me or another officer to let us know when they feel they will be able to return it. (If I have the members' e-mail addresses on the checkout card, I can remind them to return the books at the next meeting)

Have a great Christmas and best wishes to you and your families in the New Year.

Martha Pugno

## Are you a Club Member?

You **do not** have to be a member to attend the meetings but we would encourage it. If you would like to join the SVTTC, membership fee is \$20/yr and you can sign up at the meeting or request a membership form by emailing [tortoisehome@yahoo.com](mailto:tortoisehome@yahoo.com) and mailing to the address on the form.

Benefits of being a member include an endless source of information, meet new friends with common interest, bi-monthly CTTC Tortuga Gazette Newsletter, ability to adopt through the CTTC Adoption program, receive discounts to businesses or shows when offered and have a lot of fun. Also, we will be having special events for SVTTC members.

Join Today!!!

## Club Meeting Donation Drawing:

By Kevin Norred

The club will be having a drawing to raise money for adoptions and club events. Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each. We have a large assortment of food, filters, and Misc. items donated by several vendors. Please support the various programs. If you have "NEW" items that are still sealed and unused and would like to donate them, please see Kevin at the meetings.



Sulcata vs. Leopard Tortoise at the Holiday Party Photo by Jennette Petrak & Family

## Current Events

### Upcoming Events:

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| January 4 <sup>th</sup>                        | SVTTC Club meeting        |
| January 9-10 <sup>th</sup>                     | Pomona Reptile Show       |
| January 18 <sup>th</sup>                       | CTTC Executive Meeting    |
| February 1 <sup>st</sup>                       | SVTTC Club Meeting        |
| March 1 <sup>st</sup>                          | SVTTC Club Meeting        |
| April 10-11 <sup>th</sup>                      | San Mateo Herp World Expo |
| July 31 <sup>st</sup> – August 1 <sup>st</sup> | San Jose Herp World Expo  |
| September 11-12 <sup>th</sup>                  | Anaheim Reptile Show      |
| September 18-19 <sup>th</sup>                  | Sacramento Reptile Show   |

### Future Newsletters:

If you have an article that you would like to contribute to the SVTTC or maybe write something that you may have experienced or an exciting tip, we are looking to add some fun stuff to the monthly newsletter. Please no copyrighted info.



Leopard Tortoise with (3) Red Foot Tortoises Photo by Jennette Petrak & Family

# Reptile Vets

SVTTC members and non-members have recommended the following names and Veterinarian offices. This listing is for reference only.

## **VCA Orchard Plaza Animal Hospital**

Dr. Jennifer Star Seward, DVM  
Dr. Ian Stone, DVM  
San Jose, CA  
(408) 227-9110

## **Felton Veterinary Hospital**

Dr. Cathy Calvert, DVM  
Felton, CA  
(831) 335-3466

## **Sunnyvale Veterinary Clinic**

Dr. Raj Singh, DVM  
Sunnyvale, CA  
(408) 736-8929

## **Avian & Exotic Clinic of Monterey**

Dr. Shannon Thomas, DVM  
Dr. Amy Wells, DVM  
Monterey, CA  
(831) 647-1147

## **Valley Animal Hospital**

Dr. Christine McFadden  
Merced, CA  
(209) 384-7387

## **Wildwood Animal Hospital**

Dr. Chris Sanders, DVM  
Dr. Tina Peak, DVM  
Portola Valley, CA  
(650) 851-9453

## **Wildwood Animal Hospital**

Dr. Diana Welsh, DVM  
San Jose, CA  
(408) 265-8811

## **Berkeley Dog and Cat Hospital**

Dr. Kenneth Harkewicz, DVM  
Berkeley, CA  
(510) 848-5041

## **Canyon Veterinary Hospital**

Dr. R. Barrett, DVM  
Castro Valley, CA  
(510) 582-6704

## **Santa Clara Pet Hospital**

Dr. Kent Littlehale, DVM  
San Jose, CA  
(408) 227-9110

## **Castro Valley Companion Animal Hospital**

Rene Gandolfi, DVM  
Castro Valley, CA  
(510) 582-6311

## **Kirkwood Animal Hospital**

Dr. Garrett Okumara, DVM  
Campbell, CA  
(408) 374-5850

## **Sequoia Valley Veterinary Hospital**

Dr. Randall Popkin, DVM  
Santa Rosa, CA  
(707) 545-7387

## **Exotic Services Veterinarians U.C. Davis – Small Animal Hospital**

Davis, CA  
(530) 752-0186  
Emergency (530) 752-0186



Holiday Party Pics – Photos by Lesa Montoya

# **SVTTC Sponsors**

The Silicon Valley Turtle and Tortoise Club is seeking out commercial sponsors from retail establishments and manufacturer's that would be interested in supporting the club with raffle donations, promotional items and discounts to the SVTTC membership. In return the sponsoring businesses would receive a business card ad in the SVTTC news and mentioned at promotional events. The SVTTC News is circulated to members and non-members of the SVTTC.

