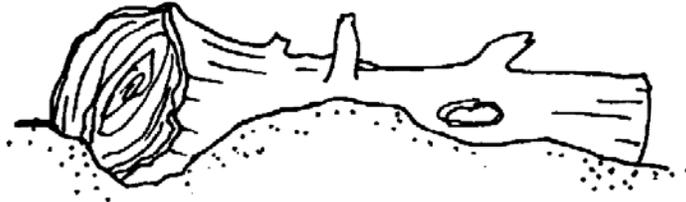




**Education,
Research,
Stewardship**

Beach Log

JUNE 2006



WSU Beach Watchers P. O. Box 5000 Coupeville WA 98239 360-679-7391 ; 321-5111 or 629-4522 Ext. 7391 FAX 360-678-4120
Camano office: 121 N East Camano Dr., Camano Island, WA 98282; 387-3443 ext 258, e-mail: schase@was.edu
E-mail: Kcooley@wsu.edu meehan@wsu.edu beachwatchers@wsu.edu Web address: www.beachwatchers.wsu.edu

Water Quality Buoy Coming to the Coupeville Wharf

In June 2005, Island County Beach Watchers purchased items from the (now defunct) Poulsbo Marine Science Center, to enhance the public education aspect of the Coupeville Wharf Discovery Center project. One item is a scientific buoy to measure salinity, temperature, pH and dissolved oxygen in marine waters. The buoy data is transmitted via a solar powered radio to a computer, presently located in the Harbor Master's office on the wharf.

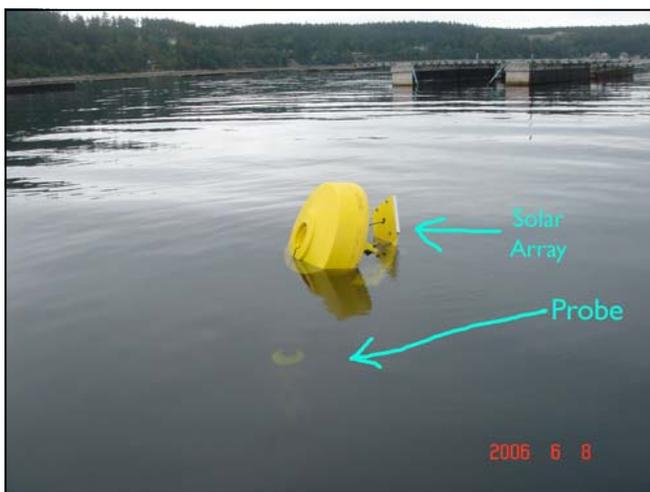
It was decided to place the buoy within the hazard zone of the Penn Cove Shellfish company (PCS), under the assumption that the existing permits held by PCS would spare Beach Watchers the need to apply for permits. This assumption was not correct, and Don Meehan spent considerable time and effort to obtain the necessary permits from the Washington Department of Natural Resources, the Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Coast Guard. The final permit was received in late May.

On May 24, a buoy crew of Bob Buck, Mac LaMay, Kay Swanson, Graham Johnson, and Don Meehan reassembled the buoy. Tim Jones from PCS provided diving assistance to secure the anchor and launch the buoy. While the buoy seemed to be transmitting and the computer seemed to be receiving, they were not speaking the same language. Don again spent a great deal of time trying to track down software people to rectify the problems, and even offered to fly in a technician from Bremerton in his airplane.

On June 7 it was discovered that the buoy had come apart, most likely due to wave action. The probe was suspended five feet below the floatation collar, held only by the delicate electrical wires. Also, the solar panels and navigation light were upside down and underwater. The tide was running very high and strong at the time, so it was decided as too risky to attempt to pull up the sensor by the wire.

Bob Buck, Jim Somers and Don Meehan, along with Tim Jones, assembled on June 8 at low tide and were able to rescue the buoy. It was carried in pieces to the wharf where the damage was assessed. The electrical wires between the buoy and the transmitter were stretched and broken, however an abundance of extra wire enabled repair. Bob had an extra battery which he connected and, to our amazement, the transmitter powered up. We found also that the solar panels are in working order and are able to recharge the battery. Bob dried out all of the components and reassembled the buoy. Don continues to work on the software issues, and when they are resolved, the buoy will be launched again.

