Volume 1 Number 2

VaraNews

VaraNews is published by © Varanix, the Varanid Information eXchange, dedicated to the preservation of monitor lizards through education and the exchange of information relating to all aspects of care in captivity.

General Info

This is Volume 1 Number 2 (V1N2) of VaraNews. With this issue, a few carloads over 100 people have been put on the mailing list. (In addition, there are eight herpetological societies participating in a newsletter exchange program.)

Varanix is still in the formative stages. It is, and always will be, an open forum for its members to ask questions, voice concerns and discuss successes (and failures). The goals common to all members will only be achieved with involvement. If there is a project or topic which interests you, say so. If you don't see mention of a subject dear to your heart, bring it up. No projects can be carried for any length of time on the shoulders of one or two individuals. Varanix is designed to let you hear what others have to say AND let others hear what you have to say. There is a wealth of experience out there and Varanix can only meet its goals if you speak up.

The first issue of VaraNews, Number 0, was primarily a 'Notice of Intent' to determine if there were enough varanid enthusiasts throughout the world to move forward with the concept of Varanix. It also offered some thoughts on projects and goals worth considering.

Volume 1 Number 1 (V1N1) summed up some of the comments and suggestions from those who had read Number 0. It also discussed several projects on a broad scope and made general calls for involvement. (To receive copies of past issues, see the bottom of page 2.)

This issue narrows the focus to topics which are of greatest interest to the readership, based on the wants/needs expressed in your letters. The general theme in the correspondence has been: *increase my knowledge about varanids in order that I better understand and provide for them.* Questions about basic captive care are typically asked by people who have recently acquired, or are about to acquire, a monitor and are looking for sources of information and reference material. An article presenting the year-long observations of a single savannah monitor, *V. e. exanthematicus*, was reprinted in the previous issue for those of you would had requested basic information about the species. This issue contains a follow-up in which three *V. e. exanthematicus* are discussed, one of which was the subject of the previous article.

The majority of you who have been maintaining monitors for some time are interested in contacting others caring for the same species and, often, working towards the establishment of captive breeding programs. A step in this direction is discussed later in the newsletter.

Up to this point, general calls have been made for involvement. Offers to contribute by writing, editing, reviewing, and distributing VaraNews have been tendered and have not been overlooked. Unfortunately, time does not allow me to discuss the range of possiblities on an individual basis and keep production of VaraNews on schedule.

The approach described below is offered to help you select the "opportunity for involvement" which you find to your liking.

Specific titles will be applied to each opportunity, hereafter referred to as "Capacity", at the time it is described in VaraNews. You may then volunteer your support by responding to a specific Capacity (or better still, Capacities!). As well, a small section entitled Capacity Corner will list all Capacities along with the names of those involved. This concept will hopefully become self-evident as you read on.

This approach is intended to simplify enlisting involvement in the management of Varanix and the production of VaraNews; another step in meeting your highest expectations of the eXchange. As is true with habitat maintenance, the simpler the task, the better chance that task will get done. Your ideas, comments and criticisms are welcome.

Please, No Crocodilian Eye Precipitation

This is the last issue that will be sent gratis/free/no charge. The number of people receiving VaraNews has reached the point where the cost of production and distribution is non-trivial. Paid membership by everyone on the current mailing list would be near the break-even point for a year's printing/mailing.

It is worth reiterating that:

- recycled paper currently costs 20-30% more than "regular" paper (this difference will decline as the overall demand increases)
- additional copies of VaraNews are printed for distribution in stores and to zoos
- there are also incidental costs such as mailing labels, phone calls, ...
- there is no other source of revenue

In order to receive the next issue, Volume 1 Number 3, due early February, your membership must be received by 15 January 1991. Please refer to the bottom of the page for details.

Many thanks to those of you who already responded with your support.

International Herpetological Symposium

This item is directed at the more experienced herpetologists reading the newsletter. The Institute for Herpetological Research is coming to the end of the planning stages for the June 1991 Symposium to be held in Seattle, WA.

If you would like to speak or participate in a workshop dealing with varanids (or any other lizards), contact the Program Coordinator STP (sooner than possible).

Richard A. Ross, MD
Institute for Herpetological Research
P.O. Box 2227
Stanford, CA 94305
(415) 941-4596 (9 - 5 Pacific time)

The deadline for inclusion in the list of participants is the end of December.

Au Secours!

