

# Eighteenth Annual International Sea-Bean Symposium and Beachcombers' Festival

Cocoa Beach Public Library—550 North Brevard Avenue, Cocoa Beach, Florida 32931

## Open Free To The Public, October 18th & 19th, 2013

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

We are pleased to announce that our very own Alan Rammer will be our featured Keynote Speaker for this year's event. His presentation about North West beachcombing will focus on the how to, when to look, what to look for, and the biggest prize of all – the elusive glass fishing float. Alan co-authored *Glass Fishing Floats of the World* with Stu Farnsworth, and will have a limited amount of copies available (now out of print). He is excited, as always, about returning and especially about presenting once again. Alan will be bringing some glass floats as prizes and shipping a package of his now-famous homegrown garlic for raffle prizes. He just harvested the 2013 crop of garlic and finished braiding it last weekend. It is a bountiful crop. It has to dry for about six weeks now before it is ready to be shared with friends and family. Alan grew nine varieties this year from around the globe. As Saturday night's Keynote Speaker he will present *North West Beachcombing from A to Z*.

“Beachy” books of all kinds will be available. *Sea-Beans from the Tropics: A Collector's Guide to Sea-Beans and Other Tropical Drift on Atlantic Shores*, by Perry/Dennis (reprint edition 2010) will be on hand and Ed promises to be around, somewhere! Terri Kirby Hathaway, co-author of *North Carolina's Amazing Coast* will be present all weekend to sign copies of her latest accomplishment! Dr. Tonya Clayton with her latest book *How to Read a Florida Gulf Coast Beach: A Guide to Shadow Dunes, Ghost Forests, and Other Telltale Clues from an Ever-Changing Coast* will be with us all weekend. Blair and Dawn Witherington will be on hand with *Florida's Living Beaches* and their more recent *Living Beaches of Georgia and the Carolinas, A Beachcomber's Guide*. Dr. Curtis Ebbesmeyer will have his *Flotsametrics and the Floating World* throughout the weekend, and the ever-popular *The Little Book of Sea-Beans* by Cathie Katz and Paul Mikkelsen will also be available. You'll want to get with Beach Hunter David McRee for his freshly updated, wonderful book *Florida Beaches*. This year we will again also make available for sale Cathie Katz' beautifully written and illustrated *The Nature of Florida's.....series*.

#### Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup> (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 18<sup>th</sup> (9am-6pm)

Displays and collections open to the public all day, free, from 9am to 6pm. Enter your seeds for the ODD-BEAN contest (see 19<sup>th</sup>).  
10 to 11:00 am: *Basic Beachcombing and Sea-Beans*—by Margie Mitchell  
11:30 to Noon: *Sand: Hold a Mountain in Your Hand*—by Terri Kirby Hathaway  
2 to 2:45 pm: *A Drifter's Life at Sea*—Blair and Dawn Witherington  
4 to 4:45 pm: *From Sea-Beans to Sea Turtles* (slide show)—by George and Suzy Pappas  
6 pm: The library closes.

#### Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup> (8am-9pm)

Displays and collections open to the public all day, free, from 9am to 5pm. Enter your seeds for the ODD-BEAN contest (see 4:30).  
8:00 to 10:00 am: Bean-A-Thon 2013—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 11:15: Judges will tally Bean-A-Thon entries outside in front of the library (awards at 7pm that night).  
11:15 to Noon: *How to Read a Beach: An Ambler's Guide to the Beach Beneath the Beans* (slide show)—by Dr. Tonya Clayton  
1:00 to 1:45 pm: *Beach Survival Guide*—by David McRee  
2:15 to 3:00 pm: *Flotsam in Florida: Arrivals from around the Atlantic*—Dr. Curtis Ebbesmeyer  
3:30 to 4:00 pm: *Beachology: The “Hole” Story*—by Terri Kirby Hathaway  
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 **thickest-banded mucuna, reddest seaheart, and plumpest 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!!!!  
**Dinner Break: 5:00pm to 7pm:** 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. Alan Rammer talks about *North West Beachcombing from A to Z*  
9 pm: Library closes for Symposium.

#### Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup> (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 and Symposium activities may be cancelled because of severe weather, in which case we'll follow evacuation procedures to the mainland. In the event of a hurricane, information will be available at your hotel and at the library.