**I would like to thank the following:**

**SF Bay Brands  
Zoo Med  
Hagen**

**for their support this year. All companies have donated product for raffle and events. Thanks Again.**

The Following Retailers offer discounts for SVTTC / CTTC Members:

**None at this time (Stay Tuned)**

For More Information about meetings or the SVTTC, Please contact:  
Kevin Norred, SVTTC Adoption Chairman  
(408) 482-5437 or  
[TORTOISEHOME@YAHOO.COM](mailto:TORTOISEHOME@YAHOO.COM)



The awesome raffle put together to raise funds. Thanks to SF Bay Brands, Zoo Med and Hagen. Photo by Jennette Petrak & Family



Photos by Lesa Montoya



# Adoption Report

By Kevin Norred

Things have been very slow. I received a group of California Deserts consisting of (3) Soft Ball Sized Juveniles, (4) 3" Babies and (4) Hatchlings. All CDT's have the best homes possible now. Also coming in this past month was a couple Female 3-Toed Box Turtles that also went to great homes. I still have a handful of 6-8" Red Ear Sliders for adoption. I have been currently asking those looking for new homes for their sliders to hold onto them until spring if possible as I don't have the room to hold onto them for 4 months. My indoor holding tanks are full. It is too cold to put them outside in my tubs right now.

I am going to be seeking out some of the larger Rubbermaid Containers that are used for Stock Ponds to hold Aquatic Turtles. If you would be interested in donating funds to help support these purchases, please let me know. The tubs vary in price, but the ones I will be purchasing are the 300gallon Tubs from Tractor Supply. They cost about \$230.00 each. The other option is the Large Waterland Tubs which are a little more expensive. I hope to get a couple working before spring as I always get way to many sliders. The other expense will be setting up filters to clean the water and covers for them to keep predators out. If you know anyone that has a pump/filter for a 600gallon or bigger pond that they would like to donate, let me know.

I am currently working on a New PDF Adoption form that will be easy to fill out online and can be emailed back to me so there is no delay in the processing of the applications. This will also allow us to go green and not waste as much paper. The form will be ready for approval soon and hope to have it on the website by Spring.

Some other things that are on my project list are Forms for selecting the best Turtle /Tortoise

possible for a person who is new to our shelled friends. Also, I will be creating Care sheets that will be our own club care sheets for each species related to our Bay Area climate. They will cover the basics of each and every species that we see come through adoptions and then move to some of the more exotic species commonly in the pet trade. I think this will help educate many and keep everyone on the same page. I am finding that even with the huge amount of information on the Internet, people are still reluctant to do research.

On closing, I would like to share a picture of one of the Alligator Snappers Turtles turned over to me last month. Please remember these guys are highly illegal to have or sell in California. The CTTC and the chapters work with the California Department of Fish and Game to relocate them. If you have one or know of someone who has one, please let them know that they are illegal and very dangerous. They can take a finger or hand off with no hesitation.



This Alligator Snapper had a shell length of 16" and was over 26" from nose to tail. He was very aggressive and wanted to eat me!!!

This is the 300-gallon stock tank:



## California Club News

If you are part of a club or organization related to Turtles / Tortoises and would like to post some current news, please give Kevin Norred a call or email.

### Sacramento Turtle & Tortoise Club

President: Felice Rood

#### 2010 Meeting Dates

January 16<sup>th</sup> 1:30 to 4pm Sacramento, CA  
April 17<sup>th</sup>  
July 17<sup>th</sup> \*  
August 21<sup>st</sup> \* 11 – 4pm  
October 16<sup>th</sup> \*

\* Meeting dates not confirmed yet

Adoptions: Lots of Red Ear Sliders & Occasional Sulcata's

For more information about the Sacramento Turtle & Tortoise Club, please contact Felice Rood at [felicerood@compuserve.com](mailto:felicerood@compuserve.com) or visit [www.Turtlebunker.com](http://www.Turtlebunker.com)

### Merced Turtle & Tortoise Club

Pending Chapter of the CTTC  
President: Alex Lu-Pon

Contact info: [CTTC.Merced@gmail.com](mailto:CTTC.Merced@gmail.com)

## Bay Area Amphibian & Reptile Society

President: Scott Alexander

Hello All -

2010 is already shaping up well, with three strong speakers booked so far.

January - Jams Liu, on the Mountain Yellow-Legged Frog, one of rarest frogs in the world, with approx 150 left in the world. James long time BAARS member and has recently participated in field research of the Mountain Yellow-Legged Frog. NOTE: Nicole Chaney, previously booked for January, has post-poned her talk on Steinhardt herps.

Feb - Dr. Beth Dawson - Love life of Lizards and Snakes. Beth Dawson is a herpetologist who teaches at San Jose State University and has done field research on several species of herps.