The following request for assistance was received from Stephen D. Busack, Morphology Section Chief of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Forensics Laboratory:

Colubrid snakes from Asia, along with Crocodilians, Sea Turtles, Boas, Pythons and Varanid, Iguanid, and Tupinambid lizards from around the world are falling prey to the fashion industry in the form of tanned leather. The mission of our laboratory is to provide law enforcement agents with accurate and court-defensible species-level identifications of such products.

Because I am unable to travel the world (and I'd certainly like to) to obtain voucher specimens of all commercially-valuable taxa, I am calling upon the general herpetological community to assist me in building our reference collection. If you have materials

Inquiries and Membership:

Membership in Varanix for one-year costs:
- $10/year (USA)
- $12/year (foreign)

Members receive VaraNews bi-monthly. VaraNews is free to herp societies participating in a newsletter exchange program and to zoos upon request.

Address all inquiries & memberships to:

Greg Naclerio
Varanix
8726D S. Sepulveda Bl. #243
Los Angeles, CA 90045 USA

Messages may also be left via computer & modem on:
- Herpetology Online Network - (215) 464-3562
  (Herp-Net is a US-based electronic forum which can be accessed at any modem speed. The caller pays only for the phone call.)
- CompuServe - send mail to user ID: 71320,721
  (This is a world-wide, subscription-based electronic information service.)

Specify "monitor" as the keyword or subject

Editorial Review Board: Frank Braun

VaraNews is the newsletter of Varanix, the Varanid Information eXchange.

Varanix was founded to serve the interests of varanids and varanid-keepers throughout the world. A primary function of the eXchange is to build a collective knowledge base that will serve to improve the standard of living of these magnificent creatures in the captive world.

Editorial submissions:

May be written, typed or, preferably, in electronic form. Both PC and Mac diskettes are acceptable, in ASCII, MS Word, WordPerfect or RTF format.
Please indicate any special conditions of publication, such as withholding mention of name/organization or giving credit to a person or publication.

Back Issues:

For the issues listed, send a SASE with the following postage: 45¢ for a single copy and 25¢ for each additional copy (e.g., 3 copies of would require 95¢ postage).
- Number 0, Vol1 Num1, Vol1 Num2

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(preserved specimens, frozen carcasses, raw or tanned hides, etc.) that we might use, please contact me at the following abbreviated address:

S. D. Busack
1490 E. Main St.
Ashland, OR 97520

and I'll work with you to ensure a virtually painless transition from your place to mine (we pay shipping). In addition, we can work out an appropriate fair market value for your donation which will be deductible from your Federal Taxes.

Member List

At some point, a membership list will be made available. Only those who responded "YES" on the Info Sheet to having their name and address published will be included. This will all happen after the base membership has been established, perhaps in a couple of issues.

Love Connection?

There is no intention of publishing a list of who has what, where and how many? Yet, many people are interested in getting detailed, species-specific information about their animal(s). Unfortunately, there is no single source of information which fits all. In fact, locating *any* reliable source has been one of the more frustrating aspects of keeping varanids.

Und so... If you would like to come into direct contact with others who share a keen interest in the same species, send in a SASE and a note with your:

- name
- address
- suggestions/comments
- list of species in which you are interested.

You will then receive a list of all others who indicated an interest in the same species.

It is hoped that in bringing people together, they will individually or collectively report on what they learned from each other. Articles, however brief, discussing observations and conclusions on topics such as environmental requirements and feeding would benefit the entire readership. As well, this information could also help along the oft-mentioned species-specific Care in Captivity Sheets.

Let's Talk Tegu

A brief mention was made in Number 0 of VaraNews inviting Tegu enthusiasts to submit material about their animals. In all probability, these folks are asking themselves the familiar questions "Where can I find information about my *Tupinambis rufescens*? Is anyone breeding *Tupinambis teguixin*?"

Several members of Varanix currently care for Tegus and have indicated that articles are forthcoming.

Q & A

This is where your questions will be posted for response by the readership. Attempts to respond on an individual basis will be made for questions of an urgent nature.

Best efforts will be made to validate the responses. If you question the validity of an answer, speak up. What works in one case may not work in another.

Questions: Provide as much background information as possible. For example, if an animal's behavior has you concerned, describe it's living conditions, diet, approximate age, size, and weight.

Answers: When submitting responses, please make a valiant effort to insure the accuracy of your information.

