LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

It's amazing how fast three years fly by. When our recently-retired CEO, Dr. Ian Dutton, began his role in November 2008, the country was in the midst of the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression. To ensure continued, robust successes for the Center, Ian knew a lot of work had to be done. He immediately re-gearied the Alaska SeaLife Center (ASLC), utilizing active engagement of board members, staff, and partner organizations. Ian also championed the new strategic plan, Deep Blue 2020, which has already proven invaluable. This strategic plan helped create a greater diversity of funding, ensuring our mission-driven work will meet the needs of Alaska’s policy and decision makers.

Our re-engineering culminated in 2011 when the ASLC became accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). This gold standard of program and facility excellence is awarded to less than 5% of all zoos and aquariums in the United States. We are deservedly proud of our organization. As a team that has always been guided by the Center’s high values, we’re now also operating by the high standards our AZA accreditation demands.

Ian stepped down as CEO in November 2011, taking a new role in philanthropy with the Rasmuson Foundation in Anchorage. The board thanks him for his outstanding service and is pleased Ian remains engaged with the Center as a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee. He’ll also assist with the Center’s 3rd Alaska Marine Gala on February 18th, 2012 at the Dena’ina Center.

As we search for a new leader, the board appointed Dr. Tara Riemer Jones, our Chief Operating Officer, as Interim CEO. Dr. Jones has been with the Center for over eight years and brings a wealth of experience and dedication.

On behalf of the board, staff, volunteers, and members of the Alaska SeaLife Center, we thank you for your support through 2011. We encourage you to stay involved as we move forward with many new and exciting phases of our strategic plan.

Finally, I hope to see you at our 2012 Alaska Marine Gala!

Stephen Grabacki, Board Chair
The Alaska SeaLife Center
The Alaska SeaLife Center’s mission is generating and sharing scientific knowledge to promote understanding and stewardship of Alaska’s marine ecosystems.

2011 HIGHLIGHTS:

• Four new Steller sea lions now call the ASLC home. Two females, Tasu and Eden, are from the Vancouver Aquarium. Pilot and Sitka, a young male and female respectively, arrived from the Dolfinarium in Harderwijk, Netherlands.

• The ASLC was accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums after a rigorous two-year preparation and evaluation process. Less than 5% of zoos in the country achieve this accreditation.

• ASLC staff proudly celebrated the Center’s second successful marine mammal birth, welcoming harbor seal Kordelia on June 8th, 2011.

• The Distance Learning Program received a Pinnacle Award, a major recognition from the Center for Interactive Learning and Collaboration.

• Surveys conducted throughout 2011 document nearly 93% of ASLC visitors learned something new about marine ecosystems in Alaska during their visit.

• The 4th International Sea Duck Conference was co-hosted by the ASLC and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Seward.
AZA Accreditation

In September 2011, the Alaska SeaLife Center was granted accreditation by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). Less than 5% of the nation’s 6,000 zoos and aquariums currently hold this gold standard certification. To become accredited, the ASLC underwent a thorough two-year evaluation process to ensure we would meet AZA’s ever-rising standards in animal care, veterinary programs, conservation, education, and safety. The accreditation process also included a detailed written application and a meticulous on-site inspection by a team of trained zoo and aquarium professionals from around the country. This team prepared an extensive report for AZA’s independent Accreditation Commission. Finally, several ASLC staff were interviewed at a formal commission hearing in Atlanta, Georgia.

“By meeting the high accreditation standards of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, the Alaska SeaLife Center has demonstrated its national leadership among zoos and aquariums,” said AZA President and CEO Jim Maddy. “Only the best of the best rise to this level, and we congratulate the professionals at the Alaska SeaLife Center for their hard work.”

Education Tax Credit

During the 2011 Alaska State legislative session, an amendment was made to the Alaska Education Tax Credit program. This amendment allows companies that pay corporate taxes to the State of Alaska to receive a tax credit for any donations they offer to the ASLC that enhance its research, stranding or education programs. This new amendment greatly enhances the competitiveness of the ASLC to solicit corporate partnerships as well as pursue once unavailable funding opportunities. The Center sees this amendment as a chance to work more effectively with Alaskan businesses on issues and species of mutual interest. Thus far, we’ve met with 20 Alaskan companies to discuss potential areas of collaboration. Throughout 2012, we will be expanding our efforts to engage with oil, gas, mining, and fishery industries.
SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Science is one of the foundations of the Center’s mission. Working in partnership with the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences at the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF), we are at the cutting edge of global coldwater marine scientific research specializing in upper trophic levels. Our work directly informs marine educators, natural resource managers, and communities throughout Alaska, as well as industry and other stakeholders in the North Pacific ecosystem.

