



**New England
Aquarium**

Central Wharf
Boston, MA 02110-3399

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Come See the Whales!

Spring is here, and playful humpback calves and mothers are breaching in Stellwagen Bank!

Let the experts aboard the New England Aquarium Whale Watch take you on a cruise among these magnificent giants. The season starts in early April. Grab a seat and join the search for humpback whales, fin whales and minke whales in their first performances of the season.

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

Winter Hours

Day after Labor Day – June 30
Monday – Friday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday, 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 neaq.org/seamail.*



**New England
Aquarium**

blue

It's time to live blue.



*Ten breakthroughs made by
Aquarium researchers*

*Kids campaign for right
whale conservation*

*An Earth Day concert with
They Might Be Giants*

Volume 43, Number 2 Spring 2010

In This Issue

Come face to face with manatees at a free family lecture by underwater photographer and explorer Brian Skerry.
page 12



Photo: B. Skerry

Cover Photo:
Queen triggerfish
(*Ballistes vetula*)
Photo: © Doug Perrine /
SeaPics

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@neaq.org

Dive into a sea of resources at 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

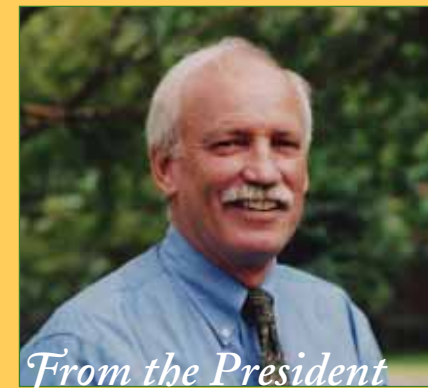
Come to the Simons IMAX Theatre and see *Ultimate Wave Tabiti 3D*.

Explore the Oceans with Us

See live photos from ocean expeditions and watch videos of our animals at 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!



From the President

In this issue of *blue* we want to share some of the groundbreaking research programs underway here at the Aquarium. We will take you beyond the familiar exhibits on Central Wharf to see our work with plants, animals and ecosystems worldwide. These scientific studies provide the building blocks for understanding marine life and some promising tools for protecting the blue planet.

In recent months, Aquarium scientists have helped manufacture experimental dolphin-safe fishing gear in China, document biodiversity in Red Sea coral reefs and successfully breed queen triggerfish from eggs harvested in our own Giant Ocean Tank. Each of our projects contributes to essential ocean conservation efforts.

The Aquarium's Right Whale Research Project is now entering its 30th year. Its work has made the Aquarium a leading force in right whale conservation, and led to new shipping regulations that have significantly decreased the number of whales killed by collisions. Researchers are hopeful that decades of effort may have saved this magnificent animal from extinction.

In late January we had the opportunity to make a special plea for ocean conservation at the World Economic Forum's annual meeting in Davos, Switzerland. A team led by yours truly is advising the WEF on the need for creating large marine protected areas, ending subsidies that cause over-fishing and using market mechanisms to promote sustainable seafood.

Members like you support these important projects, and we're excited to share our research stories with you.

Bud Ris

Bud Ris
President & CEO



Photo: Cape Cod Times

At the Aquarium

Don't blink or you'll miss something at the Aquarium! Visitors will always find excitement here on Central Wharf. Here's a selection of what has kept the Aquarium buzzing recently.

More webbed feet are padding around rockhopper island these days. Six female penguins, ranging in age from 1 to 9 years old, motored from SeaWorld Orlando to the Aquarium this winter. They were released amid much fanfare on December 23—literally. The resident rockhoppers made a racket welcoming the new birds! These six

ladies balance out the male-female ratio, so keep your eye on this active bunch for future courtship!

Across from the penguin pool, the Marine Animal Rescue Team is busy caring for dozens of rescued sea turtles. An influx of ailing turtles arrived with the cold weather, suffering from hypothermia and other symptoms. Rescuers continue to treat lingering infections in the hopes that the Kemp's ridley and green sea turtles will be strong enough to be released back into the wild. Stop by the turtle ward to cheer on their recovery.

In fact, our rescuers have so much experience treating cold-stunned sea turtles that two of them, Connie Merigo and Adam Kennedy, rushed down to Florida after a blast of icy weather chilled thousands of turtles off the Southeastern U.S. coast.

