

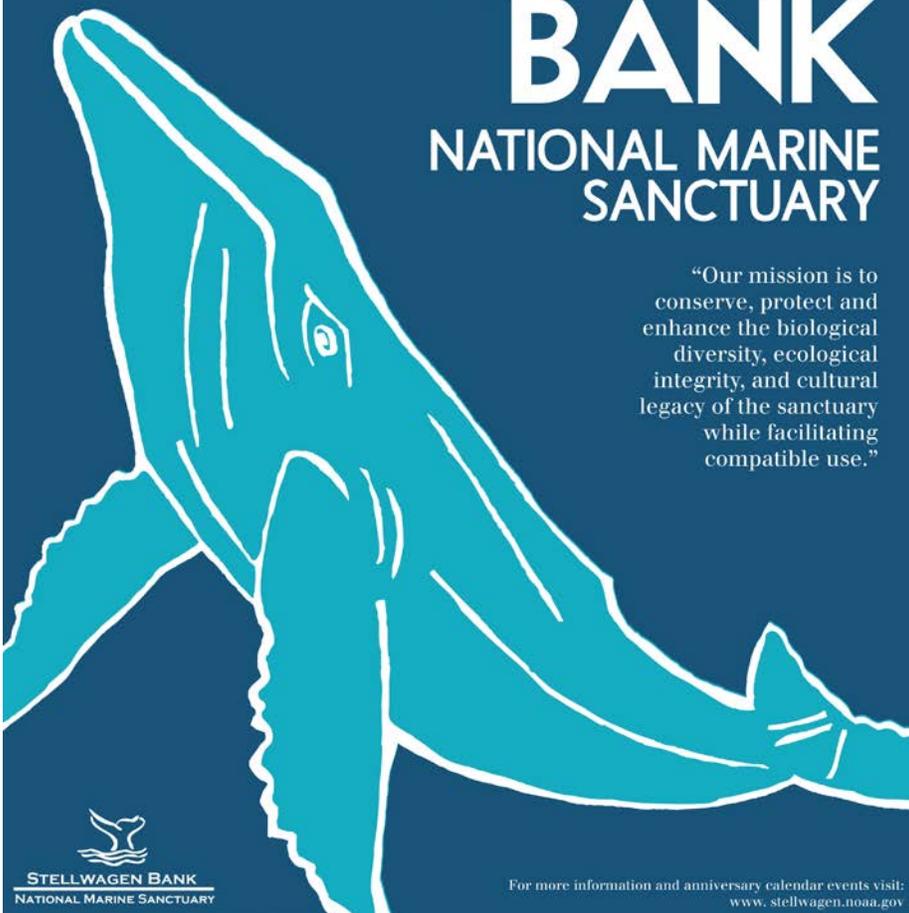
STELLWAGEN BANK E-NOTES: *sanctuary news & events* July 2012

20th ANNIVERSARY of

STELLWAGEN BANK

NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

“Our mission is to conserve, protect and enhance the biological diversity, ecological integrity, and cultural legacy of the sanctuary while facilitating compatible use.”




STELLWAGEN BANK
NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

For more information and anniversary calendar events visit:
www.stellwagen.noaa.gov

Grand Prize Winner from the 2012 Marine Art Contest, Computer Graphics-Sanctuary 20th Anniversary Division,
by Alexandra Walker, Hingham High School.



www.facebook.com/SBNMS

Stellwagen Revealed celebration to be held in Woods Hole

Thursday, July 19 through Saturday, July 21

In 1992 Congress designated a special place off the Massachusetts coast in waters recognized as an important fishing ground and the birthplace of East Coast whale watching. Gerry E. Studds Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary celebrates its 20th anniversary with a gala festival in Woods Hole on July 19-21, 2012.

Join us for music, panel discussions, exhibits, children's activities and art displays, a research vessel open house and talks about exciting new research in the sanctuary. All programs are free and handicapped accessible.