For the moment, the only mechanism to answer your questions is this section. Unfortunately, the lag time between question and answer can range between 2 and 4 months, given the publication frequency. Attempts are being made to put more responsive techniques in place for urgent questions (see the Answer Hominid section elsewhere in the newsletter). The following question is one such example:

My V. salvator *has recently been choking for no apparent reason, and his mouth is foaming... does anyone know what this is from and how I can get rid of it?*

Clearly, this type of question is best responded to immediately. If you are able to offer assistance, please respond STP and the answer will be forewarded via Herp-Net, where the question was posted. The response will also appear in the next newsletter.

What are your suggestions on how to efficiently handle these questions of a more urgent nature?

Often, several letters will pose similar questions: *Where can I get information on ...? Who is breeding ...?* These requests for general information have been asked about most species kept in captivity, primarily *Varanus: examthematicus, niloticus, salvator, gouldii* and *indicus*. Any information you can offer will most certainly be appreciated by a number of people.

The following questions are posted for your response:

General

Is chlorine in the drinking & bathing water a problem?

Can I use a microwave oven to sterilize objects such as ceramic dishes, driftwood, etc.?

Feeding

What should be fed and how often?

What are acceptable vitamin supplements?

Cohabitation

Are there any guidelines for keeping several monitors together, both conspecific and mixed species?

What size differential is acceptable?

What are the guidelines for habitat size?

Should cohabitation only be attempted with young animals?

(In one case, these questions were posed in reference to a Savannah monitor, *V. exanthematicus*, and a mangrove monitor, *V. indicus*, of similar size and weight.)

The following question/answer appeared in the October 25, 1990 issue of Notes from NOAH, XVIII(1):15 in a column entitled Vet Talk by Norman Tulodziecki, DVM.

Q: A Nile monitor I recently purchased really likes to eat raw eggs and turns his nose up at other foods. Since he likes eggs, they must be good for him. True?

A: Raw eggs contain a substance called avidin, which has anti-vitamin properties and can render the biotin of the monitor's diet unavailable. Biotin is a potent member of the vitamin B complex and is required by most life forms. Lack of biotin causes a diffuse muscular weakness seen most commonly in tegus, monitors and other lizards on a diet of raw eggs. In the wild state, most unattended eggs have developing birds in them, thus avidin effects would be minimal. Supplement your lizard's diet with meat, mice, balanced vitamins, mineral supplements, and even some fruit.

Projects

This section will discuss the projects which have been suggested by the readership. If you are looking for ways to help Varanix grow and prosper, this section is for you.

Savannah Monitor (*V. exanthematicus*) Study

Mark Bayless of Berkeley, CA is doing a study of all subspecies of *V. exanthematicus* with the goal of improving husbandry techniques. Mark has a detailed questionnaire about you and your monitor. The results will be available to all.

If you would like to participate, send a SASE to Mark at the address below:

Mark Bayless
1406 Holly
Berkeley, CA 94703

Care in Captivity Sheets

The previous issue outlined some of the information which is addressed in a care sheet and made a weak call for volunteers. This worthwhile project needs people to act in the following Capacities for each species:

Capacity	# of people	Primary Responsibility
Provider	9999+	Send in information
Compiler	1	Assemble & refine data into a first draft; hand off to Reviewers
Reviewer	3	Verify the technical accuracy of the first draft

(Note that the number of people is required for each species.)

The goal is to create concise, species-specific information sheets which detail the necessary elements of a healthy, stress-free captive environment. These documents will be made available to anyone requesting them, including fellow herp societies.

The project begins with the Providers: Write, type or etch the results of your experience and/or research, and send it to Varanix.

The Compiler will be someone who has enough background with the species to effectively assemble and refine the information sent in by the Providers. The compilation will then be sent to the Reviewers.

Each Reviewer must have sufficient knowledge of the species to verify and clarify the information prior to publication.

To volunteer for Compiler or Reviewer, send in a note indicating the species and Capacity you desire. Providers need only provide. Your information will be forwarded to the Compiler. (Of course, one may serve in more than one Capacity!)

Greg Naclerio volunteers to serve as Compiler for the Nile monitor, *Varanus niloticus*. Next?

Captive Breeding

Whereas the budding varanid enthusiast is going through the job of learning about and providing for his/her recent acquisition, the long-term enthusiast wants to gear up for captive breeding. Before one can even think of launching such collective programs, a significant amount of planning and organization must be undertaken.