Learn about Connie and Adam's tireless efforts on the Marine Animal Rescue Blog at www.neaq.org/blogs.

—Emily Bauernfeind



One of the new rockhopper penguins waits to join the exhibit.



New England Aquarium Proud Sponsors



Amy Knowlton

Right whale researcher



Huge ocean freighters are no match for Amy Knowlton. Sitting behind a computer in her office on Central Wharf, miles from busy maritime shipping lanes, she is confronting these ships head on in order to save the critically endangered right whale. “Field work is exotic, but sitting at a desk is equally exciting,” she says.

Amy’s hosting of a shipping/right whale workshop in 1997 and her influential 2001 paper on vessel strikes provided indisputable evidence that shipping lanes needed to be rerouted and speed limits enforced to protect critically endangered whales from potentially lethal ship strikes. In this way, she quietly meshes her scientific interests to help inform marine policy through the Aquarium’s Right Whale Research Project, the longest-running and most comprehensive program of its kind.

There are fewer than 450 right whales alive today. They were once hunted for their oil and baleen, but now they face threats from other human activities. Many are injured, sometimes fatally, from the accidental ship strikes Amy has been working to prevent, or from entanglements with commercial fishing

gear and ropes. Protecting right whales requires a delicate balance between the need to protect the whales in their habitat and the needs of people using these busy waters for work and play.

That’s where Amy steps in. For 27 years, she has been on the front lines, working to protect right whales in their habitats through careful scientific study and thoughtful proposals to help these magnificent animals.

Fast-forward to the present: She has a master’s in marine affairs and knows almost all of the North Atlantic right whales by sight. Amy is part of the team that curates the Right Whale Catalog (rwcatalog.neaq.org), organizing and analyzing data that is collected year-round. Scientists worldwide use the Digital Image Gathering and Information Tracking System (DIGITS) database to track individual right whales throughout their lives.

Through analysis of these data, she helped spearhead regulations to reroute shipping lanes and reduce vessel speeds in right whale habitats that were implemented in 2008. She’s not stopping there. “We know that whales become entangled frequently,”

Amy explains. “Over the next two years, we will continue to monitor the impact of entanglements on this whale population by evaluating the parameters of the rope used in fishing gear that are affecting right whales, and what are the consequences.” She hopes that careful study of entanglements can help researchers and the fishing industry together develop fishing gear that is less harmful to right whales.

The right whale population is affected by many human influences—entanglements and ship strikes are just pieces of the puzzle. Slowly, the plight of right whales is snapping into focus thanks to careful, comprehensive analysis.

“I feel incredibly fortunate to piece together the right whale story in a way that captures what is happening to this population,” Amy says. “This species is still on the edge. We have made great strides, but we still have more to do.”

You can support the Aquarium’s right whale research by sponsoring a right whale. Go to www.neaq.org/rwsponsorship for more information.

—Emily Bauernfeind

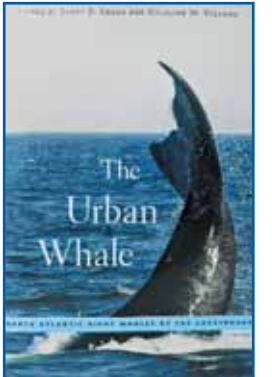


Research for the rest of us

Peer-reviewed scientific journals are a valuable voice for the research community. But they can be a bit heavy. For lighter fare this spring, pick up these reads that artfully weave science and research into engaging narratives. Prepare to impress friends and family at the beach with your knowledge of our blue planet!

The Urban Whale: North Atlantic Right Whales at the Crossroads (2007)

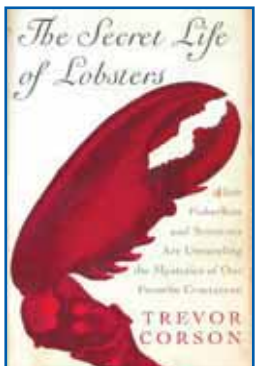
Edited by Scott D. Kraus, Ph.D., and Rosalind M. Rolland, D.V.M.



