On Friday evening, June 8, the Annual CMA Volunteer Awards Dinner was held in San Pedro at Michael’s Tuscany Room. This setting was a change from our usual venue, Simon’s Restaurant in Ports O’ Call Village. The Steering Committee didn’t know what to expect because Simon’s was a lovely place for a dinner. We were very pleasantly surprised. The banquet room at Michael’s is beautiful. The staff was friendly, helpful and very efficient. The delicious food was served family style and there was plenty to go around. The FRIENDS organization sponsors this dinner for the CMA volunteers. FCMA Executive Director Paula Moore attended. She later sent a lovely note stating that she and everyone around her had a wonderful time.

Thank you to Special Events Chairman Bob Bailiff for his work in researching a site and choosing Michael’s. A thank you also goes to Bob’s wife Shirley and daughter Cheri, who help Bob with our event. Others who made the event successful and deserve our thanks are: Gary Florin who helped put together the program and took many pictures; Matt Christopherson and Floyd Anderson set up the sound system; Henry Jurgens, the Recognition Chair, spent considerable time verifying volunteer hours, gathered information for our award recipients and ordered certificates and awards. Henry thanked staff member Sharon Moore for her work printing the beautiful certificates. Marge Stockett deserves thanks for being our liaison to Michael’s events coordinator, Carol Ann Tuch. Larry Fukuhara, assisted by Lisa Bujas, did another great job presenting his “special” awards.

CMA attracts the best and brightest volunteers. The Steering Committee is able to recognize a few each year. The Distinguished Achievement Award is given to a volunteer who displays a high level of reliability, dedication and involvement. This year’s recipients were: Don Burt, a Friday docent since 2004; Cleve Hildebrand, a Tuesday docent since 2010; Jane Seaburn, a Wednesday docent since 2000; Renee Warnacutt, a Thursday docent since 2010. Our Youth Distinguished Achievement Award winner was Yasmin Saxey-Santillo. Yasmin has been a Sea Ranger for several years. Congratulations to these deserving volunteers.

The Volunteer of the Year award is given to a very special volunteer. This person must demonstrate an extraordinarily high level of individual merit and effort on behalf of the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. The most deserving recipient for 2011-12 was Bob “Bunkie” Bailiff. Bob has been a Wednesday docent since 1996. He holds three positions on the Steering Committee (including the appointed position of Vice President) and when asked to do a special tour or help at a special event, always answers the call. He is constantly cheerful. Bob makes an effort to bring smiles to those around him. Congratulations Bob and may I add: it’s about time.

Thank you to the many volunteers, staff and members of the FRIENDS Board of Directors who attended this year’s event. It was a lovely evening. (More photos on pg. 5)
Where do we go from here?

"Would you tell me which way I ought to go from here?" asked Alice.

“That depends a good deal on where you want to get,” said the Cat. “I really don’t care where,” replied Alice. “Then it doesn’t much matter which way you go.” said the Cat.

— Lewis Carroll, Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland (1865), novelist and poet (1832-1898).

Unlike Alice, those of us at CMA know where we want to be in the future. We want to be a leader in providing friendly and accessible seashore programs and exhibits for understanding and improving our relationship with Southern California marine environments. But the challenge is how to best get there. To chart this path CMA has begun the process of developing a Master Plan.

Director Emerita Dr. Susanne Lawrenz-Miller knows all about making plans. When she first started at then Cabrillo Marine Museum, her job was to plan for the “new” exhibits in the CMA exhibit hall that now bears her name. She also led CMA in the Master Plan that resulted in the expansion of 2004. It’s time again to make plans for what’ll happen here at CMA over the next 15 years. This new Master Plan will be developed by CMA staff with input from people with a stake in CMA - like volunteers, the City of Los Angeles, FRIENDS of CMA, teachers and community members.

The Master Plan will give guidance on the obvious aspects of our public face, like future exhibits and programs, but will also incorporate future governance, audiences, professional alliances and community support.

FRIENDS of CMA is providing the funds to develop and produce the Master Plan and nine companies responded to our request for proposals. Split Rock Studios of Minnesota was chosen by CMA staff and FCMA’s Board of Directors to lead us in this critically important process.

The process will take about a year, with meetings at which input will be given from the many people and groups (including CMA volunteers) that have a stake in the mission of CMA. The result will be a plan that’ll serve as a guide for the future strategic planning and growth of CMA.

Look for more information that’ll be shared about this process and take advantage of your opportunity to add your ideas. We’re sure there are many of you who share the passion for what CMA does to “engage all visitors in education, recreation, and research to promote knowledge, appreciation and conservation of the marine life of Southern California.”

2012/13 CMAV Steering Committee Officers Installed

Esther Imbagliazzo, CMA Volunteer President

The Annual Awards Dinner is also the Annual Meeting for the CMAV Steering Committee. The only order of business is to install new officers.