The buoy will be located approximately 50 yards off the northeast corner of the PCS mussel rafts. It will stay in this location for the foreseeable future, and the display monitor will be part of the Coupeville Wharf Discovery Center.



Jim Somers, BW Class of 2004



Monitoring Madness

Monitoring Highlights

Doris Northcutt led the **Pratt's Bluff** team on May 14th, a day of ideal weather and a -2.1 foot tide. Several team members were new Beach Watchers from this spring's class and they were amazed by all the small organisms that they would have missed had they not had veteran monitors there to point them out. Kristen Cooley was delighted by the flatworms. The group also discovered a ghost shrimp that had carved its burrow out underneath a rock instead of down into the sand, allowing them to get a good view of its nooks and crannies. Another highlight was finding two small opalescent nudibranchs.

Freeland Town Park Beach had its turn on Monday, May 15, with a glorious sunny day. Two eagles watched from above as Fletcher Davis and his team checked things out. The group found a ghost shrimp (*Neotrypaea californiensis*), a plainfish midshipman (*Porichthys notatus*), and the invasive purple varnish clam (*Nuttalia obscurata*). Jill Hein said the highlight of the day for her was seeing the chitons (*Mopalia lignose*). Fletcher noted that for him, the best part of the day was just getting out with a team of enthusiastic people. The day had a bit of excitement when Jan Holmes picked up a big polychaete to examine it for identifying features. The feature she will remember most are the pincer-like jaws it used when it bit her!

The **North Hastie Lake** team found big changes in the substrate on May 17. Much of this normally rocky beach was found to be covered by a layer of sand. Susan Nunn is team captain at this beach, and she reported that

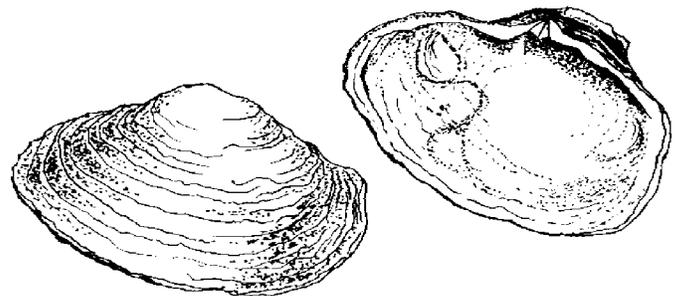
the most fascinating find of the day for her was an aggregating anemone with the ray of an unlucky sea star protruding from its oral cavity. Another aggregating anemone



Photo credit: Mary Jo Adams

was noted to be all stretched out, presumably in preparation for splitting into two parts as a form of asexual reproduction. Jean Congdon enjoyed seeing the big purple *Pisaster ocraceus* sea stars. Lynn Murphy said she just liked the day, the company, and the activity. The wonderful weather and -2.3 foot tide made this an ideal day for monitoring.

Mary Jo Adams, BW Class of 1999





New Scientific Name for EZ ID Species

Just when you think you've got those hard-to-pronounce scientific names nailed down, someone changes them! Yes, it's true; our beloved *Nucella emarginata* is now *Nucella ostrina*. Like many of the things we find on our beaches, there is an interesting story behind the name change.

Apparently, a very sharp Stanford University undergraduate by the name of Emily R. Freed began looking at DNA of the snail we have known as *Nucella emarginata* and found out that, although this snail looks the same up and down the west coast of the U.S., genetically it is two different species. This was not enough for her, as she wanted to know where the dividing line was between the two species. By doing tissue biopsies followed by DNA sequencing, and plugging that information into the GIS database, she found it. Amazingly, she found that *Nucella emarginata* (now considered the southern species) is present on the beaches of California as far north as the 15th tee on the Pebble Beach Golf Course. North of this, you will find the newly named *Nucella ostrina*. The two species overlap over a distance of only 5 to 10 meters. Pretty amazing, huh? In 2004, Emily Freed received Stanford University's



Photo credit: Mary Jo Adams

Our common intertidal snail *Nucella emarginata* has been given a new name: *Nucella ostrina*.

