

OLYMPIC COAST NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

OLYMPIC COAST DISCOVERY CENTER



VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2009



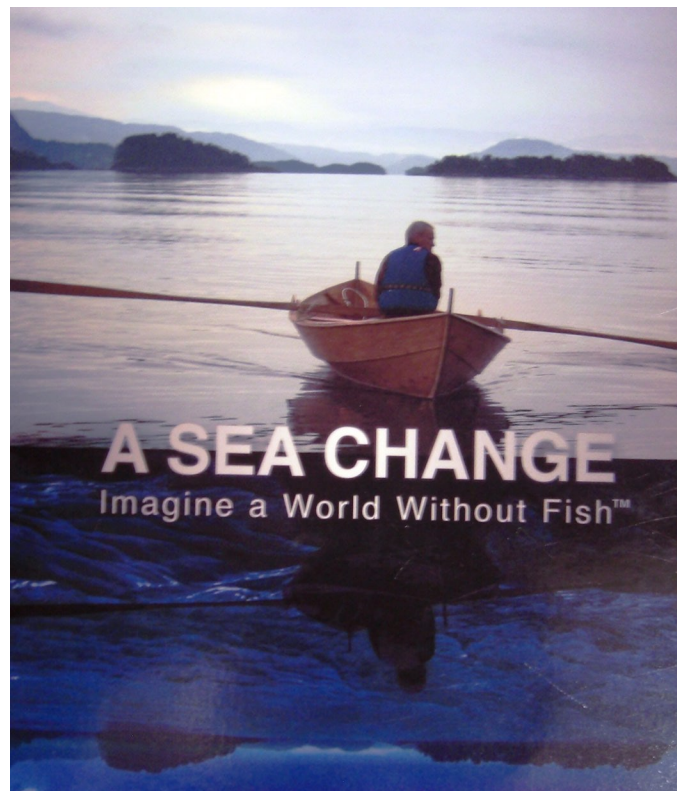
Thank you volunteers

October was a busy month, with two major outreach events for OCDC volunteers. October 3 we took our marine debris display to the Maritime Heritage Center on the Seattle waterfront for the first annual Blue Festival. Thanks to Ruth Betz, Chris Butler-Minor, and Judy Larimore for traveling to Seattle to help with this event. Did you know that approximately 1,000,000 seabirds die every year from ingesting plastic or being entangled in fishing nets, line, or other marine debris! Our display was so well received that we have been invited to attend the Dive Travel Expo in 2010 to take our message to hundreds of scuba divers from all around the Pacific Northwest.

A week later it was down to City Pier for the Dungeness Crab and Seafood Festival, with an all-new display on sustainable seafood. Thanks to Jaci Pumphrey and Douglas Parks for staffing the booth, and to Bruce Ferguson and Anita Colvin for staffing the OCDC. In two days we talked to approximately 700 people about OCNMS and sanctuary-related topics.

Fall and Winter Events

The Olympic Coast Discovery Center is now closed until spring, but you are invited to participate in a number of upcoming events. Please read the following information and be sure to RSVP by email to reserve a spot at events with limited participation.



Wednesday, November 11 – noon

We will meet in the second floor classroom for a brown bag lunch followed by the video Sea Change: Imagine a World Without Fish. Sea Change follows retired history teacher and grandfather Sven Huseby on his quest to discover what is happening to the world's oceans; uncovering a worldwide crisis that most people are unaware of.

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Tuesday, November 17 – 9:30

We are invited to tour the United States Coast Guard Cutter Active, stationed here in Port Angeles. Commander Hollingshead assures me they can handle any number of guests, but I must have a list of names to him by Friday, November 13 so if you want to join us, please let me know before that date. The tour should finish around noon; those who want to are invited to join us for lunch at a local restaurant following the tour.

Thursday, December 3 – 5:50

Pizza night in the second floor classroom, followed by a presentation on Lighthouses of Washington State with Bill Bjorklund, member of the New Dungeness Light Station Association. He is a driver for their keepers exchange program and also serves on their Board of Directors. He will present a slide show identifying the light houses in Washington State and featuring the New Dungeness Light Station, built in 1857 and located on the longest natural spit in the US. If you want to join us for pizza, please RSVP so we can order enough food. A \$5 donation will help help cover cost of the pizza and make it possible to do this again.



Wednesday, December 16 - noon

Volunteer Christmas party at the Lamont house. I will make a big pot of soup; you are invited to bring a favorite holiday food. We'll have a white elephant gift exchange with a lot of laughs guaranteed. Let me know if you need directions.



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Thursday, January 7 – noon

Brown bag lunch in the classroom, followed by a talk on a topic to be announced. Please let me know if you have ideas – either a talk you would like to present, or something you would like to learn more about.



Wednesday, January 20 – all day

Seattle Aquarium with a special behind-the-scenes tour by aquarium staff. This is a very special event limited to not more than 20 participants, with priority given to OCDC volunteers active in the summer of 2009. It's fascinating to see everything that goes on backstage in order to feed and maintain marine life in the aquarium. I hope you can join us for this special event.

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