March - Julie Bergman - "Gecko Journey - My life with 80+ species of geckos" Julie Bergman, President of GGA, Global Gecko Association, will be discussing breeding and husbandry of Geckos and how she got to where she is. Julie also runs the "Gecko Ranch", [www.geckoranch.com](http://www.geckoranch.com), and is a very successful breeder of Geckos.

Sincerely,

Scott Alexander

Adoptions: Contact Setiva Woodring for current list of Reptiles for adoption. Her email is [gobaars@yahoo.com](mailto:gobaars@yahoo.com)

For more information about the Bay Area Amphibian and Reptile Society, please contact Scott Alexander at [alexander\\_scott@yahoo.com](mailto:alexander_scott@yahoo.com) or visit [www.baars.org](http://www.baars.org)

# **Hibernation – Tortoise Trust Part 2 of 2**

Continued from the October 2009 SVTTC Newsletter – Article from Tortoise Trust

As the average mean ambient temperature begins to approach the critical 50 °F point, a tortoise's metabolism will begin to reactivate in readiness for waking. Certain complex chemical and biological processes are initiated as the animal prepares to emerge into the spring sunshine. Upon first emerging from hibernation a tortoise is depleted in strength, has a low White Blood Cell (WBC) count, and is very vulnerable to infection. Unless it receives adequate quantities of heat and light it will simply 'not get going properly', and instead of starting to regain weight and strength lost during hibernation, may well refuse to eat, and begin to decline. This condition in its most serious form is known as POST HIBERNATION ANOREXIA, and has been the subject of some intense veterinary research over the past few years. How to deal with it is discussed in the next section. Hopefully you will have followed our previous instructions, and your tortoise will emerge in good condition. As the temperature raises listen carefully to the hibernating box - you should begin to hear the first sounds of movement.

At this point, rather than follow tradition and wait for your tortoise to emerge from its hibernating box itself, you should remove the hibernating box from its winter quarters and warm it up by placing it in a warm room, and allow it to warm gradually. After a few hours remove the tortoise from its box and place it in a warm, bright environment. Repeat the pre-hibernation health checks, and then offer the tortoise a drink as soon as it is fully awake. Provided the temperature is correct, this should only take a matter of an hour or two.

Many people experience problems in getting tortoises to drink - in fact almost all tortoises will drink provided water is offered in a suitable manner. We recommend placing the entire tortoise in a sink, bath tub, or large container suitable to the size of the tortoise, such as a cat litter pan filled with about 1" of very slightly warm water - less in the case of very small tortoises, a little more for giant specimens. Simply offering a small dish of water to the tortoise is not likely to stimulate a good drinking response, but actually placing it in water is usually successful.

The importance of getting the tortoise to drink cannot be overstated. Indeed, this is essential as during hibernation the kidneys in particular accumulate large quantities of dangerous toxins. These must be 'flushed out' as quickly as possible, or the tortoise may begin to suffer from poisoning. It will certainly feel ill and remain disinclined to eat.

Drinking is, at this stage, far more important than feeding. Both dehydration and the presence in the body of toxins dictate that every effort must be made to encourage drinking first, feeding later. The tortoise must also be kept warm as described previously- it is absolutely vital that such temperatures are maintained in order to speed up activation of the tortoise's digestive system. As the tortoise awakes certain biological changes take place; one of the most important of these is the release into the bloodstream of a chemical

called glycogen, which has been stored in the liver. This provides extra energy to give the tortoise an initial 'boost'. Feeding must take place before this is exhausted, or the animal will begin to decline. The glycogen level can be artificially boosted by providing water with glucose in solution daily - about 2 teaspoons per 250 ml dilution, at about 10-20 ml per day for an average sized animal. The use of Pedialyte™ is also successful. Do not continue this therapy indefinitely, or dangerously high blood-sugar levels may be attained.

All tortoises should very definitely feed within ONE WEEK of emerging from hibernation. If they do not there is either;

- A health problem, or
- A husbandry problem.

If your tortoise is not feeding by itself within one week of waking up, take the steps described in the next chapter, and if this does not produce results within a further three days, do not delay any longer - consult a veterinarian who has particular experience of reptile husbandry, physiology and treatment. Seek the underlying cause of the problem, and do not be satisfied with non-specific 'vitamin injection' therapy. There is always a logical and very good reason for a tortoise persistently refusing to eat, and generalized vitamin deficiencies are highly unlikely to be responsible. Good diagnostic techniques, combined with an understanding of reptile metabolism and function, will invariably produce a satisfactory answer. Out of literally thousands of tortoises we have seen over the years with feeding problems, from ancient Galapagos giants to tiny newly hatched babies, we have never yet seen one suffering from anything which a general non-specific 'vitamin injection' would correct. It is highly unlikely, to say the least, that yours is the exception. Whatever you do, please do not delay. A tortoise, which refuses to feed after a week or more of correct temperatures, has a problem. It is your responsibility to find out what the problem is and to deal with it effectively.