Cook Inlet Beluga Whale Monitoring
Dr. Lori Polasek, ASLC Scientist and UAF Research Assistant Professor, conducted a pilot project monitoring Cook Inlet beluga whales in the lower Little Susitna River over the summer. Using live video feeds, beluga whale occurrences and current population numbers were assessed.

One of the most rewarding and valuable project outcomes was the recording of rarely captured beluga whale behaviors such as breaching, spyhopping, and adult/newborn calf interactions. All of these behaviors are infrequently seen by researchers or observers in the field.

This project was made possible in part by ConocoPhillips and their generous donation of facilities, equipment, and staff time.

Steller Sea Lion Capture
As part of the ASLC’s ongoing conservation research on endangered Steller sea lions, marine mammal staff spent another summer studying wild juvenile sea lion physiology and behavior. This research is critical to understanding why Alaska’s western stock of Steller sea lions are endangered and what factors have caused them to significantly decline over the last several decades.

With our special in-house quarantine facility, wild juvenile Steller sea lions are temporarily housed for up to 12 weeks. To minimize human-sea lion interaction, all gates can be opened and all animals fed without a staff member entering the enclosures. This unique facility within the Center has allowed researchers to become a forerunner in cutting-edge, conservation research.

Studying Seals in Antarctica
Dr. Jo-Ann Mellish, ASLC Scientist and UAF Research Associate Professor, received a National Science Foundation grant to study the energetics of Weddell seals in Antarctica. This type of study is the first of its kind and will help create accurate models for predicting the effects of changing polar environments on marine mammals.

Dr. Mellish was joined by a team of several researchers – Dr. Markus Horning and Mee-ya Monnin from Oregon State University, Dr. Rachel Berngartt from Bridge Veterinary Services, ASLC post-doc Dr. Allyson Hindle from Colorado State University and Roger Hill of Wildlife Computers.

Steller Sea Lion Breeding Program
Dr. Lori Polasek, one of the Center’s Marine Mammal Scientists, worked with several aquariums to secure breeding loans of three female Steller sea lions and bring them to the ASLC. This past spring Tasu, Eden, and Sitka were introduced to 18-year-old Woody as part of the Center’s on-going Steller sea lion breeding program. All four animals were housed together throughout the breeding season.
Counting Steller Sea Lions in Russia

Dr. Russ Andrews, ASLC Scientist and UAF Research Assistant Professor, continues to collaborate on a long-term project studying population dynamics and the foraging ecology of Steller sea lions in Russia. By comparing geographically different rookery populations with increasing and decreasing population trends, the ASLC gains invaluable insight into the causes of low birth rates, providing useful data to fisheries managers.

Publications and Presentations

The 9th annual Alaska SeaLife Center Science Colloquium took place on April 6th and 7th in conjunction with a Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting. A presentation by Bill Wilson, Chair of the SAC, was delivered alongside 23 presentations representing the Center’s scientific, educational, and stewardship programs.

In cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Geological Survey, the Center co-hosted the 4th International Sea Duck Conference September 12th-16th. This meeting drew circumpolar attendance. Sixty-four verbal presentations and 45 posters were presented during the conference. Attendees also shared special behind-the-scenes tours, workshops, and a banquet.

Marine Bird Research

Dr. Tuula Hollmén, ASLC Scientist and UAF Research Associate Professor, led the 10th year of eider research at the Center. Highlights of the year included: the first parent-reared spectacled eider duckling (named Uno), the first clutch of eggs laid by Solo (the first Steller’s eider bred in captivity in North America - at the ASLC), and testing of new radio transmitter tracking techniques for sea ducks. Dr. Hollmén and John Maniscalco have begun monitoring seabirds in the Kenai Fjords area using remote cameras, adding to the Center’s repertoire of remote observation capacity.

