



LEATHERBACK TURTLE NEWS



Volume 5 Issue 1

info-saveourleatherbacks@earthlink.net
www.leatherbackturtles.org

June 30, 2011

FOUNDERS COMMENTS



This edition is the 1st of 2011 will be in distribution before the 2011 Expeditions begins in mid-July. Please take some time to read through this issue. This issue at 14 pages is the longest we have published, it contains some serious articles and many of interest to our declining environment. As was in the 12 page last issue, there are some important articles which will be expanded in the media.

We were humbled once again by two surprise donations from Mr. Knopf. He is an amazing person and a strong SOLO supporter. The right column of this page tells more.

See, especially the article on sea foods. This contains proofs of our multiyear predictions and statements herein and in speeches, etc. of what is happening to our wild caught fish and a summary of a new 40+ page report of 'do we REALLY know what we fish we eat.' A true "Bait and Switch" and a FRAUD operation is foisted upon us, daily by the fish sellers; which CAN cause us harm if problems exist in our bodies. Then there is Tilapia! (See pg 13 & 14)

DONATIONS??? Our Tin Cup is empty. Help us. Donate any amount as all helps us complete our mission.

Larry

TERRIFIC SURPRISES!



As the Christmas Season was ending, a check appeared in the S.O.L.O. mail from Mr. Knopf and his Family Foundation. The donation, once again, brought "goose



bumps" and humility again to S.O.L.O. by Mr. Knopf deciding that they would continue to support our environmental objectives, especially that now we must attack and find ways to manage the wild pig and dogs on the beach to eliminate them from digging up eggs to eat and destroying about 100 eggs at each event. (See article in last newsletter)

Unchecked, the wild pigs now are so far out of control that they could decimate over 50% of the nests in one season. The villagers do not care to stop them as the pigs get fatter to market and they have a mortal fear of a wild pig attack at night. A wild boar weighing in at 300 to 400 pounds with upward slashing tusks cripple the legs then eat prey alive. The local and national governments' prohibit guns and traps to kill/catch the pigs. Therefore, S.O.L.O. developed an ALL GREEN solution; now in prototype designs on the beach. The surprise funds definitely allow us to proceed with this activity. To not do this could mean a huge step backwards in our proven conservation solutions to reverse the Leatherback extinction threat.

Just after S.O.L.O. put the last edition to press, another check arrived. Excitement reigned once more at the firm support Mr. Knopf provides. Again, the funds are so very important to S.O.L.O. as the \$\$\$ provides the positive encouragement to continue.

S.O.L.O. has been searching for some way to express our thanks and deep appreciation to Mr. Knopf for his repeated generosity. The "light bulb" of an idea came solution. S.O.L.O. magnificent oil to Mr. is the most dynamic, ing by international Her art surpasses Leatherback Turtle sserted beach to nest;



on and provided a neat has presented this Knopf. This painting museum quality painter, Nancy Blauers. all efforts to place the female coming to a de- ever created.

THANK YOU again, Mr. Knopf from the Leatherback Turtles; the aboriginal villagers we assist and from our nonprofit Foundation dedicated to reverse the extinction. --- Because of YOUR help, we ARE winning!

WHERE DOES YOUR MONEY GO WHEN YOU DONATE?

Here is a list of the items **YOUR** Donation can provide (examples, as many items are needed):
(The list is dynamic; ever changing)

DONATE (AMOUNT)	WHAT YOUR DONATION CAN BUY
\$1.00	1 pack of dry noodles (a favorite meal)
\$5.00	1 gallon of diesel fuel for a village generator
\$25.00	6 gallons of fuel for outboard motor
\$50.00	Malaria medicines for one (1) village for one (1) month
\$100.00	1 drum (50 gallons) of diesel fuel for the generator
\$200.00	Wages for one (1) beach warden for 1 month
\$325.00	Shoes for village kids to wear at school (required) and to help prevent Trichinosis
\$500.00	School Uniforms (required by Govt) for school kids of one (1) village
\$1,000.00	Tropical Medicine Kit from USA Pharmaceutical company (lasts about six (6) months)
\$2,500.00	Building supplies for 1 village house to place one (1) family in a metal roof and wood side home with an elevated wood floor and a fresh water pipe and outdoor toilet.
\$3,000.00	Replacement 2-way digital radios and chargers for beach wardens.
\$4,000.00	Replacement 40 hp outboard motor for one lost at sea. (Critical)
\$5,000.00	Replacement mini computers to bury bedside eggs during hatching to obtain critical nest data
\$7,000.00	Replacement village transport fiberglass boat to allow very remote people access to medical facilities, schools and markets. (Their boat was destroyed in an earthquake. They are really isolated from necessary social contacts)
\$10,000.00	Wages for eight beach wardens for the eight (8) month nesting season to work and live on the nesting beach. This amount does NOT include food supplies.
\$16,000.00	Eight (8) "speed boat" round trips from Sorong (main city) to beaches for logistics
\$17,200.00	Wages AND food for the eight (8) wardens, including food supplies
\$21,000.00	Construct a fiberglass village boat to transport sick and needed supplies

EVERY DONATION COUNTS!



