



**Education,
Research,
Stewardship**

Beach Log

OCTOBER 2008

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
ISLAND COUNTY EXTENSION

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Goosefoot Barbeque Honors WSU Extension and Don Meehan

The Goosefoot Barbecue at Bayview on August 27 honoring WSU Island County Extension was the perfect time for Beach Watchers to say a huge “thank you” to Don Meehan. The place was packed with Beach Watchers to thank him personally, and to collectively gift Don with an appropriate remembrance.

Many of you have now met and worked with our Beach Watchers Coordinator, Sarah Martin. What you may not know is the extent of her artistic talent. Her work is truly magnificent. Sarah created the painting on the next page



Mary Margaret Haugen recognizes the accomplishments of Don Meehan at the Goosefoot barbeque.



Don raises painting for Beach Watchers and others to see

personally for Don, capturing his programs, Olive, his airplane, etc. She donated the painting to Beach Watchers to give to Don. Simultaneously, all Beach Watchers were invited to contribute to a fund for beach Watchers in the name of Don Meehan, to be put towards any program Don may designate. Your donations have been most generous, and we thank you very much.

But we are not through yet! You are still most welcome to contribute by check made out to LEP BWs/Meehan Fund and send it to WSU Beach Watchers, PO Box 5000, Coupeville, WA 98239, and ATTN: Kylee Allen.

Thank you in advance for your generous support of the Don Meehan retirement remembrance. It was great seeing you all at the Bayview event!

*Jackie Johnson, BW Class of '05
Jim Somers, BW Class of '04*



Photograph of painting by Sarah Martin and given to Don Meehan on his retirement. The painting highlights many segments of Don's life with WSW Island County Extension; 4-H, Masters Gardeners, Admiralty Lighthouse, Beach Watchers, farms, his airplane and Olive, his dog.



Rosario Beach Educators Reflections

On May 16, 1995 during a -3.2 tide, 29 school buses, numerous vans and vehicles, carrying an estimated 1,200 people came to visit the Rosario Tidepools. As Beach Watchers know, after this event, the rocky tide pools looked like a barren moonscape due to the trampling and destruction on that day.

Many things have changed since that sad day for the better. The park now requires groups to register before coming. They are greeted and given beach etiquette training before they are given a task to complete while there. There is now a trail running through the tidepools that they are asked to stay on. There are permanent signs explaining the story and trails. Education and recovery of the tide pools area are now the goals.

During the summer, there are wonderful volunteers (mostly Beach Watchers) that give freely of their time and knowledge to educate and inspire the visitors. Some spend their time at the education table helping people. Others work down in the tidepool area.

There is something so awesome that happens when a ten-year-old begins to ask the most interesting questions. At first, I wonder, "How will I answer his questions?" Sometimes it is beyond my knowledge. As Beach Naturalists, we have to be honest and say that we don't know, but we share what we DO know. We also suggest books, websites, and visits to the library.



With awe, I watched a 2 ½ year old little girl gently lift up the seaweed to discover what was hiding underneath. It was amazing when I saw her lying across a rock on her tummy, gazing into a tidepool, and then gently reaching in with a finger to touch something. It was enough to inspire me to continue to do what I do.

When I see a child bring his parents down and begin to teach them about this fragile ecosystem, I am inspired to do what I do. I learn from the public every single day that I am on the beach. In July we had a group of school children from Montana visiting Rosario. Oh my gosh! They were so lucky! A large pod of orcas passed right by us that afternoon. How wonderful that those children got to see orcas in the wild, among other wonders at Rosario.

Most of the people that are introduced to the trail system are really appreciative of the opportunity to do their part in helping with the recovery. A few people are challenging. However, I guess that I like a little bit of a challenge, as they inspire me to do what I do. Sometimes I think that if I can teach enough people, they will teach people, and eventually most of us will understand. The education that people get at Rosario can be shared on any beach. My hope is that the people with whom we interact will share with others what we have shared with them.