Modern scientists thought right whales were extinct until 1980, when New England Aquarium researchers spotted 25 right whales in the Bay of Fundy. The sighting electrified the research community, spurring a quarter century of exploration, which is documented in *The Urban Whale*, edited by New England Aquarium Vice President of Research Scott Kraus and Aquarium senior scientist Rosalind Rolland. This spring open your eyes to the underwater world of these great whales. Learn about their behaviors and biology, understand the hazards these whales face in the busy swaths of ocean around East Coast ports and meet some of the scientists who have dedicated their careers to saving this critically endangered population.

The Secret Life of Lobsters: How Fishermen and Scientists Are Unraveling the Mysteries of Our Favorite Crustaceans (2005)

Trevor Corson



Who knew the sex lives of American lobsters could be so interesting? From restaurants to marine laboratories to fishing boats, this book details the life cycle and plight of these clawed crustaceans. Scientists provide insight into the vulnerability of these bottom-feeders, while fishermen on a small island in Maine share the struggles that stem from this line of work. Readers gain new perspective on the clash between industry and conservation through these intertwined story lines. Once you’re hooked on the mysteries of these deep-sea dwellers, you’ll want to learn more about the Aquarium’s Lobster Research Project, including ongoing research on lobster shell disease.

—Emily Bauernfeind

Science in the Blogosphere



Aquarium Expedition Blogs www.neaq.org/blogs

Join Aquarium explorers as they fan out around the world. Read about the adventures of Aquarium Explorer in Residence and *National Geographic* photographer Brian Skerry and see his amazing photos from the field on the Global Explorers Blog. Then, be sure to subscribe to the Bahamas Teen Expedition Blog to follow along with the Aquarium’s new SEA TURTLE program, which teaches 10 teens how to scuba dive in preparation for a dive trip to the Bahamas! Follow along as the teachers and teens blog about scuba certification and their journey to the Bahamas.

Southern Fried Scientist

www.southernfriedscience.com

A cadre of fun and engaged scientists share their passion for the marine world with the masses. All three contributors are graduate students in the Carolinas who write science blogging that trumps Hollywood fiction. They wrote this about the 3D creations in *Avatar*: “You show me any fantastical creature from science fiction, and I’ll show you something from the natural world that makes your alien look like a Care Bear.”

Deep Sea News

www.deepseanews.com

From humble beginnings as an aggregate for marine science research papers, this nautical-themed blog grew to be a voice of public outreach and passion about the unique underwater environments that make up most of our planet. DSN is dripping with interesting characters and the marine science that inspires them. Whether you’re looking for a raucous description of invertebrate breeding behaviors or a fun Friday video of deep-sea sharks, this is a good site to bookmark.



Dining Out for a Better Planet

Adopting a locavore lifestyle—buying food locally and only eating what’s in season—is a great way to save energy. The fewer miles food has to travel, the smaller its energy footprint. Eating sustainable seafood, composting and recycling also make for a more blue planet-friendly meal. These lifestyle changes are a smart idea for a home, but they’re also happening at Boston area restaurants.

Henrietta's Table

1 Bennett St.
Charles Hotel
Harvard Square
Cambridge
617-661-5005

Long before anyone was slinging around the word locavore, Henrietta’s Table was committed to buying local. Their motto is “Fresh from the farm and honest to goodness home cooking.” Chef Peter Davis is committed to finding the best regional and organically grown produce and to supporting products grown using sustainable methods. His food is a contemporary take on classic New England cuisine, and it is simply and elegantly prepared to showcase the freshness of the ingredients.

Taranta

210 Hanover St.
North End, Boston
617-720-0052

Chef Jose Duarte melds the flavors of the Mediterranean with those of his native Peru to create unique, delicious dishes. In addition to emphasizing sustainable seafood, Duarte is committed to running a green business. He converted his truck to run on recycled cooking grease, he recycles and composts, he has eliminated bottled water and installed his own carbonation system and he uses straws made from corn fiber.

—Ann Cortissoz

Ocean-Friendly Tips to the Rescue

As a member of the Aquarium’s Marine Animal Rescue Team, Kate Sardi has been part of the rescue and rehabilitation of hundreds of sea turtles, and she’s helped relocate numerous stranded seals and dolphins. As Kate leaves the Aquarium to become the Northeast Region Sea Turtle Stranding and Disentanglement Coordinator at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), she shares some of her strategies for protecting marine animals.