SAVE OUR LEATHERBACKS OPERATION (S.O.L.O.)

info-saveourleatherbacks@earthlink.net

www.leatherbackturtles.org

Note: With increasing numbers S.O.L.O. is contacted by school kids from age 8 to University levels asking for information and help on Leatherback Turtle studies or school reports. Here is an article written by 11th grader, Elijah Sutton of Jupiter, Florida. S.O.L.O. is thrilled to assist the future generations when asked.



Elijah Sutton


“Leatherback sea turtles (also known as Dermochelys coriacea, which means skin-covered turtle and trunk back sea turtle) are huge, amazing creatures of the ocean. Unfortunately, they are endangered. Humans have been killing females for meat and collecting their eggs to sell them for years. Hopefully we will be able to stop this by protecting their nesting beaches and try to convince people to not run ATVs on beaches. Their weight could crush the eggs. If you are out on the beach at night and you see signs of leatherbacks nesting, do not make any noises and turn off any lights or flashlights.

Leatherbacks have rubbery shells giving them the name: “leatherback”. They can have an upper shell that is gray or black with white or pale spots and with a whitish to black lower shell. Leatherbacks can weigh up to 3000 pounds and can reach 6-9 feet in length. A regular size of a leatherback egg is about as big as a ping-pong ball.

Speaking of eggs, a regular leatherback will lay an average of 95 eggs per nest, with 6-9 nests, every 2-3 years. They nest on a tropical, sandy beach, during nighttime. When leatherbacks hatch, their shell is about 4

inches in length.

When leatherback hatchlings make their voyage across the beach, they encounter obstacles like seaweed, but herons are the scary part of the adventure. Even in the ocean the baby turtles are not safe. They still have the growing danger of sharks and other predators.

Leatherbacks are almost extinct, and, well, that’s not very good. As a normal person, you could do a lot of things to help save the leatherbacks from extinction. And thanks to Dr. Larry McKenna, (who very quickly replied to a very late email and has a spectacular website: <http://www.saveourleatherbacks.org/>  make sure to visit that) I now have a very large list of ways to protect leatherbacks. Here are some ideas:

- Spread the horrible news that leatherbacks are being killed to EVERYONE you know
- Ask the lifeguard (or beach warrant) on local beaches to watch leatherback nests for poachers who can sell the eggs or pigs and dogs that will dig and eat the eggs (Yes, I know, pigs?)
- Throw away any garbage that is in between the nest and the ocean. Hatchlings cant crawl over very many things
- Have a lemonade stand or a neighborhood car wash to raise money and donate it to SOLO: Save Our Leatherbacks Operation”

Doing any of these small things could make a BIG difference. I know that I will take part in the leatherbacks’ recovery. The question is: **Will YOU join me?**

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40 YEARS OF PHOTOGRAPHY AND GOING STRONG

Maureen Shimlock and Burt Jones (h&w) have been following their passion of photography in such varied mediums as scuba diving, exotic travel and underwater photography. Their recent years are spent in unlimited locations within Indonesia above and under the seas.

“Besides each other, our greatest passions in life are discovering the wonders of the marine world, seeking out indigenous people and their art, and photographing and writing about our adventures.” Burt told S.O.L.O. during a recent interview in their classic Bali traditional villa.



Maureen and Burt Peeking through A Luang Prabang, Laos window

“We’ve been lured across the globe by the opportunity to be the first photojournalists to reveal the mysteries of our planet’s most remote underwater realms.

Over the years we have documented the longest underwater cave in Mexico and stalked sea snakes in Borneo; we have dived with schools of hammerhead sharks and been chased by Komodo Dragons.” Maureen added.

For the past three years this dynamic team have been assisting Conservation International in Papua, Indonesia, specifically within the Raja Ampat complex of islands, charting new sites and consulting about sustainable marine tourism. One book has been produced, **Diving Indonesia’s Raja Ampat**.

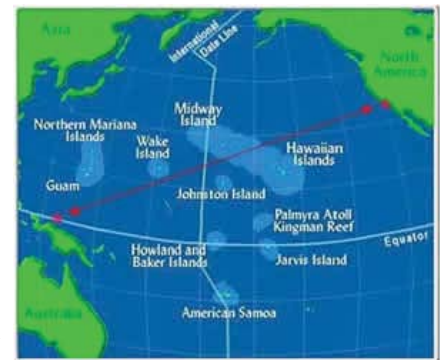
Secret Sea, a large format book featuring their underwater photography, was awarded the Benjamin Franklin trophy for best book the year it was published. Their articles and images have been published in a variety of magazines such as GEO, BBC Wildlife, Smithsonian, Natural History, Islands, Sport Diver, and Fathoms. More can be learned about Maureen and Burt within their web site: (www.secretseavisions.com)

DID YOU KNOW???