## **RELUCTANT EATERS**

In all probability, if your tortoise persistently refuses to eat it is seriously ill. You need expert help - without delay. As a general guide the problem is most often caused by one of the following conditions. The ability of owners to recognize or eliminate these possibilities is all part of good husbandry, so you should very definitely familiarize yourself with the basic symptoms of these common health problems. All can result in a refusal to feed.

## **SIGHT DAMAGE**

Usually due to freezing during hibernation. Symptoms: lack of response to visual stimuli, refusal to feed, reluctance to walk, collision with objects when walking, moving round in circles. Treatment: force feeding or hand-feeding, time and careful nursing. Once again however, dehydration is the main danger. We use Hartmann's solution Also known as Lactated Ringer's Solution (an I.V. drip compound sodium lactate) given orally at 5% of

total bodyweight daily in cases of severe dehydration, reducing as urination begins and the electrolyte balance is restored. Other products, such as Pedialyte™ can be successfully used. High doses of vitamin-A have definitely been shown to assist, particularly in cases of retinal damage and (to a lesser extent) in cases of cataracts on the lenses. Most cases in our experience make a good recovery eventually, but in severe cases this can take several years. Identifying this requires expert diagnosis by vet. Blind or sight damaged tortoises should not be routinely destroyed. The Tortoise Trust Sanctuary can accept such animals for long term residency. We also have a separate care sheet on how to deal with such tortoises.

## **SWOLLEN EYES**

Can result from local infections or general debility. In box turtles the cause is generally one of husbandry, especially a lack of access to wading water and insufficient air humidity. However, veterinary diagnosis is essential in all cases. In VERY rare cases swollen eyes can also be an indication of acute Vitamin-A deficiency, especially in hatchling tortoises.

## **EAR ABSCESSSES**

Symptoms: swelling in area of ear flap, refusal to feed. Treatment: surgical removal by veterinarian. If left untreated, not only is much suffering caused, but also eventually fatality will result as the infection spreads. The same comments apply to abscesses in other locations; the legs are particularly vulnerable. Check legs (and especially the joints) for signs of unusual swelling or stiffness regularly. Reptile abscesses are usually hard, caseous lumps and contain cheesy yellowish pus and other infected matter. They do not respond purely to systemic therapy, surgical excision is essential in addition. We see many abscesses; the most frequent sites are the ears, the legs, the inside of the mouth and the nares (the nose). Tumors are very rare in tortoises, so if you encounter a "growth" you can almost guarantee it is an abscess or cyst. This condition is extremely common in American box turtles.

## **PNEUMONIA**

May be mistaken for an ordinary cold. Rapidly fatal unless treated properly. Symptoms: mucous and saliva in plentiful evidence, sometimes foaming and frothing at mouth. Obvious difficulty breathing in acute cases. The tortoise holds its head high, at an unusual angle while gaping and gasping for breathe. This phase is followed by collapse, unconsciousness, and eventual death. From first symptoms to death in acute cases can be as little as 4 hours, hence, at first sign of breathing difficulty obtain expert help without delay. Do not deliver antibiotics to tortoises orally: - it is impossible to gauge the resultant blood serum level, and it will also have catastrophic effects upon the digestive system. Treatment: Always treat parenterally (by injection) or topically (by direct application) as appropriate. Meanwhile keep the tortoise warm and fully hydrated (by stomach tube if it refuses to drink for itself). Prevention is obviously better than cure, so at first sign of 'cold-like' symptoms place under close observation. Pneumonia is unfortunately common in all debilitated tortoises, box turtles, and terrapins. The

symptoms of a potential pneumonia should never be ignored - seek expert veterinary help at once if you suspect that it may be developing.

## **STOMATITIS**

Another very serious and unpleasant disease, usually of bacterial origin (although viral forms are known), and one that is invariably fatal without prompt and appropriate treatment. Sometimes called 'mouth-canker' or 'mouth rot'. Symptoms: excess saliva production, refusal to eat, upon opening the mouth a sponge or cheese-like yellowish deposit may be visible. In addition, gums and tongue may have a deep red or purple tinge, possibly speckled with blood. This disease should be regarded as highly contagious to other tortoises. Isolate suspected cases immediately, and enforce strict hygiene precautions. Treatment: as much infected matter as possible should be removed gently using cotton swabs dipped in chlorhexidine solution. This should be repeated twice daily. Also the mouth can be gently rinsed with dilute 'BETADINE' solution. WARNING: some cases of stomatitis are unusually resistant to specific antibiotics. In such cases a laboratory analysis and sensitivity assay is essential. The oral cephalosporins have proved highly effective in some otherwise resistant cases. Tortoises with stomatitis will often need to drink each day, and may also require stomach tube feeding. Reptiles suffering from stomatitis are at considerable risk of secondary infections, principally pneumonia, and require expert handling under conditions of exceptional hygiene.

