

Twenty-Second Annual International Sea-Bean Symposium and Beachcombers' Festival
Cocoa Beach Public Library—550 North Brevard Avenue, Cocoa Beach, Florida 32931
Open Free To The Public, October 20th & 21st, 2017

Schedule of Events*

Through the weekend: Sea-bean collections and displays, experts, sea-bean polishing, the famous Bean-O-Matic, jewelry, T-shirts, slide-shows, speakers, books, authors, international guests, raffle and contests (including the ever popular "ODD-BEAN" contest, and the Saturday morning "BEAN-A-THON" beachcombing bonanza!).

We are pleased to announce that Andy Dinsdale and Linda Emerson will be our featured Keynote Speakers for this year's event. Linda is a coastal environmental educator, writer and activist. In 2014, she founded Wildbluesea(.com), an ocean conservation non-profit based on insights from scientific research, field studies, and collaborative discussion. She has piloted creative initiatives in Florida, North Carolina, the Bahamas and the UK, using the power of the arts to nurture connection to nature, and the neuroscience behind our physical, mental and emotional well-being when we are close to nature, especially water. Andy Dinsdale has worked in community arts, travelled the world, built ancient wooden structures, and delivered education projects with national and local environmental organizations in the U.K. After his life changed with a chance sea-bean discovery, he now specializes in coastal engagement community events including beach clean-ups, surveys, and wildlife recording. Their presentation *Transatlantic Travelers* explores the intriguing journey of sea-beans and other drifters against a cultural and ecological backdrop that links North America and the northwest European coast through ocean currents. Using social media and the upsurge in beachcombers focusing on the U.K & Ireland, we can discover these links through sea-bean journeys, as well as the unwanted trash that follows the same routes.

"Beachy" books of all kinds will be available at the library. *Sea-Beans from the Tropics: A Collector's Guide to Sea-Beans and Other Tropical Drift on Atlantic Shores*, by Perry/Dennis (reprint edition 2010) will be on hand and Ed promises to be around, somewhere! Blair and Dawn Witherington will be with us all weekend with their new book *Florida's Living Beaches, Second Edition*, and their other most recent *Our Sea Turtles*. Dr. Curtis Ebbesmeyer will have his *Flotsametrics and the Floating World* throughout the weekend, and the ever-popular *The Little Book of Sea-Beans* by Cathie Katz and Paul Mikkelsen will also be available. This year we will again also make available for sale Cathie Katz' beautifully written and illustrated *The Nature of Florida's.....series*.

Thursday, October 19th (3-5pm)

Everyone is invited to the main conference room at the Cocoa Beach Public Library for an informal get-together and introduction, discussion of symposium plans, and to set up displays for the weekend. We need lots of help setting up tables, chairs, and displays, so please feel free to donate time and suggestions. At 6pm those interested can meet at Roberto's Little Havana Restaurant (1/2 mile south of the library at 26 N. Orlando Ave.—this place has GREAT Cuban food, and has become a Symposium tradition).

Friday, October 20th (9am-6pm)

Displays and collections open to the public all day, free, from 9am to 6pm. Enter your seeds for the ODD-BEAN contest (see 21st).
10:30 to 11:30 am: *Basic Beachcombing and Sea-Beans* (slide show)—by Margie Mitchell
12:30 to 1 pm *Sea Glass & the Rarity Scale*—by Ann Fisk & Diana Watkins
2 to 2:45 pm: *Flotsam in Florida from the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico* (slide show)—Dr. Curtis Ebbesmeyer
4 to 4:45 pm: *From Sea-Beans to Sea Turtles* (slide show)—by Suzy Pappas
6 pm: The library closes.

Saturday, October 21st (9am-9pm)

Displays and collections open to the public all day, free, from 9am to 5pm. Enter your seeds for the ODD-BEAN contest (see 4:30).
8:00 to 10:00 am: **Bean-A-Thon 2017**—You are on your own; don't come to the library first if you participate. Collect sea-beans and or toys/trash/sea-glass on any beach between Canaveral National Seashore and Sebastian Inlet. You MUST have your beans/toys/sea-glass at the library by 10:30am. Contest is judged/tallied per individual effort in the 2hr. time frame, please. No doubling-up.
9:00 am: Library opens.
10:30 to 11:15: Judges will tally Bean-A-Thon entries outside in front of the library (awards at 7pm that night).
11:00 to Noon: *Beachcombing for Right Whales & Other Rarities* (slide show)—by Dr. Tom Pitchford
1:00 to 1:45 pm: *Beach Quest—A Sea Turtle's Tour of Florida* (slide show)—by Blair & Dawn Witherington
2:15 to 3:00 pm: *Sea Turtles & Sea-Beans* (slide show)—by Jim Angy
3:00 to 4:00 pm: *Time to visit tables (tables taken down at 5pm!), enter the Odd-Bean Contest, and prepare for the group photo.*
4 to 4:30: **GROUP PICTURE OUTSIDE THE LIBRARY! Be in it! Bring your camera!**—photos taken by Jim Angy
4:30 pm: ODD-BEAN contest judging (for entries submitted all through the weekend). In a baggie with your name, address/phone number place your **smallest hamburger bean, smallest seaheart, smallest sea purse, and smallest "sea-pig"** from an existing sea-bean collection. "Oddness" will be determined by the judges. These entries DO NOT have to be found in the Saturday morning Bean-A-Thon. They can come from your existing collection. Please enter!!!!
Dinner Break: 5:00pm to 7pm: Tables and displays will be taken down in preparation for the keynote presentation.
7:00 pm: Prompt! **Bean-A-Thon** and **ODD-BEAN** contest awards and certificates presented. Raffle winners chosen. Door to the event room will open back up at 6:30 pm for those arriving back early from dinner.
7:45 to 8:45 pm: **Keynote Speakers** (slide show)—*Transatlantic Travelers* (slide show) by Andy Dinsdale & Linda Emerson
9 pm: Library closes for 2017 Symposium. See you next year in Texas!

Sunday, October 22nd (8-10am)

You are on your own. Enjoy Brevard County, hit the beaches, or visit the Space Center. Meet, if interested, at Ritch Grissom Memorial Wetlands in Viera, north end of Wickham Road as far west as you can drive, 8 am. Jim Angy will lead a field trip showing off some of our local wildlife; bring your camera.

*October is still HURRICANE SEASON in Florida, so our schedule is at the mercy of the powers beyond our control. Hurricanes are wonderful for beaning, but can be dangerous for beachwalkers. Our beachcombing and Symposium activities may be cancelled because of severe weather, in which case we'll follow evacuation procedures to the mainland. In the event of a hurricane, information will be available at your hotel and at the library. Also check www.seabean.com for possible Symposium schedule changes and/or cancellations.