That at birth a Leatherback Turtle (along with pelagic shark species) is hatched with an internal GPS and a many generations built in method of reading BOTH sets (the polar strength of the signal and the angle of the magnetic field lines as those lines of earth magnetic fields make a map across our World) of magnetic impulses along the sea floor???

We have been speculating on this concept to explain how the Leatherback can navigate over 13,000 miles from nesting beaches to the West coast of America; gorge on jelly fish and swim all the way back to its Indonesian mating/nesting beaches in straight lines of migration. Now science is helping us understand which we were postulating in TWO separate studies; one in North Carolina; the other in California – neither aware of the others’ research.... 😊

Scientists and graduate researchers at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill have/are conducting experiments and have obtained confirming data on how a turtle can swim in straight lines. Their research also explains how a four inch long hatchling can navigate out of its egg to the gyres containing rich zoo planktons as foods and a place to hide until they get stronger and larger to go chase jellyfish. (Source: NPR)



In California, researchers from Stanford University and Univ. Ca., Santa Cruz have completed a ten year TOPP (Tagging Of Pacific Predators) study which establishes existence of a trans ocean migration highway in three parts which connects the eastern and western Pacific on the boundary of cold sub arctic water and warmer subtropical water --- about half way between Hawaii and Alaska. Couple the findings of both sets of researchers – “like connecting the dots” AND WE BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THE Leatherbacks have known for over 150 million years. They know what they are doing. Dr. Block of Stanford stated...”*We’ve come to a vast oceanic realm in the Pacific and answered (viz migrations vs. water temps and food supplies) these questions for animals as diverse as blue fin tuna, blue whales and LEATHERBACK TURTLES*”. www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2011/04/110-404161819.htm

2011 INITIAL MEETING WITH PAPUAN CHIEF & WIFE

April, 2011

The Warmandi Village Head man (The Chief) and his wife met with S.O.L.O. to initiate the 2011 Leatherback Turtle nesting season activities in Sorong, Papua, Indonesia. The meeting was delayed because of high seas which made the long crossing from the village to Sorong dangerous. Earlier, we (S.O.L.O.) attempted a speed boat trip out to the village and only made ½ of the trip and had to turn back because of seas high enough to rip the hatches from the boat. Not safe or smart to continue.



(R to L) Isaac, Warmandi Village Chief, Emma Wife of Chief Isaac, Butyl Samber, S.O.L.O. Papuan Advisor, Hansen Wijaya and Demian Sersermundy; both S.O.L.O. Papuan Volunteer Translators

activities. Currently, the boat has a hole in the bottom from being slammed on rocks during a severe storm. S.O.L.O. has provided the repair materials with an assurance to the village that a Yamaha outboard motor will be supplied WHEN the hull is repaired.

Prototype construction of six (6) bamboo grids to place on top of Leatherback nests to prevent wild pigs and dogs from destroying the nests. This is an **ALL GREEN** solution where if not implemented, the wild pigs and dogs can do more damage than in Nations were control methods are conventional with nesting beaches in warm climate zones. This is another S.O.L.O. innovation of many designed to save the eggs from destruction before hatching. The Village people have agreed to construct and place these 8 ft. square grids over Leatherback nests and to maintain them as a reciprocal gift to S.O.L.O. for their past assistance. They NOW recognize the benefits of a **“reciprocal partnership”** with S.O.L.O., unlike other villages we have assisted. These grids should be in position to be seen when the 2011 Expeditioners are on the beach.

Handicrafts. No village along the Papuan shore have any village handicrafts; most unique in all of Indonesia. S.O.L.O., in an effort to encourage these villagers to make handicrafts for sales to tourists was demonstrated by the gift of a sample coconut items displayed on the table in the photo which they can make and sell for needed incomes. S.O.L.O. may purchase these for display at our Expositions when the quality develops.

Our discussions covered a wide range of subjects and issues relating to the 2011 conservation activities and support help to the Warmandi Village peoples. In addition to the work contracts for the village men on the beach, we addressed the following:

Repair of the MV Ann Spence. The work boat ownership was transferred from S.O.L.O. to the village with certain conditions, including establishing the Warmandi Village as the home base and location of the boat when not used in beach or cross village

Medical help. NO medical facilities exist for any village along the north coast of Papua. When someone becomes seriously ill, they are transported (IF transport is available) the 10 hour boat trip to the Sorong hospital. If the medical issue is grievous; most die. S.O.L.O., with the great help by Dr. Glenn and Judy Ruark has provided tropical medicines to many villages. Here such a complex and expensive kit will not work because of logistics and lack of a person with medical training. (Only three (3) women in the village can read). Emma, the Chief's wife, has agreed to supply S.O.L.O. with a list of medicines they can dispense (as malaria, trichinosis, ring worm medications and general first aid supplies). Terrific to have our "partnership" in action. **This is another definite 1st for out there.**

Mid wife training. Emma requested S.O.L.O. help in having one or two village women trained by professionals in Sorong on how to assist in baby delivery in the village. This is an exciting request as; again, the new partnership seems to work. S.O.L.O. will liaise with the OB/GYN Dept. at the Sorong hospital to establish the training and will pay the village women expenses to be trained. This will be a terrific step forward for the villagers.

