

Eighth Annual International Sea-Bean Symposium
Cocoa Beach Public Library—550 North Brevard Avenue, Cocoa Beach, Florida 32931
Open Free To The Public, October 10th & 11th, 2003

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, and contests (including the ever popular “ODD-BEAN” contest, and the Saturday morning “BEAN-A-THON” beachcombing bonanza!)

We are pleased to announce Dr. David Cox from Vero Beach, Florida will be our keynote speaker Saturday evening (7:45pm). David will present a wonderful lecture on Mermaid’s Purses, which so many of us find intriguing. I have seen this presentation before, and it’s superb and very interesting.

Natural history writers and books will be available through the weekend. Krieger Publishing Company will be pleased to present *Sea-Beans from the Tropics: A Collector’s Guide to Sea-Beans and Other Tropical Drift on Atlantic Shores*, by Perry/Dennis (2003). Ed Perry will be on-hand to sign copies. The ever popular *The Little Book of Sea-Beans* will also be available, and co-author Paul Mikkelsen will be present to sign copies. Some of Jack Rudloe’s (out of print) works will also be available; he was our keynote speaker in 2001. Izumi Hanno, our Drifter from Japan, will be displaying at this year’s event—don’t miss this. This lady is one GREAT artist of drift seeds. Her artwork, and some of Cathie’s, will make up this year’s T-shirt logo—very nice!

Thursday, October 9th (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 10th (9-5pm)

Displays and collections open to the public all day, free, from 9am to 5pm. Enter your seeds for the ODD-BEAN contest. 11 to 11:45am: *Beginners’ Beachwalking* (slide show) by Sebastian Inlet State Park Ranger Ed Perry. 3 to 3:45pm: *What’s Floating Our Oceans Now?!* (slide show/lecture) by Oceanographer Dr. Curt Ebbesmeyer. 5pm: The library closes; meet for dinner at Roberto’s Little Havana Restaurant (1/2 mile south of the library at 26 N. Orlando Ave., on southbound A.1.A.).

Saturday, October 11th (8-9pm)

Displays and collections open to the public all day, free, from 9am to 9pm. Enter your seeds for the ODD-BEAN contest. 8 to 10 am: Bean-A-Thon 2003 —You are on your own; don’t come to the library first if you participate. Collect sea-beans and or toys/trash on any beach between Canaveral National Seashore and Sebastian Inlet. You MUST have your beans/toys at the library by 10:30am. Contest is judged/tallied per individual effort in the 2hr. time frame, please. 9am: Library opens. 10:30 to Noon: Judges will tally Bean-A-Thon entries outside in front of the library (awards at 7pm that night). 4:00pm: Special presentation by Paul Mikkelsen; if you knew Cathie you won’t want to miss this! 5:30pm: ODD-BEAN contest judging (for entries submitted all through the weekend). In a baggie with your name, address/phone number place your largest hamburger, biggest heart, and stripiest nickar from an existing sea-bean collection. Dinner Break: 5:30pm to 7pm. 7pm: Prompt! Bean-A-Thon and contest awards and certificates presented. Raffle winners chosen. 7:45 to 8:45pm: Keynote speaker Dr. David Cox—“The Magic of Mermaids’ Purses”

Sunday, October 12th (9-11am)

Take down displays; small business meeting to discuss and schedule dates/help for next year’s symposium.

*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 activities may be cancelled because of severe weather, in which case we’ll follow evacuation procedures to the mainland. Hurricane information will be available at your hotel and at the library.

The Drifting Seed, September 2003