

The Volunteer

Spring 2008



**Museum of
Coastal Carolina**



**Ingram
Planetarium**

From the Volunteer Association President

I am so excited about the upcoming year and am looking forward to making 2008 our most successful and productive year on record. Your dedication to the Museum and Planetarium are so appreciated and because of your commitment and the enthusiasm you bring, we will be a successful team. All the upcoming events are listed in the newsletter, so mark your calendars now! I look forward to working with each one of you.

--Mary Ellen Berry

Message From Executive Director-Annual Volunteer Activity Cycles

My interest in trees was piqued again when I took my family for a walk around Lake Waccamaw in January. The vista across the expansive lake was impressive on that sunny, brisk day. I noticed most of the trees still had their leaves. These evergreens continue to make energy from the winter sun, but the deciduous trees lose their leaves to save energy for the next growing season. Later, I was thinking how evergreens and deciduous trees grow together in a mixed forest. The holly trees, palms and pines stay active all year while the neighboring nut trees and hardwoods wait for the weather to change.

The Museum and Planetarium are lucky to have such a talented group of volunteers to assist us throughout the year. The docents, guides, instructors, visitor service desk and gift shop operators are essential to keeping the doors open during the busy summer session. That's when the facilities come to life with more activities, longer hours, and more services for the visitor. But the volunteers in fall-winter-spring are necessary to maintain the live exhibits, serve the visitor on a reduced schedule and help get ready for the next summer season.

There is still another group of volunteers that sometimes support the programs and services during the summer season, but they are most important in governing the operations of our Foundation throughout the year. They are the volunteers on the Ocean Isle Museum Foundation, Inc's. Board of Trustees. Their dedication, experience and guidance are utilized at regular board meetings throughout the year. You may not have had the chance to meet these volunteers, so here is the list of names of your Trustees.

BLYTHE, C.D., Mayor Pro Tem, OIB, Committees: Fund Raising, Legislative Liaison
CHEERS, DARRELL K., Director of Testing & Accountability, Brunswick County Schools, Committees: Programs
DEACON, TOM (Chairman), Retired Businessman, Committees: Personnel, Planetarium Operations, Executive
JEWELL, BOB, Retired Businessman, Committees: Marketing Chair
LASSITER, GINNY, Owner, Sunset River Marketplace, Committees: Marketing
McRAINEY, DIANNE (Secretary), Area Executive of Waccamaw Bank, Committees: Personnel, Programs
MOORE JR., T.K., Retired Textile Engineer, Committees: Facilities & Maintenance Chair
NICHOLSON, FRED, Retired CEO Discovery Place, Committee: Legislative Liaison Chair
O'NEIL, HAYDEN (Chairman Emeritus), Appointed Member, Committees: Executive, Planetarium Operations, Finance
POWELL, DALE, Retired, Committees: Planetarium Operations Chair
ROTHENBERG, JERRY (Treasurer), Retired Attorney, Committees: Fund Raising, Planetarium Operations
STOCKS, DON, Owner, Golf Cart Outlet, Committees: Facilities & Maintenance
THRIFT, JERRY (Vice President), V.P. for Operations Brunswick Community College, Committees: Executive, Personnel Chair
WEIR, ADELE, Retired, Committees: Legislative Liaison, Programs

These fifteen (15) volunteers stay busy supporting and governing the Foundation throughout the year. Although not always noticed, they stay active like the weeping yaupon, red cedar, and juniper trees outside the Museum.

The sun is tracking higher in the sky now; soon the tree buds and flowers will show. The leaves on the locust, turkey oaks, and bald Cypress will come out and start the cycle of photosynthesis again. At the same time the volunteers will be preparing for another great summer season of visitor service.

Thanks to all of you who helped maintain the facilities this winter. Those of you heading north for the summer – have a safe trip and we look forward to seeing you next fall. Those returning to help during the busy summer – get ready for the best season ever! And last, but not least, thanks to the Board of Trustees for your support and governance throughout the entire year.—Scott Kucera

Bird Island Voluntary Warden Team

We recently received a communication regarding setting up a Bird Island Voluntary Warden Team. They are looking for someone in the Sunset Beach area to serve as team leader. Cape Fear Audubon is having an IBA organizational/educational meeting on April 14th. The meeting will be held in Wilmington, probably at Halyburton Park. If you are interested, please contact John Ennis at johnxennis@bellsouth.net.

Ingram Planetarium – Spring programming has started at the Planetarium with a couple of new shows. For the months of March, April and May we will be offering a special 1 pm Matinee called “Fly Me to the Moon” where you take a flight to the moon from an astronaut’s perspective. The matinee has a special admission price of \$5 per person! What a great opportunity to bring your neighbors and friends in to check out our facility.

At 2 pm we will be showing “Search for Life in the Universe”, a multimedia presentation about our fascination with UFOs and the search for life on other planets (regular rates apply).

To round out our schedule, we will continue the children’s favorite at 3 pm, “The Sky Above Mr. Rogers’ Neighborhood”, and our classic star show at 4 pm, “The Sky Tonight at Sunset”.

May 10th, from 7-8 pm, we will celebrate Family Space Day with activities in the Paul Dennis Science Hall, a special presentation about Mercury in our theater, and outdoor telescope viewing (weather permitting) of the Moon, Mars, and Mercury.

Laser shows will return in July and we are now asking everyone to vote on the shows they would like to see. Stop in and check out the great list of programs available and cast your ballot.