Follow on meetings are set to cement in all objectives prior to the start of the 2011 S.O.L.O. Expeditions. All agreements, funds and supplies are to be provided to Isaac and his wife, Emma via coordination for S.O.L.O. with Samber, The "2010 Disney Environmental Hero Award" recipient (see accompanying article).

PAPUAN TURTLE EXPERT SELECTED AS 2010 DISNEY *WORLD WIDE CONSERVATION HERO*

Butel Samber, in the white hat, is a **2010 Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund (DWCF)** recipient. We are thrilled with his nomination and this very special International recognition. Samber was presented with a cash award (actually was given to his wife) and a handsome medalion; both provided by Disney at a formal ceremony in front of his peers and supervisors during a September "all hands" meeting at the Indonesian Forestry Service head office in Sorong, Papua, Indonesia. . Samber is a self-educated Papuan who is now the foremost Leatherback Turtle expert in Indonesia. He manages all of the S.O.L.O. Leatherback activities in Papua, both in Sorong and on the beaches, in addition to his wide responsibilities as a forest ranger in the remote jungles and beaches. We are quite proud of his achievements and association. The 2011 Expeditioners may have an opportunity to meet him on the beach.



After his award ceremony, Sambers' top level Director of the Indonesian Forest Service, Suyatno Sukandar commented to S.O.L.O. that he was quite proud of Sambers' achievement and recognition. He hoped his Award would serve as good motivation for his staff to emulate his achievements.

- In Indonesia, most people use only one name for street recognition.

WILL WE SEE YOU AT DEMA, 2011 IN ORLANDO, FL?

If you are a dive professional (PADI Certified at Dive Master or higher)--- or have friends at a dive shop who may give you an entry pass because you spend so much \$\$\$ with them, The annual Dive Equipment Manufacturers Association “clam bake” will be in Orlando, FL this year between November 2 and 5 in the HUGE Orlando Convention Center. Doors open at 10 a.m. each day.

S.O.L.O. has exhibit spaces at booth # 2351. We will display many, many items for Holiday gift selections and share information on what we are doing to save the Leatherback Turtles. Lots and Lots of the dive industry professionals (famous and not yet known) stop by to trade stories.

Larry will be making speeches during the sessions in a briefing room (not assigned yet) to report on our conservation findings. Brief title is ... **SUCCESS!** We may debut a new film and also present our newest book for signing. Maybe.

We seek as always a few Volunteers to assist us. The qualification to help is that you must have been on an Expedition with us to Leatherback Beach and have touched a Leatherback. E-mail if qualified and interested. No pay; but fun. saveourleatherbacks@earthlink.net



last year's booth



MULTIPLE OCEAN STRESSES THREATEN “GLOBALLY SIGNIFICANT” MARINE EXTINCTION

S.O.L.O. has been beating a drum since 2006 about the coming collapse of the oceans. A distinguished group of ocean experts met for three days in Oxford. Their 23 page report was just released. Verifies our warnings.

An abstract: 27 participants from 18 organizations in 6 countries produced a grave assessment of current threats – (* NO scientists from U.S.A. participated???) and a stark conclusion about future risks to marine and human life if the current trajectory of damage continues: *that the world's ocean is at high risk of entering a phase of extinction of marine species unprecedented in human history.*

Read the full report on line: www.stateoftheocean.org/ipso-2011

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KURT AMSLER: INTERNATIONAL PHOTOG. AND TURTLE SUPPORTER

Publishers Note: We are pleased to International friend and strong sup-As an environmentalist, Kurt teamed Chef Heinz von Holzen of Bumbu Bali strong protest to the Governor of Bali nesian Laws against turtle killings for Governor did not act, they again pushed of all European travels would ensue. turtles were saved from a throat cutting and are swimming free. **Kurt and Heinz are solid HEROS of our Foundation.**



present a brief review of a S.O.L.O. porter; Kurt Amsler of Switzerland. up with a good friend in Bali; Master restaurant. Together they raised a to cause the Police to enforce Indo-ceremonies of any type. When the for compliance OR a 100% boycott The Governor listened. Hundreds of

At the tender age of nine, Kurt was captivated by the idea of breathing underwater after reading a book by diving pioneer and marine researcher Hans Hass. To date, he marvels at how he managed to survive this dives, with self made equipment. Kurt was one of Europe's first professional underwater photographers. He has received over 100 awards during international photo contests. His countless reportages for renowned magazines and newspapers worldwide, helped to bring the marine world closer to readers.

Of his twelve books covering the subaquatic realms, the illustrated book titled "Maldives" and "Caribbean" received one the highest international honors with the "Prix Mondial du Livre d'Image Sous Marine". Advertising photography and mastering his "Underwater photo-School" at the French Riviera, round of the work of this multitasking photographer. His advertising photo/art is amazing.