Gulf shrimp

I never buy Gulf shrimp because of high levels of sea turtle (and other marine life) bycatch.

Six-pack rings

I cut up any six-pack rings (the connectors around a six-pack of cans) because beach life like seagulls can become entangled in them.

Aerobie Frisbee

I never throw an Aerobie Frisbee (the one that’s a ring instead of a solid disk) near or into the ocean because seals get them caught around their necks.

Garbage

When I’m out on a boat, I always pick up garbage I see in the water, especially balloons, trash bags and detached ropes from fishing and mooring lines.



Balloons

I never, EVER let balloons go up in the air because they often end up in the ocean and could be ingested by leatherback sea turtles (since floating balloons look like jellyfish).

“Ghost” gear

When operating a boat, I am very careful not to run over buoys, which could lead to the underlying gear being lost and becoming “ghost” gear. Entanglement in ghost gear is a big problem for both cetaceans (whales, dolphins and porpoises) and seals.



Kate Sardi with a rescued sea turtle.

ROCK YOUR EARTH DAY



Photo: Jayme Thornton

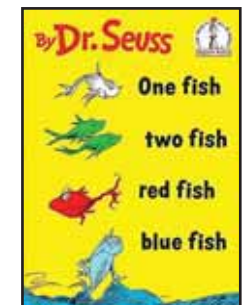
Get in tune with Earth Day by coming to the Rose Kennedy Greenway between the Aquarium and Rowes Wharf April 22 for a free lunchtime concert by They Might Be Giants.

The New England Aquarium is a co-sponsor of the concert, which is presented by 92.5 The River, Boston’s independent and solar-powered radio station. There will be an eco-village with tents and attractions on the Greenway. Citizen Cope will open the show.

Visit www.neaq.org for more information.

Countdown to World Oceans Day

One fish, two fish, red fish ... celebrate all fish on World Oceans Day in June! The theme for this year’s annual celebration of our oceans is One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the publication of Dr. Seuss’s



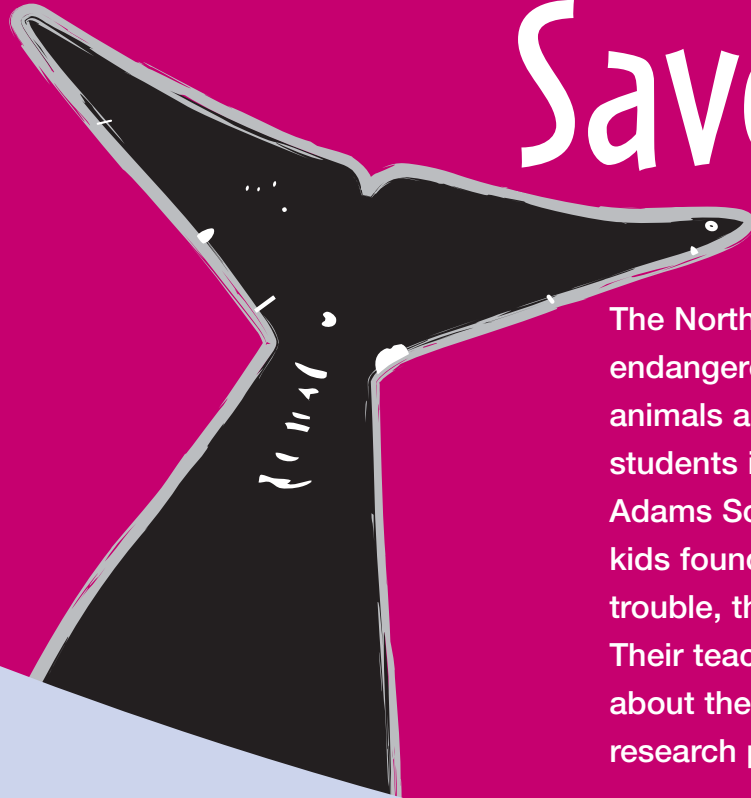
classic children’s book. While living blue is an aspiration for every day, this annual event is a chance to renew your pledge to protect marine environments and encourage others to do the same. Fun-filled activities at the Aquarium will introduce you to funny fish “from here to there” through the creativity of Dr. Seuss’s whimsical characters. Learn something new and reinforce how actions you take on land can affect our oceans. Join the New England Aquarium and aquariums around the world in celebrating World Oceans Day on June 6.