Firestone Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research for this project. This research may have important implications for scientists involved in global warming research, as movement of the species' north/south ranges can be monitored for change. As Paul Harvey says, "And now you know the rest of the story!"

Mary Jo Adams, BW Class of 1999

Tidbits from the Beach Watchers EZ-ID Webpage

If you've ever wondered what causes the little volcano shaped mounds found on beaches with a mixed sand and mud substrate, the answer is ghost shrimp. Beneath the surface,

these crustaceans carve out u-shaped tunnels that may reach two feet below the surface before ascending to a second

opening, allowing for water circulation. They share their burrows with several commensal species including pea crabs, a small fish, a scaleworm, and a small clam. Ghost shrimp grow to about 4 inches in length and are a ghostly hue of pinkish orange. The claws are unequal in size. Ghost shrimp are a prey item for California gray whales.

Neotrypaea californiensis was previously called *Callinassa californiensis*.

One species that might be confused with the *Neotrypaea californiensis* is *Upogebia pugettensis*, the blue mud shrimp. *Upogebia* is more drab in color, somewhat hairy, and has claws that are more equal in size. In addition, *Upogebia* do not build the little mounds at the entrance to their burrows.



Photo and text by Mary Jo Adams

Dates to Remember Upcoming Camano Island and Whidbey Island Events and Other Items of Interest



CAMANO ISLAND

Friday, **June 30, 2006.** **Educational Beach Walk.** 1:00 to 3:00 pm at Camano Country Club Beach Two. For more information call (360) 387-3443.

Monday, **July 10, 2006.** **Camano Island Beach Watcher Monthly Meeting.** 9:00 am Camano Center. Program: Dungeness Crabs: Biology and Resource Management. All welcome.

Thursday, **August 10, 2006.** **Beach Watcher Regional Picnic.** A first for Beach Watchers! All seven county's will be converging at Fort Casey State Park to celebrate this amazing program. 11 AM in the picnic area behind the Lighthouse.

The following Beach Watchers from Camano and Whidbey give nature talks to the public at the Camano Island State Park amphitheater, 7:30 on Saturday nights:

Saturday, **June 17, 2006.** **History of Camano Island Logging.** Jeff Wheeler (2002), Cama Beach Area Manager.

Saturday, **July 8, 2006.** **The Habits and Habitats of Orcas.** Susan Berta (1990) and Howie Garrett, Orca Network.

Saturday, **July 15, 2006.** **Crows and Ravens and the Myths About Them.** Hazel Shipman (1991).

Saturday, **July 22, 2006.** **Crabs.** Claudia Motland (2003).

Saturday, **July 29, 2006.** **Visitors to our Waters – the Pacific Grey Whale.** Dodie Markey (1992).

Saturday, **August 5, 2006.** **Seed Dispersal.** Hazel Shipman (1991).

WHIDBEY ISLAND

Thursday, **July 20, 2006.** **Whidbey Beach Watcher Monthly Meeting.** Special "fieldtrip" addition at Admiralty Head Lighthouse in Fort Casey State Park. Meet at 5:30 pm with chair and drinking vessel. Tours will be given by Fred Terrell & Bill Blair. All welcome.

Saturday, **July 29, 2006.** **Day on the Prairie!** WSU Extension will be hosting field trips and presentations in the afternoon on topics from "Birds of the Prairie" to "Farming Today." A barbeque, barn dance, and beer garden will follow. Call (360) 240-5558 for details.

Thursday, **August 10, 2006.** **Beach Watcher Regional Picnic.** A first for Beach Watchers! All seven county's will be converging at Fort Casey State Park to celebrate this amazing program. 11 AM in the picnic area behind the Lighthouse.

Thursday, **August 17, 2006.** **Whidbey Beach Watcher Monthly Meeting.** Race Road Fire Station, 6:15 pm. Judy D'Amore from the Port Townsend Marine Science Center will speak on Tunicates. All welcome.

Saturday, **September 16, 2006.** **Waves and Wine Tour!** A Beach Watcher fundraiser that includes a whale cruise, dinner and wine. For more information call (360) 240-5558.

