



New England
Aquarium

blue

It's time to *live blue*™



Discover the beauty and majesty of sharks

The return of the jellies

Get your share of Community Supported Agriculture

Members' Magazine

Volume 44, Number 2 SPRING 2011

In This Issue

*Celebrating sharks with
Explorer in Residence
Brian Skerry*



Shortfin mako shark (*Isurus oxyrinchus*) off California

Photo: B. Skerry

On the cover:
Oceanic whitetip shark
(*Carcharhinus longimanus*)
in the waters off the
Bahamas

Photo: B. Skerry

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- 2 Cool Jobs**
Barbara Bailey, Operations Manager,
Animal Husbandry
- 4 live blue™**
Getting down to Earth with composting
and Community Supported Agriculture
- 6 Future Ocean Protectors**
Matching sharks teeth with what they eat
- 8 Global Explorers: Celebrating Sharks**
Aquarium Explorer in Residence and *National Geographic* photographer Brian Skerry shares his fascination with sharks
- 10 Members' Notes**
The benefits of membership, the New England Aquarium Dive Club, Navigator Friends and Families Evening and more
- 12 Calendar**
Dive In!, Aquarium lectures, Celebrate Seafood Dinner Series, IMAX movies and more

@neaq.org

Dive into a sea of resources online. www.neaq.org
The website is full of conservation information,
animal facts and details that will help you plan
your next trip to the Aquarium.

Throughout this issue of *blue*, look for
this icon to point out items that you
can explore further on our website.



Plan Your Visit

Get directions, find parking options and
download a Visitor Guide.

Check Out the Film Listings

Come to the Simons IMAX Theatre and see
Under the Sea 3D, *Sharks 3D*, *Born to Be Wild 3D*
or *Deep Sea 3D*.

Explore the Oceans With Us

See live photos from ocean expeditions and
watch videos of our animals.
www.neaq.org/blogs

View Upcoming Events

Your membership gets you a discount on a
variety of special events, including Celebrate
Seafood dinners—don't miss out!



New England Aquarium Proud Sponsors





From the President

After a long, cold and snowy winter, springtime is breathing new life into New England. Here at the Aquarium, there is a lot of excitement about our new exhibit—The Trust Family Foundation Shark and Ray Touch Tank, opening this month. Members will be getting some of the first looks at this remarkable new exhibit that showcases several species of rays and sharks in a 25,000-gallon tank, the largest on the East Coast. Families can get up close to see and feel these wonderful animals as they swim through a tropical mangrove setting—a setting that will make you feel like the long winter is truly over!

Meanwhile, local teens are set to explore real mangroves in the Bahamas for the second year in a row. The semester-long Sea TURTLE program teaches marine science, conservation and scuba diving to a group of motivated young people from area high schools. Classes culminate with a week of diving in the Caribbean, where the kids will receive their final scuba certification—a memorable start to a lifetime of ocean stewardship.

The oceans were the focus of several panel discussions I led at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, this winter. These discussions focused on the major challenges facing the oceans and the role business and governmental leaders can play in helping to solve them.

Your support as an Aquarium member helps us to launch new exhibits and programs like those mentioned above. Thank you for being a part of this important mission! We look forward to introducing you to some sharks and rays this spring!

Bud Ris

Bud Ris
President and CEO

At the Aquarium

The Return of the Jellies

They may be brainless and spineless, but the jellies have captivated visitors from the minute their exhibit first opened in the West Wing in 2004. These ethereal-looking animals were behind the scenes for the last several months while The Trust Family Foundation Shark and Ray Touch Tank was built, but now they're back!

The sharks and rays and their coastal mangrove habitat may have taken over the West Wing's upstairs space, but the jellies are amazing the Aquarium's visitors once again downstairs. Plus, there is a tank upstairs featuring Cassiopeia, or upside down jellies.

Assistant curator Steve Spina, who supervises the changing exhibits galleries, is planning to showcase many of the same jellies that visitors admired in the original exhibit. They will be displayed in special kriesel tanks with rounded edges to prevent the gelatinous creatures from being trapped in corners. There will also be a tank displaying the life cycle of a jelly.

The Aquarium husbandry staff breeds jellies for the exhibit onsite. In fact, they are so skilled at jelly propagation that they often supply animals for jelly exhibits at other aquariums. The species Spina plans to have on view in the new jellies space include purple striped sea nettles, Pacific sea nettles, tropical jellies, comb jellies, umbrella jellies and moon jellies. But, as Spina explains, growing these animals isn't an exact science.