During all this activities, Amsler is always sure to keep an eye on the environment. His organization "SOS-Sea turtles" has been fighting for over two decades to preserve these endangered reptiles. His pictures and films contribute towards the public. Specific campaigns on site, have helped to prevent thousands animals from being slaughtered.

Kurt and Heinz became aware of a young Leatherback Turtle caught in a drift net off Sanur beach in Bali by local fishermen. The coconut telegraph reacted. Soon they located the turtle to buy it from fishermen and set it free. Photo is of Heinz restaurant staff carrying the Leatherback back to the sea. It weighed about 600 pounds.



Wild hogs terrorize Florida neighborhoods

As many as 2 million feral boars are causing havoc for homeowners in the Sunshine State.

NBC's Kerry Sanders reports.

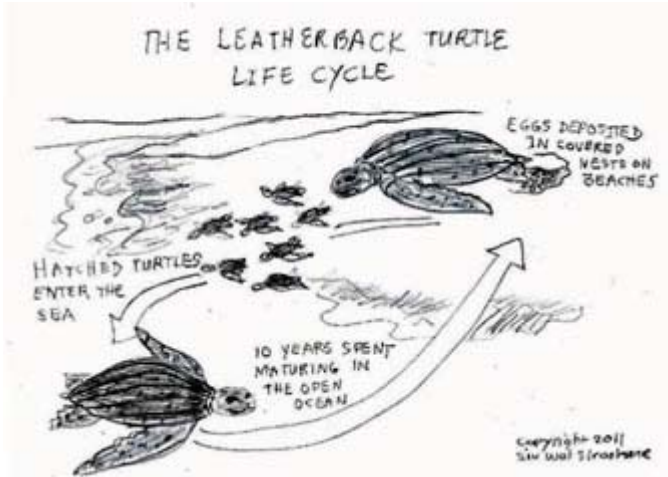
<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/21134540/vp/40962351#40962351>

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LEATHERBACK TURTLE LIFE CYCLE

On many occasions, people ask about the “egg to grave” route of the Leatherbacks. We present two versions of an answer: One is a new cartoon by Lucy Leatherback (pianomamma2009@gmail.com).



The other is in the form of a multi color chart which can be obtained with a Donation. (18 x 24 inches on heavy stock). Each tells the story in a different manner.



LEATHERBACK BOUTIQUE ADDS NEW ITEMS



S.O.L.O. has assembled the largest selection of turtle gifts available anywhere. A full display can be seen on the web site... www.leatherbackturtles.org Find this photo on upper right side of the Home Page. Click on it. We display 20 items over a wide donation spectrum; from \$3.00 to \$5,400. These turtle motivated gifts are perfect for most any need as all are quite unique. NONE of our items are available at any other location, except when we exhibit. Make your selection; set a method of payment (can use Pay Pal. Instructions are in the pull down...”Donate”) and use your Master card or Visa to pay. Checks and bank money orders are also accepted. For items which cost more than \$100., we do require a bank money order or a wire transfer into the S.O.L.O. account, pre shipping.

We have just introduced four (4) new items:



1) A set of three letter openers.\$5.00. A Great Corporate “Give Away” with your logo on reverse side. Quantity discounts provided.



2) A set of two (2) Campaign Buttons; 3 inches in diameter \$3.00.



3) Special Design Leatherback Tote Bag with hidden purse pocket. \$35.00



4) Leatherback hand created and screened sarong 1 meter x 1.75 meters \$40.00

Look for a VERY special art creation to be shown at DEMA, Orlando

S.O.L.O. Visits Marathon Key

S.O.L.O. was invited to speak to the members of the “Save-A-Turtle, Inc.” on Marathon Key about ½ way in the Florida Keys between Miami and Key West.



Rick and Lori Sall, Club President and First Lady, greeted us with a warm reception and to a happy surprise. Our presentation was to a S.R.O. crowd. (standing room only). Crowded spaces now seem to be the “norm” when S.O.L.O. speaks as our message of saving these Leatherback Turtles gets more exposure.



While in Marathon, we visited the Turtle Hospital; once a motel in older days. The hospital is owned by Richie Moretti who donated and converted the space into a very modern turtle hospital, recovery tanks and rooms for key staff. His all-volunteer staff included Vets who perform surgery as needed to save any species of turtle. Care is provided without charge to any turtle or to Medicare. Donations and Grants are necessary to keep the doors open.

Should you be driving up or down the Keys, a rest stop at the Turtle Hospital and a complementary tour is educational; as is the gift shop will present many choices for the cash in your wallets (and credit cards).



DEER RUN, FL B & B



When S.O.L.O. visited Marathon Key, FL to brief the Save a Turtle Hospital, we were invited to stay a night at the **Deer Run B & B** owned and operated by Harry Appel and

Jennifer DeMaria, members of the dive club. What a NEAT surprise greeted us!