## **INJURY**

In connection with hibernation, often the result of attack by rats or similar predators (e.g., raccoons). This is entirely preventable, so take adequate precautions (surround boxes with wire mesh and check regularly). If the worst does happen clean with 50% dilute 'BETADINE' or Chlorhexidine solution, and seek veterinary advice at once. Treatment: essentially same as for any wound. If rats are the culprits then preventative antibiotic therapy will be in order. The same treatment is followed for minor cases of shell damage but be careful not to confuse a minor injury with the first symptoms of something more serious such as necrotic dermatitis, for example. Really major traumatic injuries require expert treatment - however, tortoises are incredibly resilient creatures, and with the proper care can often recover from what at first sight appear quite horrendous injuries - even when confronted by a tortoise with a leg torn off, for example, it is important not to panic. With prompt expert treatment such animals can not only survive but also go on to lead a normal life and even produce hatchlings. Keep all sick tortoises or tortoises with wounds indoors as maggots can appear with frightening rapidity, especially in the eyes, or around the nose. If discovered in this condition, remove the maggots and wash well immediately with a mild antiseptic solution.

## **VOMITING OR REGURGITATION**

Spontaneous vomiting should always be regarded as a serious symptom. Caused by: a) Lack of digestive enzyme activity due to too low a temperature, b) Parasite infestation ('worms' or flagellates), or ingestion of toxic material affecting digestive system, or, c)

Resulting from widespread septicaemia or bacteraemia. Vomiting may also occur during force-feeding, or when handling too roughly. Treatment: identify causal factor.

### **R.N.S.**

'Runny Nose Syndrome' appears to have several causes. Symptoms; may refuse to eat. Treatment: Place all infected animals in strict quarantine, as certain forms of the disease are highly infectious. Keep animal warm, but maintain good air circulation. **MANY CASES ARE DUE TO ENVIRONMENTAL CAUSES - INDOOR ENVIRONMENTS AND VIVARIUMS ARE OFTEN IMPLICATED.** In persistent cases we have found that combining topical therapy with a broad spectrum injected antibiotic produces consistently good results. The organisms responsible are almost always Gram-negative pathogens such as pseudomonas, klebsiella or citrobacter. Mycoplasma organisms are also often involved.

### **JAUNDICE**

Often the result of either dehydration or fatty degeneration of the liver due to incorrect diet. Symptoms: tortoise reluctant to feed inclined to hide in corners or bury itself. Mouth inspection may (but not always) reveal a yellowish tinge to mucous membrane and tongue. Undigested food matter may also be passed. Treatment: veterinary diagnosis essential. Keep well hydrated using plenty of water with just a pinch of glucose. Serious cases will require medication.

### **NECROTIC DERMATITIS**

Also known as 'shell rot'. An unpleasant disease of bacterial origin - any one of several specific organisms may be responsible. Symptoms: Fluid, sometimes bloody, 'leaking' from shell. Fluid can often be seen underneath the plates, which may also develop a reddish tinge. Treatment: depends upon what bacteria involved, and how advanced. However, exceptional hygiene is a must. Daily scrubs with undiluted 'BETADINE', and a topical antibiotic applied daily. Surgery may also be required. A disease that requires expert diagnosis and treatment if the animal is to survive. Untreated cases invariably prove fatal.

### **ANEMIA**

Common in debilitated animals. Symptoms: pale mucous membranes, weak and listless. Treatment: depends on cause. It should be stressed that an accurate veterinary diagnosis of the cause is vital - parasite infestations are one likely factor as are acute renal or hepatic problems.

### **CLOACITIS**

Symptoms: manifests as a smelly, unpleasant leak or discharge from the tail. Treatment: irrigation of cloaca with 'BETADINE' solution via catheter. Veterinary diagnosis

essential, as one possible contributory factor is flagellate infection - this will require special treatment - see under 'PARASITES'.

## **DIARRHEA**

Frequently associated with parasite infestation. A sample can be examined by your veterinary surgeon for traces of flagellate cysts or worm ova.

## **PARASITES**

Tortoises are particularly prone to two types of worm, long, grayish-looking creatures called ASCARIDS, and a smaller, very thin whitish type called OXYURIDS. Both respond to treatment with a Fenbendazole-type wormer. **ON NO ACCOUNT ADMINISTER ORDINARY CAT OR DOG WORMING POWDERS OR TABLETS TO TORTOISES!!!!** These may include chemicals, which are toxic to reptiles. Flagellate protozoan organisms are another potential parasite. Flagellate infection often manifests as diarrhea, sometimes tinged with blood and mucous. It can be serious, and expert veterinary advice should be sought. The recommended course of treatment often involves the use of metronidazole (e.g. 'FLAGYL'). Keeping tortoises too warm overnight appears to encourage protozoan proliferation. The main problem is likely to be in re-establishing normal digestion following a very severe flagellate attack. Hexamitiasis is a highly pathogenic infection of the urinary and renal system; symptoms include thickened urine, which smells strongly of ammonia. This is invariably very serious, but can be treated with metronidazole. Never ignore such a symptom, or irreparable renal damage or death may occur.