Video Monitoring of Steller Sea Lions at Chiswell

The research team led by John Maniscalco, ASLC Research Associate, completed our 13th year of Steller sea lion video monitoring at the Chiswell Island rookery and nearby haulouts. A total of 92 pups were born on Chiswell Island in 2011, more than any other year since our breeding observations began in 1999. During March and April, 38 adult male and female sea lions were biopsy-darted at their haulouts for studies on blubber fatty acids, contaminants, and genetics. Twenty-seven pups were captured and sampled on June 30th at Chiswell Island for a variety of individual health, genetic, and ecological studies.

Alaska SeaLife Center’s Scientific Publications and Presentations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
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<tr>
<td>Journal Articles &amp; Book Chapters</td>
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<td>Publications in Press &amp; Submitted</td>
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</table>
Sequoia

Hatched on July 22nd, a tufted puffin named Sequoia is quickly filling her role as an ambassador of her species. This role obviously takes a unique bird with a very special personality.

Currently, Sequoia is in training to be an education bird. She will help teach ASLC visitors and students about the marine environment, conservation, and Alaskan seabirds through keeper chats, school programs, and puffin encounters. Sequoia was chosen for this role because, even as a chick, she was always interested in people and is a very inquisitive and confident bird.

Sequoia didn’t spend 2011 on exhibit with the other birds, but instead spent all of her time with the aviculturists, learning important training behaviors and helping create some of our puffin paintings.

Kordelia’s Birth

On June 8th, which also happens to be World Oceans Day, seven-year-old Pacific harbor seal Atuun gave birth to a female pup. Although a first time mother, Atuun experienced no labor complications and delivered a healthy pup during the night. Ardent Alaska SeaLife Center supporter, 11-year-old Keefer Brown, was awarded the opportunity to select the new pup’s name. Kordelia means “Goddess of the Sea” in Celtic lore.

Kordelia spends her time working on a variety of husbandry behaviors such as learning how to stay on scale, moving into a transport carrier, and following the cues of her trainers.

Mobile Touch Tank

With the support of a Rasmuson Foundation grant, the ASLC’s creative aquarium and exhibits staff constructed a new Traveling Tidepools touch tank. This portable exhibit is designed to travel! Jared Guthridge, ASLC Aquarium Coordinator, designed and built the entire life support system, which can be removed for easy transportation of the exhibit. Traveling Tidepools will make its premiere appearance at the 2012 Marine Gala before moving on to fairs, festivals, and other events on the road system. Invertebrates traveling in the new touch tank will include urchins, sea anemones, sea stars, and hermit crabs.
STEWARDSHIP

The ASLC plays an active role in promoting stewardship of Alaska’s ocean resources. Our Conservation Program uses applied science and education to improve understanding, management, and viability of Alaska’s marine resources. The Rescue and Rehabilitation Program treats injured or distressed animals with the goal of releasing them back into the wild.

Alaska Clean Seas

The ASLC recently partnered with Alaska Clean Seas, a non-profit organization that protects the environment by providing response services to the Alaska North Slope Crude Oil Producers and the first 167 miles of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline.

With this new partnership, the Center is training an ASLC staff team capable of rapidly responding to potential oil spills on the North Slope. Our team will be dedicated to protecting wildlife in the event of an oil spill as well as developing future protocols and response training. These new protocols will also be used by North Slope volunteers and members of the Alaska Clean Seas staff.

Recovery Teams

ASLC scientists and veterinarians contribute to stewardship of the marine environment as members of the recovery teams for several endangered species. Dr. Tuula Hollmén serves on the recovery teams for both the Steller’s and spectacled eiders, contributing her strong research background with both species of eiders and experience in managing captive colonies at the Center. Dr. Carrie Goertz, Staff Veterinarian, serves on the science panel of the Cook Inlet beluga recovery team, providing a special expertise in marine mammal disease and stranding, plus hands-on field and captive work with belugas in Alaska and at Mystic Aquarium.

Marine Debris Expedition

ASLC staff introduced the global marine debris art project GYRE at the 5th International Marine Debris Conference in Honolulu and a symposium held in Atlanta. With the public launch, the ASLC initiated fundraising with grants from the North American Marine Environment Protection Association, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Rasmuson Foundation. Partners on this project include the Anchorage Museum, Blue Ocean Institute, and the Smithsonian Institution.

In 2011, ASLC staff also convened the first GYRE expedition planning meeting with scientist Carl Safina and acclaimed artist Pam Longobardi. A promotional film for the project can be viewed at: www.anchoragemuseum.org/gyre.