On the 4th of July, we interacted with 484 people. Now that took team work! I am so proud of the great volunteers that made that day a success. As Beach Naturalists, we have talked to 7,165 people this year. Most of that was done at Rosario Beach. Without knowing that the seaweed in the tide pools are the nursery for new life and the hope for recovery, damage occurs repeatedly. When the visitors number in the thousands, inadvertent destruction occurs. There are just too many feet, contaminated hands (natural oils on our skin, sunscreen, hand lotion, bug spray, etc.), too many little crabs that fall too far from their hands, or get crushed by a rock. So the efforts of our volunteers continue! I invite you to come and explore Rosario with me next summer!

Sammye Kempbell, BW Class of '03



Dates to Remember

Upcoming Camano Island and Whidbey Island Events and Other Items of Interest



Camano Isl and Events

- Oct 2 Camano Is - Steering Committee Meeting. 10:15** am to 12:15 am Cama Beach
- Oct 6 Camano BW Monthly Meeting. 9:00** am to 12:00 noon 141 N.E. Camano Drive, Camano Island, 98282
- Oct 8 Camano Is Tour of Smith & Morrison Farms. 9:00** am to 11:00 am Skagit Valley off I-5 just north of Conway. Skagit Valley's Best Potatoes Plant. Meet at Terry's Corner at 8:30. Contact Paul L. for more info.
- Oct 9 Pt Susan Estuary Education Day. Iverson** Bay on Camano Island. Port Susan Estuary Education Day for 5th. graders. Time of event depends upon tides. We are invited to join in this event organized by the Stillaguamish Tribe and the Nature Conservancy. Contact Kathleen C.
- Oct 22 Hunting for Edible Mushrooms. 141** N.E. Camano Dr Camano Island, WA. Scott & Kathleen C. help to identify the good, bad and the ugly. Starts at 7 pm. More information: www.beachwatchers.wsu.edu/island. This is the final presentation in the series.
- Oct 24 Beach Watchers One-Day Retreat. 9:00** am to 4:00 pm Coupeville Recreation Hall. For more information contact Beach Watchers at 360-679-7391.
- Nov 3 Camano BW Monthly Meeting. 9:00** am to 12:00 noon 141 N.E. Camano Drive, Camano Island,

Whidbey Isl and Events

- Oct 4 to Oct 6 Whidbey Island Farm Tour. Various** Whidbey Island Farms. For more information contact 360-240-5558
- Oct 13 Breakfast w/ Beach Watchers. 8:00** am to 9:00 am Neil's Clover Patch in Bayview, Whidbey Island. Mark your calendars and come out and meet with your friends over coffee.
- Oct 21 Advisory Council Meeting 11:00** am to 1:00 pm Call 360-679-7391 for current months location.
- Oct 21 LEP Board Meeting. 1:00** pm to 2:30 pm WSU Extension Office, Coupeville.
- Oct 21 Sustainable Living Workshop. 6:00** pm to 7:30 pm Hayes Hall-Room 137 (across from the library) at Skagit Valley College, 1900 SE Pioneer Way, Oak Harbor. Topic: Energy Options; Sun & Wind
- Oct 24 Beach Watchers One-Day Retreat. 9:00** am to 4:00 pm Coupeville Recreation Hall. For more information contact Beach Watchers at 360-679-7391.
- Nov 10 Breakfast w/ Beach Watchers. 8:00** am to 9:00 am Neil's Clover Patch in Bayview, Whidbey Island. Mark your calendars and come out and meet with your friends over coffee.
- Nov 18 Advisory Council Meeting. 11:00** am to 1:00 pm Call 360-679-7391 for current months location.
- Nov 18 LEP Board Meeting. 1:00** pm to 2:30 pm WSU Extension Office, Coupeville.
- Nov 25 Sustainable Living Workshop. 6:00** pm to 7:30 pm Hayes Hall-Room 137 (across from the library) at Skagit Valley College, 1900 SE Pioneer Way, Oak Harbor. Topic: Waste Wise Holidays
- Dec 5 Beach Watcher Holiday Party. 5:00** pm to 8:00 pm. Freeland Hall, Whidbey Island. Bring your dish & auction item!
- Dec 16 Advisory Council Meeting. 11:00** am to 1:00 pm Call 360-679-7391 for current months location. Whidbey
- Dec 16 LEP Board Meeting. 1:00** pm to 2:30 pm WSU Extension Office, Coupeville.
- Dec 16 Sustainable Living Workshop. 6:00** pm to 7:30 pm 1900 SE Pioneer Way, Oak Harbor, WA 98277. Topic: Waste Not, Want Not, The Waste Stream & Responsible Consumerism Hayes Hall-Room 137 at Skagit



