

Quarterly News

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- Welcoming New Staff Member
- SOS Presents Research

Upcoming Events for the Society

September 24th, 2008 - Ribbon of Sand
Lecture and Film Presentation
Hood College, Frederick, MD

September 27th, 2008 - Beach Cleanup
Fort McHenry National Monument and
Historic Shrine, Baltimore, MD.

The Society for Ocean Sciences Receives Google™ Grant

The Society for Ocean Sciences is a recipient of a Google Grant award.

The Google Grants program supports organizations sharing Google's philosophy of community service to help the world in areas such as science and technology, education, global public health, the environment, youth advocacy and the arts.

Designed for 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations, Google Grants is a unique in-kind advertising program harnessing the power of Google AdWords advertising product. Google Grants has awarded AdWords advertising to hundreds of non-profit groups whose missions range from animal welfare to literacy, from supporting homeless children to promoting HIV education.

With the help of our Google Grant we hope to raise the profile of the Society and increase the traffic to our Internet Site.

Fundraising Success

We successfully completed our first Annual Fundraising Event last month at Joe's Crab Shack in Gaithersburg, MD. The event was well attended. Thank you all for your support. The Crab Shack is donating 10% of the evening's proceeds to the society. Congratulations to those of you lucky enough to win the fabulous prizes such as



The Draw

a night's stay at The Willard Intercontinental, ski-passes and lessons at White Tail Resort and a night's stay at The Marriot.

We would like to thank all our generous donors for making the raffle a success.

SOS co-sponsors Ribbon of Sand Presentation



John Grabowska, Ribbon of Sand
Writer, Producer, Director

7pm, Sept 24, 2008
Hood College, Frederick, MD
Hodson Auditorium

SOS is proud to co-sponsor a lecture and film presentation by John Grabowska, writer, producer and director of the environmental documentary, Ribbon of Sand.

Ribbon of Sand chronicles the natural history of the Outer Banks of North Carolina and islands south of Ocracoke Inlet. The documentary takes you to the remote beaches of Cape Lookout National Seashore which compose one of the few remaining natural barrier island systems in the world. The film examines coastal ecosystems as a whole, from the vast coastal plains to the shallow sounds. The Washington Post calls the film "poetic...both intimate and sweeping."

Please join us for an evening of art and education.

Beach Cleanup. Call for Volunteers

September 20th marks the international coastal cleanup day. We want to do our part by

participating in a local beach cleanup. In collaboration with the National Aquarium in Baltimore, we are rounding up volunteers to help restore the wetlands at Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine. To participate in this event, please visit our website at:

www.societyoceansciences.org/beachcleanup08.html

SOS welcomes Special Events Coordinator

The Society is excited to welcome Katrina Ward to our team.

Since Katrina began work with us in late July, she has organized our efforts for the beach cleanup and has begun a curriculum development program concerning oyster biology.

Katrina has long been interested in environmental issues and has traveled the world to volunteer.



Katrina (left) working hard at our fundraising event

In 2005, Katrina spent a month in Malaysia studying field methods in coral reef ecology. A few months later she traveled to Panama to participate in a field course in International agricultural development. Cont next page

Katrina then went on to graduate from the University of California, Davis in December of 2005. Upon graduation, Katrina set out to help restore coastal sand dunes in New Zealand. On her return to the US, she spent a year as an Americorps volunteer working in environmental education at Assateague State Park.

After all her experience traveling and volunteering, Katrina embarked on her graduate degree in the Fall of 2007 at Hood College and is working toward a Master's in Environmental Biology. During the summer of this year, Katrina volunteered on Zakynthos Island in Greece for 4 weeks working for The Sea Turtle Protection Society where she helped educate the local citizens and protect the turtle's nesting habitat. We welcome Katrina and are very happy to have her on our team!

As an intern Katrina receives college credit for her efforts. If you are interested in our internship opportunities please contact us at information@societyoceansciences.org

SOS Staff Present Finding at the International Coral Reef Symposium



Claire Hudson and Drew Ferrier represented the Society at the 11th International Coral Reef symposium in Ft. Lauderdale, FL this past July. They presented some recent information from their research concerning the impacts of ultraviolet light on sea anemones. Just as in humans, corals and sea anemones can be damaged by ultraviolet light. However, these animals appear to have effective mechanisms for repairing that damage on a daily basis.

It is not currently known whether environmental stresses may slow repair and cause this damage to accumulate.

Unfortunately, the overall news from the meeting was not encouraging. Reefs are currently being subjected to both global and local stresses that are rapidly causing their decline. Symposium participants are calling for urgent action to reduce CO₂ emissions. In the interim, we can and must buy time for coral reefs through increased protection from sewage, sediment, pollutants, overfishing, development and other stresses, all of which we know can damage coral health. To learn more about the Symposium and its findings visit their web site at <http://www.nova.edu/ncri/11icrs/outcomes.html>.