

# Scotch Bonnet

*What we are hearing from the sea.*

North Carolina Sea Grant

[www.ncseagrants.org](http://www.ncseagrants.org)

Spring 2006

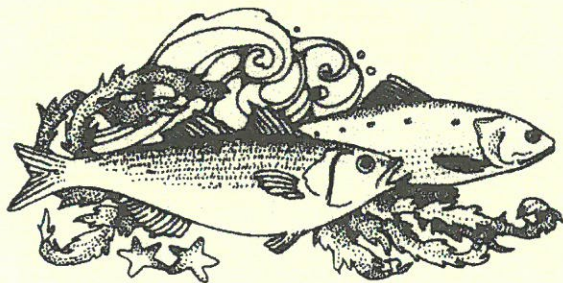
## Greetings!

Well, it's almost summer again. Time sure flies when the school year starts coming to a close, doesn't it? I hope you are all thinking about prospects for professional development during the summer months. There are numerous programs going on around the state.

If you haven't already signed up for something, please visit the Bridge Web site: [www.vims.edu/bridge](http://www.vims.edu/bridge). Educators and students alike can use the Bridge to plan their summer activities. In the Professional Development section, educators will find a list of summer programs in addition to information on year-round courses and workshops, grants, awards and various regional and national organizations.

Summer opportunities for students are located in the Guiding Students section. This link provides information not only on summer programs, but also on year-round educational opportunities, colleges and universities that feature marine or environmental science programs, and science fair resources.

Those of you who use Suzanne Tate's Nature Series books will be happy to know that she has just published another teacher's guide with classroom activities for books 17 through 28, including *Katie K. Whale*, *Oozey Octopus*, *Spiny Sea Star*, and the latest addition, *Johnny Longlegs*. All of her Nature Series titles are part of the Accelerated Reader program!



## World Ocean Week Events

[www.uncw.edu/odyssey](http://www.uncw.edu/odyssey)

The Center for Marine Science at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington invites the public to participate in activities and events throughout World Ocean Week, June 1-10. To register for any event, please call 910/962-3195. Registration deadline for all programs and events is May 25. Visit the Web site for details.

- **June 2** (9 a.m. – 12 p.m.) *River Trek: Trolling the Cape Fear River Aboard the Martech*; \$30 per person.
- **June 5** (12:15 p.m. – 2 p.m.) *Current Research on Oceans and Human Health*. Lunch seminar with Dan Baden, director of UNCW's Center for Marine Science; \$15 per person.
- **June 6** (9 a.m. – 12 p.m.) *Kayaking the Marshes of Masonboro Island* with Andy Wood, Audubon North Carolina; \$75 per person.
- **June 6** (5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.) *Energy in America: Bargain or Ripoff?* Wine and dinner with Fritz Kapraun, UNCW professor; \$25 per person.
- **June 7** (10:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.) *Our Wondrous Sea*. Lunch and Learn with Martin Posey, UNCW biology department chair. Sea Sampler Lunch (scallops, shrimp, salmon, veggies) at the Port City Chop House; \$28 per person.
- **June 8** (10:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.) *Memoirs of a Marine Biologist: Anne McCrary* with her daughter Ann Sullivan. Followed by lunch; \$15 per person.

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• **June 9** (5 p.m. – 8 p.m.) *Turtles: Ancient Travelers of Land and Sea*. Wine and dinner with Andy Wood, Audubon North Carolina; music by the Wilmington Chamber Music Society; \$25 per person.

• **June 10** (9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.) *Masonboro Island Excursion*. A walk with Peggy Sloan, N.C. Aquarium at Fort Fisher education curator; \$20 per person.

### **Pine Knoll Shores Aquarium Re-Opens in May** [www.ncaquariums.com](http://www.ncaquariums.com)

The N.C. Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores re-opens May 19 after a \$25 million expansion that spans two-and-a-half years. The state-operated aquarium is triple the size of the original facility. Inside, visitors will find 93,000 square feet of aquatic wonder.

