



Sonoran Sea Aquarium

Arizona's Rivers to
Mexico's Sea of Cortez



SeaScapes Online

Sonoran Sea Aquarium newsletter
Volume IV Issue 1 -- February 1, 2007

Greetings from the New SSA Director of Education

Greetings fellow supporters of the Sonoran Sea Aquarium! My name is Franklin Lane and I'm your new Director of Education. I hesitate to use the word "replaced" so I'll go with "took over the responsibilities" of the former Director, Julie Xelowski-Brooker, last November. Julie, in partnership with our Education Coordinator Cathy Franklin, handed over a vibrant and exciting outreach program. Right up front I'd like to thank Shannan Marty and the other Board members for giving me this incredible opportunity.

I believe I bring a good mix of skills and experiences to the Education and Outreach Program. I grew up in the warm surf of the Gulf Stream in North Florida. My deep love of the ocean matured during countless hours straddling a surfboard waiting for the next set to roll in. I would study the harmonics of the waves, reflect on the power and constancy of the tides and be fascinated by the life around me. I attended the United States Naval Academy, graduating in 1973 with a degree in Oceanography. My wife Anne is a native Tucsonan (Tucson High class of 69') so when we retired from the Marine Corps we settled in the Sonoran Desert. I was a little stressed about being this far from salt water until I discovered the short drive to Puerto Penasco.

I earned my Arizona teaching certificate in 1995 in secondary science. I then taught Physics and an elective in Marine Studies at Catalina Foothills High School. In 1997 I received my Masters in Education Administration and went over to the 'dark side.' From 1998 until my semi-retirement in 2004 I was an Assistant Principal and Athletic Director at Foothills. My fascination with the Sonoran Desert became a passion over the next two years working part time as a hiking guide with the Canyon Ranch Health resort. I began volunteering with the Sonoran Sea Aquarium in 2005.

Dating myself back to the beaches of North Florida in the mid-sixties, I can say that I'm completely 'stoked' about this opportunity and look forward to doing whatever I can to make the building of our maritime desert aquarium a reality. I'm open to your ideas and recommendations and always welcome volunteers to the program. Please feel free to contact me at 908-1600 or Flane@tucsonaquarium.com.



The Sonoran Sea Aquarium™ is organized as a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to bringing a world-class public aquarium to Tucson promoting education, conservation and preservation of Arizona's rivers and the Gulf of California for future generations. The Sonoran Sea Aquarium Bringing the sea to the desert!

El Acuario del Mar de Sonora (Sonoran Sea Aquarium)™ está organizado como una corporación sin fines de lucro 501(c)(3), dedicado a traer a Tucson un acuario público de primera clase para promover la educación, la conservación y la preservación de los ríos de Arizona y el Golfo de California para el disfrute de generaciones futuras. El Acuario del Mar de Sonora. ¡Trayendo el mar al desierto!

The SSA tells the story of the life-giving circle formed by water as its moves from Arizona's rivers to the Gulf of California. This is a story of rich aquatic life, often only found in this unique region; of people and animals, past and present, who depend on these waters to survive and grow in the Sonoran Desert. The Sonoran Sea Aquarium is dedicated to education as the key element in preserving the animals and a way of life that are only found in the Desert Southwest and the Gulf of California.

To download the entire Annual Report, please [click here](#).

Earth Camp

The Sonoran Sea Aquarium staff in partnership with the Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum will be participating in a high school level Earth Camp this summer. This ten day resident camp will include five days in San Carlos Mexico studying the Sea of Cortez and the surrounding environment. The theme of the camp is "Leadership for a Shared Planet."



For more information go to:

http://www.desertmuseum.org/kids/camp_page.php

Member Forum

Please e-mail your opinions/answers to the Education Director (Flane@tucsonaquarium.com). Results and selected responses will be published in the next edition of SeaScapes.

