

OCA News Splash!

February, 2015

Your TYO Campaign

Photo Contest Art Exhibit in Sacramento

After much anticipation, our exhibit of ocean and coastal photos, children's art, and poetry is going up on the wall outside the Governor's office on Monday, February 9th. We're only allowed one week so we have to take it down on Friday the 13th. Let all your friends in the Sacramento area know! Miho Umezawa miho@thankyouocean.org

Your OCA

Three Upcoming Marine Protected Area Webinars!

Your Ocean Communicators Alliance (OCA) has developed Marine Protected Area (MPA) Docent Training Handbooks and are putting on three webinars:

- South Coast MPA Docent Training Handbook Webinar: Wednesday, February 4th, 2015 from 3 - 4pm. Register [here](#).
- North Coast MPA Docent Training Handbook Webinar: Tuesday, February 10th, 2015 from 11am- noon. Register [here](#).
- North Central Coast MPA Docent Training Handbook Webinar: Thursday, February 12th, 2015 from 3 - 4 pm. Register [here](#).
- Central Coast MPA Docent Training Handbook Webinar: Completed. You can see the webinar recording and handbook on the [OCA Toolkit page](#).

All three webinars will have the same format and walk through the newly developed *MPA Docent Training Handbooks* and are geared towards docents and naturalists, staff who run docent and naturalist programs, and anyone who is interested in communicating more effectively about MPAs. Please share this event to your colleagues and volunteers that might be interested. Feel free to contact Miho Umezawa: miho@thankyouocean.org or 916-905-5649 if you have any questions. Hope you can make it!

Calling All OCA Members

Welcome Back to OceanSpaces!

It's going to be another productive year -- thanks to you -- of cutting-edge science, inspiring stories, and new partnerships. Dive back in to OceanSpaces to see what you've been missing. Not a member yet? Join [here](#) and start sharing your ocean work with peers. Do you have a can't-miss news item? A recently-launched project? Is your profile up to date? Don't forget to add a picture, your projects, and more. To learn more about creating content on OceanSpaces see the member [basics FAQ](#) or visit

your [profile](#) to get started. Laurel Kellner laurel.kellner@calost.org

Save the date for May Conference!

CalCoast is working with universities, state agencies and local government to organize a conference in San Diego on May 26-28 (tentative) that will focus on sea level rise (SLR), LCPs, grants, implementation and other issues related to SLR and LCPs. The purpose of the conference is to help local government prepare for SLR, which guidances to follow, how to prepare LCPs or LCP updates that deal with SLR, and other assistance, including available grants. STAY TUNED FOR UPDATES!

steveaceti@calcoast.org

Fun Video PSA Shares Important Message about Energy Savings, Rebates

No one should have to work this hard to save energy and money! Check out the lengths this family goes to! This fun Public Service Announcement from The Bay Foundation (TBF) is part of a Community Partnership Outreach grant from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) to TBF, and is directed by filmmaker Ricky Qi: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VyVgp2KZYX0>. If you emitted at least a chuckle, we hope you will please Share, Like or Tweet it! Two more PSAs will follow over the next 3 months from director Ryan Maples. Also as part of the grant, and announced in last month's OCA News Splash, we'd also appreciate your taking, and sharing, a *very brief survey* (less than 2 min.) to help us get a sense of your water/energy conservation habits and knowledge: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HTP65YN>. Thank you! Julie Du Brow jdubrow@santamonicabay.org

Volunteer at San Francisco International Ocean Film Festival!

February 27 - March 2, 2015, Cowell Theater Fort Mason, San Francisco
During the five-day festival we need a multitude of helping hands to support a myriad of needs. As a volunteer you get a chance to not only be back stage, behind the scenes, but you have the opportunity to support the efforts of the festival in helping us bring some amazing films to the big screen. We couldn't do it without your help! The [online sign-up sheet](#) for Festival Operation Volunteers is now open! Contact: Hayley Carter hayley@oceanfilmfest.org

When Filing Your Taxes, You Can Help Sea Otters Too!

OCA members, help us get the word out! For those early tax filers, remember that the CA Sea Otter Fund tax check off has been on state income tax forms since 2007. In 8

years the Fund has raised nearly \$2.4 million. The funds are used to go towards research, education, and conservation efforts to assist in the recovery of sea otters in California. Every little contribution helps and it serves as a critical funding source for sea otter conservation, research, and education efforts in California. For more information, visit: <http://www.seaotters.org/checkoff/>. Jim Curland, Friends of the Sea Otter. Jim Curland jcurland@seaotters.org

NOW! Tickets ON SALE for the 12th Annual San Francisco International Ocean Film Festival!