## **SEPTICAEMIA**

Generalized septicemia can occur as a secondary result of any bacterial infection, but is particularly common in connection with necrotic dermatitis and abscesses. Symptoms: weakness, vomiting, collapse, unconsciousness, sometimes delirium. Treatment: antibiotic required urgently.

## **Antibiotics**

Avoid extended use of antibiotics where possible. Some antibiotics, such as Lincomycin or Oxytetracycline, or even Baytril can cause considerable digestive upset. Lincomycin is not especially useful, but there are times when oxytetracycline can be extremely valuable, so apart from minimizing the side effects by proper dosing and administration, few alternative options may exist. Some smaller species such as *T. kleinmanni* can react very badly to some antibiotics such as Ampicillin and Oxytetracycline as can hatchlings. In such cases, antibiotics must be used with extreme caution, and under conditions of intensive care where any subsequent dehydration or digestive flora 'scour' can be immediately controlled. Many bacterial organisms are found in tortoises, one of the most difficult of which to eliminate is *Pseudomonas* and similar Gram-negative organisms (e.g. *Citrobacter* and *Klebsiella*). It is important to identify these where present, and to ensure

by laboratory tests that they are sensitive to the antibiotic employed. Pseudomonas is found extensively in necrotic stomatitis. Where a definite non-response is noted, resistance may be suspected, so change the antibiotic.

This is neither a complete list of tortoise diseases, nor a recommendation for "do it yourself" therapy as far as treatment is concerned. It is merely a guide to what CAN happen, and what to expect if it does. The main keys to successful treatment of sick tortoises are prompt recognition, and accurate diagnosis followed by appropriate medication. Never rely upon guesswork and always seek the underlying cause of any problem. Examinations should be thorough and complete, and where necessary laboratory diagnostic tests should be employed. Always, without exception, consult a qualified veterinarian and never attempt self-treatment or use antibiotics or other prescription medicines without veterinary supervision. Do not be afraid to seek out a veterinarian with special knowledge and experience of reptile treatment.

### **CAPTIVE BREEDING PROBLEMS**

Most of the hatchlings we see have been seriously damaged by incorrect diets provided by insufficiently expert owners. "Lumpy" shells and otherwise distorted carapaces are 100% avoidable if the correct steps are taken without delay. Hatchlings are very small and very sensitive. They cannot tolerate mishandling. The diet and environment must be exactly right if they are to survive and develop normally. Do not try to raise hatchlings by guesswork or by relying on outdated myths. Obtain expert advice at the earliest possible opportunity. The Tortoise Trust has excellent material available on all aspects of captive breeding and raising all kinds of tortoises and turtles.

### **FORCE FEEDING**

With all reptiles there are times when it may become necessary to resort to either force or hand feeding; particularly so in the case of anorexia, sight damage or where a tortoise for some other reason is unable to feed itself. Fortunately tortoises do not find this as distressing as mammals, and from the owner's point of view the procedure is both safe and relatively simple. We classify force-feeding in three basic stages; hand-feeding, which is really no more than an encouragement to feed normally; syringe feeding, which is less time-consuming and where alternative foods can be employed; and finally, stomach-tube feeding, where semi-liquid food matter is introduced directly into the digestive system by means of a tube passed down the animal's throat.

### **HAND FEEDING**

Ideal in animals which are not in a serious condition, and where encouragement to take food into the mouth is all that is required. It is frequently highly successful with sight-damaged animals. Suitable foods: sliced apple, pears, cucumber and melon, lightly dusted with Rep-Cal and Herptivite. Technique: simply open tortoise's mouth, and place food within. To open a tortoise's mouth efficiently and safely, simply grasp the animal firmly

behind the ears and jaw with the thumb and second finger of one hand, and firmly force down the lower jaw with the thumb and first finger of the other hand.

## **SYRINGE FEEDING**

Obtain a 5 ml or 10 ml syringe from your veterinarian. Alternatively suitable syringes are often sold in pet stores as baby bird feeders. This method can be used in conjunction with the hand feeding (above). Suitable foods: liquidized fruits - prepared baby foods are ideal. To these can be added 'VIONATE' or other vitamin supplements. Technique: open tortoise's mouth manually (as above), and simply syringe small quantities of food onto the tongue to be swallowed naturally.