Stellwagen Revealed events will be held in various locations in the Woods Hole community, including Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Marine Biological Laboratory and NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center. Visit the sanctuary website at <http://stellwagen.noaa.gov> and page 3 of this issue for more information about the program.

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<http://stellwagen.noaa.gov/>

Humpback whales highlighted in new sanctuary exhibit at Cape Cod Museum of Natural History

They are international travelers without passports – long-distance migratory species that link Stellwagen Bank with far distant locations. Now, one of those species –the humpback whale– is showcased in an exhibit at the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History in Brewster, Mass. The exhibit highlights “sister sanctuary” agreements with governments in the Caribbean that protect these whales in their winter breeding grounds

just as the Stellwagen sanctuary serves in their summer feeding grounds.

Animals without Passports was developed with funding from the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary and the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History. Exhibit design was by Lyons/Zaremba, Inc. and technical advice and content review provided by Jooke Robbins of the Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies. Visit the museum’s website at www.ccmnh.org for museum hours and admission fees.



The *Feeding Grounds* section of the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History *Animals without Passports* exhibit includes information about sanctuary research on whale behavior. Photo: Deborah Marx, SBNMS

National Marine Sanctuary Fishing and Photo Contest Underway

The National Marine Sanctuary “Classic” is a free summer-long fishing and photo contest featuring four National Marine Sanctuaries (Channel Islands, Monterey Bay, Florida Keys and Gray’s Reef) although photos taken in any National Marine Sanctuary will qualify.

Ten \$100 prizes will be given each week to the people submitting the photographs that get the most “votes.” At the end of the summer, \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to the four photos judged to best demonstrate one or more of the contest themes of Kids Fishing, Kids and Family Values, Kids in the Outdoors, Kids in the Sanctuary and Kids’ Conservation.

NOAA Sanctuaries and NOAA Fisheries support sustainable recreational fishing, with some 98 percent of sanctuary waters open to this activity. The “Classic” caters to a broad spectrum of recreational fishing enthusiasts and provides conservation and ethical angling guidelines for the casual angler.

The contest is a project of the Sportfishing Conservancy and the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries with sponsorship from more than a dozen other organizations. For more information about the contest, visit <http://sanctuaryclassic.org>.

Ron Armonath named National Marine Sanctuaries Volunteer of the Year

Ron Armonath, Assistant District Staff Officer for Marine Safety-Marine Environment Programs for the Coast Guard Auxiliary in Massachusetts, has been named National Marine Sanctuaries Volunteer of the Year by the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation. He received the award at the foundation’s annual awards dinner at Capitol Hill Oceans Week in Washington, DC on June 8, 2012.

Ron recruits, trains and manages 10 to 12 volunteers based out of six ports who collect data on local whale watch vessel tracks.

This information has helped the sanctuary compile a typical “day in the life” of the sanctuary. Used in conjunction with the Automatic Identification System (an international safety system that tracks the movement of vessels) and fishing vessel data from NOAA Fisheries, the sanctuary has been able to better characterize commercial uses and visualize pressures on the system at different times of the day in different parts of the sanctuary. Ron’s work has assisted researchers who are analyzing noise levels in the sanctuary and how that sound

may be affecting marine mammals. This work has also been cited by the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis and the White House Council on Environmental Quality as the only data on whale watching effects in eastern U.S. waters; it was also used to build an ecosystem services tradeoff analysis as tasked by the President’s Ocean Policy Task Force for Comprehensive Marine Spatial Planning.

Since 2004, it is estimated that Ron has donated more than 1,000 hours of service to the sanctuary. His corps of citizen scientists has added an additional 1,200 volunteer hours over the past four years mapping tracks with GPS, recording animal behaviors, reporting possible violations of the Marine Mammal Protection Act to the NOAA Office of Law Enforcement and helping to locate entangled whales. This project allows retired Coast Guard personnel to continue a presence on the water while providing an invaluable service to the sanctuary.