February 27 - March 2, 2015, Cowell Theater Fort Mason, San Francisco
The San Francisco International Ocean Film Festival (SFIOFF) is proud to be North America's premier film event for ocean-related independent films. The SFIOFF showcases inspiring, carefully curated independent films—documentaries, narratives, shorts, animation, full-length—from around the world that spotlight all aspects of our Blue Planet. See the full 2015 film lineup [here!](#) [Get information about pricing and ticket purchase.](#) Contact: Hayley Carter hayley@oceanfilmfest.org

Coastal Science Explorations with NOAA and NatureBridge – June 25-27, 2015

Three days of outdoor hands-on science learning in Marin County, California. This workshop will be great for your teaching and fun for you! We will explore three beautiful coastal parks – China Camp State Park, Marin Headlands, and Point Reyes National Seashore – to study the San Francisco Estuary and Pacific Ocean. At the end of the workshop, teachers will feel more confident in their ability to incorporate citizen science projects into their classrooms and connect their in-class and outdoor learning. Links to the Next Generation Science Standards will be made throughout the course. \$125 stipend available on completion. [Apply now!](#) For more information, [please visit our website](#) or contact Estrella Risinger erisinger@naturebridge.org or 415-754-9022. jennifer.stock@noaa.gov

News for You

FLOW with Amigos de Bolsa Chica

FLOW (Follow and Learn about the Ocean & Wetlands) is [Amigos de Bolsa Chica's](#) Citizen Science Program. Participate in the collection of scientific data, learn more about coastal ecology, and get involved in environmental quality monitoring efforts. We're accepting applications for school groups to visit the wetlands; free transportation is available for a limited number of applicants. Meetings occur every Friday (times depend upon the tide) at the Huntington Beach State Beach Visitor Center. Anyone interested in becoming a Citizen Scientist with FLOW is encouraged to contact flow@amigosdebolsachica.org. Terri Bidle programs@amigosdebolsachica.org

Two Laguna Beach Restaurants Present Check For \$10,000 to the Pacific Marine Mammal Center During Sea Lion Release Into the Pacific Ocean

The Deck on Laguna Beach, together with The Bungalows at Pacific Edge Hotel, and the recently opened Driftwood Kitchen, raised \$10,000 to benefit Laguna Beach-based Pacific Marine Mammal Center at the 2nd Annual "Sip & Shuck" fundraiser. On Tuesday, January 27, 2015, Restaurant Director of Operations John Nye and Executive Chef Rainer Schwarz presented a check to the [Pacific Marine Mammal Center](#) in conjunction with the release of Holly, a now-healthy sea lion, back into the Pacific Ocean. Holly was rescued on 12/14/14 and was released after 5 weeks of rehabilitation.

ABC 7: [http://abc7.com/pets/marine-center-receives-\\$10k-to-help-sick-sea-lions/493793/](http://abc7.com/pets/marine-center-receives-$10k-to-help-sick-sea-lions/493793/) Daniela Moore dmoore@pacificmmc.org

Top Videos on OceanSpaces

Do you love surfing, diving and more? Tune into these Top Videos on [OceanSpaces](#) -- and join to add one of your own! Catch a wave with the [San Francisco International Ocean Film Fest](#), have a close encounter with a [fried egg jelly](#), go diving with [Reef Check California](#), and hear why [marine parks](#) are important to our coast. Laurel Kellner laurel.kellner@calost.org

The National Marine Sanctuary System: The Once and Future Promise of Comprehensive Ocean Governance

Jason Patlis, president and CEO of the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, has authored an article published in the Environmental Law Reporter, entitled *The National Marine Sanctuary System: The Once and Future Promise of Comprehensive Ocean Governance*. [A link to the article online is here](#). The article offers a wide-ranging comparative analysis on the various legal regimes that exist to govern U.S. ocean resources, including statutes enacted by Congress, executive orders, and state laws. The article also suggests that the nation is on the cusp of a new era in bottom-up, grassroots ocean stewardship. With the recent NOAA rulemaking to open the door for [new nominations of national marine sanctuary designations](#) for the first time in 20 years, there is a unique, unprecedented opportunity to engage communities across the nation in ocean stewardship. Katie Zacharkiw katie@nmsfocean.org