Learn more at www.neaq.org/family.

—Emily Bauernfeind

—Ann Cortissoz and Jeff Ives

Kids Can Save Whales



The North Atlantic right whale is the most endangered whale in the world. These giant animals are getting a big helping hand from students in an animal-welfare club at the Adams School in Castine, Maine. When these kids found out that right whales were in trouble, they wanted to do something to help. Their teacher, Mr. McWeeny, told the students about the New England Aquarium's right whale research program ... and they got to work!



Top: The Calvineers attend Right Whale Day at Buttonwood Park Zoo in New Bedford, Mass. Inset: U.S. Senator Susan Collins with some of the Calvineers in their classroom. Photos: Bill McWeeny

Your Turn!

The Calvineers are doing everything they can to protect the future of right whales right now. You can help protect an animal too! Answer the questions below to get started!

Step 1 Choosing a Mascot and a Motto

The kids learned about one of the whales the Aquarium is tracking. Her name is Calvin. Her mother was killed by a ship strike when she was only 8 months old. The kids named themselves the Calvineers after this young survivor. Their goal is to educate people about how much trouble the whales are in. Their motto is "Endangered Species Recovery Through Education."

Step 2 Sharing the Message

The Calvineers researched Calvin's life and learned everything they could about right whales. They put together a presentation to educate people about right whales. They bring a replica of Calvin to schools, community groups and meetings, where they stand up and give their presentation.

Step 3 Changing the Laws

The Calvineers have such a good presentation that they were invited to speak at a Senate meeting held by one of Maine's U.S. senators, Olympia Snowe. They got a chance to show Maine's other U.S. senator, Susan Collins, how right whales can get entangled in fishing gear. They hope that their talk convinced the senators to vote for laws that will protect right whales.

Step 1: Choose an animal and a group name

What animal do you want to protect?

What will you name your group?

Step 2: Share your message

Why did you choose to protect this animal?

Step 3: Making a difference

What would you like to see done to protect this animal?

—Scott Kraus and Ann Cortisoz

Ten Scientific Successes in New England Aquarium History

When you stop by the Aquarium, you can't miss Myrtle the gigantic green sea turtle or Baranov the massive Northern fur seal, but casual visitors are likely to overlook the mountain of scientific achievement Aquarium researchers have stacked up. It's an impressive list that we're excited to share here, in a behind-the-scenes tour of some of the Aquarium's breakthrough moments.

North Atlantic right whales aren't extinct. (1980)

Thirty years ago Aquarium scientists discovered a small group of North Atlantic right whales summering in the Bay of Fundy. Until that moment, the scientific community believed that the species was extinct. Then, with the help of a group of Delta Air Lines pilots who volunteered time and aircraft, Aquarium scientists established that right whales were calving off the coasts of Georgia and Northeastern Florida. The Aquarium has been working to save right whales ever since.

Shipping collisions and fishing gear entanglements kill right whales. (1990)

Despite being protected from whaling, right whale populations weren't recovering. Nobody was sure why until observations and data from Aquarium scientist Scott Kraus pinpointed the two leading causes of right whale mortality: lethal impact from shipping and fishing gear entanglements.

Pingers can prevent dolphins and porpoises from getting entangled in gillnets. (1994)

A study led by Aquarium scientist Scott Kraus found that equipping gillnets with acoustic deterrents called pingers reduced porpoise kills by 90 percent. In the following years, pingers were mandated for all gillnet fisheries in the Gulf of Maine, followed by gillnet fisheries in California, Europe and Washington state.

The first aerial surveys of bluefin tuna are done in the Gulf of Maine. (1995)

Aquarium researcher Molly Lutcavage gave tuna spotter pilots GPS data loggers and camera equipment to more accurately assess the numbers of bluefin tuna in the Gulf of Maine. The findings led the U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service to reevaluate the way the tuna are counted.