Some species will grow faster than others, so the final mix of species will change as the animals reach a size at which they can be placed on exhibit. As Spina says, "It's really all up to the jellies."

— Ann Cortissoz

—Emily Bauernfeind



Barbara Bailey

Operations Manager, Animal Husbandry

At least once a week you can find Barbara Bailey in scuba gear, settled quietly at the bottom of a holding tank in Quincy's Animal Care Center with cownose rays swirling around her. The self-proclaimed behind-the-scenes kind of person has been caring for the animals destined for The Trust Family Foundation Shark and Ray Touch Tank, but scuba diving with the rays is just one of countless ways she contributes to the Aquarium.

Barbara's knowledge of all things Aquarium comes from 25 years experience in a variety of jobs, from purchasing manager to administrative assistant to aquarist. With an environmental science background, she worked her way up to become the aquarist in charge of the Aquarium's first ray touch tank in 1992. Her role entailed orchestrating expeditions to the Chesapeake Bay to collect animals and then overseeing daily maintenance of this popular exhibit. It turned out to be a good test to see how visitors would react to this kind of exhibit. "Visitors loved interacting with the rays. They're inquisitive, friendly and gregarious animals," she says. "I think they really like being touched."

Cownose rays are once again in the picture for Barbara, although now she finds herself wearing a very different hat. As husbandry manager, she has helped design the complex life support systems that sustain all the animals at the Aquarium. She goes one step further and pitches in with the day-to-day maintenance of off-site facilities in Duxbury and the Animal Care Center in Quincy. That might mean interpreting pH levels,

repairing a leaky PVC pipe or fielding late-night emergency phone calls about filtration systems.

With her natural affinity for tinkering, a skill that she attributes to her handyman father, and intimate knowledge of the filtration systems and pumps in Quincy, few were better suited to look after the cownose rays destined for The Trust Family Shark and Ray Touch Tank. Barbara was an excellent guardian. She started each work day this winter by checking in on the rays and sharks schooling around the warm, sparkling blue tanks.

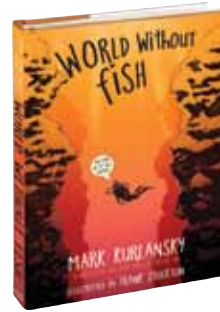
"I just feel better when I check on them and know everything's OK," she says. "Then I can go on with my day, either taking a ferry over to Central Wharf for meetings or working on repairs and



The water-filtration system at the Aquarium's new facility in Quincy.

You can learn a lot about the marine environment by reading some of the wonderful books that have been written about ocean animals and habitats.

The only thing better than reading the books is being able to hear the authors speak and ask them questions. The authors of these books will be giving talks during the Aquarium Lecture Series spring season.

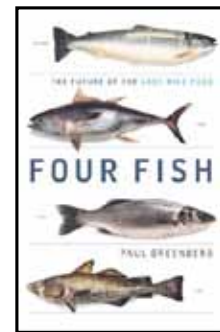


World Without Fish
By Mark Kurlansky

World Without Fish offers young readers a colorful glimpse into a topic that is hardly black and white. Through simple storytelling and colorful comics, author Mark Kurlansky and illustrator Frank Stockton tackle the complicated relationship between humans and the sea, including fishing, pollution and climate change. He empowers readers of all ages by saying, “The good part about imagining what could happen is that we can move to try to prevent it from happening. How? By changing the way we do things now.”

—Sunnye Collins

Mark Kurlansky will speak and sign books as part of the Aquarium Lecture Series on April 25.



Four Fish: The Future of the Last Wild Food
By Paul Greenberg

In *Four Fish*, Paul Greenberg combines his career as a journalist with his passion for fishing to investigate humanity’s impact on the fishes that dominate our menus—salmon, sea bass, cod and tuna. Each represents a distinct aquatic habitat that people have fished for years. This informative page-turner examines each fish’s biology, our history with its fishing and aquaculture industries and how our palates are leaving an indelible mark on these unique species.

—Emily Bauernfeind

Paul Greenberg will speak and sign books as part of the Aquarium Lecture Series on May 9.

Visit the Aquarium Lecture Series web page for a full list of speakers and dates. www.neaq.org/aquariumlectures



improvements to the systems in Quincy. Every day brings something different.”

Her genuine concern for the animals turns out to be another family trait. Barbara’s husband, Steve, whom she met at the Aquarium, is the Curator of Fishes! Alex, their son, is also a diver and a Giant Ocean Tank volunteer.