Under the new theme, “North Carolina’s Aquatic Environments from the Mountains to the Sea,” nearly 40 exhibits in five galleries — Mountain, Piedmont, Coastal Plain, Tidal Waters and Ocean — depict the state’s aquatic zones. The aquarium will be home to 2,500 animals, both freshwater and saltwater.

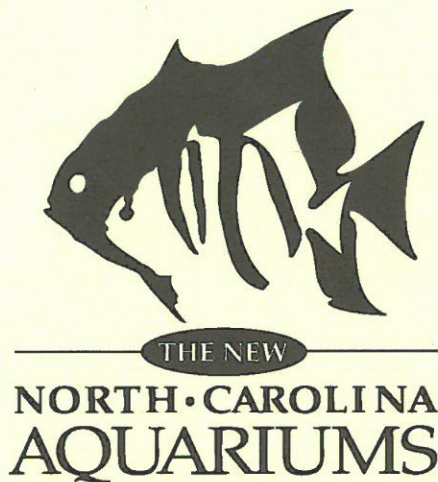
The centerpiece display, the 306,000-gallon Living Shipwreck, takes visitors into the domain of ocean divers. It features a replica of the *U-352*, a German submarine the Coast Guard sank off our coast in World War II, along with sharks, colorful fishes and other animals that typically congregate around shipwrecks. Three observation windows, including one that is 63 feet long, offer superb views of the exhibit. Divers will talk to visitors via underwater microphones.

The 50,000-gallon Queen Anne’s Revenge display recreates the 18<sup>th</sup>-century shipwreck near Beaufort Inlet that is thought to be the flagship of the pirate Blackbeard. It also shows the diverse marine community that the wreck attracts.

Another crowd-pleaser will be the river otter exhibit in the Piedmont Gallery, where “Pungo” and “Neuse” will frolic in a riverbank setting. Other highlights include a 32-foot mountain waterfall, a cypress swamp, a stingray touch pool, and lionfish, lobster, jellyfish, seahorses and octopus displays.

Visitors will be able to choose from a long

list of innovative educational programs, activities and field trips. For more information, visit [www.ncaquariums.com](http://www.ncaquariums.com) and click on “Pine Knoll Shores.” Or call 252/247-4003.



### **Aquarium Offers Free Teacher Workshops** [www.ncaquariums.com](http://www.ncaquariums.com)

The N.C. Aquarium at Fort Fisher offers six teacher workshops that meet N.C. Environmental Education certification criteria in categories I, II and III. Topics include incorporating environmental education into humanities, discussing the aquarium’s fish cultures, tracking sea turtles; and learning beach horticulture. Classroom teachers and informal educators are welcome to register for a half-day workshop, a one-day workshop, or for the whole week, July 24-28. These workshops are free. Registration is required by July 14. For questions, contact Peggy Sloan at [peggy.sloan@ncmail.net](mailto:peggy.sloan@ncmail.net) or call 910/458-8259, ext. 230. To register, contact Danielle Wallace at 910/458-7468 or e-mail [Danielle.Wallace@ncmail.net](mailto:Danielle.Wallace@ncmail.net).

### **New Wildlife Education Center** [www.ncwildlife.org/fs\\_index\\_08\\_education.htm](http://www.ncwildlife.org/fs_index_08_education.htm)

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission is proud to announce the opening of the new Outer Banks Center for Wildlife Education located in Corolla on the northern Outer Banks. The center, which opens June 16, will highlight the natural and cultural history of northeastern North Carolina.

In addition to classrooms and a 100-seat

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auditorium, visitors will enjoy more than 250 antique hunting decoys, a 12,000-gallon aquarium with native fishes, and more than 5,000 square feet of exhibits that will highlight the hunting and fishing heritage of this area. Don't forget to leave time to visit the "Wild Store" gift shop.

The education staff is planning a full slate of summer programs, including group programs. School programs will be offered beginning in the fall. To inquire about programs or to receive a summer program brochure, please contact Mark Buckler, Outer Banks Center for Wildlife Education, P.O. Box 502, Corolla, NC 27927; 252/453-0221; or by e-mail at [mark.buckler@ncwildlife.org](mailto:mark.buckler@ncwildlife.org).