Reminder: Mark your calendars for Tuesday, May 6 – 4:00 pm for our annual Spring Appetizer and Wine Meeting. Bring your favorite appetizer to share. Sodas and wine will be provided. Not only do you get the fine fellowship of your fellow volunteers and staff, but all the summer schedule sheets will be available for sign up. This give you the opportunity to pick what days, times, and areas that you want to work at the Museum or Planetarium. Our summer schedule begins on May 27th and ends on September 1st. You can also sign up as a substitute which means you would like to be called when needed. The success of both the Museum and Planetarium depends on your very much appreciated help.

Dates to Remember

- March 22, 2008 – Family Day
- April 24, 2008 – Business After Hours (We will need appetizers for 100 people.)
- May 6, 2008 – Volunteer meeting followed by appetizers and wine – 4 pm
- October 7, 2008 – Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

The Volunteer Association Receives a Big Thank You

The Volunteer Association has received a big “Thank You” from the Hope Harbor Home for the donation of food toward their mission of helping victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in Brunswick County. After the Volunteer Recognition Luncheon in October, we donated the Bar B- Q and other food items we had leftover to them. They were extremely appreciative and grateful for such a community minded organization.

Officers for 2007-08

- President – Mary Ellen Berry
- Vice President – Kerry Kennedy
- Secretary – Judy Sobota
- Lecture Series – Alex Temsick
- Food Committee – Carol Rankin and Diane Middleton

In Memory of
Mary Jo MacDonald
Wesley A. Ballenger
Nellie Westbrook

Our thoughts and prayers are with their families.

Message from Volunteer Coordinator

Thank you for making my first few months as Volunteer Coordinator so pleasant. I've had the opportunity to work with many of you and get to know each of you better.

We still need volunteers! You have done a great job of referring friends, neighbors, and relatives who are interested in becoming volunteers at the Museum or Planetarium. At least a dozen new volunteers have attended volunteer orientation and/or training for new volunteers. Many of these volunteers have already begun giving of their time and talents. Any time you have someone who is interested, please contact me at 579-1016, voicemail #9, or at my museum cell, 910-512-4515. You may also reach me via email at laura@museumofcc.org. Thanks for everything you do for the Museum and Planetarium.

Volunteer Hours: Be sure to sign in the hours you work in the Volunteer Hours book at the Visitor Services desk at each facility.

Food Committee Carol Rankin & Diane Middleton. Thanks to Jackie Pickup and all the volunteers who bring baked goods for the lectures.

-Laura Frye

Education: We are gearing up for field trips and summer programming in the education department at the museum. Thanks to those of you that came to our field trip training meeting. If you did not make it and want to be sure you are on the field trip volunteer list, please call Allison at 910-579-1016.

Summer programming is underway. Family programming will be Monday through Friday at 3:30. We need volunteers for the following programs:

1. Monday: Boats, Flags, and Knots: Family activity about boats and navigation. Ever wonder what "red, right, return" means? We need a volunteer to teach this and navigation tools. The families will make a craft with boating flags and/or knots. Allison has the information if you are interested.
2. Tuesday: Thanks to Ida Moon for continuing her wonderful Barrier Island and Ocean Reef galleries tour with family activity.
3. Wednesday: Thanks to Judy Sobota for keeping our swimmers safe with her Surf Smarts Program.
4. Thursday: Due to popular demand we continue our Megabites program. The families go to the Changing Tides gallery, dig for sharks teeth in the pit, and then identify shark teeth in the Lecture Hall. If anyone is interested in leading this program, please contact Allison.
5. Thursday morning at 10:30 will be geocaching. Allison currently does this program, but if you are interested, please contact her and she will train you.
6. Friday: Thanks to Jodie Alexander for continuing the ever popular Touch Tank Feeding.

Family Day March 22, 2008

Family Day 2008 is fast approaching. Plans are being finalized and volunteers are signing up to help with this day of learning, eating, playing games, and just plain having fun for the entire family.

We will have our ever popular bake sale, great hotdogs from Salty McDoogles, popcorn, face painting, temporary tattoos, shark tooth hunt, a new fun craft making Ocean Sea Bottles, and numerous other activities.

We need your help. It would be wonderful if everyone could bring a bake sale item. All items need to be delivered to the Museum by 4:00 pm on Friday or by 9:30 am on Saturday. Volunteers are needed to help at almost every station from food sales to duck bobbing to ticket taking. Please call Laura Frye at 579-1016, or stop by the Museum and sign up on the sheet hanging on the Volunteer bulletin board in the office behind the gift shop. Thank you very much for any help you can give us.



at the
Ingram Planetarium
The Village at Sunset Beach
(behind Food Lion)
910-575-0033

Spring hours: Friday & Saturday 12:30—4:30 p.m.
(No admission necessary to enter gift shop)



at the Museum of Coastal Carolina
21 East Second Street
Ocean Isle Beach
910-579-1016

Spring hours: Friday & Saturday 10 a.m.—4 p.m.
(No admission necessary to enter gift shop)

Museum of Coastal Carolina
Ingram Planetarium
21 East Second Street
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469

Galaxy Gifts and Nature's Treasures Gift Shops—Spring is here and stocking the gift shops for the summer has begun. New Items are arriving to help fill the empty shelves. Each time volunteer, be sure to look around the shops for new items so you will be prepared to help our customers.

Pricing has changed on a few of our standard items, so be sure to check price tags rather than relying on memory. There is back stock for many items in our inventory so if you see something getting low on the shelves, be sure to look in the drawers and cabinets to see if there is any additional stock to be put out.

Last but not least, remember volunteers always get a 15% discount off all regularly priced items in both gift shops. We truly appreciate your help and your support, so shop, shop, shop!

Lynn

Memberships are great gifts for the whole family! Call Deb Boyce for more information. Back by popular demand, we are once again offering Individual Memberships, so if you have family or friends who would like one of these, please let them know.