Events and Opportunities

Whidbey Isl and Farm Tour, Rosehip Farm and Garden. 10/4-10/5.

Several Beach Watchers have committed to helping at the Rosehip Farm and Garden during the Farm Tour. If others would like to attend and set up an information/activity table at the Rosehip Farm and Garden in Coupeville, please let me know. The general purpose is simply to have WSU Extension Volunteers engaging with the 300+ people who visit the farms, spreading the word about our programs and all of the resources we bring to the county (public awareness is always a good thing, especially during the county budget process). Start making plans to join us for this family-friendly, free, fun event. Please let me know if you'd like to take the lead or participate in this event? sarah_martin@wsu.edu

National Solar Tour in Coupeville, 10/4

The annual National Solar Tour is Saturday October 4th, 10A to 4PM. Whidbey Sun & Wind will be kicking off our region's Solar Tour at our location on Crockett's Prairie in Coupeville, with information about other Tour locations, demonstrations, tours of the sustainable features of our property, facilities and my home. We invite volunteers to participate during the Solar Tour. We're asking for at least a 3 hour stint during the day. In return for helping out volunteers will learn in-depth about renewable energy systems, have the opportunity to ask lots of questions, receive a Whidbey Sun & Wind hat (nice, KAVU ones), and will be invited to our kickin' post-Tour potluck and bonfire (libations provided). We'll also provide Sun Ovens to anyone who is interested, at cost. If you are dedicated to sustainability here's your chance to share that passion with others – and have fun at the same time! Please let us know if you're interested. To learn more, go to: sunwind@whidbeywind.com. Please contact Sarah Martin if you would like to participate!

Learn to be a Mentor for Senior Culminating Projects at Padilla Bay! 10/9

Are you interested in connecting communities and students to your agency, organization or business? Do you want to learn more about the new senior project requirements for graduation in Washington State? Do you want to receive valuable training and resources for involving high school students in your projects in a meaningful way? The Pacific Education Institute has created a collection of resources and tools to facilitate Senior Culminating Projects related to Puget Sound. Agencies, organizations and businesses will learn how to maximize the benefits of Senior Culminating Projects. Participants will also receive valuable tips concerning project structure, recruiting and working with students. Please RSVP by October 2, to PEICulmProj@gmail.com or call Breanna at 360.902.2485. Please let Sarah Martin know whether you plan to attend as well so that we know what volunteers are doing.

EEAW 18th Annual Conference Registration, 10/10

The EEAW (Environmental Education Association of Washington) Annual Conference Early Bird Registration has been extended to October 10th. The conference will take place from November 13-15 at the Wenatchee Convention Center in Wenatchee. For more information visit our web site at www.eeaw.org/conference or contact the EEAW office at info@eeaw.org or 360-943-6643.

Ag Plastics Recycling Event in Coupeville, 10/11

WSU Waste Wise and Ag proponents are hosting an agricultural plastics recycling event at the Coupeville Recycling Center on 10/10. Planning is ongoing. If you'd like to participate, take a Beach Watchers display and hand out plastics information, please let me know! sarah_martin@wsu.edu

Whidbey-Camano Land Trust Open House on Camano Isl and 10/26

The Whidbey Camano Land Trust is hosting an open house on Camano Island on Sunday, October 26. The open house will be held in the Meadow Room at the Four Springs Preserve from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. Displays will show the Land Trust's land conservation successes. Staff and board members there will happily answer your questions and talk about current protection efforts. Please come and learn more about land protection on Camano. Drinks and light refreshments will be provided. For more information, please call (360) 222-3310 or email info@wclt.org.



