

# OLYMPIC COAST NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

## OLYMPIC COAST DISCOVERY CENTER



VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER - OCTOBER 2007

### Olympic Coast Discovery Center Update

The Olympic Coast Discovery Center had the busiest summer in four years. Between Memorial Day and Labor Day we had a total of 6641 visitors, compared to a total of 4103 in 2006, and 5690 in 2005. Contributing factors were our partnership with the Feiro Marine Life Center, our involvement Port Angeles schools, and being open every day. We will work to continue all these in 2008.

Thirty-three volunteers worked shifts in the OCDC this summer. Busiest of all was Lu Lovely who put in 69.5 hours at the desk, often signing up for shifts on Sunday, Monday and Wednesday when we were in need of volunteers. Thank You, Lu! Other top volunteers in the Discovery Center were Rose, Jim and Becky, Karel, Dorita, Jim Lamont, Bruce, Mary, and Bill and Sherrill. Thank you everyone.

After such a busy summer, there has been a dramatic drop-off in visitors in September with six to ten guests on weekdays. Experienced volunteers are savvy enough to bring reading material or borrow a book from our library, but even so the hours are long, and it's easy to leave feeling like your volunteer effort was wasted. For this reason we are open weekends only after October 8, except for group visits arranged in advance.

During the quiet fall and winter months we want to continue social activities and training opportunities for volunteers. You are all invited to the OCDC office for a brown bag lunch at noon on Thursdays beginning October 11.

Some or all of the education team will be present for an informal open-ended discussion, and we'll invite guest speakers if there is sufficient interest. If there's a particular topic you'd like to discuss please let us know.



Lu Lovely - 69.5 OCDC hours!

We also want to continue monthly get-togethers with potluck suppers and guest speakers beginning on Thursday, October 25. We'll meet for dinner about 6:00, then hear about Bob Steelquist's work in Viet Nam. The OCDC will provide a main dish; everyone else please bring salad or dessert.



Want to put on a costume and have some fun on Halloween? Consider joining other volunteers to greet trick-or-treaters for several hours on Halloween afternoon and evening. Times will be announced later, but everyone's invited. How about going out to eat afterward? Anyone for pizza?

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## Volunteers Needed for the Crab Festival

We are recruiting volunteers to staff the OCNMS booth at the Dungeness Crab and Seafood Festival the weekend of October 13 and 14. Hours are from 10:00 to 7:30 Saturday and from 10:00 to 5:00 Sunday. This is a wonderful opportunity to interact with the public in a fun setting; plus there are great food and arts and crafts booths to enjoy before and after your shift. To sign up call Greg at 457-6622 ext 32 or leave a message on the OCDC office phone at 457-6622 ext 31.



2006 Olympic Coast Discovery Center Holiday Party

## Holiday Party

It's time to think seriously about planning our holiday party in December. A number of interesting options have been suggested including a daytime event, and meeting at a restaurant rather than having a potluck. I'd love to have your input about what kind of event you prefer – where, when, and who should do the cooking. Send me an email soon to have your opinion heard.

