In this issue we bid farewell to those who have left us, share memories of events past and look forward to a new year filled with hope and promise.
While waiting for the staff meeting, I was turning on the Exhibit Hall lights in the Information Booth. The phone was ringing, and I decided – what the heck – and answered it. It’s been a long time since I answered the phones on the weekend.

The person calling was from Western Australia and stayed up until midnight to call – just to wait until it was morning here. A year ago, her son Jake found a bottle on the beach. He quickly wrote a note, put it in the bottle and threw it back into the ocean. One year later, during our Earth Day Beach Cleanup Program, the bottle was found here at Cabrillo Beach. Someone found the note and wrote to Jake. (See letter below).

Elaine (Jake’s mother) wanted to thank this volunteer for the note and learn more about the journey the bottle undertook. I’m writing back to her about Cabrillo Beach and to share the adventures of the Pacific Voyagers – who just happen to be here today. Do any of you know/recognize the author of the letter? There was no return address.

This is an incredible story of the voyage of a bottle and I wanted to share.

Response to Ed from Jake’s mom:
Hi Ed, it was lovely to talk to you about my son, Jake’s message in a bottle. I really hope you can find the person who found it as it was such an incredible event I’m sure it would “make their day” … as it did ours when we received their reply!
– Elaine Akerstrom
To Esther

'Twas the night before Steering Committee
and all through the Imbagliazzo house
the computer was whirring,
powered by a flying mouse.

Esther’s table was covered with paper to spare,
the post-its and napkin-notes spread out everywhere.

Esther’s husband was nestled all snug in their bed,
not burning the midnight oil with the uber-volunteer he had wed.

Hearing moaning and wailing over budgets and blank-screen interruptus,
he wondered how she could raise such a ruckus.
She Word’ed and Excel’ed and planned out the meeting,
in hopes that the committee would be here for greeting.

They wondered and pondered, discussed and voted.
The dress code was postponed –again – it was noted.

On Bunkie and Jane, on Mike M and Nancy, on Henry and Don,
on Ela and Lisa,
on Marge and Joe, Martin, Sheryl and Sherry.
On to the “girls lunch”, to eat, drink and be merry.

Happy Holidays to all and a Happy New Year!
Miscellaneous Goings-on

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium
Celebrations and Honors
Sea Scare
Leaders

Mission Statements

CMA
Cabrillo Marine Aquarium engages all visitors in education, recreation and research to promote knowledge, appreciation and conservation of the marine life of Southern California.

FCMA
FRIENDS of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is a non-profit corporation created to provide support and resources to Cabrillo Marine Aquarium in its mission, which is to engage all visitors in education, recreation and research to promote knowledge, appreciation and conservation of the marine life of Southern California.

CMAV
The mission of the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium Volunteers is to recruit, train and retain volunteers who will support the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium and the FRIENDS OF CMA in carrying out their missions. More specifically, CMAV will:

- Recruit, train and retain docents, service volunteers and gift shop volunteers for both onsite and offsite activities
- Provide continuing enrichment, training and recognition for volunteers
- Provide support, as appropriate, for Aquarium programs and activities
- Support the functions of FRIENDS of CMA

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