When she’s not trouble-shooting life support systems or making the rounds to check on animals, you can often find Barbara in the water. In addition to waking every day at 4:30 a.m. to swim laps at her local pool, she also tries to get underwater as much as possible. She scuba dives at



Barbara with teen program participants.

least once a month in the Giant Ocean Tank, and every week she also dunks in the ray tank at the Animal Care Center. “It’s a great way to see how the animals are doing, just observing them school around you.”

Barbara’s passion for scuba diving now points her toward another important role at the Aquarium: trip leader for this spring’s collecting expedition to the Bahamas. “I’m really grateful that for the past 22 years, my boss has given me the freedom to grow my career. I love my job. I’ve found projects that really interest me.”

Read more about how the cownose rays came to the Aquarium and follow this year’s teen diving expedition online. www.neaq.org/blogs



Get down to Earth with composting



You're living blue by buying organic produce, but once the potatoes are peeled and the corn is shucked, what do you do with that organic waste? Rather than throw it in the garbage, adding to the trash your town has to haul to a landfill, why not be good to the planet and your garden and put a composter in your yard?

Ann McGovern, Consumer Waste Reduction Coordinator for the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, is passionate about composting. We asked her some questions about the basics of getting started with composting at home.

blue: What are the benefits of home composting?

McGovern: There are many benefits of home composting. There's the satisfaction of recycling your own organic waste material yourself, which is as local as local gets. Home composting allows us to close the recycling loop, without bagging and shipping material offsite to be processed elsewhere. It also provides us with a wonderful organic fertilizer material to use in our gardens and landscapes for free, without having to drive somewhere to buy soil amendment.

blue: What are some common misconceptions about composting?

McGovern: That it's difficult, or will smell and/or attract pests such as rodents or flies. When done properly, compost should not create any odors and should not attract flies or other pests.

blue: What is the most common mistake people make when they start composting?

McGovern: One mistake is letting the compost pile dry out too much. Food scraps are usually damp enough, but dry leaves will not compost, yet if they are damp, they will decompose fine. The ideal moisture content for composting is 50%, which feels damp to the touch. The other common mistake is to consider the compost bin as being a place to compost food scraps only – food scraps composted alone can result in odors and flies. We suggest a “recipe” of 3 parts “browns” to 1 part “greens” to avoid these problems. Browns include high carbon materials such as leaves, paper products such as paper towels, napkins, paper plates and newspaper (the ink is not a problem), sawdust or straw. Greens include vegetative food scraps, grass clippings and weeds. If you compost all these materials, and recycle your bottles, cans and cardboard, you will have almost no trash remaining for disposal. How great is that?

—Ann Cortisoz



For more information about composting and composting bins, visit the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection online. www.mass.gov/dep/recycle



Composting at the Aquarium

Between the Harbor View Café kitchen staff preparing meals for visitors and the husbandry staff preparing meals for our animals, a lot of organic waste is generated at the Aquarium. But we can't just set up a composter behind the loading dock.

Instead the Aquarium contracts with a Boston-area recycling company called Save That Stuff, which picks up the Aquarium's compost twice a week and trucks it to one of three composting facilities. Most of the Aquarium's compost goes to Brick Ends Farm in Hamilton, says Julia Wolfe of Save That Stuff.

At Brick Ends, Wolfe explains, the organic waste is mixed with yard clippings, leaves and grass to make compost. Brick Ends sells its compost to farmers and gardeners—some is even used by a farm that sells Community Supported Agriculture shares (see next story for information on CSAs).

—Ann Cortisoz

Learn more about Save That Stuff online. www.savethatstuff.com



Learn more about Brick Ends Farm online. www.brickendsfarm.org

Get Your Share of Veggies: Protect the Blue Planet with Local Produce



Juicy red tomatoes, heirloom potatoes, verdant greens and curly garlic scapes. Living blue can be quite tasty if you make an effort to eat local and organic foods whenever possible. One delicious option for fresh, local and diverse produce is to buy a Community Supported Agriculture share, or CSA. "In a CSA, people pay a farmer up front for the entire season, usually 20 to 22 weeks in New England," says Julie Rawson, executive director of the Massachusetts chapter of the Northeast Organic Farming Association. "In return they get a specified amount of produce grown by that farmer each week."

There's no shopping around for veggies with a CSA; what's in season is what you get. Once a week, members head to the farm or another convenient pick-up location to collect their batch of the farm's bounty. The week's produce depends on what is being harvested, from lettuces in the spring to root vegetables and squashes in the fall. Members can also expect to find some new flavors unavailable in their local market, like kohlrabi or celeriac. Some farms even offer egg, fruit, meat and flower shares.

