

CURRENTS

**OUR MISSION: Inspiring Conservation
of our Marine Environment**

Fall 2011



Teen volunteers: We love YOU!

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This exciting new campaign wouldn't be possible without the dedicated time and commitment of our amazing group of high school volunteers. Thank you!

PS: WE LOVE YOU New campaign promotes youth appreciation and conservation of Puget Sound

"Puget Sound: We Love You", a new campaign led by youth volunteers working in partnership with Seattle Aquarium staff, The Ocean Project and YouthMuse, aims to increase awareness and conservation of Puget Sound – in teens as well as their parents.

Research conducted by The Ocean Project reveals that youth are the drivers of environmentally friendly actions in their homes, and that parents often turn to their children as the experts on conservation issues. Puget Sound: We Love You leverages the influence of teens to reach out to the public in a new and vibrant way. By speaking frankly about Puget Sound and conservation, our high school volunteers hope to inspire their peers – and their peers' families – to take action to preserve Puget Sound.

A group of several dozen high school volunteers worked to develop the campaign's title, logo/branding, themes, messages and projects in consultation with adult mentors from the Aquarium and Deb

Kerr, a partner from YouthMuse. Says Deb, "The research says the public has a growing concern about climate change, and they see youth as the influencers in this realm. On top of that, this generation of teens wants to change the world and needs trusted partners to help. Seattle Aquarium is a fantastic, progressive partner, in a progressive city with savvy young people. It's the perfect combination to demonstrate that the youth campaign concepts time is now."

With the launch of a Facebook page, www.facebook.com/psweloveyou, the campaign became public. The page features photography from several teen volunteers and provides a rotating menu of information. Tuesdays feature new conservation tips – actions people can easily take in their own lives to help Puget Sound. Fridays are for fun facts. And on any given day, visitors to the page can learn about opportunities to become involved in their local communities, including participating in fun and educational Puget Sound-related

activities or conservation efforts such as beach clean-ups.

In addition to sharing information and volunteer opportunities from other efforts, the campaign's organizers are planning their own conservation-related events – beach clean-ups and more – to encourage people to become directly involved in saving Puget Sound. To learn more about the campaign and get all the latest details, visit the Facebook page and "Like" it.

Join the Puget Sound: We Love You campaign!

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Learn more about how you can help preserve Puget Sound – just visit the campaign's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/psweloveyou and "Like" it. You'll get conservation tips on Tuesdays and fun facts on Fridays, as well as information about opportunities to help save our Sound.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, BARNEY & COMMANDER!

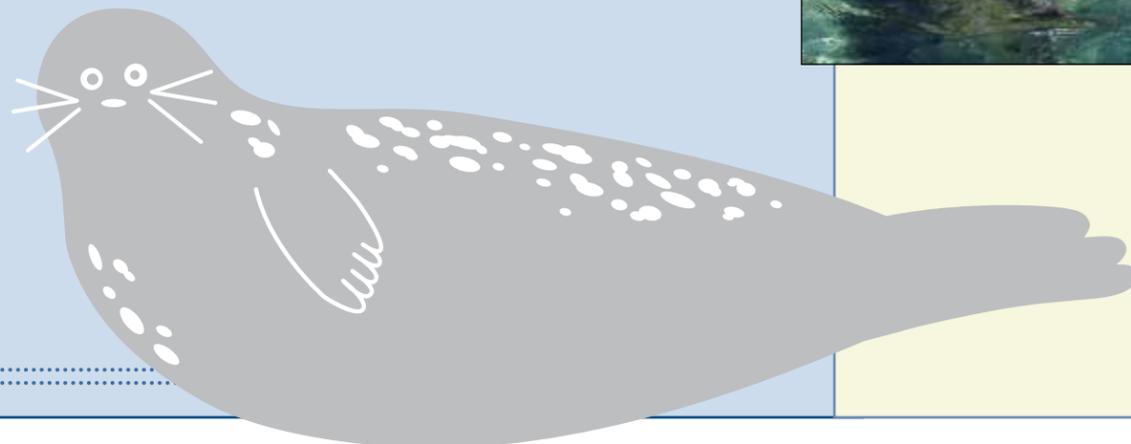
Two of the Aquarium's most charming residents celebrate with enriching "treats"

"Birthday cake" ice toys for our seals

For your next birthday, will you request a "cake" of ice and chunks of raw fish, topped with frosting of ground-up pollock and candles made with fish juice and food coloring? That's what Barney and Commander, two of the Seattle Aquarium's fascinating seals, enjoyed on their most recent birthdays. They both played with their "cakes" – which are more accurately described as toys – for hours, extracting every last morsel of succulent fish that had been encased in ice by Aquarium staff members.