A general charter describing the program's goals is required to insure that participants clearly

understand just what involvement means to them. Then, there are the many operational details to consider, such as project location, funding, "matchmaking" and long-term care. Collective participation in defining the program is a must and begins with your input. If you are one of those who is anxious to move forward, let others know how you envision such a program and what you could bring to it.

One concern that has already been voiced is that measures be taken to prevent cross-breeding. This requires precise determination of the sub-species classification of each varanid participant.

These are but a few of the issues. If you have experience with such programs and can offer a more detailed outline, please do so to "kick off" the planning stages.

There are several organizations which are involved in captive breeding programs of reptiles and amphibians. If you know of such programs, let Varanix know the details, especially if there is the possibility of working with such organizations. A couple or three have already been contacted and information should be forthcoming.

Answer Hominids

In the previous issue, the idea of a panel of Answer Hominids was proposed. The goal is to have a number of experienced herpetologists who would be able to provide timely responses to the more urgent questions that cannot wait to cycle through the Q & A section.

This is a second call for you to share your experience with those in dire need. If you are interested, please let Varanix know you wish to act in the Capacity of Answer Hominid. Specify your area of expertise, in order that only appropriate questions be directed your way. As with all other Capacities, the intent is to get enough people involved to spread the work around. The basic assumption is that everyone has minimal free time and is not looking for an unpaid, part-time job!

When sending questions, please provide enough background of the problem to permit a reasonable "remote" diagnosis. This includes information about your animal (species, size, weight, ...), its habitat (temperature, lighting, ...) and a problem description (regurgitation, off-feed, ...).

Send your questions attention: Answer-Hominid. Also, please include a SASE. You may also leave messages on Compuserve or Herp-Net (see bottom of page 2) and they wil be forwarded to the appropriate individual.

Méli–mélo

This section is where you will see the various and sundry, including your amusing stories, quips and anecdotes.

Picture This

You are invited to send photos of your favorite varanids for publication in VaraNews. Varanix recognizes that you are probably not interested in seeing your valued photos proliferated without your control and will respect your conditions of publication. To avoid any unintentional mishandling, please specify such conditions. Of course, photos will be returned if requested.

The rapid advances in computer technology are bringing the print reproduction of quality color photographs (and video images) within the range of the individual. This means that publishing a full-color book becomes increasingly economically feasible. If you are interested in discussing the possibilities of such a venture, let Varanix know.

Huevos bengalensis

The Fall 1990 issue of Scales and Tales, the newsletter of the Reptile Breeding Foundation (RBF), reports that after six years of "hard work and frustration" the RBF has its first clutch of Bengal monitor, *V. bengalensis*, eggs. On August 13 of this year, six eggs were removed to an incubator; RBF research indicates that hatching should take place early March 1991.

This announcement by Rob Kellough also states that the Bengal monitor is found across the Indian sub-continent into Myanmar (Burma), Thailand and Malaysia. *V. bengalensis*, which may reach up to 2 meters total length, is on Appendix I (highly endangered/trade forbidden) of C.I.T.E.S.

Let's keep our collective fingers crossed for a successful outcome!

Publications

This is where books, magazines, newsletter articles, etc. of interest to Varanix members will be discussed. Many people are looking for a source of good literature about varanids. If you know of any good publications, send in the title, author, publisher and publication date/issue. Comments on its focus and usefullness are most welcome.

Amazing but true, there has been quite a bit of material published about Varanidae. This is evidenced by the bibliographies that a number of you were kind enough to send in. The catch is locating copies of the publications!

In future issues of VaraNews, a number of titles will be listed in the hopes a reader knows of a source or can provide a copy (in the case of a not-

too-long article). As n^{th} generation photocopies are often difficult to read, some articles will be retyped (on computer). If you would be willing to rekey material, please apply for the Capacity of Scribe (see the bottom of page 2 for preferred data formats). The goal of this effort is to create an electronic bibliography and library of literature dealing with Varanidae. This will be an ongoing project as long as there is participation.

Once in a Lifetime

The Society for the Study of Amphibians & Reptiles is offering a one-time group discount to Varanix on many of their publications, including the Journal of Herpetology and Herpetological Review. The purchase must be made as a single order with prepayment and will be sent to Varanix.

If you are interested in participating in this offer, send a SASE (25¢ postage) to Varanix for SSAR's list of publications. Varanix must then receive each individual order as soon as possible as the group order will be sent to SSAR on 21 January 1991.