Southern California Marine Mammal Workshop Highlights Plight of Vaquita

More than 120 attended the [Southern California Marine Mammal Workshop](#) January 30 and 31, organized for and by marine mammal researchers to foster discussion and collaboration within the Southern California research community. Sponsored by Pacific Life Foundation, the workshop covered "Bycatch in California", "The Effects of Seasonal

to Decadal Climate Variability on Marine Mammal Habitat”, “One Health: Marine Mammals and Humans Facing Similar Challenges in a Changing World” and “Social Media as a Tool for Change.” Another topic of primary interest was “Vaquita”, a discussion of what can be done locally to promote vaquita conservation. [Vaquita](#), a rare Gulf of California porpoise, is estimated at only 97 remaining individuals, threatened with extinction unless radical action is taken. Sarah Wilson sarahw-thankyouocean@hotmail.com

Seeking Director of Extension; California Sea Grant

The California Sea Grant College Program (CASG) (<http://csgc.ucsd.edu/>) seeks a resourceful, innovative professional to appoint to the new position of Director of Extension, based in La Jolla, California at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. The Extension Director will work closely with the Sea Grant Director to develop, generate support for and shepherd the various extension/outreach programs in which CASG engages. Candidates must have a Ph.D. or equivalent in marine or environmental science, or a related field. Applications due by February 20, 2015. View the complete job description and application requirements at:

<http://www.csgc.ucsd.edu/ABOUTUS/AcademicRecruitment2014.htm> Caitlin Coomber ccoomber@ucsd.edu

Mark Your Calendar

Now- Mar, 2015: Whale Watch with Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

DAILY! Go to sea any day of the week through the end of March in search of migrating Pacific gray whales and a host of other marine life, such as dolphins, seals and sea lions. Whalewatch naturalists, trained by CMA and the Los Angeles Chapter of the American Cetacean Society, lead two-to-three-hour boat trips from various landings. Join the fun by calling Cabrillo Whalewatch at 310-548-7770, Tuesday through Friday, 8:30am to 1pm. Fee: Varies by landing; contact Cabrillo Whalewatch or visit our website: www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org. Juliette McAllister juliette.mcallister@lacity.org

Feb 4: Lecture: Russ Parsons and Anya Fernald at Aquarium of the Pacific

Topic: The Future of Food: Reinventing American Meat, 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

This talk is the second in an ongoing series hosted by *Los Angeles Times* Food Editor Russ Parsons called The Future of Food. Anya Fernald has been a regular judge on the Food Network’s *Iron Chef America* since 2009. She is the co-founder and CEO of Belcampo Inc. Together they will discuss humane organic meat farming and butcher shops, the slow food movement, and agritourism. Cost: \$10 for the public, \$8 for Aquarium members; \$35 for the public and \$32 for members for four events in this series (includes parking). Location: Aquarium of the Pacific, 100 Aquarium Way, Long Beach, CA 90802 Info: 562-590-3100 or aquariumofpacific.org Adrian Samora ASamora@LBAOP.ORG

Feb 7: Free Public Tour with Amigos de Bolsa Chica

Join the [Amigos de Bolsa Chica](#) for a free tour of the wetlands on Saturday, February 7th. Led by docents, participants will learn about the birds, endangered species, history, ecology, and restoration of the wetlands. The tour runs from 9-10:30am and departs every 15 minutes from the footbridge in the South Parking Lot of the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve (across the street from the State Beach entrance). Angelique Crest crest.angelique@gmail.com

Feb 7, 14, 21, 28: "Talk and Walk": All About the La Jolla Harbor Seals with The Seal Conservancy of San Diego

Every Saturday at 2 pm in February and March during the pupping season. Meet at Mangelsen's Images of Nature Gallery, 7196 Girard Avenue, La Jolla. \$10 donation. Sealconservancy.org. Ellen Shively ellenshively@sbcglobal.net

Feb 7-28: The Pacifica Beach Coalition Beach Cleanups

Feb 7: Rockaway Beach 9am to 11am. Meet at corner of North Beach parking lot West on Rockaway Beach Ave, first right on Old County Rd, left on San Marlo Way. Meet at corner of lot by sea wall and hotel. Feb 10: 4.30pm to 6pm. Meet at top of ramp on Esplanade Ave, by Lands End apartments. Feb 14: Sharp Park Beach. Meet at corner of Beach Blvd and Clarendon from 9am to 11am. Feb 21: Linda Mar State Beach. Meet by parking lot near Taco Bell from 9am to 11am. Feb 28: Mussel Rock car park on Westline Drive by second entrance to Allied Waste transfer station from 9am to 11am. Feb 28: Pillar Point. We will meet in front on the RV park, on the Coastal Trail, just North of Surfer's Beach. 9am to 11am. [Sign up here](#). www.pacificabeachcoalition.org for more information.