Toys like this are an important part of the Aquarium's enrichment efforts, providing fun and development for the marine mammals in our exhibits. As stated in the Aquarium's Enrichment Manual, "The primary goal of enrichment is to provide an opportunity for animals to satisfy their behavioral needs, optimize their level of mental stimulation, and create a rich variable environment. The use of permanent exhibit items, training sessions and the introduction of novel items, scents, and foods are used to help stimulate natural behaviors."

But enrichment isn't solely for animals. Another important goal of the Aquarium's enrichment program is to enhance the educational experience for human visitors. Whenever possible, we include and inform visitors during enrichment sessions, so everyone is better able to understand and appreciate what's happening – and why. The enrichment doesn't stop there: it also includes Aquarium staff and volunteers. As noted in the manual, "We develop new behavioral observation skills as we evaluate new enrichment opportunities and as the program grows, we are inspired to challenge ourselves to think outside the basic animal care box and provide a stimulating environment for the animals in our care." Clearly, enrichment is a win for all involved!



All about **COMMANDER**

A Northern fur seal, Commander was born in 2003 at the Mystic Aquarium in Connecticut – from a mother named, somewhat ominously, Chainsaw. He was brought to the Seattle Aquarium as part of a breeding collaboration in 2009. There are currently just 11 Northern fur seals in zoos and aquariums in the United States – and three of them live right at the Seattle Aquarium. In the hope of increasing the captive population of Northern fur seals, the Seattle Aquarium collaborated with the New York Aquarium and the Mystic Aquarium to move the animals with the highest breeding potential to the New England Aquarium. The Seattle Aquarium received Commander and sent Isaac, now a 12-year-old male. We hope to share good news regarding this collaboration in a future issue of Currents!



All about **BARNEY**

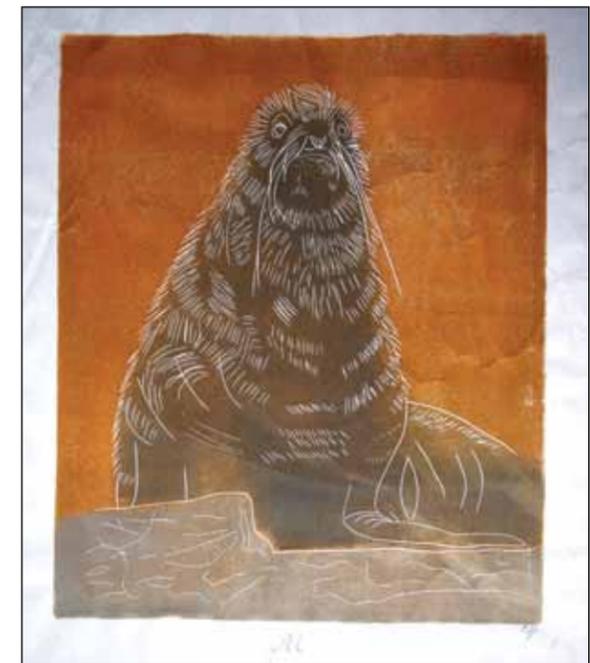


Barney has the distinction of being the first harbor seal born at the Seattle Aquarium and the oldest member of our mammal collection. He also has an interesting story: in 1977, his mother Clydie – who was just a one-month-old pup – was found stranded on a Grey's Harbor beach. She was rescued and brought to the Seattle Aquarium, where she was mistakenly determined to be a male (a frequent occurrence in young pups) and named Clyde. Later, when staff members realized she was female, her name was revised to Clydie. When she became pregnant, it seemed natural to name her pup Bonnie (for a female) or Barney (for a male). Barney was born in September of 1985. Clydie moved to the Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium in 1988, where she still resides today – although she is now known as Louise!

Artwork of Seattle Aquarium's **Carol Jackson honored**

Carol Jackson, a marine mammal biologist at the Seattle Aquarium, attended this year's International Marine Animal Training Association conference – a yearly meeting of marine animal trainers from all over the world. It featured talks on dolphins, seals, manatees, walrus, turtles, river otters, whales, octopuses and other marine animals – as well as discussion of new husbandry techniques, research studies, education program ideas and trained behaviors done with a variety of animals.