Jen and Harry acquired this ocean front small hotel (six well-appointed rooms) and have converted it

by lots of sweat and care into an amazing find when in the Keys. Jen prepares vegan menus as a part of the offered breakfast within the modest stay rate. Amazing what she can



create and serve. This is a TRUE find! The surf is the loudest sound heard. 😊 (there is NO surf!)

This boutique hotel is located in Big Pine Key, just over three bridges South of Marathon Key and a left turn. The island is a protected deer preserve. The deer roam at will as do the raccoons and all manner of wild life. Harry is a very dedicated environmentalist; constantly involved in protecting turtles and wild life.

Deer Run is an easy drive to Key West and all the crowds and party life. A return to a hammock and the ocean vistas away from that mob scene is another way to enjoy the “Paradise” they have created. S.O.L.O. sure recommends them and will return.



www.deerrunfloridabb.com

? HOW MANY YEARS OF IRRESPONSIBLE ACTIONS CAN OUR OCEANS ABSORB WITHOUT SELF DESTRUCTING?

Founders' Article: S.O.L.O has been pondering this question since sitting at the Internet knee of Robert Ovitz, PhD who became an internet mentor as our Foundation took hold ---during 2005 and 2006. (Robert and I never met in person). In accumulating all manner of data and research information to try to grapple with the Pacific Leatherback Turtle extinction saga; we continued to come across examples of GROSS actions or conscious neglect by a few Government employees. Their jobs are to establish and protect a balance of sea life between the fragile environment and the necessary roles of the commercial fishing industry. There are Public Laws on the books to establish the required balance...but somewhere along the way enforcement became a lazy word and compliance was rarely sought.

Our “alarms” sounded in 2009 when Federal employees in NOAA (now NMFS) began making proposals to Federal and State bodies responsible for protecting our coastal marine sanctuaries. These sanctuaries, in place for 20 to 30 years were advocated by NOAA officials on behalf of commercial fishing (an illegal action for a civil servant to advocate openly on behalf of private industry) to be opened up to commercial fishing to the drag lines and long lines of the industry; thereby severely damaging the fragile ecology which is now thriving. The second incident is more of a living disaster than the first. The Media reported that the return of wild salmon up the Sacramento River was decreased by about 90% from that expected. Salmon returns up the Colorado River were slightly better but still a huge loss for the industry and the consumer.

The reaction by the Government agency was stunning. They moved quickly to establish a three year moratorium against any salmon takes as a solution, instead of looking for the problem which caused the fish to disappear. The agencies are quite reluctant to reveal the truths of the full issue and expose the complex situations going on at ocean river mouths.

To ban fishing makes a disaster for the hundreds of “Mom & Pop” generations of fishing folk who depend on incomes by fishing. A ban does nothing to address or solve the real issues for the future.

As reported and documented by Rob Condon PhD of Dauphin Island Sea Lab and co-authors Virginia Institute of Marine Science professors Deborah Stienberg and Deborah Bonk along with Paul del Giorgio of the University of Quebec of Montreal and others as reported in the latest issue of the National Academy of Sciences, Our rivers are polluted with excess Nitrogen from untreated sewerage; fertilizers, industrial dumping. and animal (cows and pig) wastes flushed in the streams. The jelly fish, which inhabit the river mouths, grow in huge expanding numbers by feeding on the enriched bio mass. The increased consumption of food energy is associated with generating of bacteria which consumes dissolved organic matter. The jelly fish convert carbon back to carbon dioxide, rather than to have the carbon, a direct source of organic energy, to go UP the food chain. As the jellies expand, they secrete a carbon rich mucus and slime, felt if you pick one up – says Steinberg (while it stings you). The jelly fish can release 25 to 35 times more carbon rich organic matter than nitrogen, which directly inhibits fish growth for lack of sufficient food. This has a direct effect on the collapse of the seas as uncounted species are disappearing or have already vanished. (Science Daily, June 7, 2011)



Typical Jelly Fish Mass at River Exits (Google)

Enter the Leatherback Sea Turtles. Jelly fish have been the prime food supply for these giant turtles for over 150 million years. They maintained the symbiotic balance in the seas in the seas by keeping the jelly fish population within a natural control. With the world wide populations of Leatherbacks practi-

HOW MANY YEARS (cont from pg 11)

cally destroyed for many reasons (another topic), and as the jelly fish have no other true enemy in the sea the "Jelly" populations increased unchecked. HERE is where science, with attendant application of developed solutions should be attacking the reasons for the fish stocks disappearing, informing the public and working toward a solution.

S.O.L.O. was trying to inform and educate but the authorities played ostrich wasting public funds, instead of using our tax dollars and talents to develop workable solutions. This omission of research and application goes on and on and on while our oceans are being destroyed. The problems are now far more serious. Those who should be proactive are not engaged. They have become paralyzed into inappropriate and negative activities, as banning fishing; hence destroying the life blood of our fish industry. **At the same times the biology of the seas is spiraling into an irreversible ending. The opening postulate is answered.**

Someone must face these issues simply and inform you. **S.O.L.O. just did.** NOW, it is YOUR turn to get active. Come On!!!!