Beach Watcher Seining Takes a New Direction in 2008

Beach Watcher seining teams began the 2008 seining season in December 2007 with a planning meeting hosted by Eric Beamer of the Skagit River System Cooperative (SRSC) at the Swimonish Tribal Center in La Conner. Kurt Fresh and Anna Kagley represented NOAA Fisheries, Todd Zachy the Tulalip tribe, and Micah Wait was the Wild Fish Conservancy representative. Also in attendance were Kim Bredensteiner (former Island County Salmon Recovery Planner) and Janielle Marcelle from Island Planning.

After reviewing prior years' seining results and reports the discussion turned to the 2008 sampling plan. Both NOAA Fisheries and SRSC agreed that sufficient data had been gathered at Harrington and Race Lagoons as well as Elger Bay to help answer questions related to juvenile Chinook salmon use of pocket estuaries in the Whidbey Basin.

Data from these three Saratoga Passage sites documented juvenile Chinook preference for these habitat types as well as period use and size information for Pink and Chum salmon. The presence of forage fish such as Sand Lance and Smelt was also observed.

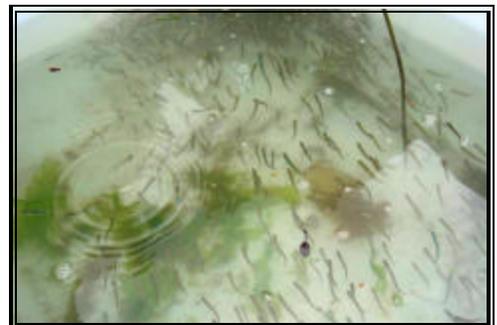
The focus in 2008 would be to increase our understanding of juvenile Chinook nearshore habitat as it relates to river origin. This research would attempt to link *specific* Chinook populations in our sampling area to *specific* Island County habitats. By populations, we mean spawning populations. There are 23 genetically distinct Chinook salmon populations that spawn in different tributaries/sections of Puget Sound's major rivers. It turns out that because salmon are so faithful to returning to their natal spawning grounds, the populations are enough different that we can test the juveniles from the nearshore and link them to a particular population. It's just in the last few years that the DNA library has been completed to make this work possible. Some populations are more threatened than others; knowing which are using specific Island county habitats will be helpful to salmon recovery planners in prioritizing restoration and protection projects.

Shifting from pocket estuary to nearshore seining involved the use of a larger boat launched seine net and some muscle to haul in the catch. Although protocols were similar to small beach seining, we had to learn new identifying features of the much larger fish and to efficiently process greater catch numbers. With Whidbey teams working with new partner Wild Fish Conservancy at a dozen West and South Whidbey sites and Camano teams with SRSC and the Tulalip Tribe at Elger Bay and English Bloom, seining teams identified, weighed and measured thousands of juvenile salmon to obtain over 100 non-lethal wild Chinook fin clip samples for DNA analysis. Over 700 volunteer hours were logged in support of this project.

Beach Watchers participating in this project were: Joe Beck, Jim Somers, Tom Albrecht, Monem Mahmoud Abdel, Melissa Merickel, Bob Gentz, Bob Buck, Doug Kollasch, Stewart Congdon, Carol(Finn) Gatewood, Jill Hein, Lenore Minstrell, Sarah Martin, Tony Pizzon and Graham Johnson. The Camano seining team included: Barbara Brock, Dave Brubaker, Scott Chase, Pete Damato, Pat Foss, Bill Griffith, Joyce Leak, and Tom Perry.