Feb 10: Lecture and Book Signing: Ellen Prager, "The Shark Whisperer" at Aquarium of the Pacific

7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m., marine scientist Ellen Prager will discuss and sign copies of her latest book, *The Shark Whisperer*, the first in a five-part series of adventure novels for young adults. She will explain how some of her own adventures in marine science were incorporated into the book and provide a sneak peek at what's to come in the next books in the series. Cost: \$5 for the public, and free for members, teachers, seniors (62+), and students with valid ID and advance reservations. Location: Aquarium of the Pacific, 100 Aquarium Way, Long Beach, CA 90802. Info: 562-590-3100 or aquariumofpacific.org Adrian Samora ASamora@LBAOP.ORG

Feb 12: Santa Cruz Redwoods National Monument Campaign Kick-off

Come learn about the campaign to transform the Coast Dairies property on Santa Cruz' north coast into the Santa Cruz Redwoods National Monument – protecting watersheds flowing to Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary - at a kickoff event featuring former Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt and US Rep. Anna Eshoo. [Event details](#). Dan Haifley dhafley@oneillseaodyssey.org

Feb 14: Valentine's Day Late Night at Aquarium of the Pacific

6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m., celebrate Valentine's Day with someone special or the whole family at the Aquarium of the Pacific. The Aquarium will be open until 9:00 p.m. on Valentine's Day and will feature a unique, one-stop Valentine's Day experience. Admission after 6:00 p.m. is just \$14.95. Explore the Aquarium at night with its elegant lighting and the opportunity to see the nighttime activities of the animals. The Pacific Collections gift store will be featuring a selection of plush baby seals, polar bears, penguins, and other stuffed animals and jewelry for that perfect gift. Admission: \$14.95 after 6:00 p.m. (free for children under age three and Aquarium members) Location: Aquarium of the Pacific, 100 Aquarium Way, Long Beach, CA 90802 Info/Tickets: www.aquariumofpacific.org / 562-590-3100 Adrian Samora ASamora@LBAOP.ORG Photos: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/8ybifge2h83u0zh/AABOCGS7GcUTFy9dhXxbPYpNa?dl=0>

Feb 14: Sequoia Creek Cleanup with OceanBlueProject

OceanBlueProject, invites you to participate in the Sequoia Creek Cleanup in conjunction with American Rivers' National River Cleanup™. Join us on February 14, 2015 1pm to 3pm for a fun day of removing tons of trash from our Urban Stream, before it gets washed into the Willamette River. Visit www.AmericanRivers.org/cleanup to sign up For more information contact OceanBlueProject, or view our cleanup information at www.OceanBlueProject.org Richard Arterbury oceanblueproject1@gmail.com

Feb 14,15: "Whale of a Weekend" with Heal the Bay

Celebrate the annual migration of the Pacific gray whale at Heal the Bay's Santa Monica Pier Aquarium during "Whale of a Weekend," February 14th & 15th. Whale-themed activities will be ongoing both days from 12:30 to 5:00 p.m. at the marine science center, 1600 Ocean Front Walk, located beach level at the Pier. The Pacific gray whale completes one of the longest migrations of any species, traveling as many as 14,000 miles round trip between the arctic seas and the warm lagoons of Baja California, Mexico. This migration takes the whales past the Santa Monica Pier -- sometimes within viewing distance from the west end observation deck. Aquarium visitors can feel the heft of a whale rib, check out bristly baleen and try on a layer of (simulated) whale blubber for warmth. Learn more interesting facts about these gentle giants through story time, film screenings and presentations about the gray whale's migration habits.

The Aquarium will staff a wildlife observation station at the west end of the Santa Monica Pier. Those who stop by are welcome to spy for whales through binoculars and field guides will be available to identify local birds and other marine life. More

information is available at <http://www.healthebay.org/event/whale-weekend-day-one> or call [310-393-6149](tel:310-393-6149). Randi Parent rparent@healthebay.org

Feb 18: Lecture and Book Signing: Gary Griggs, “California Coast from the Air: Images of a Changing Landscape” at Aquarium of the Pacific

7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. In a state identified with change, California's 1,100-mile coastline lives up to the reputation. Storm waves attack sea cliffs, earthquakes trigger landslides, and ocean waves relentlessly move sand along the shoreline, bringing it and taking it away. Gary Griggs will discuss how over the past century, humans have changed the coast in significant ways, particularly in Southern California, where extensive stretches of coast have been completely altered. Cost: \$5 for the public, and free for members, teachers, seniors (62+), and students with valid ID and advance reservations. Location: Aquarium of the Pacific, 100 Aquarium Way, Long Beach, CA 90802 Info: 562-590-3100 or aquariumofpacific.org Adrian Samora ASamora@LBAOP.ORG