SEA FOODS DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU ARE EATING???

This report is a companion to the treatise on our oceans collapsing on pages 11-12.

The deepening losses of wild caught (a marketing term to mean fish swimming free in the oceans as all used to be) as salmon (almost extinct) and snapper of all 13 species are in short supply because of overfishing with no control limits on catches and from destruction of the babies by jelly fish. The favorite Red snapper is rarely caught and is substituted in restaurants and fish markets with other species, often the DOG snapper. Fake RED snapper is sold in fish markets at about **\$18.00 a pound!** Note the sale marker does not say "Red"; just snapper. The consumer is eye



trained to see RED, when it is not displayed.

Wild salmon is in extremely short supply because of the reasons cited in the companion article. When it is available, it will be sold for prices, usually **ABOVE \$24.00 a pound.**(by surveys at Portland, OR. fish markets direct from the fishing boats on the waterfront to super markets inland).



These prices place fresh fish at least 2 to 3 times per pound above aged Angus filet tenderloin strips. This cost is well above the budgets of most people so they revert to purchasing fish of lesser quality and tastes.

Market demands being keyed to supply and demand have tricked the consumer (either by the fish wholesalers or by the retail markets - or both and by restaurants who probably do not know, except what the fish sellers represent) are perpetuating a daily **FRAUD** upon the consumers; some with potentially severe medical backlashes. Pen raised salmon as a good example is either injected or coated with a food coloring which ranges from red food dyes to a slurry of shrimp shells injected into the meat to raise a reddish color to emulate that of wild caught.

The accompanying picture illustrates the misrepresentation and higher prices which any pen raised fish should cost. The natural rich red fish at Left is wild caught King salmon at \$25/pound. The whitish Center fish is an example of pen raised salmon. The Right fish is also pen raised salmon **WITH** a coloring induced into its meat to show like wild caught at \$18/pound. See how the coloring is not uniform and bleeds into the thickness of the meat. If you purchase pen raised, you are being cheated out of money and out of expected true salmon taste. A market price for pen raised should be between \$6 and \$8/pound according to interviews with fish sellers.



DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU ARE EATING

(cont)

S.O.L.O. has been warning in print and in speeches about the decline of the wild caught food fish species and about the pen raised fish brought to market as substitutes for the “real thing”. Recently published, a very detailed, well documented, 43 page study by Oceania (www.oceana.com/fraud) **“What is Sea Food Fraud?”** presents solid evidence to confirm S.O.L.O. findings 4 years earlier. Consumers are routinely buying one type of fish and receiving a substitute, labeled as what they thought they were buying. Lots of blame in many directions.

One part of our Government (USDA) actively promotes eating fish at least two times each week. Another part (NOAA, again) permits imported fish with almost no inspections. **Approximately 84% of about 1,700 of different fish species consumed in the USA are imported via a very complex path which escapes inspections about 98% of the time. (GAO, 2009).** Recent studies report that the imports are mishandled; misidentified as often as 25 to 70% for fish such as red snapper, wild salmon and Atlantic cod by selling species which are less desirable, cheaper or more readily available. (Miller & Mariani 2010, Buck 2007 and Jacquet & Pauly 2008). **DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU ARE EATING?**

See and COPY this chart.

EXAMPLES OF COMMONLY MISLABELED SEAFOOD

You Purchased	You Received
Red Snapper	Slender Pinjalo, Channel Catfish, Rockfish, Tilapia, Nile Perch, Mahi Mahi, Mullet Snapper, Malabar Blood Snapper, Atlantic Cod
Mahi Mahi	Yellowtail
Grouper	Channel Catfish, Hake, Tilapia, Alaska Pollock, Nile Perch
Wild Salmon	Farmed Salmon
Swordfish	Mako Shark
Bluefin Tuna	Bigeye Tuna, Yellowfin Tuna
Albacore/White Tuna	Mozambique Tilapia, Escolar
White Snapper	White Hake
Atlantic Cod	Alaska/Norwegian Pollock, Whiting, Pollack, Saithe, Oilfish, Escolar
Chilean Sea Bass	White Bass, Striped Bass
Shark Meat	Nile Perch
Red Drum	Black Drum
Hallbut	Sea Bass, Deep-water Cape Hake
Haddock	Saithe
Anchovies	Icofish
Orange Roughy	Oreo Dorey, John Dorey
Red Mullet	Spotted Goatfish
Red Drum	Black Drum
Monkfish	Pufferfish

Jacquet and Pauly 2008, Lowenstein et al. 2009, Wang and Harver 2008, Miller and Mariani 2010, CBC News.

tentially more acute for many who do not know they have such problems. **TILAPIA!!!** S.O.L.O. has been issuing warning after warning about eating this fish. It is a JUNK fish with no pleasing taste. Tilapia is pen/farm raised cheaply. Restaurants PUSH Tilapia in many forms to make profits larger than for other entrée items. This fish is the 5th most popular fished consumed in the United States...because...It is CHEAP!