Thursday, **September 21, 2006.** **Whidbey Beach Watcher Monthly Meeting.** Trinity Lutheran Church, 6:15 pm. Gary Wessen will speak on the Archaeology of Whidbey Island. All welcome.

Thursday, **October 19, 2006.** **Whidbey Beach Watcher Monthly Meeting.** Race Road Fire Station, 6:15 pm. Frances Wood will speak on Pigeon Guillemot Bird Breeding Program. All welcome



One "bad" Invasive Tunicate Among Many Harmless Native Species

The current interest in *Didemnum* sp., an invasive tunicate with the potential to disrupt existing marine communities, has some people wondering if all tunicates pose a threat to our area. The answer, happily, is NO. We have many tunicate species in our area, including some that have been transported from other areas (non-harmful invasive species), that unintrusively co-exist here with other marine life.

Tunicates are marine animals of the phylum *Urochordata* and the class *Ascidiacea* (ascidians). The phylum was once lumped together along with *Cephalochordata* (small marine and freshwater fish-like animals) and *Vertebrata* into the phylum *Chordata*. The features they all have in common (some only in the embryo stage, and some missing altogether in adult urochordates) are: A tubular dorsal nerve cord; gill slits or pouches; and a notochord.

The nickname "tunicate" comes from the outer covering secreted by most ascidians, composed of proteins, muchopolysaccharides and tunicin, a chemical similar to plant cellulose. The thickness and texture of the tunic varies, from soft and transparent, to leathery and gritty, depending on the species. In species of *Didemnum* (one of

which is the invasive tunicate of interest locally), calcareous spheres are also secreted.

Ascidians can be solitary, social, or compound. All reproduce sexually, while social and compound ascidians also reproduce asexually. Solitary ascidians live individual lives and do not reproduce asexually by budding, although they may live together in large aggregates and even be attached to each other. Solitary ascidians can be long and tall, or short and squat. Two openings are obvious on larger species: An incurrent opening, the oral siphon; and the excurrent opening, the atrial siphon. The former brings water and food particles into the animal, and the latter is the exit siphon for waste and undigested material. Both siphons are capable of forcefully ejecting water out of the animal; hence the second nickname "sea squirt."

Social ascidians form masses of organisms via budding. They are often connected by runners called stolons. Solitary and social ascidians each have their own tunics, but social ascidians are sometimes also joined together with tunic material.

Compound ascidians are embedded in a common tunic. The members are referred to as zooids. Each zooid has its own oral opening, but zooids often share excurrent openings. Compound ascidian tunic material is usually soft and gelatinous. The animal masses are spread over the substrate like a layer of bumpy jelly or like a patch of smooth leather.

The invasive species of *Didemnum*, which is currently of interest in our area, is a compound ascidian, but there are many other harmless compound ascidians in our area including other species of *Didemnum*. "Reef Magazine" characterizes the invasive *Didemnum* species as "an aggressive invader and a threat to a variety of marine life including our commercial shellfish fisheries. It has no natural predators in our area, since it creates metabolic toxins, and grows rapidly in size, taking over underwater real estate and smothering out other native species. It has also invaded other areas, including the East Coast, where it's a huge problem."

For a complete description and photographs of this species, go to <http://woodshole.er.usgs.gov/project-pages/stellwagen/didemnum/>.

Jan Holmes, BW Class of summer 1990



Photo credit: Gretchen Lambert (UW)

Picture of an orange colored *Didemnum* on black mussel shells.



Marine Science for Second Graders at Camano Island State Park

The weather could not have been better on May 15 and 16, when 210 lucky second graders from Utsalady and Elger Bay Elementary schools on Camano Island, as well as students from Stanwood Elementary School, joined parents, teachers and volunteers on the beach at Camano Island State Park.

The event, with the participation of 24 Beach Watchers, was the 8th Annual "Friends of Camano Island Parks Education Days," sponsored by Friends of Camano Island Parks (FOCIP). Over 60 volunteers from FOCIP and State Park staff, including Rangers Jeff Wheeler (BW 2002) and Tom Riggs (WSU Waste Wise 2006), led groups of children on nature walks in the forest and down to the beach, where Beach Watchers took over the educational duties.