In addition to the delicious and healthy benefits that end up on your dinner table, CSAs are also good for the blue planet. Rawson explains that a large majority of CSAs are organic, which means farmers do not use chemicals that can run off into nearby watersheds. In addition, your food does not have to travel very far, using less fossil fuels to bring fresh produce to your plate.

CSAs may not be right for everyone, notes Rawson, who also runs a CSA at Many Hands Organic Farm in Barre, Mass. "A farm share is ideal for families who want to eat foods in season, enjoy preparing home-cooked meals and like to try new foods." If that sounds like your family, consider a CSA!

—Emily Bauernfeind

Here is a helpful link with more information about Community Supported Agriculture: <http://www.localharvest.org/csa/>



Find a CSA that's right for you and your family. Just act fast, shares often sell out quickly: <http://theorganicfoodguide.com/>



—Hannah Stinson

What Do Sharks Eat?

You can tell a lot about an animal based on the shape of its teeth!

Generally, sharp pointy teeth help an animal chew meat, while flat teeth help them chew plants. Animals (like humans) who eat both plants and meat have a mix of sharp and flat teeth.

Match Game

Take a close look at the shark teeth on the right and at the food below. What do you think each shark eats? Fill in each box with the right letter.





Good for grabbing big things

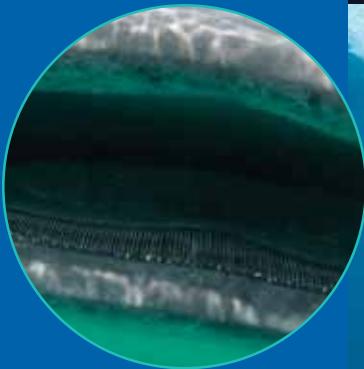
1



Great white sharks eat



What makes a tooth good for eating small fish?



Good for filtering

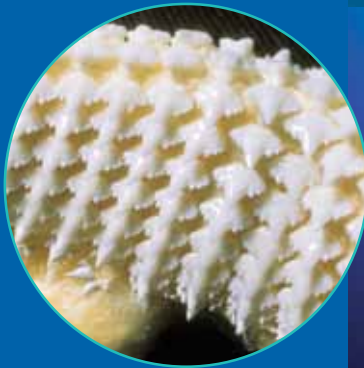
2



Whale sharks eat

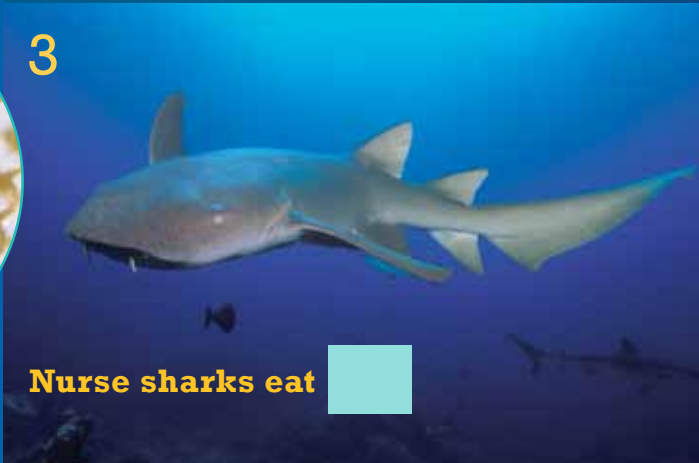


What makes a tooth good for eating crabs?



Good for grinding

3



Nurse sharks eat

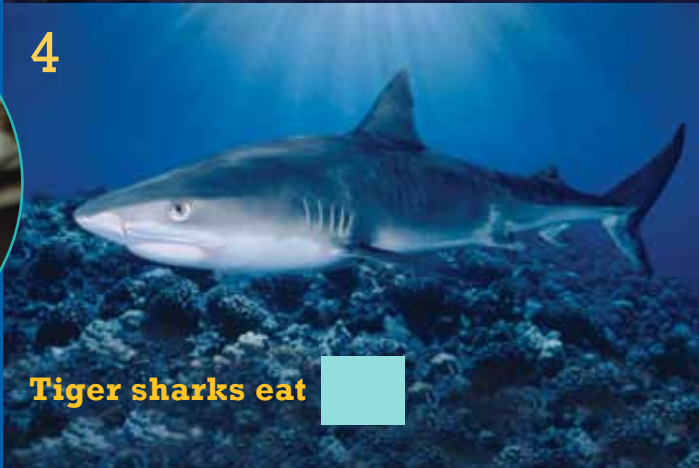


What is your favorite kind of shark? What kind of teeth does it have?