Observations on Three Captive Juvenile West African Savannah Monitors, *Varanus e. exanthematicus* (Bosc, 1792)

(This article by Pete Strimple was originally printed in Notes from Noah XVI(10):8-12 (July 1989), the newsletter of The Northern Ohio Association of Herpetologists)

Introduction

The west African savannah monitor, *Varanus e. exanthematicus* (Bosc, 1792), is found south of the Sahara from Senegal and Gambia eastward through Ghana, Togo, Sudan, and Ethiopia (see Strimple, 1989a for a more detailed account of the range). They are arid-dwelling lizards, a fact which must be taken into consideration when providing housing for captive specimens.

These monitors have been quite popular in the pet trade for many years and are seemingly more common now than ever, being available from reptile dealers/importers, pet stores, and private collectors.

The observations reported in this article were made on three specimens of *Varanus e. exanthematicus* previously maintained in two separate collections (but now merged into one), over a period of almost two years. One of the collections belonged to the author, the other belonged to Jane Yandles (now Jane Strimple). The information provided here and in a previously published article (Strimple, 1989b) will provide interested readers with some insight into the disposition, behavior/habits, maintenance, and growth of west African savannah monitors in captivity.

Acquisition of Specimens

Specimens #1 and #2 were obtained on 15 September, 1987 from a reptile dealer in Utah (Louis Porras, Zooherp, Inc.) and belong to Jane Strimple. Specimen #3 was obtained from the same source on 17 November 1987 and belongs to the author. The following data were recorded 20 days after acquisition (specimens #1 and #2) and at the time of acquisition (specimen #3):

	Specimens		
	#1	#2	#3
TL cm (in)	26.0 (10.2)	34.0 (13.4)	29.2 (11.5)
SVL cm (in)	14.0 (5.5)	18.0 (7.1)	15.2 (6.0)
Tail cm (in)	12.0 (4.7)	16.0 (6.3)	14.0 (5.5)
Weight (g)	—	92.6	88.5

TL - Total Length, SVL - Snout-Vent Length

Behavior

The three savannah monitors discussed in this article have different, individual dispositions. The dispositions of two of the specimens (#1 & #3) have changed noticeably.

Specimen #1 began its life in captivity with a rather placid disposition, allowing itself to be regularly handled without attempting to bite. However, this gentle (almost lethargic) nature was apparently, at least partially, due to a gastrointestinal disorder which it had been previously treated for. As this specimen regained its health, its disposition began to change, and after a few months it actually became pugnacious. To date, this monitor is still irascible and will attempt to bite anything that comes near it (with the exception of its cagemate), although it will calm down somewhat with handling.

The disposition of specimen #2 is best described as placid or unruffled; it has almost always allowed itself to be handled, showing little if any sign of distress. If startled, it will adopt the typical defensive posture of a raised body and an inflated throat, but quickly calms down if handled.

When first received, specimen #3 was rather ill-tempered; it was quick to adopt a defensive stance, hissed loudly, and lashed out with its tail at the source of annoyance. However, even when exhibiting these behaviors it rarely attempted to bite and could easily be picked up at the mid-body, calming down after a few minutes and permitting itself to be free handled. Recently, it has become more prone to bite anything that

approaches its head region. Nonetheless, if picked up and held for a few minutes it will calm down, showing little sign of distress.

Typically, the defensive displays exhibited by savannah monitors (and other species, as well) consist of various combinations of the following behaviors: raising the body off the ground, depressing or flattening the body, arching the body and neck, inflating the throat region, hissing (can be either long or short and choppy), lashing out with the tail, defecation, hemipenal eversion, open-mouthed charges, biting and letisimulation (death feigning). All of these behaviors, with the exception of the last, have been observed in the three monitors discussed in this article.

The aggressiveness with which a monitor can attempt to bite is exemplified by specimen #1. So forceful are its open-mouthed lunges and attempts at biting that it has, on several occasions, propelled itself off the floor of its cage (Strimple, 1988).

Additional information on behaviors that have been reported for *V. exanthematicus* can be found in Carpenter and Ferguson (1977).

Hemipenal Eversion

Hemipenal eversion or "popping" is the rapid protraction, by a lizard or snake, of one (or occasionally both) of the hemipenes. The hemipenes may be everted either partially or completely, depending on the level of excitation the animal is displaying. This behavior typically occurs when the animal is excited, although I have observed hemipenal eversion in Malayan or water monitors, *Varanus s. salvator*, when they are defecating.

