



Welcome to the newest online issue of *Scotch Bonnet*. This marine education newsletter is also available as a portable document file (.pdf) — if you're like me and want to keep a hard copy!

I've been an avid reader my entire life, beginning in Humpty Dumpty Kindergarten when I would read stories to my classmates (or so I've been told). To this date, I read every night before I fall asleep, even if it's just a page or two.

For the past few years, I've tried to sprinkle some nonfiction tomes between my favorite fiction books, and I want to share some of the good books that I've read that focus on natural history and marine topics. Try some of these for yourself — you'll be glad you did!

- ✓ Warner, William W. 1976. *Beautiful Swimmers: Watermen, Crabs and the Chesapeake Bay*. New York: Penguin Books. ISBN 0-14-004405-1

This classic book explains the life history of the blue crab the way people who catch them know it, tying in the scientific background. It should be required reading for anyone who has ever caught, eaten or harassed a crab. *Beautiful Swimmers* is a great way to learn about one of North Carolina's valuable sea creatures!

- ✓ Clover, Charles. 2006. *The End of the Line: How overfishing is changing the world and what we eat*. Berkeley: University of California Press. ISBN 978-0-520-25505-0

The book presents an interesting perspective on world fisheries. It includes an overview of how species are harvested and handled, and how the general public doesn't pay much attention to where the seafood on their plate was caught! *End of the Line* is eye opening, but should also be read with an awareness of the continuing search for current and accurate data.

- ✓ Greenberg, Gary. 2008. *A Grain of Sand: Nature's Secret Wonder*. Minneapolis, MN: Voyageur Press. ISBN 978-0-7603-3198-9

This book fascinated me, but I am an arenophile (someone who likes — and collects — sand). Presented more like an art book, it contains close-up photos of sands from different beaches from all over the world, and you can see how varied sand is . . . REALLY! Chapters focus on the shapes, colors and patterns in sand grains and where those sand grains originated.

These are just three of more than 20 on my list. I'll be sharing more natural history books with you in upcoming issues of *Scotch Bonnet*!

It wouldn't be the same if I didn't share some of my personal travels with you! My husband and I were lucky enough to spend a week cruising around the Sea of Cortez aboard the *Don Jose V. Abaroa*. We enjoyed snorkeling, kayaking, hiking, birding and watching whales. Hope you enjoy a few of our photos from this fabulous trip. Contact me if you want to see more.



A large sea lion begging for food from a fishing boat at the Cabo San Lucas marina.



A huge pod of common dolphins swim in the Sea of Cortez.

Explore this issue — there are many professional development opportunities and family explorations for all of us. Try to take advantage of these wonderful events. Keep reading for unique opportunities and ideas for educators. There is a lot going on in North Carolina!

Thanks to Dia Hitt, Daryl Law, Sarah Phillips, JoAnne Powell, Martha Regester and Larry Warner for their contributions to this issue.

Jennette's Pier at Nags Head

www.jennettespier.net



Courtesy N.C. Aquariums

The all-new Jennette's Pier in Nags Head, also featured in the Spring 2011 issue of *Coastwatch*, will celebrate its grand opening on Saturday, May 21, at 11 a.m. The first ever Family Fishing Tournament will be held two weeks later on Saturday, June 4. This massive concrete fishing pier also features a 16,000-square-foot pier house, which houses fish exhibits, a tackle shop, alternative energy displays and a large, state-of-the-art classroom overlooking the Atlantic Ocean.

Educational opportunities abound at Jennette's Pier. A full schedule of activities is set for 2011, including school and scout programs, invertebrate labs, plankton studies, science camps, marine mammal studies, sea turtle night treks and more.

But don't forget about the fishing. Anglers can enjoy 1,000 feet of fantastic fishing at Jennette's Pier. The taller, wider and longer pier offers anglers a variety of depths and fishes to target. Try jigs near the beach, bottom fishing along the middle, or pin rigs on the end.

Rods and reels are available for sale or rent, as are other fishing necessities, such as lures, bottom rigs and weights. Fishing workshops are planned. There's also a gift shop and snack area where visitors can sip their gourmet hot coffee or ice-cold drink while seated by an oceanfront window.

Upstairs, Jennette's Pier features Oceanview Hall complete with an outdoor deck overlooking the pier. The room has a drop-down screen and additional audiovisual aids to facilitate presentations for seminars and classes.

On your next trip to the Outer Banks, stop by for a visit or to wet a line. Jennette's Pier is a satellite facility of the North Carolina Aquarium on Roanoke Island. For more information, call 252/255-1501.

North Carolina Aquarium on Roanoke Island

www.ncaquariums.com



This summer at the N.C. Aquarium on Roanoke Island, you'll have the opportunity to save your own sea turtle in **OPERATION: Sea Turtle Rescue**, a fun, hands-on exhibit that simulates the steps taken to rehabilitate endangered sea turtles! These gentle creatures face many threats year-round affecting their continued survival. Aquarium staff and volunteers from N.E.S.T. (Network for Endangered Sea Turtles) donate countless hours to nurse stranded sea turtles back to health.

When you enter the new exhibit, you can "rescue" a small turtle replica and take it to a diagnostic station. The turtle replica is programmed with one of six possible stories, which is activated when it is placed on the diagnostic station. You will be prompted to perform a mock X-ray, blood test and physical exam to determine what has affected your turtle.

At a nearby rehabilitation station, a video featuring a staff aquarist explains what procedures are needed to heal your turtle. Based on lessons from the video, you will perform simulated treatment and place your turtle replica in a rehabilitation tank. Finally, the turtle will be returned to the "sea," allowing the next visitor to have a similar experience.