The 2012/13 officers are: President Esther Imbagliazzo, Recording Secretary Nancy Cook, Recognition Chair Henry Jurgens, Newsletter Chair Sherry Ruffer, Special Events Chair Bob Bailiff, Training Chairs Jane Seaburn and Bob Bailiff, Immediate Past President Mike Masinter. The Steering Committee Department Representatives are: Aquatic Nursery Ela Heyn, Development Martin Ruby, Education Joe Moeller, Gift Shop Lisa Steinmetz and Programs Don Eichhorn.

Special recognition goes to Mike Masinter, who edits Fins and Tales. Recognition and special thanks to the talented Linda Ayers, who expertly puts the newsletter together for its final viewing. Sherry, Mike, Linda and expert photographer Gary Florin do a masterful job. Thank you to long-time volunteer Nini Buchheim, who enters volunteer hours into the Volunteer Information Center every Tuesday. Nini was an enormous help this year. CMA Director Mike Schaadt and Volunteer Coordinator Floyd Anderson serve as staff members on the Committee. Together they bring valuable information on the events surrounding CMA.

The CMAV Steering Committee meetings are open to all volunteers. Please try to attend. The meetings are on the first Monday of each month from October through June. We meet in the Multipurpose Room at 9:30am.
Bits & Pieces

Anchors Away
George Van Doren retired recently, after over 30 years at CMA. He’ll be missed. See the Ode to GVD in this issue.

Anchors to Stay
The USS Iowa has come to town! We’ve all been reading in great detail what it took to get her here. With directions from Larry Kittiver, I got to drive the full length of her, up close, while still in the outer harbor. What a beauty she is!

Heal the Bay
The annual “beach bummer” awards are out. Cabrillo inner beach got the usual “F.” At least we’re number six in the top (bottom) ten.

Pay to Play?
Ana Pichon, an anthropology professor at CSU Dominguez Hills, has been awarded a grant to study ways to help the fishing industry develop strategies economically, environmentally and socially sustainable. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s California Sea Grant and University of Southern California Sea Grant programs are funding the project as part of a larger $1 million coastal social science research initiative.

For the next two years, Pichon and James Hilger will be looking at ways to increase the regional fishing economy’s market value. Hilger is a fisheries resource economist at NOAA’s Southwest Fisheries Science Center in San Diego. The researchers will be using the Dungeness crab, the spot prawn, the Pacific sardine and near-shore finfish species as case studies.

I hope they’re working with, rather than around, our hard-won MLPAs. NOAA and USC are not forces of evil. Do any of our readers have any insight into this project?

Just Another Day (in Margueritaville)
On Thursday, June 7, the “Lunch Bunch” Thursday docents held their annual “last day” gathering at Acapulco. The highlight of the event: tequila. Sun and food provided a great backdrop.

Floyd’s Forum
Floyd Anderson, Volunteer Coordinator
We just finished spring tours and our adult docents did another outstanding job this year. As the adult docents take a much-needed and well-deserved summer break, the high school, junior high school and aquatic nursery docents will now take over the touring duties.

We’re very excited for the young docents to start this summer and, judging by the young lady who jumped off the MPR stairs pumping her fist screaming “I’m in! I’m in!,” I think most of the high school docents are very happy to be part of the CMA family as well.

This year we have 137 summer docents. Thanks to all of you! Your time and effort are so much appreciated, not only by staff, but also by the hundreds of thousands of guests we see each year.
Obituary

John and Marjorie FRANK

(Published in the Los Angeles Times on June 10, 2012)

FRANK, John Monroe June 6, 1918-May 15, 2012

Marjorie Ann Hitchcock July 7, 1919-June 3, 2012

John Monroe Frank passed away peacefully on May 15, 2012 at the age of 93. He was survived by his loving wife of 72 years, Marjorie Ann Hitchcock Frank. Marjorie passed away 19 days later on June 3, 2012. They are survived by their six children, Judith Hillen (Jon Hillen), Stephanie Miller (David Miller), John Phillip Frank (Vicky Frank), Pamela Frank (Claudia Geer), Daphne Frank and Peter Frank and by nine grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren. Marjorie is also survived by her brother, George Hitchcock of Barrington Hills, Illinois, and is predeceased by her sister Joan Hitchcock Mayhew Ditsch and brother Robert W. Dickens. John is predeceased by his brother Robert Wells Frank. John, a graduate of the University of Chicago, worked as a physicist in the Aerospace industry on U.S. Defense projects for TRW much of his career. Marjorie was a homemaker and later served as the first Volunteer Coordinator for the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium in San Pedro for 22 years. After leaving Chicago in the early 1950s, they lived in Claremont, CA and then moved to Rolling Hills Estates where they made their home for 50 years. They were loving parents and grandparents and will be dearly missed by all. A memorial service is being planned.

Tributes to Marji Frank

Hi, All

I share the sad news with all of you that Marji Frank and her husband John passed away recently. For those of us who have very fond memories of this kind and gentle woman, you know the pain her passing has on all of us. For those who didn’t know Marji, she was our first Volunteer Coordinator. She worked with John Olguin and then with Larry. She kept John and Larry on top of things. She had an amazing capacity to make people around her happy and upbeat. When she retired in the early 1990s Larry led a celebration called Marji Frank Day. Marji sat on a throne and we all had our chance to show her how much she meant to CMM. The volunteers have the Marji Frank Award that they give to a volunteer that shows the qualities that Marji was known for: kindness, compassion, hard work and a pleasant disposition at all times. She will be missed, but she left us with many, many happy memories.