Researchers continue to warn; but the warnings are ignored and price wins out. The meat has very low levels of omega-3 fatty acids AND very high levels of Omega 6 fatty acids. The Wake Forest University School of Medicine states that **“this combination could be a potentially dangerous food source for some patients with heart diseases, arthritis, asthma**

and other allergic and auto immune diseases which are particularly vulnerable to an ‘exaggerated inflammatory response’. Tilapia related inflammation is known to cause damage to blood vessels, the heart, lung and joint tissues, skin and the digestive tract. **“Cardiologists are telling their patients to go home and eat more fish, and if the patients are poor, they’re eating tilapia”**, according to Dr. “Ski” Chilton, Director of the Wake Forest Center for Botanical Lipids. The full report is to be published in the June, 2011 Journal of the American Dietetic Association.

The extreme decline in wild caught inventories has caused a proliferation of pen/farm raised fish to satisfy market demands. Of this expanding market to sea food sellers and restaurants is one species which is a definite danger to some people with medical problems and po-

Read enough? We are issuing this health warning once more; now backed by medical advices. The severe killing of the Leatherback Turtles is the missing cement to avoiding all this from happening. The “Dots are Connected”!

Editor's Corner Liz Logan

Another newsletter and more to say - packing, preparing, figuring out how to get all my stuff shrunk down to the smallest amount possible! Cameras, strobes, lights, batteries, BC, mask, fins, wetsuit and, oh yeah, a few clothes. I love photography - so much so underwater, that I have become a test diver for SeaLife Cameras! I am hoping to be able to test the newest model this trip but it sure does add to the weight when traveling. A travel hint for any of you that find yourself traveling on those really small carriers that only allow one carry-on... "fishing vest" - yep skip the expensive travel vests out there and get a fishing vest for about \$10 - they have tons of pockets and you can squeeze in most of the stuff you would put in a single carry-on. Of course, I take a travel pillow in the back pocket and end up looking like a crippled, hunch-back, but it works for me. I hope to have some good pictures from this trip and will post them on my website at www.followliz.com

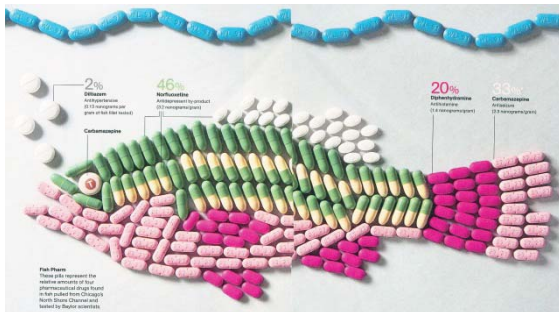


Liz - with camera, two strobes and one center mounted video light!

Contact Liz with your comments and suggestions on our News Letter activities. travel@followliz.com

DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU ARE EATING (cont)

For food fish raised in non-sea water locations as farms or lakes; pen raised, the danger of meat toxicification grows as a direct result of chemicals, medicines and drugs flushed into the toilets and sewerage facilities. This "Fish Pharm" photo and report (National Geographic Special Issue, April 2010). represents relative amounts of just four of the pharmacy drugs found in "fresh water" fish, as TILAPIA, catfish, etc. Fish caught and analyzed downstream from sewerage plants in five USA cities contained traces of drugs and toiletries. The chemicals are absorbed in the meat which then can contain threats for humans who consume the "fresh water" fish AND also pose another danger for our marine life; as if there are not enough man made threats to our sea foods. Perhaps we should adopt the name...NON sea water for "fresh water" as this latter name is no longer correct.



Publisher: Save Our Leatherbacks Operation
A NON Profit, 501(c) (3) Foundation

Editor: Liz Logan

Scribe: Graham Mead

Directors: Bo Esrey, Larry McKenna, Tony Moats

Secretary/Treasurer: Mary Kronsteadt

Science Advisors: Douglas Fenner, PhD

Mel Cundiff, PhD

Advisors: Ann Spence

Shelia McIntyre

Bonnie McKenna

Cathy Church

Roland St. John

Peggy Lehane

Tom Lehane

Rolla Cleaver

Tasha Briggs

Institutional Donation Advisor: Kathy Cleaver

Graphic Artist: Nengah Artati

Turtle Veterinarian: Joe Flanagan, DVM

Foundation Web Site: www.leatherbackturtles.org

E-Mail: info-saveourleatherbacks@earthlink.net

Disclaimer: Publisher, Editor and those listed above are NOT liable or responsible for the words or opinions presented in this News Letter. Articles are printed to educate, inform, and develop a forum of information concerning Pacific Leatherback Turtles and what is happening to them. We welcome commentary and articles to be considered for future issues. Each submission will be reviewed for content, objectivity and appropriateness to the goals and objectives of this Foundation. (Our attorneys make us say this)

info-saveourleatherbacks@earthlink.net

www.leatherbackturtles.org