Ron Armonath

Lamartine shipwreck listed on National Register of Historic Places

The wreck of a 19th century schooner that hauled granite for construction of streets, sidewalks and buildings along the East Coast has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the nation's official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation. The shipwreck of the *Lamartine*, a representative vessel of New England's granite trade, rests within the boundaries of the Stellwagen Bank sanctuary.

Built by a Camden, Maine shipbuilder, the 79-foot long, two-masted schooner was launched in 1848. During the vessel's 45-year career, it took part in the U.S. coastal trade carrying a variety of cargoes along the Eastern Seaboard. While en-route from Stonington, Maine to New York City, the *Lamartine* encountered a storm off Cape Ann on May 17, 1893. Heavy seas caused the schooner's cargo of granite sewer catch basin heads to shift, capsizing the vessel. One crewmember drowned as the ship settled beneath the waves and the captain



Two and three-masted schooners loaded granite cargoes directly from quarries in Stonington, Maine and Rockport, Mass. Photo courtesy: Deborah Marx.



(Above) The *Lamartine*'s cargo of granite basin heads proved to be its identifying characteristic. Note the chiseled groove around the manhole, which allowed the cover to fit flush with the slab's surface. Photo: SBNMS and NURTEC-UConn. (Right) A 1903 photo depicts a granite basin head in use on a Commonwealth Avenue street corner in Boston. Photo courtesy: Library of Congress.



and mate were forced to swim for their lives. Fortunately, a fishing schooner returning to Gloucester saw the *Lamartine* sink and rescued the men.

"*Lamartine*'s cargo of cut granite reveals fascinating details about the utilization of granite quarried in New England to meet the demands of this nation's increasing urbanization," said Craig MacDonald, sanctuary superintendent. "The shipwreck is a physical link to earlier generations who moved the stone and whose hands chiseled the granite blocks that built our great American cities."

Scientists from NOAA and the University of Connecticut's Northeast Underwater Research Technology and Education Center documented the shipwreck with the university's remotely operated vehicle. The fieldwork recorded the vessel's features including portions of its wooden hull, rigging and granite cargo.

The *Lamartine* is the sanctuary's sixth shipwreck site to be included on the National Register of Historic Places, administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior's National Park Service. For more information about the *Lamartine*, visit <http://stellwagen.noaa.gov/maritime/granite.html>.

Stellwagen Revealed Schedule of Events: July 19-21

Thursday, July 19

8:00-11:00pm – **MOJELAROS**—Zydeco, Cajun and Latin Dance Bank at Woods Hole Community Hall. Also featuring Stellwagen Splash Raffle! (prizes from Woods Hole community businesses)

Friday, July 20

10:00am-5:00pm – **Winning Entries from K-12 Marine Art Contest** Art exhibit and art activities at Firehouse, Woods Hole Community Hall

2:00-4:30pm – Discussion Forum: "What is a Sanctuary?"

at WHOI Redfield Auditorium. Participants include: Larry Madin, WHOI Director of Research; Craig MacDonald, SBNMS Superintendent; David Wiley, SBNMS Research Coordinator; Roger Payne, Ocean Alliance President; Ron Smolowitz, Fisheries Consultant; Peter Ausler, NURTEC-UConn, Science Director; Rick Nolan, Boston Harbor Cruises Managing Partner; Angela Sanfilippo, Gloucester Fishermen's Wives President; and Chris Clark, Cornell Univ. Bioacoustics Research Program Director

7:00-8:00pm – "Sea Change: Reversing the Tide" a performance integrating science and poetry by Roger Payne and Lisa Harrow at WHOI Redfield Auditorium

8:00-11:00pm – **The Flip Side: A Mid-Summer's Blues Fest** at WH Community Hall

Saturday, July 21

10:00am-12:00pm and 1:00-3:00pm (two sessions) – **A Child's Sanctuary** Activities and games for children (ages 4-12) on sanctuary animals, shipwrecks and other resources at MBL Club