Invasive Species Work

The ASLC continues to monitor for invasive species in the Seward area. In 2011, staff deployed crab traps and tunicate plates from March through December in Resurrection Bay as part of a citizen science program led by the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center. Although no invasive species have been seen in the bay, the monitoring program has been a great opportunity for outreach and education. Ongoing monitoring also establishes a baseline for species found around Seward and increases the success of early detection and rapid response should new species enter this area.

The ASLC monitoring program has also started a project in collaboration with the University of Alaska Anchorage Institute of Social and Economic Research to evaluate the economic impacts of invasive species in Alaska.
**Rehab Review**

The 2011 rehabilitation season was a bit quieter than in past years. In total, the stranding program responded to 39 marine mammal calls and admitted 48 birds.

Throughout the spring and summer months, 11 harbor seals were admitted and all were released back into the wild. Upon release, five of these seals were equipped with satellite tracking devices that allowed the ASLC to continue studying the geographical movement of rehabilitated marine mammals.

Other notable successes included receiving two National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Prescott grants and also a Sea World grant to purchase more satellite tracking tags.

**Rescue and Rehabilitation**

**Annual events held in Seward**

**6th Annual Alaska State Stranding Meeting**

The ASLC hosted the Alaska Stranding network annual meeting on February 8, 9 and 10. Over 80 enthusiastic participants joined us for three very intense days of training.

**5th Annual Indoor Mini-Golf Tournament**

The creative and challenging course took players behind-the-scenes as they sought holes amidst a variety of interesting “terrains.”

**12th Annual 5K Wildlife Rescue Run**

Held every August, this run/walk attracted over 100 participants in 2011.

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**Rescued Ringed Seal**

Napa, an orphaned ringed seal pup found abandoned outside of Nome, was called into the Center’s stranding hotline this past spring. After her initial quarantine period ended, Napa was deemed healthy and moved to the Center’s marine mammal department to begin participating in a husbandry training program. She is currently housed with our harbor seals and continues to work with the marine mammal trainers to learn important care behaviors.

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**Mammals Admitted/Responded To**

- 39 Marine Mammals
- 10 Species

**Bird Call Responses**

- 48 Birds
- 19 Species

**Stranding Hotline Call Log**

- 100 Marine Mammals
- 76 Birds
**Education**

Education programs at the Center connect students and adults from around the world to Alaska’s marine ecosystems. Scientific knowledge is shared through distance learning connections, overnight nocturnes, day programs, and school visits to both urban and rural students.

**Education Highlights of 2011:**

- Outreach classes were taught in the Aleutians East, Unalaska, Kenai Peninsula, Lake & Peninsula, and Lower Kuskokwim school districts.
- Relationship built with the Distance & Rural Technology (DART) agency in New South Wales, Australia led to increased distance learning bookings from Down Under.
- Festivals and fairs attended include Kodiak’s Crab Fest, Girl Scouts Encampment, Potter Marsh Discovery Days, and Kid’s Day at the Alaska Native Heritage Center.
- As a partner with the Communicating Ocean Sciences Education Excellence (COSEE) in Alaska, staff at the ASLC piloted a concept-mapping workshop that paired scientists with teachers.
- Through the Center’s Ocean Alaska and Science Learning Center (OASLC) partnership with the National Park Service, the ASLC co-hosted OASLC’s annual teacher workshop. This year’s theme focused on the Alutiiq peoples and their historic use of local coastal resources.
- The Senior Education Manager and the Interpretation Supervisor joined the NSF-funded National Network on Climate Change Interpretation Study Circle project through the New England Aquarium in Boston. The results of their cognitive-framing project work will be transmitted to all ASLC staff.
- With funding from the Aquariums and Climate Change Network, the ASLC Education department hosted a climate change interpretation workshop with partners from Hatfield Marine Science Center, Oregon Coast Aquarium, Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, and Seattle Aquarium.
- In February, two ASLC staff traveled to Washington, DC with a team of high school students for Coastal America’s 2011 Student Summit.

**Pinnacle Award**

The ASLC Distance Learning Program was recognized with a coveted Pinnacle Award by the Center for Interactive Learning and Collaboration (CILC) for the coordination and delivery of top-ranking programs during the 2010-2011 school year. Award winners are chosen based on evaluation scores submitted by participating teachers. “Because the Pinnacle is based on direct input from teachers who have experienced the programs first hand, it is highly credible,” says John Ittlelson, CILC board member and professor emeritus at Cal State University Monterey Bay. “When teachers are choosing content to use in their own classrooms, the Pinnacle designation is a helpful tool to aid in the selection process.” The CILC currently supports over 200 global organizations. The ASLC program was recognized along with only 28 other programs for its outstanding educational programming to students in K-12 classrooms.