Good for hooking small things

4



Tiger sharks eat



What do you think your favorite shark eats?

Answers: 1.d; 2.b; 3.a; 4.c

All Photos: Seapics.com, Plankton: Peter Parks, Great White Teeth: Andy Murch, Whale Shark Teeth: Jonathan Bird, Whale Shark: Amar and Isabelle Guillen, Nurse Shark Teeth: Bob Cranston, Nurse Shark: Mar Strickland, Tiger Shark Teeth: Kike Calvo, Tiger Shark: David B. Fleetham

Celebrating SHARKS

By Brian Skerry

New England Aquarium Explorer in Residence
and *National Geographic* photographer

Lying in water only a foot deep, I watched the lemon shark pup meander lazily through the mangroves, already exuding the confidence inherent in a supreme creature within its domain. It was hot in Bimini, nearly 100 degrees, and mosquitoes were thick and relentless, swarming onto any bare skin. By slipping my head just inches below the water's surface I had entered another realm. I was absolutely transfixed watching these little sharks, perhaps 12 to 18 inches long, swim beneath mangrove roots and over the muddy bottom with impressive deftness.



Hammerhead shark at sunset

A lemon shark, perhaps one year old, swims within its mangrove nursery.



A diver swims with large tiger sharks.

It was a shark scene quite unlike any others I had observed before, baby lemon sharks living within their mangrove nurseries, and an experience that was as fascinating to me as any encounter with bigger sharks in open water. As I lay there wearing only a wetsuit, mask and snorkel I thought about how vital this fragile ecosystem was for sharks and how crucial sharks are for the health of the world's oceans.

Like many divers, I have fallen under the spell of sharks, wanting to spend time with them whenever possible and never tiring of their special blend of grace and power. Even these tiny lemon pups, only a few months old, possessed such qualities, and I was quite content lying in that shallow water for hours on end just watching them move.

My first encounters with sharks were with blues nearly 30 years ago in the waters off New England. These were exhilarating days filled with anticipation as I steamed offshore and spent hours drifting in the chilly water, watching stunning indigo blue animals nosing through the water. Experiencing one-on-one encounters with those sharks had me hooked, and like an addict I wanted more. So as the voyage of my career got underway, I steered it toward sharks as often as I could.

Not too long ago, the notion of swimming with sharks was viewed as dangerous and something only a daredevil or fool might consider doing. But over the course

of the last few decades such views have changed as divers began having more shark experiences and realizing that such encounters are a privilege.

To experience a shark underwater within its domain is to see an animal that is supreme and perfect for the habitat in which it lives. The body and form of each species (more than 400) has been sculpted by eons in the sea to be flawless and ideally suited to hunt and dominate in all ecosystems.

Reef sharks have stout bodies with short pectoral fins that are perfectly designed for hunting on coral reefs, while blue sharks are designed like glider aircrafts with long fuselage-like bodies and wing-like pectorals made for cruising long distances in pelagic waters. Whale sharks, makos and horn sharks, too, have all adapted to thrive within their specific realm. Each species is unique, each a jewel of evolution.

I have had countless magical shark encounters around the world with great whites, tigers, bulls, blacktips, great hammerheads and more. And I believe that I am better for having such experiences, finding myself as respectful of and fascinated by these animals as ever. It has been said that sharks have remained unchanged for hundreds of millions of years because they are perfect and no further evolutionary change is necessary. A few days in the company of any shark is all that is required to know this is true.

Membership

Has Its Privileges

Your membership comes with a host of great benefits. Here's a springtime reminder of everything you can take advantage of this year!

Free Admission

You get express admission every time you come to the Aquarium! You're invited to member-exclusive events like Dive In! and you get a subscription to *blue*, our quarterly members' magazine, and *SeaMail*, our monthly members' e-newsletter.

Discounted Purchases

If you bring more guests than your membership level allows, the additional guests get discounted admission. You also get discounts on Harbor View Café and Gift Shop purchases, fees at many area parking facilities, IMAX and Whale Watch tickets and rates for Aquarium educational programs.

Special Opportunities

Members get the first opportunity to register for Harbor Discoveries Summer Camps, and only members are able to join the New England Aquarium Dive Club—one of the world's oldest, largest and most active dive clubs!



Amy Kelly Photography

NAVIGATOR Society

Families and Friends Evening

Navigator Society members, their families and special invited guests celebrated an evening of adventure at the New England Aquarium on November 12, 2010, in appreciation of their generous financial contributions to support Aquarium operations.