- 1 . If you could pick the 'signature' species to represent the Sonoran Sea Aquarium, what would it be? (Justify)
- 2 . Why do you think Baleen Whales have a bipartite (or double) blowhole and Toothed Whales only a single one?
3. Who the heck is Stefano Lorenzini?

RIP (Rest In Peaceful Waters)

Beijing (AP) -- A rare, nearly blind white dolphin that survived for millions of years is now "functionally extinct." The Baiji would be the first aquatic mammal driven to extinction since hunting and overfishing killed off the Caribbean Monk Seal in the 1950's. For the Baiji, the culprits were a degraded habitat, busy ship traffic, which confounds the sonar the dolphin uses to find food, overfishing and pollution in the Yangtze waters of Eastern China.



The Baiji dates back 20 million years. Chinese called it the "Goddess of the Yangtze." Randall Reeves, chairman of the Swiss-based World Conservation Union's Cetacean Specialist Group, who took part in the Yangtze mission, said expedition participants were surprised at how quickly the dolphin disappeared. The damage to the Baiji's habitat is also affecting the Yangtze finless porpoise, whose numbers have fallen to below 400, the expedition found. "The situation of the finless porpoise is just like that of the Baiji 20 years ago," the group said.

Chilean Sea Bass

Issues:

Chilean seabass may live 40 years and breed late in life. The Chilean seabass can't reproduce quickly enough to keep up with legal and illegal fishing.



Stopping illegal fishing is difficult in the Antarctic since those waters aren't regularly patrolled.

Fishing Chilean seabass with longlines accidentally catches hundreds of thousands of seabirds and endangers their populations.

Fishing Chilean seabass with bottom-trawling gear involves dragging large nets across the sea floor damaging undersea habitats and accidentally catching other marine animals that are dumped overboard as bycatch.

Other Common Names:

Patagonian Toothfish

Antarctic Toothfish

Menu Alternatives:

Striped bass, Pacific halibut and white seabass are your best choices. Good alternatives include mahi mahi and sablefish (black cod).

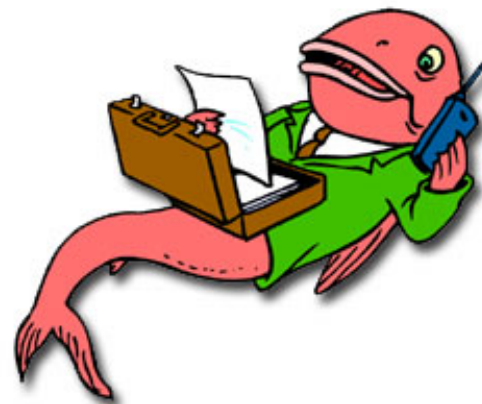
www.seafoodwatch.org

Aquarium Humor

A Fish Goes Into a Bank ...

A fish goes into a bank and approaches the teller. He can see from her nameplate that the teller's name is Patricia Whack. So he says, "Ms. Whack, I'd like to get a loan to buy a boat and go on a long vacation. Patti looks at the fish in disbelief and asks how much he wants to borrow. The fish says \$30,000. The teller asks his name and the fish says that his name is Rainbow Jagger, his dad is Mick Jagger, and that it's okay, he knows the bank manager.

Patti explains that \$30,000 is a substantial amount of money and that he will need to secure some collateral against the loan. She asks if he has anything he can use as collateral. The fish says, "Sure, I have this," and produces a tiny porcelain fly rod and reel, about an inch long; detailed and perfectly formed.



Very confused, Patti explains that she'll have to consult with the manager and disappears into a back office. She finds the manager and says, "There's a fish named Rainbow Jagger out there who claims to know you and wants to borrow \$30,000. And he wants to use this as collateral." She holds up the tiny rod & reel. "I mean, what the heck is this??"

The bank manager looks back at her and says: "It's a knick-knack, Patti Whack. Give the fish a loan. His old man's a Rolling Stone."