## **STOMACH-TUBE FEEDING**

This sounds more drastic and difficult than it actually is. However, care must be taken a) not to cause physical damage, and b) not to spread infection. To avoid the former proceed slowly and gently, to avoid the second sterilize all implements thoroughly in 'MILTON' or Chlorhexidine. The method is invaluable with very debilitated or sick tortoises that are unable to swallow, or who need food by the quickest possible route. Special diets can be given using this method, and the precise quantity of food taken can be carefully controlled. It is also possible to deliver vitamins, drugs or other substances in exact quantities where required. Suitable foods: liquids such as plain water, water containing vitamin powders in dilution. Semi-solid foods such as plain fruit baby foods, again with added vitamins as required. We are opposed to the use of (lactose) milk-based high protein food preparations, even in severe cases of undernourishment. We have often noted serious side effects where these are employed, possibly due to lactose intolerance in some animals, and in other cases we suspect that the high protein input is causing liver and kidney damage. We have, in any case, rehabilitated so many extremely underweight and undernourished tortoises without such materials that we can honestly see no need for them. Our general policy with ALL feeding is LOW protein, HIGH vitamin and mineral content, LOW fat and HIGH fiber. This most closely approximates the diet of a wild tortoise, and we are becoming increasingly convinced that excessive force-feeding on unnatural substances is one reason why so many people experience high rates of mortality in such cases whereas our own experience is that such tortoises usually make a very rapid recovery. Technique: it is best if you see this actually demonstrated before attempting to apply it (the Tortoise Trust has some videos which show this procedure). For the record, however, the technique is as follows: Obtain a 5 ml or 10 ml syringe, also a dog catheter. Cut to size and fix to end of syringe (length of tube = just over half the length of tortoise). Lubricate lightly with vegetable oil. Place tortoise in an almost vertical position, extend neck and head fully in a straight line. Gently and slowly pass tube down throat, carefully avoiding the trachea, which is located just behind the tongue. Gently and slowly empty the contents of the syringe into the tortoise. The amount of food, which should be introduced in this fashion, has been the subject of some confusion. Our general recommendations are as follows. These figures have been extracted from our case records based upon several hundred animals and we believe them to be highly accurate. Sometimes figures are quoted which are many times in excess of these, but we

believe that such over-feeding can prove extremely hazardous, especially to a sick or relatively inactive animal.

- VERY SMALL TORTOISES Between 75-120 mm long - 2 ml twice per day semi-solid food.
- SMALL TORTOISES Between 150-180 mm long - 3-4 ml twice per day semi-solid food.
- MEDIUM TORTOISES Between 180-220 mm long - 4-5 ml twice per day semi-solid food.
- LARGE TORTOISES Between 220-260 mm long - up to 10 ml twice per day.

# **Tortoises for Adoption**

The Turtles and Tortoises listed and/or available through the SVTTC are for the prospective benefit of the SVTTC members and potential new owners. No guarantees as to the health, suitability, or legality of the adopted turtles and tortoises as pets is neither expressed nor implied. The SVTTC does its best to examine all turtles and tortoises to deem healthy prior to release. No hidden illnesses that can be detected at the time of physical examination will be held against the SVTTC. When adopting a new turtle or tortoise, it is recommended that each animal be quarantined for at least 90 days from any other existing turtles/tortoises.

## **Turtles/Tortoise Available**

Unlimited Supply

Red Ear Slider Aquatic Turtles Various Sizes

Requirements: Must have at least 50 gallon tank for one and/or at least 100 gallons or more for multiple turtles.

## **Turtles / Tortoises Adopted out in December**

- (4) California Desert Tortoises Hatchlings
- (4) California Desert Tortoises 2-3 year olds
- (3) California Desert Tortoises 5-10 year olds
- (11) Adult Red Ear Sliders Aquatic Turtles
- (1) Adult Painted Turtle

# Club Member Classifieds / Wanted:

- TORTOISE SUPPLIES – PROCEEDS GO TO SVTTC ADOPTIONS  
Contact Kevin Norred @ (408) 482-5437 or [tortoisehome@yahoo.com](mailto:tortoisehome@yahoo.com)  
For CTTC Members only- Quantities Limited

*Bigger quantity can be purchased. Call for price*

*Small K & H Heat Pads 12.5" X 18.5"	\$45.00 (Petco Price \$70.00)
*Medium K & H Heat Pads 16.5" X 22.5"	\$50.00 (Petco Price \$80.00)
*Large K & H Heat Pads 22.5" X 28.5"	\$55.00 (Petco Price \$100.00)