Alice Blandin (BW 2002) prepared the students in advance by visiting their classrooms for instructions on beach etiquette, and led the 24 Beach Watcher volunteers in setting up salt water, temperature-controlled viewing pools for marine animals on the beach. New this year were salt water aquariums set up by Beach Watchers, so that specimens such as octopuses, worms and barnacles

could be seen moving about without being touched. Marine animals were brought up by divers from Divers Northwest, assisted by Duane Hoekstra (BW 2003).

Students were taught to respect the shoreline at low tide by replacing rocks they had looked under and being careful not to harm the marine creatures they found. At the end of each day, every specimen was returned gently to its water home. A good time communing with nature was had by all, and Alice Blandin is already getting Beach Watchers prepared for a large group from Lakewood Elementary School in June, as well as a smaller group of preschool "Backpack Kids."

Kathleen Chase, BW Class of 2002



Washington Lighthouse License Plates

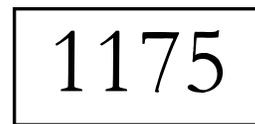


Photo credit: Sue Hoekstra

Second grade students (210 of them) explored Camano Island State Park beach at the eighth annual Friends of Camano Island Parks Education Days.



Recommended Travels

The Galapagos Islands

We have just returned from a trip to the Galapagos Islands, 600 miles off the coast of Ecuador, and we highly recommend such an exploration for any nature-minded Beach Watcher.

The animal life is fantastic, not only in its variety, but also because the birds, reptiles, mammals and fish exhibit no fear of humans, allowing very close-up observations. In fact, they allow you so close that you have to take care not to step on the seals, iguanas, tortoises, and birds in nests with babies. While snorkeling you have the opportunity to swim with green turtles, seals, diving birds, penguins, sharks, and a wide variety of colorful small fishes.

The volcanic geology is quite an experience also. We hiked over various types of lava fields, and to the rim of an active volcano with a six-mile-wide caldera.



Photo Credit: Rudy Deck

Blue footed booby with chick

We traveled with a group of 40 nice people aboard a small boat run by Lindblad Expeditions (www.expeditions.com).

The four naturalists and the crew had their act perfectly orches-

trated to cover all travel and exploration activities. The physical abilities of each traveler was always accommodated, ranging from "Rambo" hikes and snorkels, to very sedate beach walks and zodiac tours, and everything in between. The "between seasons" weather in May was 75 to 85 degrees with no rain. And need I mention that the food aboard was scrumptious!

Rudy and Barbara Deck, BW Class of 2000

deck@whidbey.net or 678-4302, for first-hand information if you're interested

Travel Review: Oregon Coast Aquarium

A highly recommended travel destination or side trip is the Oregon Coast Aquarium in Newport. The state-of-the-art underwater exhibit, *Passages of the Deep*, is a 200-foot long acrylic tunnel with large viewing windows built into the floor, giving nearly 360-degree views of the watery domain. There are three different habitats along the tunnel: Halibut Flats, where you walk suspended above a sandy ocean floor with skates, ling cod and, well, halibut; Orford Reef, a rocky reef with sea stars and giant green anemones on the boulders and wolf eels and surf perch swimming within the outcroppings; and Open Ocean, with sharks, bat rays and schooling fishes.

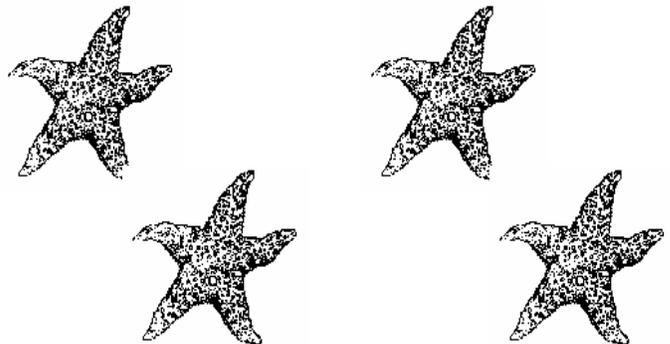
It was a very worthwhile trip. There are touch tanks with volunteers to help interpret what you're seeing, and a new exhibit called *CLAWS!* is really cool, comparing the adaptations and diversity of 35 species of crustaceans (crabs, lobsters, shrimp, isopods and copepods).