OPERATION: Sea Turtle Rescue will help you learn what it takes to preserve one of North Carolina's most beloved treasures!

The Aquarium will offer a full slate of education programs this summer. During the new **Predators on the Prowl** program, visitors can learn how animals capture and eat their prey, and avoid being eaten. They will also discover that some of the smallest animals on the planet are actually the most amazing predators. Each Thursday, starting June 9 through August, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., the Aquarium will feature craft tables, live animal encounters and hands-on activities to teach visitors about the world of "eat or be eaten."

Help the N.C. Aquarium on Roanoke Island celebrate the oceans on World Ocean Day! On June 8, the Aquarium will feature interactive programs, costumed characters and more to help visitors learn how the ocean impacts our everyday life and how we can impact the ocean's health. They'll be having oceans of fun so come and play.

Chicamacomico Life-Saving Station

www.chicamacomico.net

For maritime history buffs, a visit to Chicamacomico Life-Saving Station is a dream come true! This unique historic site is a seven-acre, eight-building complex and is considered the most complete remaining U.S. Life-Saving Service complex in the nation.

There are eight buildings available for tours, including the original station from 1874 that was used as a boathouse and storage shed after the "new" building (also open to the public) was opened in 1911. In addition, stables, two cook houses and the 1907 Midgett House are open for viewing.

This year is the centennial celebration of the 1911 replacement station. Many public programs are scheduled for this summer, including meeting the **Real Taffy of Torpedo Junction** on Wednesdays.

On Thursdays throughout the summer, observe the **Beach Apparatus Drill**. Black powder, a Lyle gun and breeches buoy are used in the drill. Chicamacomico is now the **ONLY** place in the United States that performs the full Beach Apparatus Drill reenactment for the public during the summer months. It is also the only drill reenactment in the world performed by active duty U.S. Coast Guard personnel.



Coast guard personnel prepare the Lyle gun during the Beach Apparatus Drill. Photo: JoAnne Powell.



The drill also includes using the breeches buoy. Photo: JoAnne Powell.

N.C. Coastal Federation's Summer Programs

www.nccoast.org



The N.C. Coastal Federation has been helping the coast since its inception in 1982. Its mission is to provide citizens and groups with the assistance they need to take an active role in the stewardship of North Carolina's coastal water quality and natural resources.

All three NCCF regions have educational programs scheduled throughout the summer. From ecology programs to marsh cruises to restoration projects, you can find something for everyone in the northern, central and southern regions of the North Carolina coast. To find specific offerings and details, go to the NCCF website at www.nccoast.org and click on "Events Calendar."

For further information, please check the NCCF website, or contact the office nearest you.

Natural Science Center of Greensboro

www.natsci.org



For readers in the piedmont area, plan a visit to the Natural Science Center of Greensboro this summer. Educational opportunities for all ages abound!

From 2–4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 8, join hundreds of other educational institutions, conservation organizations and thousands of individuals around the world to celebrate our shared ocean. World Ocean Day is an opportunity to celebrate our ocean and our personal connection to the sea. Enjoy face painting, crafts and other fun activities. Free with admission/membership.

Discover the wonders of reptiles during **Reptacular**, a celebration of tails and scales, on Saturday, June 18, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visitors will enjoy many activities during this special event. Get nose-to-nose with local non-venomous snakes, witness the weighing of the center's giant Burmese python, watch live croc feedings, and enjoy face painting and reptile crafts. Activities free with general admission/membership.

Summer camps for ages 3–16 run throughout the entire summer. Also, don't miss the family of endangered maned wolves on exhibit — mom, dad and three young ones are entertaining, as well as educational, to observe! If you can't see them in person, you can check out the blog following their day-to-day activities (and photos/videos) at manedwolf.blogspot.com.

Curriculum/Activity Guides Still Available

Centers for Ocean Sciences Education Excellence SouthEast's *The Educator's Guide to Marine Debris: Southeast and Gulf of Mexico* is a regional introduction to three main categories of marine debris: litter, derelict or abandoned boats, and lost or abandoned commercial and recreational fishing gear. This publication is available for free download on the COSEE SE website at www.cosee-se.org/marinedebris.php and is also available in hard copy, while supplies last.

N.C. Big Sweep's publication, *Undercurrents: A Big Sweep Middle School Teacher's Guide*, includes litter-awareness lessons that are correlated with state learning objectives for 8th grade science and math, as well as for healthful living, language arts and information skills. *Undercurrents* is available free to North Carolina educators while supplies last.

The *Coastal Processes and Conflicts* curriculum includes extensive background information for teachers, as well as student lessons that are relevant in any setting — not just the island environment. Appropriate for middle and high school students, the curriculum can be downloaded free from www.ecu.edu/educ/csmte/coastal_processes.cfm. Or you can order a hard copy (\$10 includes postage), which comes with a CD containing color copies of figures used in the student activities.

Each of these education resources is available from Terri Kirby Hathaway, North Carolina Sea Grant, terrikh@csi.northcarolina.edu.

Need to Contact Me?

If you ever have information to share with other marine educators, please don't hesitate to send it my way for inclusion in a future issue of the *Scotch Bonnet*. Let me know what you're hearing from the sea!

Please share this website with others — and share my e-mail address with anyone who wants to receive a message when each *Scotch Bonnet* is available online! Thanks for all you do for students and for other educators!

My contact information is: North Carolina Sea Grant, PO Box 699, Manteo, NC 27954; phone: 252/475-3663; fax: 252/475-3545; e-mail: terrikh@csi.northcarolina.edu.

Best Fishes!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terri". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted to the right.

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