

## **ISTS Board Retreat**

**August 18-20, 2009**

**National Conservation and Training Center, Shepherdstown, WV, USA**

### **Awards**

Ed Drane's absence and loss was deeply felt by the Board at the retreat. The Board discussed how they would like to publicly acknowledge Ed's extremely valuable contribution to the ISTS.

### **Finances**

There was much discussion on how to handle the ISTS's finances without Ed's expertise. It was decided that an Interim Treasurer would be appointed until the elections in Goa, India (April 2009). Elena Finkbeiner's position as the ISTS Program Officer was renewed for another year.

### **Annual Election**

The Nominating Committee Chair, Jeanette Wyneken, was invited to the Board retreat to discuss the functions of the Committee and improvements to the nominations process. Discussions also focused on how to determine future venues for the Symposium and how often the Symposium should be organized. The Board generally felt that the Symposium should maintain its annual cycle because it now moves around the world giving many more people the opportunity to attend and fulfills the Vision and Mission of the Society.

### **ISTS website**

The ISTS website <[www.seaturtlesociety.org](http://www.seaturtlesociety.org)> and brochure will be undergoing modifications and improvements. The website will contain more information on the ISTS and its history as well as on the various committees associated with the Symposium. We encourage ISTS members to contact any of the Board members to share their thoughts and ideas.

### **Travel Grants for India Symposium**

To provide greater lead-time for travel planning and visas, the President has allocated funds early to the Travel Committee.

*Members in attendance: Ana Barragan, Jean Beasley, Lisa Campbell, Michael Coyne, Marydele Donnelly, Naoki Kamezaki, Colin Limpus, Jeff Seminoff, Scott Eckert, Mark Hamann, Kartik Shanker, Jack Frazier and Manjula Tiwari*

*Observers: Jeanette Wyneken and Shigetomo Hirama*