The conference also included a poster session, workshops and an art contest. Carol won the contest with a block print she made from a photo of Al, one of the Aquarium's resident Northern fur seals. Says Carol, "It was ridiculously fun to participate in something like that and a completely new experience for me."



"Al" our Northern fur seal

The Seattle Aquarium is owned by the City of Seattle and managed by the Seattle Aquarium Society, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization on behalf of the City of Seattle.



City of Seattle/james corner field operations

MOVING INTO THE FUTURE

Building our role as the centerpiece of the city's revitalized waterfront

After more than a decade of analysis and over 700 community meetings regarding how to replace the earthquake-damaged Alaskan Way Viaduct, on August 16, 2011, Seattle voters voted to support the construction of a 1.7 mile-long deep bored tunnel under downtown Seattle. And on August 23, the Federal Highway Administration signed a record of decision allowing the Washington State Department of Transportation to begin final design and construction of the State Route 99 tunnel replacing the double-deck Viaduct along Seattle's waterfront. The tunnel could open as early as the end of 2015, triggering the beginning of the Viaduct demolition.

For the Seattle Aquarium, this is welcome news. On July 5, 2011 the Aquarium's

Board of Directors affirmed its support for the City's decision to remove the Alaskan Way Viaduct and construct a tunnel under First Avenue, and the Aquarium released a statement strongly supporting the tunnel option as vital to the Aquarium's future ability to fulfill its mission. The Aquarium's statement discussed reasons for this support including promoting the health of Puget Sound, less emission pollution, reuniting the city with its waterfront heritage, increasing public safety, preventing the wasteful pattern of urban sprawl, bolstering the economic vitality of Seattle's central core, and increasing the Aquarium's ability to address its mission.

The decision to construct the downtown tunnel and remove the Alaskan Way

Viaduct is closely interconnected with the future transformation of Seattle's waterfront into the new civic heart of the city. The need to replace the failing Elliott Bay Seawall and demolish the Viaduct opens up an opportunity to reorient our city toward Elliott Bay and to reclaim our waterfront.

Currently the City of Seattle and its design team are in the midst of developing a concept design and framework plan for the new waterfront, including public spaces and a new Alaskan Way surface street serving all modes of travel. There are exciting ideas for redeveloping the areas near the Aquarium, including Piers 62/63 (the former "concert pier") and Waterfront Park. The designers are discussing creation of a large public plaza in front of the Aquarium, a more direct connection between the Aquarium and the Pike Place Market, and the possibility for the Aquarium staff and volunteers to develop interpretive education opportunities near the water.

The next public meeting, when the design team will present its refined ideas, will be held on October 27. For more details about the project, visit www.seattleaquarium.org



Washington State Department of Transportation

INCREASING OUR IMPACT WITH STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

As part of our mission, "Inspiring conservation of our marine environment," we make a practice of partnering with other conservation organizations/efforts to increase our impact and continue spreading the word about the importance of protecting our local waters – and the oceans beyond. When we align with experts around the region and share their valuable messages, information and findings, we move closer to our common goal: a healthy, vibrant Puget Sound for our generation and many more to follow. This page features stories about our connections to two important conservation groups.

CORAL REEFS IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

By Marine Conservation Institute scientist Liz Rauer

You may be surprised to know that corals are not only found in warm and bright tropical waters, but a stunning variety of corals live right off our coast here in the Pacific Northwest. These beautiful, deep-water corals take food right out of the water, so they don't rely on sunlight and symbiotic algae for food like their warm-water cousins. They don't grow very quickly, but they can live for hundreds of years.

Corals can be found in deep water on rocky reefs along the Olympic Coast all the way up through Alaska and the Aleutian Islands where you can find some of the most spectacular and diverse deep sea coral ecosystems on the planet. These reefs are not just stunning because of the colorful coral, but the coral itself provides habitat for hundreds, even thousands of other species, including many commercially important fish like rockfish. Particularly vibrant deep sea coral communities can be found on rocky reefs in the waters of Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary, where they have been at least partially protected from a variety of threats.