**Program Summary**

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<td>Nocturnes</td>
<td>1,336 students</td>
<td>1,120 students</td>
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<td>516 adults</td>
<td>413 adults</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day Programs</td>
<td>1,054 students</td>
<td>847 students</td>
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<td></td>
<td>267 adults</td>
<td>188 adults</td>
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<tr>
<td>Distance Learning</td>
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<td>956 adults</td>
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<td>Outreach Trips</td>
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<td></td>
<td>330 adults</td>
<td>196 adults</td>
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<tr>
<td>Road Scholars</td>
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*EDUCATION*

Students from Seward High School present their poster on ocean acidification to Jean Michel Cousteau at the Smithsonian Sant Ocean Hall.
NEW IN THE AQUARIUM

Hickel Overlook
The Walter J. and Ermalee Hickel Overlook was officially opened by Mrs. Ermalee Hickel, sons Joe and Ted, and grandson Cody. Looking out over Resurrection Bay, the Hickel Overlook is dedicated to the significant contributions the Hickel family made in helping to establish the Alaska SeaLife Center.

Sustainable Seafood Exhibit
Mimicking a fresh seafood market graced by the artwork of Rie Muñoz, this exhibit highlights the robust Alaskan seafood industry while providing valuable information about making ocean-friendly seafood choices. This exhibit was made possible by funding and support from the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute.

Haul Out Café
The café went through a major renovation, including a hand-painted undersea theme with shadows of fish and diving seabirds mingling with bull kelp.

Puffin and Seal Paintings
The Creative Critters Art Gallery, hosted in the Haul Out Café, now provides a permanent and dedicated display space for the paintings. The staff also created and sold recycled bookmarks made from the painting’s leftover materials. Almost 200 paintings were sold in 2011.

Outdoor Sculptures
Located just outside the Center’s entrance, Salmon, by artist Brad Hughes, is a steel and cement sculpture depicting five Alaskan salmon species. Artist Lisa Rickey’s Bull Kelp depicts kelp using stainless steel.

North to the Future Theater
Sponsored by BP Alaska, the theater visually educates visitors about changes in the Arctic and the important scientific work taking place there.

Visitor Survey
Throughout Summer 2011, over 1,000 Alaska SeaLife Center visitors filled out a brief survey. We learned that many of our visitors (39%) hear about us from friends and family. Visitors (52%) usually decide to come to the Center on the day they visit. For most of our visitors (75%), it is the first time they have been here. The majority (63%) thought that the overall quality of the Center was excellent. Most importantly, 93% of visitors said that they learned something new about Alaska’s marine ecosystems.

Attendance and Participation

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<td>Mammal Encounter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Octopus Encounter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Puffin Encounter</td>
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<td>Puffin Experience</td>
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<td>Discovery Lab</td>
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<td>Behind-the-Scenes Tours</td>
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MARKETING & PHILANTHROPY

The role of the Marketing and Philanthropy Department is to inspire individuals and organizations to visit, support, engage and advocate for the Alaska SeaLife Center.

Round Up 4 Wildlife Rescue

Throughout the year, visitors to the ASLC or Discovery Gift Shop were asked if they would like to round up their purchase to the nearest dollar to support the Center's rescue and rehabilitation program. All donations went directly towards the care of stranded or abandoned marine animals.

PetZoo, a locally owned and operated chain of pet supply stores, became our first Round Up partner. In May, October, and December of 2011, PetZoo employees in Anchorage, Eagle River, Palmer and Wasilla asked their customers to round up as well, resulting in a total donation of $13,720.

Pick.Click.Give

2011 was the first year the ASLC was eligible to participate in Pick.Click.Give. The Center reached out to our friends, fans, and guests in a variety of ways – YouTube videos, Facebook updates and reminders, and even our CEO’s blog! The Center was also featured on the official Pick.Click.Give website.

Many Alaskans shared a portion of their Permanent Fund Dividend checks, donating over $8,000! The ASLC is proud that in its first year participating in Pick.Click.Give, it ranked 34th on the list of non-profits who benefited from the program.