### **NMEA 2006 in New York City** [nysmea.org/con06](http://nysmea.org/con06)

Get ready for a summer experience in a city of islands, otherwise known as the Big Apple. Yes, the New York State Marine Education Association is inviting the National Marine Educators Association to New York City July 16-22.

Long Island University in Brooklyn will be the host site for the conferences. Additional events include an evening in the American Museum of Natural Science's Hall of Ocean Life, a visit to the New York Aquarium and a dinner cruise around the island of Manhattan.

Keep an eye on the Web site for updates. Don't miss this opportunity to explore the islands of New York City in a very special way!

### **NCCAT at Ocracoke** [www.nccat.org](http://www.nccat.org)

The N.C. Center for the Advancement of Teaching (NCCAT) provides professional development for North Carolina's public school teachers of all grade levels and subjects. NCCAT is based in Cullowee in western North Carolina. Now NCCAT looks forward to adding an eastern campus on Ocracoke Island.

Ground was broken in 2004 for the multi-million-dollar restoration. The project will transform the landmark U.S. Coast Guard Station at the mouth of Silver Lake Harbor into a residential education center. The new facility will include space for seminar sessions and dining, and resi-

dential rooms for visiting teachers. The campus will host up to 40 seminars a year, as well as a variety of weekend programs for educators.

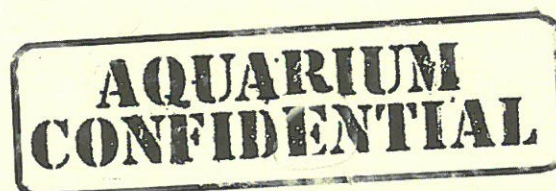
The old Station House, vacant for the past 10 years, was the headquarters for Coast Guard life-saving and law enforcement operations for more than 65 years. The renovation will bring new life to this historic building.

During the construction period, NCCAT will continue to offer Ocracoke-based renewal seminars for teachers who have been employed full-time in North Carolina public schools. Call NCCAT Teacher Services, 800/922-0482 or e-mail [registrar@nccat.org](mailto:registrar@nccat.org). Include your name, home telephone number, the last four digits of your social security number and seminar choice. An abbreviated list of fall offerings follows. Full descriptions of all professional development offerings are available on the NCCAT Web page.

- Sept. 18-22:** *Starry, Starry Night*  
**Sept. 25-29:** *Writing from the Sea, Messages from the Heart*  
**Oct. 9-13:** *The Age of Sail*  
**Oct. 16-20:** *Salty Dogs and the Lore of the Sea*  
**Nov. 13-17:** *Hurricanes: In the Eye of the Storm*  
**Dec. 4-8:** *Bird, Ducks, and Decoys*

### **New Aquarium Exhibit** [www.ncaquariums.com](http://www.ncaquariums.com)

The N.C. Aquarium on Roanoke Island will unveil a new exhibit this summer. The interactive "Aquarium Confidential: A Look Behind the Scenes" will enable visitors to take a glimpse of what happens on the other side of the exhibit walls.



#### *A look behind the scenes*

What do the aquarium's animals eat? How does the aquarium get seawater into the building? Find out these answers and much more in this exciting new exhibit.

Selected species will be used to highlight the

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aquarium's involvement in conservation and research. Activities will include building your own fish tank or chatting with an aquarist. Come on out and join in the fun.

### **Nautical Word Origins**

“Mind your P’s and Q’s” – meaning to be on your best behavior. Tavern owners would keep a tally of the pints and quarts that sailors drank for them to run a tab!

“Turn a blind eye” – meaning to ignore or disregard something deliberately. This saying stems from the Battle of Copenhagen (1801) when Admiral Nelson held his telescope up to his blind eye so he wouldn't see a signal that he wanted to ignore.

Reprinted with permission from *Captain Bucko's Nauti-Words Handbook* (ISBN 0-595-31529-1) by Roger Paul Huff; published in 2004 by iUniverse, Inc.

### **To Contact Me**

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Please check your mailing label — if we need to make changes, or if you're getting more than one copy of *Scotch Bonnet*, let me know! Don't forget to recycle this newsletter after sharing it with friends and colleagues.

Best Fishes!

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