More than 280 guests attended this year's event and enjoyed a family friendly buffet dinner served around the exhibits.

A special thank you goes out to those who helped make this evening a success. We are grateful to their support of the Aquarium and their pledge to live blue™!

The New England Aquarium's Navigator Society is a community of dedicated supporters who share a commitment to preserving and protecting the blue planet. Consider joining today for a chance to take part in this and other special evenings throughout the year! For more information, call 617-226-2142.

Go to www.neaq.org/navigator to learn more about the Navigator Society.



Gift Membership

Something for Mom, Dad or Your Graduating Senior

Give the gift of membership, with all its benefits, as a Mother's Day, Father's Day or graduation gift. A gift of membership is more than a present, it's a year of family bonding, entertainment and education.

Sponsor an Aquarium Animal

Honor your own parent or show your graduate that you're a proud parent by giving a Proud Parent sponsorship. By sponsoring a shark, seal, sea turtle or penguin, you help us feed and care for the animal of your choice. Sponsorship comes with a fact sheet, a photo certificate, a window cling and more.

SeaMail

Don't Miss Out on One of Your Best Benefits!

Each month, our Aquarium members are kept up-to-date on all of the happenings with our members' e-newsletter, *SeaMail*. Enjoy the behind-the-scenes stories and information about upcoming lectures, events and special opportunities by simply sharing your email address with us.

Log on today to www.neaq.org/SeaMail to update or add your email to our address list.



Take the Plunge with New England Dive Club

Of all the benefits of membership, the ability to join the New England Aquarium Dive Club (NEADC) may be the one that gives members the most intimate perspective on the ocean and its animals, and on the Aquarium's iconic Giant Ocean Tank.

The NEADC was incorporated by 60 enthusiastic members in 1976; it has since become the largest dive club in New England and one of the oldest and most active in the world, organizing dives and social events throughout the year.

Members of the NEADC volunteered to help build the first coral reef in the Giant Ocean Tank, and continue to clean the GOT and feed its inhabitants. Members have also assisted during mass strandings of whales and dolphins, and even helped to acquire several cownose rays for exhibit at the Aquarium.

Many club members form deep bonds with the Aquarium. Charlie Benoit joined the NEADC in 2003 to find a dive buddy when his wife, Christina, temporarily stopped diving after they started a family.

Gradually he became more involved in the club and the Aquarium, joining the NEADC board of directors and volunteering for the Aquarium's Rescue and Rehab department. Charlie even made the news in 2007 after he and his nephew Christopher captured a lionfish at the club's Tropical Fish Rescue in Jamestown, RI. No lionfish had ever been documented so far north before.

In 2010 Charlie was selected to accompany Aquarium staff and professors from Roger Williams University on an expedition to the Bahamas to help teach a field research course to marine biology students. Diving is a family affair for the Benois, and sons Thomas, Louis and Henry look forward to the day when they are old enough to volunteer like their dad.

The New England Aquarium Dive Club welcomes divers of all experience levels and is open exclusively to members of the New England Aquarium. Annual dues of \$15 cover an entire member household. www.neadc.org



Dive Club members at a tropical fish rescue event.

New England Aquarium
DIVE CLUB
WWW.NEADC.ORG



April

Celebrate Sustainable Seafood with the Aquarium



The Celebrate Seafood Dinner Series provides a delicious three-course meal, paired with wines, as well as informative and fun cooking demonstrations by our Aquarium and special guest chefs. **Reservations are required.** Call 617-973-5206.

Fee: \$65 for members, \$75 for non-members

Upcoming Dinner: April 12
www.neaq.org/celebratesseafood

Take a Behind-the-Scenes Tour (For ages 5 and up)

Find out what it takes to care for our animals and exhibits. You'll learn what our animals eat, how we maintain their tanks, how we nurse sick animals back to health and other insider tidbits on our behind-the-scenes tour. Tours last 30 to 45 minutes. Book by calling 617-973-5206.

Fee: \$12 for members
\$14 for non-members
(plus Aquarium admission)



4/4-4/11

A member-exclusive preview during regular Aquarium hours

Aquarium members will be among the first to experience the largest shark and ray touch tank on the East Coast!

The New England Aquarium is thrilled to announce the opening of The Trust Family Foundation Shark and Ray Touch Tank. This exciting—truly interactive—new exhibit will feature sharks and rays in a 25,000-gallon tank surrounded by shallow edges and viewing windows, allowing visitors of all ages to experience their own close encounter with these amazing animals.

No reservations required.