Large Beach Seine at Maxwellton Beach



One setting can net over 1,500 juvenile salmon



Whale Watching in Australia

I recently had the opportunity to go "whaling" in Australia, to see the Southern Right Whales (*Eubalaena australis*) along the Great Australian Bight (southern coast of Australia). Although it's winter in the southern hemisphere, these whales who live most of their lives in the sub-Antarctic waters, travel to the warmer waters of Australia (also NZ, South Africa and South America) to mate, socialize and give birth. These whales are called "Right" whales because during the whaling years, they were very easy targets - they are one of the slowest swimming whales and their bodies float when dead, making them the "right" whale to kill. They are still the most endangered of all the great whales. It's estimated there are 3000-4000 Southern Rights, and only 300-350 Northern Right Whales left on the planet.



Mom frolicking on her back, calf over her left shoulder. Note pectoral fin shape.



Mom and calf right below the Bunda cliffs

But back to "my" whales. I flew to a little coastal town called Ceduna, rented a car and drove 300 kms west to "Top of Bight" which is nothing but a viewing platform overlooking the cliffs. It's on Aboriginal territory, so a fee is collected to enter the platform area. Of course I overindulged and stayed three days (Nullabor Road House, the ONLY place within miles to offer accommodations). The official count (Deakin University Research team) on the first two days were 114 whales, the third day before leaving I counted 35 females, all with calves, just from the viewing platform. This is such a great way to view the whales—non-intrusive—and no boats are allowed in the area while the whales are present.



See the Callosities on the head

The Right Whale is a baleen whale (filter feeder) and feeds on shrimp-like krill and copepods, they have black backs, and white on their stomachs. They're individually identified by the shape of the callosities which are found near the blowholes, above the eyes and around their mouth. Callosities are thick patches of hardened skin called chitin which are covered in "whale lice". It occurs in the facial area – a different pattern on each whale. There's no dorsal fin, and their flippers are paddle shaped, quite wide with a notch in the middle. Adult Right Whales grow to about 55 feet, and 100+ tons in weight. By October the calves will be big enough to travel with mom on their long migration south to the cold waters of the Antarctic.



Beach Watchers earn an Environmental Commendation

Below is the text of a letter sent by the BoatU.S. Foundation.

Dear Island County Beach Watchers,

It is with great pleasure that I present you with this award for Environmental Commendation from the BoatU.S. Foundation. This award aims to recognize your efforts to educate boaters and marinas about environmental stewardship. We greatly appreciate your efforts to protect and improve the Puget Sound ecosystem through research, education, outreach and stewardship.

Throughout the country, the BoatU.S. Foundation partners with volunteer groups, government agencies and dedicated individuals to spread the message of clean boating. The Foundation created the Environmental Leadership Award to recognize the hard work of these partners, like yourself. We received over 30 nominations for the award highlighting the accomplishments of individuals, local groups and even entire companies in the boating industry.

The committee selected Russ Robinson from the Recreational Boaters of California as the winner of the 2008 BoatU.S. Foundation Environmental Leadership Award. While we originally planned to have just one award, the committee felt strongly that we recognize the efforts of a select group of nominees including yourself.

We hope you will accept this award as a token of our appreciation. You will be listed on our website and our press release. We hope that our outreach efforts will bring additional attention to your accomplishments.

Congratulates and we look forward to working with yo in the future.

Sincerely,

Susan Shingledecker

Beach Watchers One-Day Retreat, 10/24.

This very busy summer is quickly coming to a close, and as a number of our programs wrap up their busiest season, it is time to take stock of what we are doing as well and to relax in the camaraderie of our fellow Beach Watchers. To bring as many of us together as possible, we will hold a Beach Watchers One-Day Retreat. The retreat will be held on October 24 at the Coupeville Recreation Hall. It will consist of a display of what everyone is doing, presentation of the 2009 budget, a potluck lunch, annual awards, a survey of interests and the direction of Beach Watchers, and opportunities to participate in several focus groups. Some of you have contacted me regarding special presentations--please keep those requests coming, so we can plan! Thank you.

Sarah Martin, BW Coordinator?





The 2009 Puget Sound Georgia Basin Ecosystem Conference Proposal and Poster Submissions due 10/10.