New Tires For Marine Machine

Aquarium Director of Education, Franklin Lane, accepts a new set of tires from Pete Enos, Manager of Ventana Tire and Auto, 7060 E. Speedway. This generous donation was made by owner Elton Kodama. Special thanks to Board member Bob Palmer for coordinating this timely gift.



SSA Education Wish List

For our generous supporters who would prefer to earmark their donations, here are some expenses that are listed by priority of need.

1. Scholarship for Reynolds Elementary. Five-day Desert Waters Curriculum. 2/28/07 to 3/6/07. (\$500)
2. Travel/per-diem/fees for Southwest Marine Educators Association (SWMEA) Conference. Salt Lake City 4/13/07-04/15/07. SSA hosts in 2008!
 - Franklin (\$700)
 - Franklin & Cathy (\$1400)
3. Laptop for power point presentation etc. We are still using a slide projector!! (\$500)
4. Set-up, stock and maintain Invertebrate Tank for Outreach Program. (\$1,000)
5. Duplicate certain key exhibitry to allow concurrent scheduling of classes. (\$1,000)
6. Pelican cases for delicate traveling exhibitry. (\$800)
7. Sun-Earth-Moon model for Gravity/Tides class. (\$250)
8. Gas Card for vehicles one year. (\$1,000)
9. Yearly maintenance for TCM exhibit. (\$1,000)

Newly Commissioned Soap Makes a Splash

Tucson, November 2006 - DevaLuna Soaps has created a new and unique bar of soap inspired by the proposed Sonoran Sea Aquarium. The soap, Mar de Cortez Sonoran Desert Bar, pays tribute to both the Sonoran Desert and the Sea of Cortez. Deborah Huie, founder and owner of DevaLuna Soaps, states, "We were contacted by Franklin Lane, Director of Education for the Aquarium, and asked if we could create a bar of soap that draws on the local flora and marine extracts found in the Sonoran region."

This unique soap, the latest of many in the DevaLuna Soaps product line, captures the essence of North America's only maritime desert and is made with natural marine and botanical extracts/ treasures found within the Sonoran desert and adjoining Sea of Cortez. Since its release, the soap has been making waves. The soap contains kelp, aloe, and jojoba to nourish and hydrate the skin. These ingredients are especially beneficial to those whose skin can sometimes get parched by the dry, sunny climate of Arizona.



The soaps are made locally in Tucson from natural vegetable oils, pure essential oils, and other organic herbs. The soaps do not contain synthetic fragrances, synthetic colorings or animal products.

The soaps will soon be available on the SSA website: www.tucsonaquarium.com and at the Desert Museum gift shop. They are available now at www.devalunasoaps.com or by calling the creator/retailer at 520-760-8451.

Membership and Donations

We Need Your Help!

Please consider renewing your connection to, and support for, the Sonoran Sea Aquarium. Last year we brought our education and conservation message into over twenty-five schools and had educational outreach with over 40,000 children and adults in community events, after school programs and summer camps.

We will also be offering some new "Members Only" incentives. Beginning this year SSA Members will be invited to participate in our staff development lecture series, with knowledgeable lecturers about our region. Additionally SSA Members will be able to participate in guided hikes to learn about our local Sonoran desert waters.

To make a tax-deductible donation or renew your membership with the Sonoran Sea Aquarium, please complete and return the form below and mail along with your check or money order to:

The Sonoran Sea Aquarium

2021 N. Kinney Rd

Tucson, Az. 85743

Name: _____

Organization (if applicable) _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Zip: _____

Phone#: _____

E-MAIL: _____

Please select the amount you can contribute:

- \$1,000 Founder's Club • \$500 Benefactor • \$250 Sponsor
- \$100 Supporter • \$50 Friend • \$35 Family • \$15 Member
- \$10 Student (K-12)/Active Volunteer • \$____ Other

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Email: Sea@TucsonAquarium.com, or call: **520-908-1600**

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