The jellyfish were awesome, as were the tufted puffins, auklets, murrens, and pigeon guillemots that live in a walk-in, outdoor aviary.

General admission is \$12. You find the aquarium by going to Newport, Oregon and crossing the Yaquina Bay Bridge. It's near the Hatfield Marine Science Center, which is another must-see!

The web site is www.aquarium.org.

Carol Bordin, BW Class of 2005





Beaches for Monitoring Dates

WHIDBEY ISLAND

Please let team contacts know if you'll be there and they will call you to confirm times a week prior if needed.

Tuesday June 13, Harrington Lagoon. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the fire station on Morris Road. From Coupeville going south, Morris road is just past Au Sable and right before Salmagundi Farm and OLF Coupeville. Drive down Morris Road past Morris Farm to the fire house.

Tuesday June 13, Rolling Hills. Meet at 9:00 a.m. Meet at the parking lot at the lower end of Riepma Road. North from Coupeville on Highway 20, turn right on Arnold Road, then right on Riepma Road. Park in beach parking lot across Penn Cove Road.

Thursday June 15, Double Bluff Cirque Point. Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Double Bluff public parking lot on Double Bluff Road, just south of Freeland.

Friday June 23, Double Bluff Whal Farm. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Double Bluff public parking lot, and we will car pool to the Whal Farm.

Sunday June 25, Coupeville Town Park. Mary Jo has contacted her team. Please call Mary Jo Adams if you are interested and have not been contacted.

Monday June 26, South Whidbey State Park. Meet at 8:00 a.m. in the big parking lot by the amphitheater. The walk down to the beach is .5 mile, a nice trail that we will want to take our time coming up, as it has some altitude gain!

Sunday, July 9, Tentatively Honeymoon Bay Beach (North) Contact Carol Gatewood

Monday, July 10, Cornet Bay (North) Contact Heather Leahy Mack

Tuesday, July 11th, Columbia Beach (South) Contact Bill Blair.

Tuesday, July 11th, Rosario Beach (North) Contact Jan Holmes

Wednesday, July 12th, Possession Beach (South) Contact Jan Holmes or Jim Shelver

Thursday, July 13th, Maxwelton Tide Pool (South) Contact Jeannie McElwain

Monday, July 24th, Ledgewood Beach (Central) Contact Jan Holmes

Jan Holmes, BW Class of Summer 1990

CAMANO MONITORING

You don't have to be a Beach Watcher to help monitor a beach! If you're interested in joining us call (360)387-3443 x258

Tuesday, June 13, starting at 11:00 am: Cama Beach Monitoring.

Wednesday, June 14, starting at 11:30 am: English Boom Monitoring.

Monday, June 26, starting at 10:00 am: Elger Bay Monitoring.

Tuesday, June 27, Tuesday, starting at 11:00 am: Onamac (1&2) Monitoring.

Wednesday, June 28, Wednesday, starting at 11:30 am: Iverson Monitoring.

Tuesday, July 11, Tuesday, starting at 10:00 am: Madrona Monitoring.

Wednesday, July 12, Wednesday, starting at 10:30 am: Sunny Shores Monitoring.

Thursday, July 13, starting at 10:30 am: Cavaleiro Monitoring.

Sunday, July 23, starting at 10:00 am: Perrywinkle Monitoring.

Monday, July 24, starting at 9:15 am: Pebble Beach Monitoring.

Tuesday, August 8, Tuesday, starting at 9:00 am: Utsalady Monitoring.

Wednesday, August 9, Wednesday, starting at 9:30 am: Mabana Monitoring.

Field Trip Monthly Meeting for Whidbey

A field trip monthly meeting will be held Thursday, July 20 on Whidbey at Fort Casey State Park. The meeting will start at 5:30 p.m. with tours of the Lighthouse and Fort by highly esteemed Lighthouse docents Fred Terrell and Bill Blair. Bring along a comfy chair, a bottle of your favorite wine or soda or a thermos of coffee, and enjoy the evening from the spectacular vantage point of the Admiralty Head Lighthouse lawn.