The PSGB Conference is now accepting proposals for sessions, abstracts, posters and films. The conference will take place from February 8–11 at the Washington State Convention and Trade Center in Seattle. The 2009 conference theme is “The Future of the Salish Sea: A Call to Action.” Sub-themes include: Air quality and Climate Change; Ecosystem Management Strategies & Techniques; Habitat, Land Use, & Species; and Marine & Freshwater Resources. Proposal submissions will be accepted through October 10, 2008.

The biennial Puget Sound Georgia Basin Ecosystem Conference is the largest, most comprehensive scientific research and policy conference in the Salish Sea region. The 2009 conference, hosted by the Puget Sound Partnership and Environment Canada, will further the experiences of previous conferences by connecting scientific research and management techniques to priorities for meaningful action. The 2009 conference will emphasize the importance of working collaboratively to solve some of the complex issues that cross political borders. For more information on submitting a proposal, please visit the conference Web site at www.psgbconference.org.

At the Puget Sound Georgia Basin Ecosystem Conference there will be a full 90 minute session dedicated to a great discussion on Citizen Science but unfortunately there won't be enough time in the session to present the amazing individual citizen science projects happening around Puget Sound and the Georgia Basin. This is why we would like to augment the session with a special poster presentation to further the discussion directly after the session.

This means having posters on all of the individual citizen science programs happening in Puget Sound and Georgia Basin. It would give program leaders and interested people a chance to talk more deeply about what models exist, where there is room for partnerships or expansion, and future opportunities.

If you have a project that would be able to present a poster or know someone who does, please encourage them to fill out a poster proposal on the Conference website, www.psgbconference.org

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I know I should log my hours, but . . .

. . . I just like doing the work, not logging the hours.

. . . it's too hard to log them online.

. . . after my first 100 hours, I stopped logging hours.

. . . after my first 1000 hours, I stopped logging hours.

. . . I do so much, it's hard to keep track of it all!

Yes! All of these things may be true. We are working hard, and sometimes it's hard to slow down. I've heard much discussion of hours since I became Beach Watchers Coordinator just three short months ago. The general consensus seems to be that our Beach Watchers really love to volunteer . . . and really *dislike logging* their hours. I can sympathize because each month I have to do a timesheet and bill my hours to one of many coded grants. Sometimes, the paperwork is mind numbing. In fact, logging hours runs neck-in-neck with paying bills in by book. However, like paying bills, it must be done.

In fact, logging hours IS paying Beach Watchers' bills. How can this be? Beach Watchers pays most of its bills with grant money. When we apply for a grant, we propose that we, volunteers and paid employees, will accomplish certain tasks. If the granting agency feels that these tasks are worth doing, and we are the appropriate folks to do the work, they give us a grant contract. Then, we have to execute the grant, report on it, and invoice it. We report goods produced and services provided—these are our deliverables. Our most important deliverable is the service provided in your volunteer hours. In reporting to the granting agency, I report the number of hours our volunteers worked (most of the time). To “get paid” for our grant work, we must record and report hours.

How does this affect us in the long-term? If we do not have an accurate picture of our hours through our online database or in hardcopy, I cannot report on grants accurately. Many of our hours are lost. And we risk not receiving funding in upcoming years for projects that are meaningful to us. So while there are many good reasons to dislike recording hours, we must pay the bills! Please take the time to report your hours! Thank you very much for this extra volunteer service!

Sarah Martin, BW Coordinator

Coupeville Festival 2008 Recycle

During the Coupeville Arts & Crafts Festival, August 9 and 10, four Beach Watchers dedicated a big effort to collect all the recyclables possible that were generated by this event.. Prior to the Festival, ten blue recycle stands were purchased by the Coupeville Festival Association, with the assistance of Janet Hall through a grant funded by the Washington Lighthouse License Plate sales. The recycle stands were positioned next to each trash can on the streets of Coupeville during the Festival.

Dick and Sue Newsham (Beach Watcher class of '08), Wendy Moon, and Sharon Dunn (Beach Watcher class of '07), armed with bright yellow rubber gloves and long handled "grabbers," roamed the Festival grounds "diving" for plastic bottles and cans in the trash cans, to place in the adjacent recycle containers.