The biggest threats to deep sea coral reef ecosystems are bottom trawling and ocean acidification. One sweep of a bottom trawl can reduce a deep sea coral reef to rubble in a matter of minutes, not only destroying the coral, but destroying the habitat for just about every other species that lives there. Ocean acidification is changing the chemistry of seawater, making it harder for corals to build their skeleton, and making the skeletal structures they do build weaker and more prone to breakage.

Marine protected areas may be the best way to protect deep sea coral reefs from further destruction. Marine Conservation Institute, a nonprofit based in Bellevue, Washington is working to create more marine protected areas like the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary in order to protect deep sea coral reefs on the west coast and around the world. You can learn more about our work on deep sea corals and establishing marine protected areas by visiting our website at www.seattleaquarium.org.

SEATTLE AQUARIUM'S ENVIRONMENTAL WORK HONORED BY PEOPLE FOR PUGET SOUND

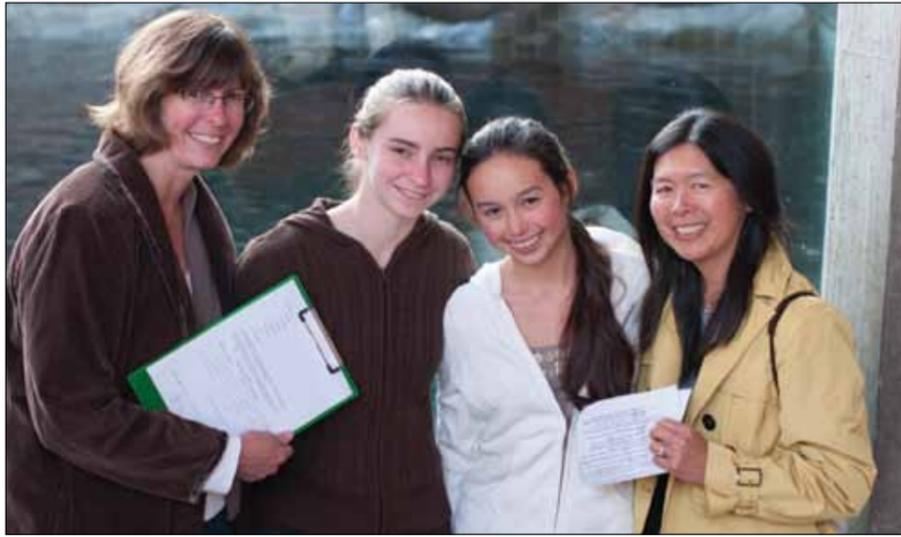
In early 2011, the Northwest marine conservation group People for Puget Sound saluted the Seattle Aquarium with its Warren G. Magnuson Puget Sound Legacy Award, named for the late Washington senator who passed historic legislation protecting marine mammals and keeping supertankers out of the Sound in the 1970s. The award is given to individuals, projects, groups or businesses nominated for their outstanding work on behalf of the marine life in Puget Sound.

The honor cited the Seattle Aquarium's work both in educating the public about the marine environment, and in protecting and restoring the health of Puget Sound – elements that are key to the Aquarium's mission "Inspiring Conversation of our Marine Environment."



“ONE OF THE MOST AMAZING ASSIGNMENTS OF THE YEAR”

By Anika Grevstad, sophomore at Seattle's Garfield High School



Lise and Karin Wolken, Anika and Alison Grevstad

Marine Science, taught by Paul Spangenberg and Jonathan Stever, is considered by most students to be one of the most challenging classes offered at Garfield High School. I took the class last year, and I agree.

Throughout the year, we learned about hundreds of different invertebrates, from filter-feeding sponges to spiny skinned sea stars, and the different classes of invertebrates, which we studied as we made a 98-page book of drawings and descriptions.

But not only did we learn the names and characteristics of hundreds of marine animals, we also completed

projects about navigation, plate tectonics, the origins of the universe, and experimented with the chemistry of water. As Thea Bucherbeam, one of my fellow students, said, “We learned how important the world’s oceans are to our everyday lives, and how we can work hard to conserve the environment we have.”

While all this took hours upon hours of work, it certainly paid off. Marine Science trips are considered must-have experiences by Garfield students, and for good reason – the excursions to Eastern Washington, Deception Pass on Whidbey Island, and the famous trip to Hawaii were all amazing experiences.