—Mike Schaadt

From my earliest days at Cabrillo Marine Museum and for at least two decades until she retired, I remember Marji coming in bright and early each day. First she would sit down with Museum Director John Olguin (and Larry Fukuhara after John’s retirement) and go over the day’s activities and upcoming events. Then she would greet all the docents as they arrived and give them their assignments. Next she would greet every school bus and teacher and group of children and match them up with their docents. Then she would make sure all tours were running smoothly. Afterwards she would meet with the docents to discuss the triumphs and trials of the day and let them know what else was coming up. During all this she was of course dealing with the diversity and varied temperaments of the docents and teachers and treating each one as the special person they were. Finally, each day she would again meet with John Olguin to help make sure that all the details and loose ends of John’s agendas were taken care of. Considering the high energy and creativity of the incomparable John Olguin, this was no easy task! But Marji was up to it all, and carried it out with grace, diligence and great warmth. Marji Frank was an incomparable woman and left a wonderful legacy of caring within the culture of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium.

—Suzanne Lawrenze-Miller

I met Marji Frank when I came to CMA in 1992. Her warm personality and smiling face put me at ease and made me feel welcome in my new surroundings. I was sorry to hear of her passing and that of her husband John’s passing just nineteen days apart. Those of us who’ve received an award in her name can only hope to live up to the character of this wonderful woman. My sincere condolences to her family and friends. This couple, married 72 years, will be truly missed.

—Esther Imbagliazzo

And the 2012 Marji Frank Award went to…

Nobody!

Why? Because nobody nominated anyone.

We have a large pool of bright, happy, talented, motivated volunteers out there – at least one of you deserved that very prestigious award. Come time to vote next year, just (as he [John O.] would have said):

DO IT!
To George Van Doren
From Nancy Cook

Ode to the Jazz Drummer on his Second Retirement

On my first day in the Info Booth, I met a man named George.
He’d been around so long, they said, He’d fought at Valley Forge.
George became my teacher, And he taught me all he knew.
I’d watch him do most every task, ‘til I could do it too.

George is the King of Grunion Talks.
His talks are widely hailed.
So I tried hard to copy him, But have to say I failed.
I gave my all. I tried my best, ‘til I could do it too.

I mastered hanging banners, And the slide show, pretty much, I copied well his touch tank talk, the locking up and such.

George is the King of Grunion Talks. His talks are widely hailed.
So I tried hard to copy him, But have to say I failed.

I gave my all. I tried my best, ‘til I could finally see, No one can emulate the style Of our own GVD.

We miss you, George!
Nancy

Notes from the Library
Marge Stockett, Library Representative

The new children’s furniture is now in the Library and the kids love it. It’s very popular for the Sunday kids program of coloring, crafts and stories, led by Arianna and Ashley.

Good-bye to Kathy Eddy
Esther Imbagliazzo

We said good-bye to Tour Coordinator Kathy Eddy in May. Cathy previously worked in banking and was offered a full-time job at Malaga Bank. The best of luck to you, Kathy. We are going to miss you.

A BIG THANK YOU
From Robert “Bunkie” Bailiff
2012 Volunteer of the Year

I just want to say “thanks” to all of you. It’s a great honor to have received this years’ award. It’s because of all the help I’ve received over the years from the volunteers, staff, friends, FRIENDS and the Board of CMA that makes me look so good. Again, thanks to each of you! Have a great and safe summer – see you in September.

The Bailiff Family
(Editor’s note: He deserved it!)

Party On!
MARK YOUR CALENDAR

July
7  Native Garden Workday/Beach Cleanup – 8-10am
14  Family Sandcastle Building Day – 10am-3pm
    Bring a shovel, bucket and sandwiches
15  Sunday Story Studio – 11:45am-12:45pm
20  Meet the Grunion – 8pm*
28  Salt Marsh Open House – 2-4pm

August
4  Native Garden Workday/Beach Cleanup – 8-10am
4  Marine Research Library – 7th Anniversary – 10am-4pm
    Stories, crafts and fun for all
13-17  Wet Tech – Grades 7-9 – 1-4pm – Design and build a remotely operated vehicle (ROV)
18  Robotics by the Sea – 11am-3pm – 3rd Annual Robotics Day
    Watch demonstrations and drive an ROV through an obstacle course
19  Sunday Story Studio – 12:45-1:45pm
19  Salt Marsh Open House – 2-4pm
26  Blue Whales and More – 9am-12noon – Boat leaves San Pedro for Catalina Channel
    Fee, registration 310-548-7562

* Meet the Grunion • Aquarium will open at 8pm.
The Grunion Program begins at 9pm in the John M. Olguin Auditorium.
Dress warmly and bring a blanket to sit on and a flashlight.

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 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