

OLYMPIC COAST NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

OLYMPIC COAST DISCOVERY CENTER



V O L U N T E E R N E W S L E T T E R - A P R I L 2 0 1 0

Coming events:

April 8 – Volunteer training begins – details on pg 3

April 10 – Feiro Marine Life Center hosts Karen Matsumoto and Eric Hirshi “Pacific Garbage Patch”

April 17 – Washington Coastal Cleanup – see www.coastsavers.org for more information and to register

April 17 – Wine on the Waterfront is hosting “A Toast to Earth Day” with wine tasting and environmental films, as a benefit for the Feiro Marine Life Center

May 18 – Brown Bag lunch with guest speaker from Puget Sound Pilots Association at noon in the OCDC classroom

marine animals, are the only animals with a water-vascular system (tube feet), and also mutable collagenous tissues (MCT), which can change from soft to hard. Many of them are filter feeders, passing minute particles of food down long rows of tube feet to their mouth – all done with no brain or central nervous system! As funds become available we will add Lambert’s books to our volunteer library. Meanwhile, they are available at Feiro.



Echinoderms

“Diversity is much greater in the ocean than on land.... major groups are found exclusively in the ocean.”

As I listened to Phil Lambert, Curator Emeritus of Invertebrate Zoology of the Royal B. C. Museum, present his research on echinoderms I was reminded of this Ocean Literacy principle. Nearly 200 species of sea stars, brittle stars, feather stars, sea urchins and sea cucumbers have been identified in our area, almost all of them within the reach of recreational scuba divers. Echinoderms, which are exclusively

Evaluation Surveys Make a Difference

Last fall we sent evaluation questionnaires to about 50 current and former OCDC volunteers. After compiling your responses, Jacqueline published an impressive summary for Carol Bernthal, who read it and asked us to submit a proposal for upgrades. She approved many of the items we requested, specifically, a photo mural of sanctuary beaches on the east wall, window blinds to reduce glare in the Deep Worker theater, a world atlas for the desk, an OPEN sign, and give-away items for kids. We are also

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working on new content for the video kiosk, and new videos for the dive theater. And there will be a new dress code and a code of conduct for all volunteers and staff. Thanks to those of you who took time to fill out and return the survey. Your voices were heard, and they made these changes happen.

Jenny Steelquist

Late last summer Jenny Steelquist was diagnosed with bone cancer. Her condition was first treated with chemotherapy, allowing her to continue teaching art at Port Angeles HS, and leading a somewhat normal life. In January her condition worsened and doctors recommended a bone marrow transplant. Bob and Jenny are now living in Seattle for up to six months as she undergoes treatment at UW Medical Center and Fred Hutchison Cancer Care Alliance. They have created a website so friends can track Jenny's treatment and leave messages of support.

<http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/jennycaringbridge>

Adventure Travel with Coke Smith

Local photographer and environmental educator Coke Smith and his family entertained and educated us with stories of their travels to remote areas of the world to photograph amazing wild animals, many that I'd never heard of before. It was a fun evening that made me want to pack a bag, buy a plane ticket, and take off. But it also left me thinking that we should be sharing like this within our own group. Anita is back from Australia, and Carol just returned from Italy; Genie has been to New Zealand, and Jim

Fedderly kayaked the west coast of Vancouver Island. I'd like to propose an evening next fall where we share our own adventure travels with each other. What do you think? Would you be willing to participate? Let's talk about this as we get together over the next month or so.



*Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary
and Feiro Marine Life Center Present*

"Two-weeks on the Mid-way Atoll "

Saturday, April 10, 6:30pm

Karen Matsumoto, Marine Science Education Coordinator for the Seattle Aquarium, and Ron Hirschi, fisheries biologist and author of many nature books for children, will give a presentation on their experience on Pihemanu, part of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

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Washington Coast Cleanup coming April 17

Come out to the coast on April 17 and help save Washington's Pacific Coast from household plastic, lost fishing gear, and other marine debris. In 2009 nearly 3000 volunteers removed over 64 tons of marine debris from our coast! That's over 128,000 pounds of consumer plastics, lost fishing gear, and other junk that won't be killing our coastal wildlife or spoiling the beauty of our beaches. Help us make even more debris disappear in 2010. Go to www.coastsavers.org to get involved in this year's cleanup. Can't make it on April 17? Keep in mind that walking any beach, any day of the year, and collecting trash will also make a difference.

Volunteer Exchange

Planning continues for our volunteer exchange with Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary in July. We would like to invite all OCDC and Feiro volunteers to join us for a tidepool walk at Tongue Point at 8:30 on July 15, followed by a picnic lunch at Salt Creek County Park and an afternoon at Hurricane Ridge. Please RSVP to Becky Jewell or Sherrill Bjorklund before July 10 if you plan to attend so we can purchase enough food for everyone.



Schedule for Volunteer Training

This year we are offering a combined training for the Olympic Coast Discovery Center and Feiro Marine Life Center. Veteran volunteers are welcome to attend any or all of the sessions, and especially encouraged to join us on May 27. Topics for each training session are listed below. Each session begins at 9:00. April 8, 22, and May 6 are in the OCDC classroom; alternate weeks are at Feiro.

April 8	Olympic Coast Discovery Center – Janet
	Working with Guests – Greg Marsh, ONP
	Current Issues in OCNMS – Carol Bernthal
April 15	Feiro Marine Life Center – Bob Campbell
	Ocean Literacy – Jacqueline Laverdure
	Plankton – Bob Campbell
April 22	Habitat Diversity – OCNMS staff
	Ocean Acidification and Climate Change – Liam Antrim, OCNMS
	Kelp and Invertebrates – Bob Campbell
April 29	Ocean Research – Ed Bowlby, OCNMS
	Marine Invertebrates – Bob Campbell
May 6	Marine Mammals – Ed Bowlby
	Maritime Heritage – Janet
	Beach Seine
May 13	Nuts and Bolts of volunteering – Feiro and OCDC staff
May 20	Cape Flattery and Makah Cultural and Research Center
May 27	Tongue Point tidepool exploration and BBQ