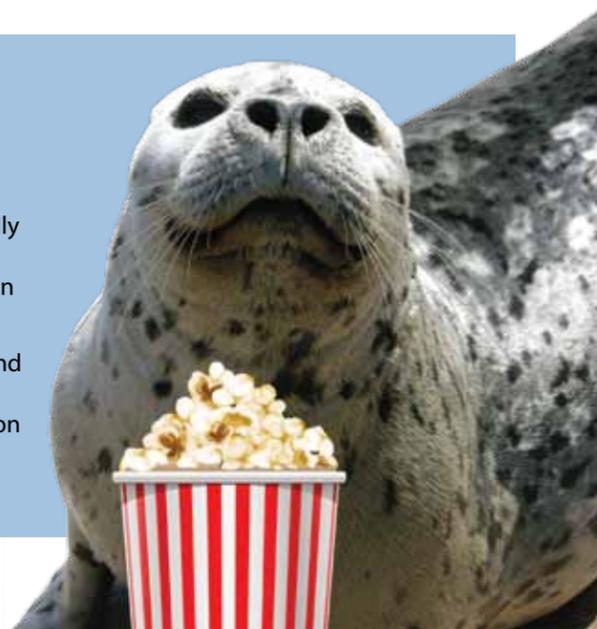
As we were out examining tide pools or the formation of the columnar basalt, we realized how much we had learned over the course of the year. And projects such as the Algae Cook-off (have you ever tried algae tea?); the Amazing Aquarium Adventure, where we observed and sketched fish at the Seattle Aquarium; and the Elementary School Project, where we set off in groups to pass on our new knowledge to local schools; all showed me how much I had learned, and gave me a way to use my knowledge.

However, one of the most amazing assignments of the year was the Aquarium Night, in which we were told to bring our families and friends to the Seattle Aquarium to teach them some of what we had learned. On a warm night in June, the Aquarium was buzzing with students describing the parts of a wave at the wave tank, pointing out the tiny tube feet of a sea star at the touch tanks, and demonstrating how sea otters store food in their armpit pockets. My mom was one of many parents furiously scribbling notes on their worksheets, asking questions, and taking a turn being a student for the night. As she said, “It was one of my best ever experiences at the Aquarium. It was amazing to see all of these high school students so excited to share their knowledge, and all of us parents learning from them.”

Members only movie night at the Seattle Aquarium: October 21

We'll provide the popcorn, candy and beverages while you enjoy family friendly marine themed movies three times a year. Before the show, you'll have the opportunity to see, touch, and explore the animals in our tide pools – and even get your face painted!

Movie night details, including RSVP information, is provided on our website and through member emails. If you haven't signed up to receive these invitations, just go to the “Members Only” section of our website to get started. Information about the October 21st movie night will be coming soon – watch for it in your inbox or on our website to RSVP!



“A LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCE”

High school students represent the Seattle Aquarium in Washington, D.C.

Last February, student delegates from the Suquamish Early College High School represented the Seattle Aquarium at the Coastal America Climate Change Student Summit in the nation's capital. They were accompanied by Karen Matsumoto, Marine Science Education Coordinator at the Seattle Aquarium, who also worked with them in preparation for the experience. The summit was attended by 90 high school students from 20 Coastal Ecosystem Learning Centers around the country.

The Suquamish students designed and produced a three-minute film, “Our Home”, on the effect of ocean acidification on the Suquamish Tribe; designed a Wiki site on their project; and put together an action plan for the summit. Their action plan was to explore the impacts of ocean acidification on Coastal Native American tribes through research, monitoring and community awareness. Their goal was to help Tribal members understand the problem of ocean acidification and its effects on shellfish and fish populations, and how it will directly touch the lives of tribal communities.

The students presented their work at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History; were invited by special request to present their film and give a short presentation at the Smithsonian Museum of the American Indian; and met with Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell's aides, as well as Representative Jay Inslee – who discussed ocean acidification issues in Puget Sound with the delegation. The Seattle Aquarium was the venue for a hearing on ocean acidification and climate change sponsored by Jay Inslee and Maria Cantwell in 2008.

Bearon Old Coyote, a member of the student delegation, opened the summit festivities by singing a song he composed about saving the environment in traditional Coast Salish style. One of his songs served as the soundtrack for the students' film, which was selected by the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History to be featured on their Ocean Portal website.