Shipping lanes are diverted around right whales in the Bay of Fundy. (2003)

Based entirely upon data gathered by Aquarium researchers, Aquarium scientist Dr. Moira Brown teamed up with Irving Oil and the shipping industry to move shipping lanes in the Bay of Fundy, reducing the probability of ships hitting right whales by about 90 percent. It was the first time the International Maritime Organization committed to actions for single-species conservation. Dr. Brown was largely responsible.



Moving shipping lanes has proved to be an effective way to prevent whale deaths from ship strikes.



Fargo the dog sniffs out samples for a whale pregnancy test.

The first pregnancy test for wild whales is performed. (2005)

Aquarium senior scientist Rosalind Rolland developed an entirely new field of health assessment for large whales using fecal hormone metabolites. This led to the first pregnancy test for free-swimming whales.

Federal regulations slow down ships near right whale habitat. (2008)

The U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service passed a series of seasonal regulations to slow ships entering the East Coast ports of the U.S. when right whales are present. This measure is designed to prevent ship kills of right whales, which account for more than 50 percent of all right whales deaths. The regulations derive from a paper written by Aquarium scientist Amy Knowlton (see profile on Page 2). Following petitions from Aquarium scientist Dr. Moira Brown, and based almost entirely on Aquarium data, the International Maritime Organization diverted shipping lanes around another area, the right whale habitat known as Roseway Basin, 40 miles south of Nova Scotia.

Queen triggerfish are hatched in the Aquarium's Giant Ocean Tank. (2009)

Aquarium scientist and Roger Williams University assistant professor Andrew L. Rhyne and Aquarium Director of Research Michael Tlusty were able to hatch queen triggerfish from eggs collected in the Giant Ocean Tank. It was the first time these fish were hatched in captivity. It's a landmark step in ornamental fish conservation.



Illustration: S. Landry



A right whale mother and calf.

Dive In!

Your Aquarium, your night.

On February 17, more than 850 members attended the launch of Dive In! In addition to visiting favorite exhibits without the vacation week crowds, attendees of this member-exclusive, after-hours event enjoyed interactive presentations, engaged with divers in the Giant Ocean Tank and gave valuable feedback to help shape the Membership program.

Check neaq.org/memberevents for upcoming events. 

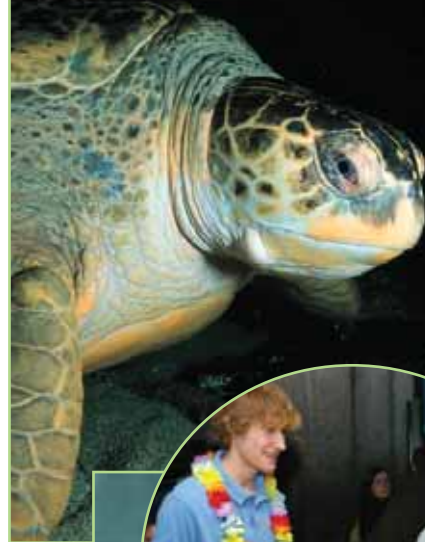


Photo: D. DeLucia



Photo: D. DeLucia



Photo: D. DeLucia

Member Visiting Tips

The weather's getting warmer and the kids are looking forward to school vacation. What better time to immerse yourself in the marine world? With thoughts turning toward April school vacation week and summer visits to the Aquarium, we figured the time was ripe to share a few tips with you, our members, to help make your next visit fabulous fun from start to finish.

Be sure to bring your valid membership card and a picture ID with you when you visit and bypass the lines!

Come straight in to the lobby and check in at the Membership Desk. You'll find yourself gazing into the Giant Ocean Tank in no time!

Need to renew your membership? Do it online!

Visit www.neaq.org/memlevels any time to renew your membership, then just bring your confirmation email with you when you visit!

Plan ahead and purchase your tickets in advance.

Our special venues—like the Simons IMAX Theatre and Whale Watch—can sell out quickly during these busier periods. Order your tickets in advance to ensure you get to do everything you want to do.

Arrive early or later to avoid peak times.

Most visitors arrive in the middle of the day. Beat the crowds by arriving before 10:30 a.m. or after 3:00 p.m.

Take public transportation.

The Aquarium is right on the MBTA's Blue Line, so taking the T is easy. If you do plan to drive in, check out the parking information on www.neaq.org. We do validate at several local garages.