Alaska Marine Gala

This year, the ASLC sought to bring the SeaLife Center to Anchorage in ways that enabled our research, education and stewardship work to be immediately understood. From the moment guests arrived in the reception area they were greeted by SeaLife on display! The upper level of the Dena'ina Center was transformed into a stunning visual and kinetic celebration of Alaska’s oceans.

The evening featured many highlights, but the presentation by guest speaker Joel Sartore, world-renowned National Geographic photographer, stood out for his ability to instill in people the desire to save Earth’s vanishing species and the places they call home.

The evening provided a wonderful opportunity for the Center to develop new partners and renew old friendships.

2011 Ocean Leadership Awards

Walter J. Hickel Lifetime Achievement Award
Dr. Clarence Pautzke

Ocean Literacy Award
Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies

Ocean Media Award
The Marine Conservation Alliance

Marine Research Award
Dr. Jeremy Mathis

Stewardship and Sustainability Award
Shell Alaska Venture
World Oceans Day
On June 8th, the ASLC celebrated World Oceans Day at the Center by inviting Seward's best chefs to square off in a seafood appetizer challenge.

Invitational
The 12th Annual ASLC Invitational lived up to all expectations, with a sensational day of fishing and an entertaining evening banquet.

Community Holiday Party
Guests were treated to an after-hours visit to the Center and had a chance to meet Santa, decorate cookies, play games, and explore the exhibits.

Membership Update
Our members continue to experience quality Members-Only Events each month at the Alaska SeaLife Center. Presently the ASLC has 625 members.

2011 Members Only Events

Pet First Aid and Emergency Preparedness
The ASLC Veterinary staff presented pet first aid and emergency preparedness with an Alaskan twist.

Alaska SeaLife Center Scavenger Hunts
Members learned new things about our exhibits and tested their knowledge about the Center.

Animal Enrichment
Husbandry staff helped guests assemble enrichment items for our animals. Guests then watched as the enrichment was introduced to the animals.

Explore-Beneath-the-Surface Dive
Guests were introduced to the ASLC Dive Team and their equipment. They were then given the opportunity to talk to the divers in the tank via the Center’s new underwater communication equipment.

The Scoop on Poop
The ASLC scientists took a hands-on approach presenting what it takes to study our sea lions and their diets.
Seawater Intake System Maintenance

The Center received $1 million from the State of Alaska to clean our seawater intake system. Pipes from the intake system bring all necessary seawater into the Center, which maintains and fills exhibits and animal holding pools.

During the cleaning process, several Pipeline Inspection Gauges (PIGs) of varying densities and size were placed in a launcher, located inside the Center, and pushed through a pipe using water pressure. These PIGs successfully removed most of the debris and buildup from inside the pipe, increasing the efficiency of the Center’s seawater intake system.

Seawater Heat Pumps

The Center received grants from the Denali Commission and the Alaska Energy Authority to install two 90-ton heat pumps during spring 2011. Using these heat pumps, the Center is removing heat from the seawater brought into the Center and using it to heat the building. These heat pumps have already turned out to be a significant cost saver for the Center, with an estimated $15,000 per month savings in overall utilities over the coldest winter months. Phase two of the project, funded by a grant from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, will connect the heat pumps to the Center’s existing outdoor pavement heating system and install a heat recovery system. In total, these changes will provide sixty percent of the Center’s annual heating requirements and will reduce carbon emissions by approximately 1.3 million pounds annually.

AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps Members have been an integral part of the ASLC staff for the past five years through federal funding from an outside organization. However, in 2011 the Center was awarded a grant to manage our AmeriCorps program in-house. This change allows ASLC AmeriCorps Members to receive all necessary training as well as take part in a graduation ceremony in Seward at the Center instead of in Juneau.

AmeriCorps Members assist the ASLC by improving environmental awareness within the Seward community and educating about marine ecosystems. Organizations such as the Boys and Girls Club, National Park Service, and the Teen and Youth Center directly benefited from the service and enthusiasm of ASLC AmeriCorps Members.
ALASKA SEALIFE CENTER STAFF

Every member of the ASLC team contributes to our mission and successes. Even in the face of a challenging economy, the hard-working Center staff have continued to strive for excellence every day.