This is a perfect opportunity to invite friends and family to explore the Park, enjoy the services of a personal tour guide, and meet the Beach Watchers they've probably heard plenty about. See you there!



Shore Stewards Expands to Eight Counties

Three years after being created as a pilot program in Island County, the Shore Stewards program has just expanded to include eight counties in the northern Puget Sound area. Washington State University (WSU) Extension in Island County and the Island County Marine Resources Committee came up with the idea of creating a stewardship program designed for property owners living along the shoreline. WSU Beach Watcher volunteers on Camano Island wrote the guidelines and application, and helped create the web site. The program was offered to Camano residents in late 2003. With funding from a variety of sources, the program expanded to Whidbey Island in 2005, as well as the Hood Canal counties of Jefferson, Kitsap and Mason. Puget Sound Action Team, an office of the Governor, recently funded expansion of the program to include Snohomish, Skagit, Whatcom and Clallam counties. Each of these counties recently graduated their first classes of WSU Beach Watchers, and Shore Stewards will be coordinated through their Beach Watchers programs.

Shore Stewards is a free educational program that is easy to join, and the purpose of the program is to educate people about topics that are of interest to those who live along the shoreline, in shoreline communities with beach access or a boat ramp, or along streams. Membership is not only for those who live in their homes year-round, but includes vacation homes, vacant land, farms, and forest owners. Guidelines of the program include information about well water, septic systems, managing upland water runoff, development on bluffs and minimizing bluff erosion, permit procedures for shoreline development, use of native plants and trees, marine life on your beach, alternatives to bulkheads, and proper pesticide and fertilizer use. Membership is free, with no meetings to attend, no training, and no required volunteer work or other obligations. You receive a free book, *Guide For Shoreline Living*, as well as a monthly newsletter and educational materials. Occasional workshops, open to the public, are held. Funding of the program through next year is provided through the Island County Marine Resources Committee, the Department of Ecology, and the Puget Sound Action Team.

For further information on the Shore Stewards program, you can go to the web site, www.shorestewards.org. If you have further questions or would like to join the program, contact the Shore Stewards coordinator in Island County, Scott Chase, at 678-5111, ext. 6012 (north/central Whidbey), 321-1111, ext 6012 (south Whidbey), or 629-4522, ext 6012 (Camano). You can also reach him by e-mail at shorestewards@wsu.edu. Registration takes only a couple of minutes, and can be done over the phone or by e-mail.

Scott Chase, BW Class of 2002



Digging for Dinner Again!!!

Once again, shovel in hand,
E.T. will show you how to clam.

In a single session,
You'll get a lesson.

Knowing what to keep,
Make the hole so deep,

How to stay in line,
And not get fined.

Bring attire to get wet & sandy,
Shovel & license will be dandy.

Questions about the situation?
Call (360) 240-5558 for information.

June 25, Sunday, 10:00 a.m. at Penn Cove at Zylstra Road

July 11, Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. at Double Bluff

July 27, Thursday, 11:00 a.m. at Penn Cove at Zylstra Road

August 8, Tuesday, 9:00 a.m. at Double Bluff

August 27, Sunday, 7:00 a.m. at Penn Cove at Zylstra Road



A Day on the Prairie

Join the staff and volunteers of Washington State University (WSU) Extension on Saturday, July 29, for a fun-filled, family event and fundraiser in the biggest barn on Whidbey Island, the Smith Barn, overlooking Ebey's Prairie in Coupeville.

There will be historical tours, farm visits, and classes including: Clamming on the Beach; Penn Cove Shellfish Company Tour; Admiralty Head Lighthouse and Ft. Casey Tour; History of Island County Agricul-



Smith Barn

ture; Birds of the Prairie; Lavender Wind Farm Tour; and Whidbey Ancestors "Lying About" Cemetery Tour, just to name a few. There will also be Prairie games and other kids' activities.

Then enjoy a barbecue supper featuring locally grown, grass-fed beef with beverages available at a Beer and Wine Garden. Finish off the day by kicking up your heels at a Barn Dance, with the "Tasty Rock & Cookin' Blues" of the Coyote Blues Band.