Upon returning home, the student delegates were honored for their hard work by the Suquamish Tribal Council, and their film was shown to the Puget Sound Partnership leadership team. Karen was also contacted by other local Tribes who wanted to show the film to their fisheries groups. Comments Karen, “I am so thrilled that the students were recognized for their efforts. It was a life-changing experience for them and an honor for me to work with them.”

The Suquamish students continue their excellent work through monitoring of their Tribal beaches, conducting clam surveys, and inventorying oysters they raised and released on their beach. Two of the Seattle Aquarium delegates to the Summit were invited by Coastal America to present their work at the Coastal Zone 2011 Conference in Chicago in July.



SEATTLE AQUARIUM HOSTS AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY EVENT

A party with serious technology

The annual American Fisheries Society (AFS) conference was recently held in Seattle, and the Seattle Aquarium was selected as the venue for the conference's social event. Along with appetizers and conversation, more than 2,300 guests enjoyed a preview of some amazing new technology.

The party was co-hosted by an organization called HTI (Hydroacoustic Technology, Inc.) that specializes in underwater tracking systems – and they demonstrated two such technologies in the Aquarium's exhibits during the event. In the Underwater Dome, they set up a passive tracking system that essentially counted any fish that came near it and tallied/displayed this information on a screen in the public area of the Dome. In the Window on Washington Waters exhibit, they set up an active tracking system that involved multiple transducers being lowered into the exhibit and resulted in a three-dimensional image showing the fish moving in real time, projected onto a large screen in the Ackerley Foundation Puget Sound Hall. Thanks to our large gathering space, all the attendees were able to see the benefits of this new technology.



A RESTORED PUGET SOUND BY 2020

Puget Sound Partnership releases preliminary recovery goals

Last June, the Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) Leadership Council met at the Seattle Aquarium and shortly thereafter released 16 preliminary ecological targets for a restored Puget Sound by 2020. The extensive process leading to the targets involved federal, state and local agencies, scientists, tribes, businesses and conservation organizations – including input from the Aquarium.



The recovery goals included the following targets, among others:

- ✓ 1% annual growth rate in resident orca population to 95 animals
- ✓ Maintain existing wild Chinook population while increasing the number of resident orcas and Pacific herring
- ✓ Increase spawning herring biomass
- ✓ Net increase of harvestable commercial shellfish acreage
- ✓ Reduce toxins in fish so they are healthy for human consumption
- ✓ Increase functioning floodplains at river mouths by 25%
- ✓ Meet fecal bacteria standards at all public saltwater swimming beaches for safe swimming, diving and kayaking
- ✓ More shoreline bulkheads and other armoring removed than built
- ✓ Eliminate human contributions to reduced dissolved oxygen in marine waters such as those causing massive fish kills in Hood Canal in recent years

To view the complete report and all 16 targets, visit www.seattleaquarium.org

GO GREEN!

The latest on what we're doing at the Seattle Aquarium and actions you can take on your own

Recycling and composting at the Aquarium:

- In 2010 the Aquarium/café/gift store diverted about half its waste – over 50 tons – from landfill to recycling/composting.
- Since the beginning of 2011, our café's expansion of composting cut their landfill waste by 75%.



Tips for home:

- Recycle and compost – see how much of your own household waste you can divert!
- Choose reusable water bottles.
- Scoop your pet's poop to keep your neighborhood creeks and beaches cleaner.
- Use a commercial car wash instead of washing your car in your driveway – it keeps harmful runoff from entering the watershed.
- Explore non-toxic means of weeding and pest management for a healthier environment for your family and marine life.



SEATTLE AQUARIUM STAFFERS WIN "BEST OF RAW"

Fish and Invertebrate Curator Tim Carpenter offers highlights from the Regional Aquatics Workshop

RAW, or the Regional Aquatics Workshop, is the sole annual meeting for professionals who work with aquatic species in public aquaria to get together, share ideas and form one voice. In 2011, three Seattle Aquarium employees provided abstracts for admission to the conference, and all were accepted.

Cold-Water Biologist Kathryn Kegel produced a poster depicting the details of our annual giant Pacific octopus census in Puget Sound, and the public-relations aspects of a dive-community event. Warm-Water Biologist Bryan McNeil presented a paper entitled "Enrichment is Good Husbandry," which opened up discussions regarding Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA) accreditation and normal aquarium operations as they relate to enriching aquatic species. I worked collaboratively with Dave Smith from the Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium to produce a presentation about Pacific Northwest rockfish –



Bryan McNeil and Tim Carpenter

topics included the recent listing of three species to the Endangered Species Act, conservation and research efforts being conducted in Seattle and Tacoma, exhibit choices and design, and some of the finer points of rockfish collecting, husbandry and exhibitry.