We're Saving Paper ...With E-Passes

We're very excited to announce that in January the Aquarium made the change from sending out paper IMAX passes to our Patron-level and above members to using an electronic pass system. The next time you renew your membership you'll find information in your membership materials explaining that your new e-passes are waiting for you and how to use them. Don't worry! Of course, the paper passes you received this membership year will be honored. See you at the movies!



Happy Birthday to You!

Congratulations to our friends who celebrated their birthdays with us this fall.

November


- Griffin, 3
- Alexander, 6
- Morgan, 8
- Myles, 4
- Angela, 7
- Aidan, 3
- Noni, 7
- Alexa, 4
- Serena, 7
- Dixon, 5
- Maiya, 5

December

- Lili, 4
- Sebastian, 6
- Jack, 5
- Jack, 5
- Klaus, 6
- Marky, 5
- Maya, 4
- Rose, 6
- Grace, 10
- Emma, 6

January

- Jonathan, 5
- Riley, 4
- Teddy, 4
- Victoria, 6
- Alexa, 4
- Adam, 4
- Timothy, 3

Learn more about spending your birthday at the Aquarium at www.neaq.org/birthdays. 

By the Numbers

This issue of blue has been packed with stories about the Aquarium's dedicated researchers. It takes so much to run a research program, with expenses ranging from a pair of gloves to aircraft rental. Here are just a few of the costs of running our research programs.

In the labs

- 1,500 gloves (\$700)
- 6,000 pipettes and pipette accessories (\$850)
- 4,600 bottles, flasks, tubes, plates (\$7,100)
- 13,000 needles/syringes (\$500)
- 170 pounds of lobster feed—cyclopeese and brine shrimp (\$2,000)

Out in the field monitoring right whales

Yearly expenses


- Aircraft rental (\$249,400)
- House rental in Florida (\$18,000)
- Diesel (\$8,562)
- Life raft inspections (\$4,000)

Occasional expenses

- 3 personal locator beacons (\$500 each)
- 2 emergency position-indicating radio beacons (\$1,000 each)
- 2 life rafts (\$3,000 each)
- Satellite phone (\$1,200)
- 2 headsets (\$600 each)
- 6 cameras (\$732 each)
- 6 flight suits for the aerial survey team (\$250 each)
- 7 Mustang anti-exposure suits (\$400 each)
- 4 Mustang immersion suits (\$600)
- Toughbook laptop (\$3,743)

Thank you for your continued support!

Our research efforts—as well as many other Aquarium initiatives—wouldn't be possible without the support of members like you! Any time is a good time to help support the research, education and conservation mission of the Aquarium!

To make your tax-deductible donation and help keep these and all our programs afloat, please visit www.neaq.org/donate. 

Give Your Kids an Underwater Learning Adventure!

Exciting programs with Aquarium educators

Sea Squirts

(Formerly Family Explorers)

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 Explorers is offered for 2-year-olds, and Preschool Explorers is offered for 3- and 4-year-olds.

Fee: \$50 for members, \$95 for non-members. Non-member fee includes Aquarium admission.

Ocean Detectives

Ages 5 – 7

Children will work with parents and peers to unlock the secrets of the deep.

During each class, participants:

- Develop math, science and literacy skills
- Track turtles, study crab movement or look for trends in penguin behavior

Programs take place in the Aquarium's Ocean Center once a month on Saturdays from 2-3:30 p.m.

Fee: \$17 for members, \$30 for non-members*

April 10 – Harbor Exploration

May 1 – Whales

June 5 – Coral Reefs

*A \$2 service fee will be added to each ticket. Non-member fee does not include Aquarium admission. Sign up for three or more Ocean Detective classes and get a \$2 discount per class.

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

SAVE!

Sign up for three or more series at one time and receive a \$2 discount per session.



April

4/13

Celebrate Seafood Dinner
6:30 p.m.

With Guest Chef Greg Griffie of 606 Congress, Boston

Visit www.neaq.org/celebratenseafood to reserve seats. 

4/20 – 4/23

April Aquarium Adventures
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Get up close and personal with the animals living in and around the Aquarium.

Price per child (ages 7 – 9): \$300 for members, \$350 for non-members (includes snack each day)

Reservations: Email kmaboney@neaq.org or call 617-226-2147.