May

Aquarium Lecture Series

The Aquarium has been providing free lectures and films by scientists, environmental writers, photographers and others since 1972. Lectures are open to the public but registration is requested. All programs start at 7:00 p.m. in the Aquarium's Harborside Learning Lab, unless otherwise noted.

Here's a sample of upcoming lectures.

Monday, April 4

Corallivore's Dilemma: Understanding the Relationship between Fish and the Corals They Consume

Randi Rotjan, Ph.D., Research Scientist, New England Aquarium

Wednesday, April 6

Counting Seal Pups in the Pribilofs

Patty Schilling, Mammal Trainer, New England Aquarium

Monday, May 2

Getting to Know the Right Whale

Philip Hamilton, Research Scientist, New England Aquarium

The Aquarium Lecture Series is made possible through the generous support of the Lowell Institute

For a full schedule and lecture descriptions, visit us online. www.neaq.org/aquariumlectures



Trainer for a Morning

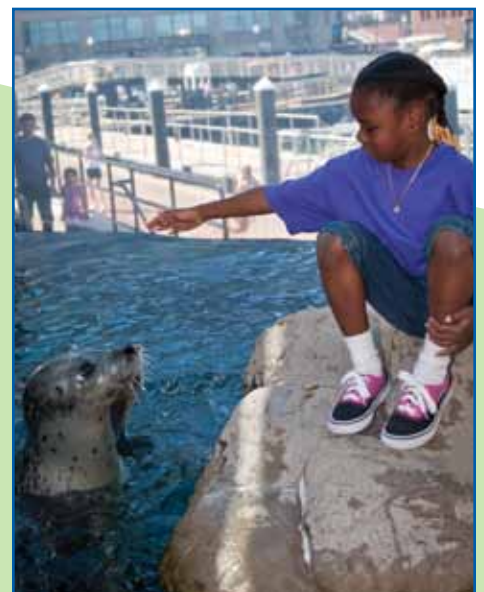
Learn what it's like to work with marine mammals while you observe and/or participate in training sessions at our harbor seal exhibit. Discover the individual personalities of the seals and learn how different training techniques create a successful learning environment.

Fee: \$125 for members, \$150 for non-members (includes Aquarium admission)

Come Play with the Seals!

Our seals love to have fun. Entertain your newest friends with fish popsicles or a water massage and get up close to watch them splash around in the water. No two sessions are alike!

Fee: \$35 for members, \$45 for non-members (does not include Aquarium admission)



Give Your Kids an Underwater Learning Adventure!

Exciting programs with Aquarium educators

Blue Discoveries Family Days • All ages

Learn more about the blue planet through art, science and storytelling. All activities are included with Aquarium admission. Drop in between 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on select days throughout the year.

Friday, April 22: Earth Day Celebration

Sunday, May 15: Whales

Sunday, June 5: World Oceans Day Celebration

FEE: No fee; activities are included with Aquarium admission.

Sea Squirts • Ages 2 – 4

Learn about the blue planet alongside your young child. Each hour-long play program

- Focuses on developing motor and language skills
- Encourages early science skills
- Includes free play, songs, stories, activities, art projects and games

Classes are held in the Aquarium's Ocean Center. Toddler classes are offered for 2-year-olds, and Preschool classes are offered for 3- and 4-year-olds.

FEE: \$50 for members, \$95 for non-members.*

Non-member fee includes Aquarium admission.

Get Outside!

One of the best ways to get to know our blue planet is by exploring the world outside.

Sunday, May 22, 9:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.:

Quincy Salt Marsh and Beach Trip

Saturday, June 18, 10 a.m.–11:30 a.m.:

Belle Isle Salt Marsh Trip

FEE: \$5 per person, does not include Aquarium admission, advance registration is required.

Discovering Environmental Education Pathways (D.E.E.P) Homeschoolers • Ages 6 – 18

New!

These interactive and informative programs are designed for homeschooled students. Each topic is covered over two classes and will include lectures, activities, time in the Aquarium exhibits, journaling and project work. Homework will be assigned. The students will be grouped as Elementary (ages 6 to 9), Junior High (ages 10 to 12) and High School (ages 13 to 18).

Spring Session: Local Legends, Thursdays, 10 a.m. – 12 noon

Rocky Shore: April 14 and 28

Amazing Freshwater Life: May 12 and 26

Salt Marsh Inhabitants: June 9 and 23

FEE: \$90 for each session.*

Call 617-226-2149 or write to kids.ed@neaq.org for more information.

*A \$2 service fee will be added to each ticket.