Feb 21, 22: African-American Festival at Aquarium of the Pacific

9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Join the Aquarium of the Pacific as it hosts its thirteenth annual African-American Festival, celebrating the rich diversity of African-American and African cultures. The weekend will feature live entertainment, arts and crafts, ethnic food, and more. Festival performers include Mardi Gras second line dancers, hip hop and break dancers, tap dancers, jazz musicians, interactive drum circles, West African dancers, and storytellers. Cost: General Admission--\$28.95 adult (12+), \$25.95 senior (62+), \$14.95 child (3-11), and free for children under age three and Aquarium members. Location: Aquarium of the Pacific, 100 Aquarium Way, Long Beach, CA 90802. Info/Tickets: 562-590-3100 or www.aquariumofpacific.org Adrian Samora ASamora@LBAOP.ORG

Feb 22: Complete Whale Watch with Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

Join us on a fun-filled adventure that begins with an entertaining educational slide show, presented by Larry Fukuhara, Programs Director at the Aquarium. Then board a whale watch boat in search of the migrating Pacific gray whale. Two “Complete Whale Watch” excursions are scheduled for 2015: Sunday, February 22 and Sunday, March 29. Don't miss your opportunity to enjoy this magnificent journey. This special excursion will conclude at approximately 12 noon. Cost is just \$25 (\$20 for FRIENDS member). Reservations are required. www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org. Juliette McAllister

juliette.mcallister@lacity.org

Feb 26: Off the Reef Opening Night Gala, San Francisco International Ocean Film Festival, San Francisco Maritime Museum

Join us Opening Night at the San Francisco Maritime Museum for an evening of delectable tastings from renowned Bay Area chefs and wineries, sneak previews of ocean-inspired films, and the chance to meet filmmakers from around the world! [Buy tickets here](#). Hayley Carter (hayley@oceanfilmfest.org)

Feb 27: “Think Beyond Plastic” Innovation Showcase on Capitol Hill

Think Beyond Plastic™ is committed to disruptive innovation that addresses the problem of ocean plastics -- the direct result of plastic pollution. Towards that goal, and with the support of members of the Congressional Ocean taskforce, [Think Beyond Plastic](#) is hosting an Innovation Showcase on Capitol Hill on February 27, 2015 at Rayburn House Office Building. The theme is “Addressing Ocean Plastic through Innovation and Entrepreneurship.” The event will feature innovations and solutions that address plastic pollution with special focus on ocean plastics. For more information, please contact Daniella Russo drusso@thinkbeyondplastic.com

Feb 28: Free Bird Talk & Nature Walk with Amigos de Bolsa Chica

Join the [Amigos de Bolsa Chica](#) for a free Bird Talk & Nature Walk on Saturday, February 28th. Considered one of the prime birding sites of Southern California, the Bolsa Chica wetlands is home to over 200 species of birds. The walk takes place from 9-11am and departs from the South Parking Lot of the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve (across the street from the State Beach entrance). Visitors are encouraged to wear comfortable shoes and bring binoculars. Angelique Crest crest.angelique@gmail.com

Feb 28: Native Plant Gardening with Amigos de Bolsa Chica

On the 4th Saturday of each month, come join the [Amigos De Bolsa Chica](#) for cleaning, gardening and planting at the Bolsa Chica State Beach Visitor Center. Volunteer hours are from 9am -12noon. Located just north of the entrance to BC State Beach, across from BC Ecological Reserve South parking lot. Wear closed shoes. Tools and instructions are provided. Come help make a difference in your local community and wetlands! Call [714-840-1575](tel:714-840-1575) for more information or to RSVP.

Feb 28, Mar 1: Tidepool Wonders with Cabrillo Marine

Aquarium

Explore an excellent low tide on the rocky shore with Cabrillo Marine Aquarium Saturday, February 28, from 11:30 to 1 p.m. or Sunday, March 1. For reservations, further information, or to receive a calendar of events, please call (310) 548-7562 or visit our website at www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org. Juliette McAllister juliette.mcallister@lacity.org

Ocean Communicators Alliance: "Creating a Strong Voice for the Ocean in California"

The California Ocean Communicators Alliance is a group of more than 300 professionals in ocean-related organizations, agencies and businesses who, in the course of their work, reach millions of Californians with ocean messages. NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, the California Natural Resources Agency and aquarium partners organized and support the California Ocean Communicators Alliance. OCA members collaborate on common ocean messages and promote the Thank You Ocean public awareness campaign.

OCA News Splash! is a way for OCA members to share news electronically.

The items in OCA News Splash! are submitted by individual OCA members, and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries or California Natural Resources Agency.

OCA members: submit your OCA News Splash! items to Sarah Marquis at marquispr@earthlink.net.

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