4/21

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. Register online at www.neaq.org/divein. Questions? Call 617-973-6564.

4/22

Earth Day concert with They Might Be Giants
12 noon – 3:00 p.m.

Celebrate Earth Day with a free concert on the Rose Kennedy Greenway between the Aquarium and Rowes Wharf. Visit www.neaq.org for more information.

4/24

Family Adventures: Tidepool Trek
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
East Point, Nahant

Join us as we search the tidepools for hidden treasures. For more information go to www.neaq.org/family.



Photo: B. Skerry

4/19

Face to Face with Manatees
7:30 p.m.
Simons IMAX Theatre

A family lecture by Brian Skerry, National Geographic photographer and New England Aquarium Explorer in Residence

In his lovely new children's book, photographer Brian Skerry brings his encounter with the playful, clumsy manatee to life. The award-winning photojournalist explains why the manatee's world is under threat from pollution and what young environmentalists can do to protect that world. This talk is part of the Aquarium's spring lecture series.

To register go to www.neaq.org/lowelllectures. 

May

5/15

Family Adventures: Up Close with Whales
10:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary

Start the day in the New England Aquarium's Harborside Learning Lab getting an introduction to the world's largest mammals with Aquarium staff members. Then climb aboard the *Voyager III* to observe these magnificent creatures in their natural environment. For more information go to www.neaq.org/family.

June

6/6

World Oceans Day Celebration

Celebrate World Oceans Day and the 50th anniversary of Dr. Seuss's classic children's book *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish* 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.



6/12

Family Adventures: Evening with Horseshoe Crabs
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
South Shore

Horseshoe crabs have been climbing ashore to lay their eggs each spring during the full and new moons for millions of years. Travel through the salt marsh with us in hopes of witnessing this extraordinary event. For more information go to www.neaq.org/family.

6/19

Family Adventures: Coastal Comparison
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Quincy Salt Marsh and Wollaston Beach area

Quincy's shoreline is very close to the city of Boston and offers some unique opportunities to compare and contrast two coastal habitats of New England. With a short trip across a street, we can explore both the muddy salt marsh and the rocky shore. For more information go to www.neaq.org/family.

6/21

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 online at www.neaq.org/divein beginning May 13, 2010. Questions? Call 617-973-6564.

6/22

Celebrate Seafood Dinner
6:30 p.m.

With Guest Chef Michael Leviton of Lumiere, Newton

Visit www.neaq.org/celebratenseafood to reserve seats. 

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 *SeaMail*, our email newsletter. Enjoy the behind-the-scenes stories and information about upcoming lectures and special events by simply providing your email address. We never share email addresses and you can opt out at any time.

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

Films



Ultimate Wave Tahiti 3D

• 42 minutes
Escape to a tropical paradise this winter and catch *The Ultimate Wave Tahiti 3D*, exclusively at the Simons IMAX Theatre! Join the world's best surfers as they swim with sea turtles, humpback whales, sharks and schools of fish in the captivating coastal reefs of Tahiti.

Hubble 3D

• 40 minutes
Blast into orbit with *Hubble 3D*, narrated by Leonardo DiCaprio! Experience a seat-shaking lift-off and float alongside a brave team of NASA astronauts during this family-friendly space adventure as they repair the Hubble telescope—our best link to dazzling distant galaxies.

Under the Sea 3D

• 45 minutes
Transport yourself to some of the most exotic, isolated undersea locations on earth, and encounter mysterious and stunning creatures of the sea. Narrated by Jim Carrey, *Under the Sea 3D* explores the beauty and wonder of the oceans, as well as the impact of global climate change.

Dolphins & Whales 3D: Tribes of the Ocean

• 44 minutes
Dive into an emotional adventure with Jean-Michel Cousteau's *Dolphins and Whales 3D* for a close encounter with the surviving tribes of the ocean. Stunning images captured for the very first time in 3D will allow you to discover their lives and habitats as they have never been seen before.

Patron level members and above receive one-time-use IMAX passes, and all members receive discounts on ticket prices!

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.

- Private screening and facility rentals, call 617-720-5104.
- IMAX birthday parties, call 617-973-6508.

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