

SHARK RESEARCH INSTITUTE NEWSLETTER

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Shark protection...

Data regarding attacks by sand tiger sharks *E. taurus*, was sent to C. Michael Baily of National Marine Fisheries in Silver Spring, MD. He is working to secure Federal protection for white sharks, basking sharks, whale sharks and sand tiger sharks. SRI supports his efforts and will provide updates on his progress.

Brazilian reporters, Vanessa de Sa and Flavio Gieguez, gathering material for a series of articles promoting protection for white sharks in Brazilian waters, interviewed several SRI members and scientists on our Board in August.

Congratulations!...

To Andrew Gifford who was appointed Director of the Shark Research Institute - African Operations by SRI's Board of Directors.

From Africa...

In June Rob Allen tagged another whale shark in Mozambique.

In July, SRI's microlight participated in a fly-by at the Virginia Airport Air Show in Durban.

Public education...

Images from SRI's photo library were sent to James Cervino, conservation writer and researcher at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, for use in his lectures and magazine articles.

Marie Levine spoke at the New York Sea Gypsies meeting on September 13th in New York City. Her topic was SRI's Whale Shark Tagging Study off the coast of East Africa and how the sport diving community could become involved.

On October 11th at 3 pm Dr Maurice Coutts will be presenting a lecture titled "The Sensory Mechanisms of Sharks" at the National Academy of Sciences, Museum of Natural History in Philadelphia. On the same day John Lasley will give a presentation titled "Our World -- Underwater" to the Rotary Club at Edison, NJ.

Marcia and Ken McMahan have been attending classes throughout the summer to learn multimedia production. October 30 to November 1 Marcia will be attending *On Line '95*, a conference exploring multimedia and the World Wide Web.

Frank Ancona has provided SRI with videotape of recent footage of sharks (shot 1993-1995). It includes bull and whitetip reef sharks at Costa Rica, a whale shark at La Paz, and a nurse shark at Turks & Caicos .

Fish-O-Rama...

From September 16-23, SRI joined Clean Ocean Action and the American Littoral Society to support Fish-O-Rama 1995. The event, aimed at sport divers and fishermen, celebrated biodiversity and conservation of the marine environment.

Global Shark Attack File...

On July 1st a 31-year-old SCUBA diver, Marco Flagg, was attacked by a white shark near Whaler's Cove, Point Lobos Marine Reserve, Monterey, California. The attack occurred at 5:30 pm, moments after the support boat started its engines. The diver, then at a depth of 40', was bitten on his right shoulder, thigh and torso and required 15 stitches, but his cylinder prevented serious injury.

There were a number of attacks in Florida this summer. One involved three surfers off New Smyrna, Florida; All were standing in the shallows when they were bitten. Only one surfer's injuries needed medical treatment; Erik Kozak required eight sutures to close 3" to 4" tooth marks on his leg.

On September 13th William Covert, age 25, disappeared while scuba diving near Islamorada in the Florida Keys. The body was not recovered, but some of his equipment and clothing appeared to have been bitten by a shark. The incident is being investigated by Dr. Gordon Hubbell. It was also rumored that there was a shark attack in Belize, but we have uncovered no details.

Fundraising

Marie Levine attended a Proposal Writing Seminar sponsored by the Foundation Center on September 22, 1995. She returned with many new ideas and confident that we will have more success with our fundraising efforts in 1996.

Aquariums...

Marie Levine and SRI Field Volunteer Kathy Rothschild recently met with Louis Garibaldi, Director, and Paul L. Sieswerda, Animal Curator, at the Aquarium for Wildlife Conservation in Coney Island, NY, to discuss ways in which our two organizations could be of mutual assistance. AWC would like our publications and other materials that they could use in their presentations on sharks.

Special thanks go to Amy Ritter of Shedd Aquarium for providing free passes for SRI members in August. Any members who wish a behind-the-scenes tour of the Aquarium should contact Amy at least a week prior to their anticipated visit. Thanks also go to the NJ State Aquarium for a behind-the-scenes tour of their facility for SRI members in August. The tour, given by Mike Skolnik, and arranged by Dawn Hughes, was appreciated.