Each year, in a dedicated session entitled "The Best of RAW," eight or nine talks are selected by the workshop's program committee to be submitted to the annual AZA conference. These talks are judged to be a good representation of aquatic issues in the community, and are intended to bring

more aquatic-related content to AZA's historically terrestrial-based conference schedule. This year, both Bryan and I were selected to give our talks at the session. Bryan McNeil is excited to represent the Seattle Aquarium with his talk on a very pertinent and potentially controversial topic.



OUT AND ABOUT

Cedar River Salmon Journey

Come to the Cedar River this fall for a free family friendly program on spawning salmon! Follow the salmon up the Cedar and learn about these amazing fish and the Cedar River. Volunteer naturalists will be available from 11am to 4pm on October 15, 16, 22, 23, 29, & 30 at Renton Library, Cedar River Park, Riverview Park, Cavanaugh Pond and Landsburg Park. Carpool if you can – these sites have limited parking. For a flyer with directions or to get more information, call (206) 245-0143 or visit www.seattleaquarium.org

FAMILY PROGRAMS

Toddler Time – Free with Aquarium Admission

This popular family program is back - selected dates October through March. Join us for a variety of hands-on activities for children five and under accompanied by an adult. Drop in for any length of time: 9:30am-12pm.

October 3, 4, 10, 11, 31
November 1, 7, 8
December 5, 6, 12, 13
January 2, 3, 9, 10
February 6, 7, 13
March 5, 6, 12, 13

Sea Songs & Stories – (New) – Free with Aquarium Admission

Families will visit Aquarium educators who will teach you silly sing-along songs and sea shanties throughout a fishy tale. Inspired by our Aquarium animal antics and myths of the oceans. Discover the seas through puppetry, books, music and movement. For children five and under accompanied by an adult.

Circle times begin in our classroom at 10 & 11am on the following Fridays:

October 21; November 18; December 16; January 20; February 17

Ocean Animal Outing - Members Only Family Series (New)

A family series of five ocean animal classes for children five and under accompanied by an adult. Come to one or all five programs from 10 -11am on Wednesdays or Saturdays, October 2011 through February 2012.

Each class is centered around some of your favorite Aquarium animals with group circle time. Activities include art projects, songs, puppetry and a guided trip to the exhibit to visit the animals of the day.

Each hour long class; \$12 Aquarium members only adult/child pair; each additional member \$4

Please note that a parent or guardian must accompany children for Ocean Animal Outing. For more information and registration visit us online at www.seattleaquarium.org/family

Registration Questions? Call: (206) 386-4353

Program Questions? Call: (206) 386-4376

October - Sea Otters, Urchins & Seaweed
Wednesday, 10/19 or Saturday, 10/22

November - Salmon Story
Wednesday, 11/16 or Saturday, 11/19

December - Tidepool Treasures
Wednesday, 12/14 or Saturday, 12/17

January - Coral Reef Adventure
Wednesday, 1/18 or Saturday, 1/21

February - Octopus, Squid and Cuttlefish, Oh My!
Wednesday, 2/15 or Saturday, 2/18

SPECIAL EVENTS

Halloween Fun at the Seattle Aquarium

October 28-31

Join us for underwater pumpkin carving demonstrations, spooky Halloween activities and fun Halloween treats. Come in costume and start the Halloween celebration early!

Family Science Weekend

November 11-13

Family Science Weekend is an opportunity for families to discover science together through exciting interactive experiments and presentations. Meet visiting scientists and researchers from NOAA Fisheries and the University of Washington and some of the Aquarium's own scientists and researchers. Learn about some of the exciting research projects happening, and find out WHY and HOW this research is being conducted.

Holiday Weekends

Saturdays & Sundays, November 26-December 18

Come to the Aquarium and get in the mood for the Winter Holidays! Meet Diving Santa, enjoy holiday music and treat yourself to a special seasonal beverage at our café's coffee bar.