The eversion of a hemipenis is obviously useful in determining the sex of a specimen in which the sex had not been previously determined, or was questionable. However, care should be taken not to confuse hemipenal eversion with the eversion of scent/musk glands which are also present in lizards and snakes. Avoiding this confusion necessitates that the hobbyist who maintains monitors has at least a general perception of varanid hemipenal morphology.

All three of the savannah monitors discussed in this article have exhibited hemipenal eversion on several occasions during the time they have been in captivity. At times, the eversion has occurred quite rapidly (almost violently) and can be elicited with little provocation. Specimen #1 has exhibited this behavior more often than the other two, and will do so either while being held or while in its cage. More recently, however, all three specimens have curtailed the frequency at which they exhibit hemipenal eversion.

Basking

Specimens #1 and #2 were maintained together in an aquarium with a pegboard lid. At one end of the lid there was a red incandescent light bulb which provided enough heat to elevate the cage temperature above the ambient room temperature. Both specimens were observed numerous times basking under the bulb where the temperature was approximately 30 C (86 F). Furthermore, they continued to periodically bask under their heat lamp even after being transferred to a heated room where the ambient termperature was 28 - 29 C (82 - 84 F).

Specimen #3 basks more frequently than the two specimens mentioned above, and in light of the frequency at which this monitor would lie under the heat lamp, an attempt was made to determine the upper thermal limits at which this specimen would continue to bask. This could easily be accomplished because the red light bulb (100W) in this monitor's cage was wired to a dimmer switch.

On several occasions when this monitor was found basking, the dimmer switch would be turned up a little at a time, thereby increasing the output of the bulb, and subsequently, the temperature under it. From this experimentation it was found that this specimen would voluntarily bask at termperatures as high as 34 - 38 C (94 - 100 F).

Illness

Prior to receiving specimen #1, we were informed that it had regurgitated a couple of meals but was treated with neomycin and was doing better (L. Porras, pers. comm.). Soon after its arrival, it was fed fuzzy mice but began regurgitating them within two days. After this occurred a couple of times, the temperature in the monitor's cage was increased to 32 C (90 F) in hopes that this would eliminate the problem. The elevated temperature seemed to help a little as the regurgitations were less frequent. Next, it was decided to use smaller mice (pinkies) in hopes that they would digest faster and, therefore, be less likely to be regurgitated. The next several meals were kept down and the regurgitation problem ceased. As this specimen grew, the size of the food animals was increased and currently it is accepting adult mice.

Comments

West African savannah monitors seem to fare very well in captivity if provided with the necessary thermal, space and food requirements. For those hobbyists who are interested in keeping monitors, I would strongly recommend the west African

savannah monitor, *Varanus e. exanthematicus*, as your first specimen. Although these lizards should be provided with spacious cages and a warm, relatively dry environment, they are not as difficult to care for as the larger, "high maintenance" monitors such as the water or Malayan monitor, *V. s. salvator*, whose adult size should be enough of a deterrent to keep most hobbyists from obtaining them.

Note: The west African savannah nomitor should not be confused with the east African or white-throated savannah monitor, *Varanus e. albigularis*, which is also available through reptile dealers and private collectors. The latter form grows to a much larger size, averaging between 1.2 and 1.7 meters (4 - 5-1/2 feet) in total length and possibly attaining lengths of 2.5 m (6-1/2 feet) or more. Larger monitors such as *V. e. albigularis* should only be kept by the more experienced herp hobbyists.

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to my wife, Jane, for relating to me various aspects of the behavior of the two specimens that were in her collection, and for reviewing a draft of this article.

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_____ 1989a. The savannah monitor, *Varanus exanthematicus* (Bosc, 1792). Part 3 (of 4). Ibid., 14(2):5-8.

_____ 1989b. Report on the maintenance and growth of a juvenile west African savannah monitor, *V. e. exanthematicus* (Bosc, 1792), during its first year in captivity. Ibid. 14(7):5-7

Note: The last article cited also appeared in the previous issue of VaraNews 1(1):6-8, the subject of which was specimen #3 in this article.

Capacity Corner

This section is the 'one stop' list of all Capacities, or "involvement opportunities", which have been identified and described to date. In future issues, the names of people acting in each Capacity will also be listed. (When offering your services, please indicate if you choose not to be listed.)

- Scribe
- Reviewer (indicate species)
- Compiler (indicate species)
- Answer Hominid (specify area of expertise)

Varanix
8726D S. Sepulveda Bl. #243
Los Angeles, CA 90045
USA

stamp

printed on recycled paper