



PHOENIX 2011

INTERNATIONAL FERRET CONGRESS

June 3 - 5, 2011 at the Fiesta Resort Conference Center

Thank you for your interest in attending the 2011 International Ferret Symposium. Here are some things you need to know about attending our event. We look forward to seeing you there!

Dates: The Symposium begins on the morning of Friday, June 3, 2011 and ends midday, Sunday, June 5. Most people arrive on Thursday since talks start at 9am on Friday. See below for information about optional activities on Thursday, Sunday and during the Symposium.

Registration along with full payment must be received no later than May 11th, 2011.

Location: The Symposium is held at The Fiesta Resort Conference Center, 2100 South Priest Drive, Tempe AZ 85282. Tempe is immediately east of Phoenix; the conference center itself is about 10 minutes from Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport (PHX). The Fiesta Resort provides free shuttle service to and from PHX as needed, around the clock.

Climate: Area weather during that time is typically hot, but dry, with daytime temperatures reaching about 100F (38C) and nighttime lows around 72F (22C).

Fees: Registration for the entire 3 day event is \$175 USD. This includes all talks, lunch on Friday and Saturday, and morning and afternoon refreshments. Alternatively, you may attend one single day, either Friday OR Saturday, for \$80 USD. Lunch and refreshments would be included for that single day.

Discounts: If you represent an SOS shelter (listed at <http://supportourshelters.org/>) you may deduct \$25 from the full event registration. Only one discounted registration per SOS shelter will be granted.

If you are licensed veterinary technician or a registered veterinary student you are entitled to a \$10 discount for either the 1-day or the full registration. Please see instructions for verification.

And, finally, if you register and pay in full during 2010 you may deduct \$10. There is a maximum discount of \$35.

Refunds: All registration cancellations received by May 11, 2011 will be subject to a \$20 processing fee, which will be deducted from any refund. Cancellations from May 12, 2011 will be subject to a 30% cancellation fee. No refunds will be issued after May 25th, 2011, as catering commitments must be finalized at that time.

Hotel: The Symposium hotel is the same Fiesta Resort Conference Center, 2100 South Priest Drive, Tempe AZ 85282. The International Ferret Congress has negotiated excellent rates for attendees. Single or double rates are just \$75 a night and include a hot breakfast buffet each morning of your stay. Triple and Quad rates are available at \$89 and \$99 respectively, but please note a maximum of TWO breakfasts are included per room.

Additional breakfasts must be purchased if the third or fourth occupant desires breakfast. Reservations should be made directly with the hotel by calling them at +1 (480) 967 1441. You must mention the International Ferret Symposium to receive the negotiated rates. Should you wish to extend your stay, the above rates are also available 3 days before and after the event.

If you need a roommate, please post your request to the symposium planning list at:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ferret_symposium/

The Fiesta Resort's website is: <http://www.fiestainnresort.com/>

Attending with Ferrets: Ferrets will be allowed in your room with advance notice to the hotel. While the Fiesta Resort has waived their customary \$25 animal fee for attendees of this event, they reserve the right to charge you for cleaning or damage due to your ferrets. Please be sure to clean up after your ferrets! Please do not bring your ferrets to other areas of the hotel.

Optional activities: Planning for optional activities is in progress. Here's what we can share so far:

Thursday shelter dinner: Traditionally, the night before the symposium begins a dinner is held to support a ferret shelter or organization. There is no charge for the dinner – it is entirely funded by an anonymous donor and the labor is supplied by volunteers. Donations are accepted and will go to the chosen cause. This event is not sponsored by the IFC.

Saturday dinner: A sit-down speaker appreciation dinner at the hotel. This event costs \$40 USD per person and is open to all attendees and their guests.

Saturday mixer and celebrity auction: Often the highlight of the symposium, join us for fun and an auction of items provided by our speakers.

Sunday afternoon excursion: Probably to the Phoenix Zoo and perhaps to the Black Footed Ferret facility there

Ferret First Aid class: Participants will assemble and take home a basic ferret first aid kit. Sponsored and PetSmart Charities®. Time to be determined.

Disaster preparedness workshop: Sponsored by FERRET and PetSmart Charities®.

Respect for Others: The purpose of this Symposium is to learn and engage in constructive discussions. We expect there may be disagreements on some issues, but we ask that people show respect for each other and for differing viewpoints. Anyone who cannot maintain civility will be asked to leave and no refund will be issued.

Enjoying the area: The Phoenix area is rich in scenic and cultural wonders. The Phoenix visitor's bureau has information at <http://www.visitphoenix.com/>

Questions? Please contact registration@ferretcongress.org and we will do our best to help you.

Once again, welcome to the Symposium, and thank you.