Winter Fishtival

December 26-January 2

Join us for hands-on activities, special talks, and opportunities to learn more about the care and feeding of the Aquarium's fish, birds, tidepool animals and marine mammals. Each day we'll highlight a different sea animal and activity. Included with Aquarium admission, no reservation necessary.

Featured Animals of the Day:

December 26: Wolf Eels

December 27: Puffins

December 28: Sculpins

December 29: Marine Mammals

December 30: Salmon

December 31: Tidepools

January 1: Rockfish

January 2: Coral Reefs



CAMPS & GROUP PROGRAMS

Sea Star Sundays – A Holiday One Day Camp

Children ages 5-12 years old

December 4, 11, 18
10am-3pm

\$60; Aquarium members \$50 each Sunday

FREE PARKING - City meter parking along the street and under the viaduct is free on Sundays.

For more information and registration visit us online at www.seattleaquarium.org/camp

Registration Questions? Call: (206) 386-4353

Program Questions? Call: (206) 386-4376

Parents, here's three great days during this festive season to bring your kids to the Seattle Aquarium for a holiday full of fun and ocean discovery. Register your kids for one, two or all three Sea Star Sundays! Park your car for free while you get your last minute party planning and holiday shopping accomplished along the Seattle Waterfront, Pike Place Market and Downtown.

Kids, you will interact all day with Aquarium educators, visit biologists on a tour of the Aquarium exhibits and meet our SCUBA Santa behind-the-scenes after a dive show in our Window on Washington Water exhibit. Then make holiday inspired ocean arts and crafts projects you can give to friends and family or decorate your home with. Next, feed our otters an ice toy treat you design then treat yourselves to cookies and milk as you listen to live holiday musical performances in our Ackerley Foundation Puget Sound Hall.

Homeschool Thursdays

Each day will be host to a specific topic that allows kids of all ages to learn more about the marine world and how we are all connected. Program times are 10am, 11am, 1pm, and 2pm. Each program is 45 minutes and included with the price of admission, preregistration is required. Families can register individually and participate with other families or sign up with their homeschool group.

Registrations are through our registrar at (206) 386-4353
Learn more at www.seattleaquarium.org/learn

October 20, Exploring the world of Plankton

November 17, Following the Salmon Home

December 15, Surviving the tides; Invertebrates

January 19, Coral Reefs; Ecosystems

February 16, Cephalopods; Octopus, squid and more

Puget Sound Sleepover

Explore the Aquarium after hours while participating in exciting educational activities. The night starts off with a private viewing of our marine mammals enjoying their last meal of the day. Next you will capture ocean plankton then spend some time up close and personal with our tidepool animals. You will meet and learn about the largest species of octopus in the world, the giant Pacific octopus, before heading off to your bedroom...the Underwater Dome. The program includes a mid evening snack and a light breakfast. Available on select dates through May. Time: 7pm to 7:30am. Fees: \$1,200.00 for the first 32 participants, \$25.00 each additional participant.

Please direct inquiries to: Puget Sound Sleepover Coordinator
www.pugetsoundsleepover@seattleaquarium.org





SEATTLE AQUARIUM

1415 Western Avenue, Suite 505
Seattle, WA 98101-2051

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AQUARIUM HOURS:

Admission gate is open 9:30am to 5pm daily,
with exhibits closing at 6pm

Closed December 25

Aquarium information: (206) 386-4300

Membership information: (206) 838-3900

GIVE THE GIFT OF THE SEATTLE AQUARIUM

Save when you purchase memberships – for others
and yourself!

This holiday season, think outside the gift box and give your friends and family a close encounter with a sea otter, instead. Or the opportunity to touch a sea cucumber, stand eye-to-eye with an octopus, or watch a harbor seal get its teeth brushed.

Give them a Seattle Aquarium membership – a gift that not only shares the magic of our marine environment with the important people in your life, but also contributes to the Seattle Aquarium's education and conservation efforts on behalf of Puget Sound and the oceans beyond.

As a current member, you'll receive 10% off your gift certificate purchases. And because we appreciate your support, you'll also get a 10% discount when you renew your own membership for another year! (12 months from your current expiration date.)



Offer valid until December 22, 2011; available only via phone or logging into website.

October 28-31: Join the Halloween Fun at the Seattle Aquarium

Come in costume and start the celebration early! Join us for Underwater Pumpkin Carving Demonstrations, spooky Halloween activities, fun Halloween treats and more.