Before each day's closing these Beach Watchers, pulling the Coupeville Festival green recycle wagon, visited each vendor booth (all 170!) collecting their bottles, cans, papers, and cardboard. For two days, bags and bags of recyclables were hauled (uphill) to a central staging area behind the Coupeville Library, where cans and bottles were separated and caps were removed from the bottles. John Moon (Beach Watcher class of '07) helped by loading mounds and mounds of recyclables on his big flatbed truck. Boy Scout Troop 59 received all the aluminum cans; bottles and cardboard were "contributed" to the Recycle Center south of Coupeville.

Kept out of the waste stream: Plastic bottles, 31 lbs. (approx 700 bottles); glass bottles, 11 lbs.; aluminum cans, 34 lbs. (approx 1,100 cans); and over 100 lbs. of cardboard!

Wendy Moon, BW Class of '07



2008 Climate Stewards Training: It's All About Stewardship

Our very first Climate Stewards Training is now complete, and we have 18.5 new Climate Stewards in Island County. (The “half” is Maribeth Crandall, who is the environmental educator for Oak Harbor but lives in Anacortes.) While Climate Stewards do not have to be Beach Watchers, many of them are. In the spirit of Beach Watchers and under the same volunteer model as Beach Watchers, Climate Stewards will give 20 hours of volunteer service to their communities in exchange for their 20 hours of Climate Stewards Training at Padilla Bay.



Many of you have made inquiries about Climate Stewards. What do they do? Where can they volunteer? Why do we need them? And as we delve into the ominous subject of climate change, are we overstepping our roles as WSU representatives, becoming activists of sorts?

Good questions! What can our newest volunteers bring to Beach Watchers and other WSU programs? Certainly, they can add brushstrokes to the climate change painting of doom and gloom that we all know so well. You know the one—it is reminiscent of Edvard Munch's *The Scream*. However, the style in which Climate Stewards learned to paint is more like Grandma Moses' folk painting. They learned to break climate change down to its bare essentials—simple images and brushstrokes that resonate in each of us.

Certainly Climate Stewards listened to lectures by speakers, focusing on sea rise levels, changes in our atmosphere, and changes in our marine environment. Important topics of discussion were the acidification of the ocean and the melting of the polar ice caps. And in the midst our current economic crisis, the cost of fossil fuels (and their devastating side effects) was a point of conversation as well. Overwhelmed by scientific data that varies with each study and each new piece of information, Climate Stewards became experts in the most important facet of this education—indeed, all Beach Watchers education . . .



The most important thing that Climate Stewards learned was personal stewardship. They learned that it is the individual who makes the biggest difference. Because we are inextricably linked to this earth, every decision we make, no matter how large or small, affects our environment. As David Suzuki said in his film *Suzuki Speaks*, which Climate Stewards had the opportunity to watch, we are earth, air, fire and water, and if we do not realize this—if we break this connection to our environment—we have lost our place in this world.

If you have the opportunity to “tap” the new knowledge and resources that your local Climate Stewards can offer from this training, please strike up a conversation. And we hope to see additional Climate Stewards join this stewardship and education endeavor in 2009. (See next page for a list of Climate Stewards.)

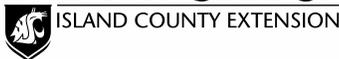


2008 Climate Stewards Training: It's All About Stewardship (continued)

Our graduates: Becky and Yseldah Applegate, Enid Braun, Molly Berger, Lalee Burrill, Lori Christian, John Custer, Cathy d'Almeida, Judy Feldman, Gary Fisher, Bob Gentz, John Hastings, Ingri Johnson, Dick and Sue Newsham, Jim Somers, and Carrie Wilcoxon.



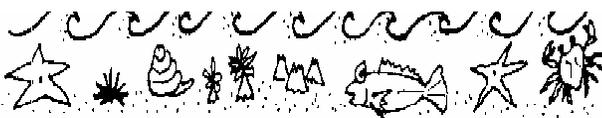
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY



***“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
November 14, 2008**