10:00am-3:30pm – **R/V Auk Open House** at NOAA Fisheries Dock

10:00am-5:00pm – **Winning Entries from K-12 Marine Art Contest** Art exhibit and art activities at Firehouse, Woods Hole Community Hall

10:00-11:30am and 1:30-3:00pm (two sessions) – **Sanctuary Science and Policy: Thinking Outside the Box.** Short talks and videos by sanctuary staff on new and exciting research projects. NOAA Fisheries Aquarium Conference Room

7:00-8:00pm – **Conservation and Environmental Stewardship Award Ceremony** for Graham Nash (founding member of Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young and The Hollies, and two-time inductee into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame) for past and ongoing efforts in ocean and environmental conservation and public awareness. MBL Lillie Auditorium, Woods Hole (Tickets required; limited tickets at the door)

20th Anniversary Calendar

- July 19-21 **Stellwagen Revealed** – a Sanctuary Celebration Event in Woods Hole – concerts, lectures, children’s programs, films. Programs will be held in various locations around Woods Hole

- July 23-28 **Provincetown Whale Week** – family friendly marine-themed events celebrating the 20th anniversary of the sanctuary sponsored by Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies.
Stellwagen Sanctuary Trivia Night (July 24).

- Sept.-Dec. **Sanctuary Natural and Cultural Resources** course at Massasoit Community College – beginning Sept. 11 and running through December. A 3-credit undergraduate basic sciences course offered by the college in cooperation with the sanctuary.

- Sept. 27-28 **Dolphin Fleet Special Whale Watch Ticket Program** in celebration of Stellwagen 20th Anniversary and Sister Sanctuary Partnerships.

- Sept. 29 **Stellwagen Bank Sanctuary Science and Education Symposium** – Boston Harbor Educators Conference – at UMass/Boston. Sponsored by Massachusetts Marine Educators, SBNMS, UMass/Boston, MWRA and Boston Harbor Islands. Contact anne.smcina@noaa.gov for more information.

Winners of marine art contest posted on sanctuary website; art to tour

A new collection of amazing images of whales, fishes, seabirds, invertebrates and turtles is now available for viewing. Winners and honorable mentions from the annual K-12 Marine Art Contest have been posted on the sanctuary’s website at <http://stellwagen.noaa.gov/pgallery/kidscorner.html>. The contest, sponsored by Massachusetts Marine Educators and co-sponsored by the sanctuary, New England Aquarium, Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies, Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society and Stellwagen Alive, attracted 800 entries, primarily from Massachusetts, but also several other states, the Peoples Republic of China and Kazakhstan. Winning art will become part of an exhibit that will start touring in July. Check the sanctuary website for information about art show locations and 2013 contest notices.



(Above) *Herring Catch* by Keegan Gilmore, grade 10, Nauset Reg. HS, 1st Place HS Div. (Below) *Humpback Mother and Calf* by Elisabeth Bowerman, grade 10, Falmouth HS, 2nd Place HS Div.



Yourwhales.org billboard greets Metro Boston drivers



Billboard whale photo by Oktay Kaya

A billboard highlighting sanctuary whales greets drivers passing through the Braintree split on Route 93 at Granite Street. The project is a joint effort of the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, the International Fund for Animal Welfare, Dolphin Fleet Whale Watch and the sanctuary. The billboard faces southbound traffic for the first part of the summer and will be switched to a northbound traffic location for August.

NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY SYSTEM



Scale varies in this perspective. Adapted from National Geographic Maps.

National Marine Sanctuaries
1972-2012: Celebrating 40 Years

Gery E. Studts
Stellwagen Bank
National Marine Sanctuary
1992-2012: Celebrating 20 Years



<http://stellwagen.noaa.gov/>