

- Seventeenth Annual International-

# SEA-BEAN SYMPOSIUM & BEACHCOMBERS' FESTIVAL 2012

Cocoa Beach Public Library • 550 N Brevard Ave • Cocoa Beach 32931

Friday October 12th 9-6pm • Saturday October 13th 9-9pm

## Open Free to the Public



## Displays and activities through the weekend!

Beachwalkers, oceanographers, scientists, botanists, surfers, jewelry-makers and nature writers discuss and answer your questions about ocean treasures, world currents, sea-beans, messages in bottles, spirula, glass fishing floats, rafts, sea turtles and the famous LEGO® toys from a ship spill in the Atlantic.



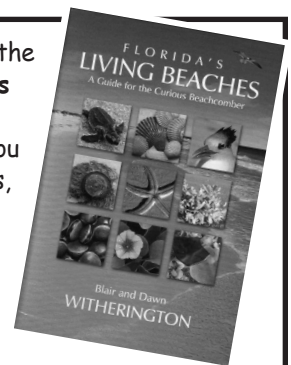
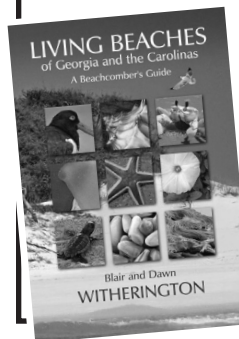
Bring your sea-beans and unidentified treasures to the experts:



We are pleased to announce that our very own **Deacon Ritterbush (Dr. Beachcomb)** will be our featured Keynote Speaker for this year's event. Deacon is an avid beachcomber and organizer of the International Beachcombers' Conference held in Lewes, Delaware, at the Virden Retreat Center, on October 4th -7th ([www.beachcombingconference.com](http://www.beachcombingconference.com))

She has written **A Beachcomber's Odyssey: Treasures from a Collected Past** and plans to have her second book in the series available, entitled **Strands in the Sand**. Deacon will be onsite with us all weekend to sign books and share knowledge. As Saturday night's Keynote Speaker she will present **Beachcombing as a Portal to History**.

**Blair and Dawn Witherington** are the authors of **Florida's Living Beaches** (Pineapple Press, 2007) which is a guide to anything and everything you may encounter on Florida's beaches, featuring not only sea-beans, but also shells, fish, plants, birds, and even the "green flash!"



Blair and Dawn will be at the Symposium with copies of their Florida book as well as their recently released **Living Beaches of Georgia and the Carolinas, A Beachcomber's Guide**.

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 popular "ODD-BEAN" contest, and the Saturday morning "BEAN-A-THON" beachcombing bonanza!)

For more information: [www.seabean.com](http://www.seabean.com)

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## Schedule of Events

### Friday, October 12th (9am-6pm)

Displays and collections open to the public all day, free, from 9am to 6pm. Enter your seeds for the ODD-BEAN contest.

11 to 11:45 am: Basic Beachcombing and Sea-Beans-by Margie Mitchell

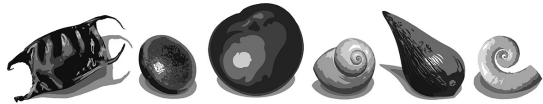
2 to 3 pm: Beach Survival Guide-by David McRee

4 to 5 pm: Everything You've Always Wanted to Know About Sea Glass (slide show) - by Dr. Beachcomb Deacon Ritterbush

6 pm: The library closes.

### Sea-Bean T-Shirt 2012

This year's T-shirt features the artwork of our own Dawn Witherington and proclaims the beachcomber lifestyle and attitude - the "Wrack Life!"



100 % cotton shirt • \$20 donation each at the Symposium (or mail-order while supplies last - contact [floridaal@cfl.rr.com](mailto:floridaal@cfl.rr.com) for info)

### Meet the authors:

Ed Perry will be on-hand to sign copies of **Sea-Beans from the Tropics**.

Dr. Curtis Ebbesmeyer with his book **Flotsametrics and the Floating World**.

Beach Hunter **David McRee** with his book **Florida Beaches**.

**Jim Angy**, **Marge Bell** and **Matt MacQueen** of Still Nature Productions will be offering their digital books and Beach Basics packages.

The ever-popular **Little Book of Sea-Beans** will also be available.

The **Nature of Florida's...** series, beautifully written and illustrated by **Cathie Katz** will also be available for sale.

### Saturday, October 13th (8am-9pm)

Displays and collections open to the public all day, free, from 9am to 5pm. Enter your seeds for the ODD-BEAN contest.

8:00 to 10:00 am: **Bean-A-Thon**: 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 11:30: Judges will tally Bean-A-Thon entries outside in front of the library (awards at 7pm that night).

11:30 to Noon: Plastic, Garbage Patches and Tsunamis (slide show) - **Dr. Curtis Ebbesmeyer**

1:00 to 2:00 pm: Drifters from our upstream Gulf: sea-beans, oil, and other drifters - **Blair and Dawn Witherington**

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 bluntest starnut, reddest hamburger bean, and flattest sea purse 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. Please enter!!!!

5:00 pm to 7 pm: **Dinner Break**: Tables and displays will be taken down in main room in preparation for the keynote presentation.

7:00 pm: Prompt! **Bean-A-Thon and contest awards and certificates presented**. Raffle winners chosen.

7:45 to 8:45 pm: Keynote Speaker **Dr. Beachcomb Deacon Ritterbush** talks about Beachcombing as a Portal to History.

9 pm: **Library closes** for Symposium.