This is a fundraiser for WSU Extension, with a generous local contributor matching every dollar earned! Admission for Tours and Classes, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. is \$20 per person; Prairie Games and Kids' Activities for ages 5 to 12, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. is \$10 per child; Barbecue Supper, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. is \$20 for adults and \$10 for children ages 12 and under; Barn Dance, 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. is \$25 per couple, \$15 single, \$5 for children ages 6 to 18, and free for 5 years and under.

The Smith Farm is located at 399 S. Ebey Road, on Ebey's Prairie in Coupeville.

For more information or to sign up for classes, go to www.island.wsu.edu or phone 360-240-5558.

Advisory Council

The advisory council has been busy the last couple of months working to find funding for the programs important to Beach Watchers. We agree that there is more work to be done than one coordinator can accomplish, even one as energetic as Kristen. We have agreed to help fund a half-time position through 2007. This will allow time to find a permanent funding source for the position. Recruitment for the position has begun and we hope to begin interviews soon.

The Coupeville Wharf project is well underway, and everyone is excited about its potential. The items acquired from the Poulsbo Marine Center are paid for, but we still need to find money for installation and the interpretive panels we are planning. We are looking for potential grant sources and have started the application process.

Be sure to save Thursday, August 10 for the Annual Picnic and awards presentation. This year the picnic will be a combined party, with Beach Watchers from all over coming to Fort Casey. It will be our first chance to meet Beach Watchers from other counties' certain be a very special day! As hosts, Island County Beach Watchers will be responsible for providing main dishes and barbecue meats. There will be more information as the planning progresses. The awards program will begin at 11:00 a.m., followed by the Picnic and Party. Everyone is looking forward to seeing folks honored for their volunteer hours.

It is very important that all your hours are turned in! Beach Watchers tries to keep accurate records of the hours contributed by members, as the information is very persuasive when we apply for grants and county funding. We estimate there were more than 20,000 hours volunteered in 2005. The hours turned in total 19,776.7—so if you have not turned in all your 2005 hours, please do so now! First Quarter 2006 hours are also due now, and Second Quarter hours will be due on July 1. Please get all your hours in, so you can be properly recognized at the picnic.

Council meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m., and are usually held in the meeting room by the WSU office in Coupeville. All our meetings are open to members.

Ron Wilkinson, BW Class of 2001

Friends of Beach Watchers

Thanks to all who give so generously to the Beach Watcher Program throughout the year. Many thanks, also, to those who give to our ongoing educational efforts but prefer to remain anonymous.

THANKS! To all the Beach Watcher Volunteers who contributed articles, typed, edited, and prepared the Beach Log for mailing. Kudos to Cheryl Bradkin, Arlene Stebbins, and Kristen Cooley who help pull it all together each month.



THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS



Puget Sound Refinery

Town of Coupeville



If you would like to learn more about the Beach Watcher Program, please contact Kristen Cooley, Program Coordinator at 360-679-7391 or kcooley@wsu.edu.



Join "Friends of Beach Watchers"

Yes! I would like to join Friends of Beach Watchers. My tax-deductible donation supports the Beach Watchers in their efforts to continue environmental education and research programs dedicated to preserving the quality of the environment in and around Island County.

Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation for:

_____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$200 _____ \$500 _____ Other

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY, OR AFFIX A RETURN MAILING LABEL

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

May we list your name as a contributor? yes/no (please circle)

May we add your name to our general mailing list? yes/no (please circle)

Please make checks payable to L.E.P., and mail to PO Box 5000, Coupeville, WA 98239 Thank you!



A Special Wish List for WSU Beach Watchers

Your generous donations are extremely important to the day-to-day operation of WSU Beach Watchers. We appreciate all of you who have helped make many of our wishes come true. Your dedication and support help the Beach Watchers continue to grow and flourish. As always, your donations are tax-deductible.

- Bookshelves for library books received from Poulsbo
- Shell, crab, etc. specimens for I.D. displays

Thanks to all of you who have already helped fulfill our wishes with generous donations!

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY



ISLAND COUNTY EXTENSION



"In the end we will conserve only what we love; We will love only what we understand;

We will understand only what we have been taught."

~ Baba Dioum, Senegalese ecologist



**DEADLINE FOR NEXT BEACH LOG
July 7, 2006**