Spring Cleaning

In April, every ASLC department took part in the first annual Spring Cleaning Day. File cabinets were emptied and clutter was banished in preparation for the busy summer season. Excess office supplies were collected and put in a central location to reduce future purchases. An in-house garage sale had staff bringing in items from all corners of the building for reuse by others. And, all paper collected building-wide was recycled! Prizes were awarded for the Best Recycler, Most Improved Laboratory, and Most Improved Office.

Coffee Cart

When the Haul Out Café closed after the summer season, Cindy Ecklund, Senior Human Resource Manager, decided to put a past skill to work. As owner of the first espresso stand in Seward, Cindy provided barista training to nine ASLC employees. A half-price morning coffee hour for staff led to a profitable use of the café in the off season. This year, Cindy and team were at it again. Some baristas were even nominated for the Ned Smith Teamwork Award for making life a little brighter and perkier for other staff.

2011 Board Awards

President’s Award
Lisa Hartman
Husbandry Manager
“Lisa was instrumental in helping the ASLC receive AZA accreditation.”

Laurie Morrow
Senior Education Manager
“Laurie’s hard work was evident this year through the increased requests for distance education programs.”

Ned Smith Award for Outstanding Team Work
Life Support and Facilities Team
“These teams deserve recognition for their hard work on two large-scale ASLC projects. After being told by outside contractors the Center’s time frame was unthinkable, they spent many nights and weekends committed to project completion.”

Unsung Hero Award
Dustin Phillips
Network Support Technician
“Dustin keeps our computers running and virus-free. He should be doubly thanked for putting up with our grumbling when we create our own computer headaches, which he proceeds to fix with cheerful diligence.”

Volunteer of the Year Award
Kendra Bauer
Veterinary Student Scholar
“While not obvious to many, Kendra was here as a volunteer and did not receive a stipend. She obtained her own funding through a school scholarship. Kendra was a great help and a pleasure to work with, logging over 350 volunteer hours in just three months.”

Planet Blue Award for Outstanding Partner Contribution
Dirk Derksen
USGS Biologist
“Dirk has been an exceptional partner and supporter of our science programs for over a decade. He has served on our Scientific Advisory Committee since April 2001, making him the longest serving member.”

Planet Blue Award
Lori Polasek
Marine Mammal Scientist
“Lori not only works diligently at her research projects, but generously shares her time educating both staff and visitors.”

Staff Statistics

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<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>End of Year Employees</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Five Year Employees</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ten Year Employees</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifteen Year Employees</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interns</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seasonal Staff</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteers hours</td>
<td>4,633</td>
<td>4,752</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AmeriCorps Member Hours</td>
<td>3,412</td>
<td>5,165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retention Rate</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FINANCIAL SUMMARY
Portfolio Financial Report 2010-2011

Revenues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants &amp; Contracts</td>
<td>5,739,493</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>5,388,074</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Improvement Grants &amp; Contracts</td>
<td>1,516,407</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>42,000</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitor</td>
<td>2,323,872</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>2,331,405</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>428,987</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>312,733</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment &amp; Other</td>
<td>49,063</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>44,145</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiscal Agent Fees</td>
<td>319,352</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>318,406</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Revenue Sources                  10,377,174  100%  8,448,557  100%

Expenses

Mission Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>2,630,057</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>2,255,983</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation</td>
<td>161,227</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>212,521</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>348,604</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>203,002</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehabilitation</td>
<td>319,757</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>349,195</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facility Operations</td>
<td>3,222,665</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>2,811,726</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Management</td>
<td>1,786,132</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>1,799,686</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitor Services</td>
<td>466,791</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>429,938</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Care</td>
<td>885,947</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>767,949</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Expenditures                         9,821,180  100%  8,830,000  100%

Revenues 2011

- 55% Grants & Contracts
- 15% Capital Improvements
- 0% Investment & Other
- 3% Fiscal Agent Fees
- 4% Contributions
- 22% Visitors

Revenues 2010

- 64% Grants & Contracts
- 0% Capital Improvements
- 1% Investment & Other
- 4% Fiscal Agent Fees
- 4% Contributions
- 28% Visitors

Expenses 2011

- 9% Animal Care
- 5% Visitor Services
- 18% General Management
- 33% Facility Operations
- 3% Rehabilitation
- 4% Education
- 2% Conservation
- 27% Research

Expenses 2010

- 9% Animal Care
- 5% Visitor Services
- 20% General Management
- 32% Facility Operations
- 4% Rehabilitation
- 2% Education
- 2% Conservation
- 26% Research
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