- WANTED: SPOTTED TURTLES & WOOD TURTLES  
Contact: John Nichols (650) 858-2682 or email [ljpnichols@comcast.net](mailto:ljpnichols@comcast.net)
- WANTED: Male Star Tortoises and /or Pairs  
Contact: Jimmy Chu email [hubertfirst22@hotmail.com](mailto:hubertfirst22@hotmail.com)
- WANTED: Sulcata's Big and Small  
Contact: Macario Guzman email [guzman209@sprint.blackberry.net](mailto:guzman209@sprint.blackberry.net) 209-534-7213  
I don't breed them. I have six kids who enjoy tending to them. I can pay a relocation fee and travel. My friend grows Timothy grass and I seed my yard. I am willing to take other animals I have a boa and three extra tanks with uvb lights.
- WANTED: Red Foot Tortoises  
Contact email [t34racing@yahoo.com](mailto:t34racing@yahoo.com)
- WANTED :Tortoises  
Looking for the following Tortoises: Elongated Females, Leopard Females, Red Foot Females, Pancake Males and Females.  
Contact Kevin Norred email [Tortoisehome@yahoo.com](mailto:Tortoisehome@yahoo.com) (408) 482-5437
- FOR SALE :Leopard Geckos  
I have over 40 Leopard Geckos in various patterns and colors. Prices vary. Call for availability. Contact Kevin Norred email [Tortoisehome@yahoo.com](mailto:Tortoisehome@yahoo.com) (408) 482-5437
- FOR SALE :Crested Geckos  
I have over 30 New Caldonian Crested Geckos in various patterns and colors. Prices vary. Call for availability. Contact Kevin Norred email [Tortoisehome@yahoo.com](mailto:Tortoisehome@yahoo.com) (408) 482-5437

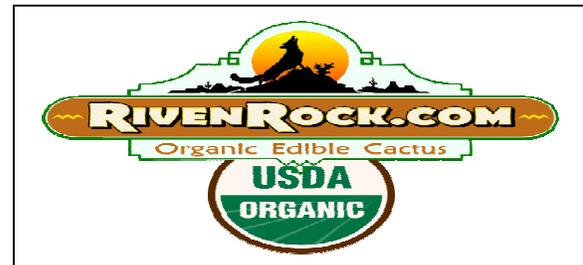
- FOR SALE :Pure Jungle Carpet Pythons  
I have 1 proven pair and an extra male Jungle Carpet Pythons. The pair is very tame and the young male just needs some work. The males have a lot of color. They should be ready to breed in the Spring. Good opportunity to get some extra money. Babies sell from \$150-250 pending color. Contact Kevin Norred email [Tortoisehome@yahoo.com](mailto:Tortoisehome@yahoo.com) (408) 482-5437
- FOR SALE :Hatchling 3-Toed Box Turtles  
I hatched out (3) baby 3-toed Box turtles. These guys are cute and the size of a quarter. Adoption fee is \$25.00. For Educational use only. Eating Blood worms  
Contact Kevin Norred email [Tortoisehome@yahoo.com](mailto:Tortoisehome@yahoo.com) (408) 482-5437
- FOR SALE :2yr old Eastern Box Turtles  
These guys are about 2" in length. Adoption fee is \$45.00. For Educational use only.  
Contact Kevin Norred email [Tortoisehome@yahoo.com](mailto:Tortoisehome@yahoo.com) (408) 482-5437
- FOR SALE :2009 Russian Tortoise Hatchlings  
They were incubated at 89.5F for females. Price is \$125ea  
Location: Concord  
Contact Dan Goemmel at (925) 825-6361 or email [kq6ar@astound.net](mailto:kq6ar@astound.net)
- FOR SALE :2009 Marginated Tortoise Hatchlings  
They were incubated at 89.5F for females. Price is \$125ea  
Location: Concord  
Contact Dan Goemmel at (925) 825-6361 or email [kq6ar@astound.net](mailto:kq6ar@astound.net)
- FOR SALE :Mazuri Tortoise Chow  
Mazuri Tortoise Diet is a high fiber diet designed for land herbivorous tortoises. It has many beneficial features. Mix with your fresh vegetables and fruit as a supplement or give as a main diet.  

1lb Bag	\$7.00	10lb Bag	\$30.00
2lb Bag	\$10.00	25lb Bag	\$50.00
5lb Bag	\$20.00		

  
Contact Kevin Norred email [Tortoisehome@yahoo.com](mailto:Tortoisehome@yahoo.com) (408) 482-5437

# Commercial Vendors / Retailers

Are you interested in advertising in one of the leading Turtle and Tortoise Newsletters in California? If you would like your logo or business card inserted in one of the below squares, please contact Kevin @ [Tortoisehome@yahoo.com](mailto:Tortoisehome@yahoo.com) Sponsoring Vendors are waived any fees. Non Sponsoring Vendors, \$20 donation a month.



Your Business Card  
Here

Your Business Card  
Here



**The Last Honest Pizza.™**

# **Silicon Valley Turtle and Tortoise Club Fundraiser**

Please join us to help raise funds for the Silicon Valley Turtle and Tortoise Club while we have a great time. Come help us out, and help you to the freshest, best-tasting pizza in town.

**Just bring this flyer with you on the date below and give it to the order taker before you order. We'll give 15% of your order (excluding sales tax) to the Silicon Valley Turtle and Tortoise Club.**

**Date: Monday January 4th**  
**(Call in your order early to avoid delay)**

**Time: 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**  
**Meeting starts at 7pm**

**Location: 14940 Camden Avenue**  
**San Jose, CA 95124**  
**(408) 371-9550**