Visit www.neaq.org/family for program details, dates, prices and more! Call Central Reservations at 617-973-5206 to reserve your space.

June

6/5

World Oceans Day Celebration

Celebrate World Oceans Day with the New England Aquarium.

Check www.neaq.org/family for a schedule of what's happening and for ways you can contribute to our celebration.

6/30

Dive In! A Member-Exclusive Open House 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Your Aquarium, your night. Let us show our appreciation to you, our members. You're invited to join us after hours as we open our doors just for you. Bring your family and friends and explore your favorite exhibits and galleries at your leisure. Space is limited and reservations are required.

Register at www.neaq.org/divein beginning June 14. Questions? Call 617-973-6564.

Renew Now!

Membership prices will be going up April 1. Renew your membership now to enjoy another year of 2010 prices!

SIMONS
IMAX
THEATRE



New England
Aquarium

FILMS

Born to Be Wild 3D

• 40 minutes

Born to Be Wild 3D, an inspiring story of love, dedication and the bond between humans and animals, documents

orphaned orangutans and elephants and the extraordinary people who rescue and raise them—saving endangered species one life at a time. Narrated by Morgan Freeman, this heartwarming adventure transports viewers into the lush rainforests of Borneo and the rugged Kenyan savannah as animals are rescued, rehabilitated and returned to the wild.

Sharks 3D • 42 minutes

Sharks 3D shows sharks as they actually are: not wicked, man-hungry creatures, but wild animals that happen to be the most complex predators on Earth. IMAX 3D brings you into the water with hammerheads, great whites and the biggest fish in the sea—the whale shark.

Dolphins & Whales 3D:

Tribes of the Ocean • 44 minutes

Dive into an immersive adventure with Jean-Michel Cousteau's *Dolphins and Whales 3D*. This film shows small and giant marine mammals, including humpback and sperm whales, orcas and dolphins in the wild, interacting socially, playing, feeding, breeding, migrating and perpetually fighting for survival.

Under the Sea 3D • 45 minutes

Under the Sea 3D will transport you to some of the most exotic and isolated undersea locations on Earth, including Southern Australia and New Guinea, allowing you to experience face-to-face encounters with some of the most mysterious and stunning creatures of the sea.

Patron level members and above receive a select number of one-time-use IMAX e-passes, and all members receive discounts on ticket prices!

TICKETS: Purchase member tickets at any Aquarium ticketing location or by phone at 1-866-815-IMAX (4629).

Films, prices and showtimes are subject to change.

RENTALS: Private screening and facility rentals, call 617-720-5204.

PARTIES: IMAX birthday parties, call 617-973-6508.

Keep checking www.neaq.org for information on our new releases!



New England Aquarium

Central Wharf
Boston, MA 02110-3399

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Exclusive Exhibit Preview for Members! April 4 – 11

Aquarium members and donors are the first to see our new exhibit. Bring your member card to the Aquarium during this exclusive preview period and visit the sharks and rays before the exhibit officially opens.

Exhibit opens to the public April 15

The Trust Family Foundation Shark and Ray Touch Tank is an exciting—truly interactive—exhibit featuring sharks and rays in a 25,000-gallon tank surrounded by shallow edges and viewing windows, allowing visitors of all ages to experience their own close encounter with these amazing animals.



Come See the Whales!

Spring is here, and playful humpback calves and mothers are exploring Stellwagen Bank! Let the experts on the New England Aquarium

Whale Watch take you on a cruise among these magnificent giants. The season starts in early April, so grab a seat and join the search for humpback whales, fin whales and minke whales.

Buy tickets online at www.neaq.org or call 617-973-5206 for reservations.

New England Aquarium Telephone Numbers

General Information: 617-973-5200
Reservations: 617-973-5206
Functions: 617-973-5205
IMAX: 866-815-4629
Marine Animal Stranding Hotline: 617-973-5247
Membership: 617-973-6555
Development: 617-226-2134
Volunteers: 617-973-5235

Web site: www.neaq.org

Follow us on Facebook
(www.facebook.com/NewEnglandAquarium)
and Twitter (www.twitter.com/NEAQ).

Winter Hours

Day after Labor Day – June 30
Monday – Friday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday, and holidays: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Closed Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day
Open at noon on New Year's Day

Summer Hours

July 1 – Labor Day
Sunday – Thursday and holidays: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Friday, Saturday: 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

We welcome your story ideas and suggestions!
Send an email to acortissoz@neaq.org.

Members, keep up with the latest Aquarium news with **SeaMail**, the members-only e-newsletter. Sign up at www.neaq.org/SeaMail.