



Save The Manatee Club Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 1998



Jamaican Manatee Rescue Effort Continues

In our March 1998 newsletter, we chronicled the three manatees currently being held in the Alligator Hole River (AHR) on the southern coast of Jamaica. The story told of our joint effort with the Jamaica Natural Resource Conservation Authority (NRCA) to capture them and reintroduce them to the wild in order for them to contribute to the dwindling manatee population in Jamaica. Phase I, assessment and planning, took place in October of 1997. In June, we began several of the components of Phase II by providing funding for manatee researcher Buddy Powell to fly island-wide aerial surveys. The surveys were important to know how many manatees are still in the wild in Jamaica, and where they spend their time. Unfortunately, he counted only 10 manatees in the waters surrounding Jamaica. According to Buddy, the conditions were not the best for spotting manatees, but this was still a very low minimum count, which underscores the need to get these three breeding-age females out into the population.

At about the same time, SMC provided funding for researcher Bob Bonde to go the AHR and oversee construction of the pen which will be used to "trap" the manatees for their subsequent release. Both Buddy and Bob agree that since the manatees rely upon being fed at the same place in the river each day, they will adapt easily to the pen being placed there. Then, when all is ready and the release date is determined, they will simply close the door with the manatees inside.

SMC also funded a trip to Florida for Raymond Pryce, a graduate student from the University of the West Indies, so he could learn tracking techniques. Raymond will be tracking the manatees in Jamaica once they are released into the wild. While he was here, he visited the Florida Marine Research Institute (FMRI)'s marine mammal pathology lab and assisted on a few manatee necropsies. He then traveled to the Everglades with FMRI re-

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Shane Killed By Boat In Volusia County Waters

Over 790 manatees have been killed by boats in Florida waters since 1974, when record-keeping began, through June, 1998. One of the manatees killed by a boat in 1998 had a name, a known history, and over 1,250 adoptive parents. Shane was a regular winter visitor to Blue Spring State Park in Orange City, FL, and he was one of the manatees in Save the Manatee Club's manatee adoption program. Shane's body was recovered on Sunday, June 7, 1998, by Florida Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission personnel at the High Banks boat ramp, about 10 miles south of the park. A necropsy (animal autopsy) performed on Shane showed he had deep gashes on his back from a boat's propeller.

The area where Shane was found is a state designated, year-round slow speed zone, with speeds of up to 25 mph designated in the channel. The deep gashes on Shane's back are a sad proclamation that the Volusia County speed zones are not adequate to protect manatees

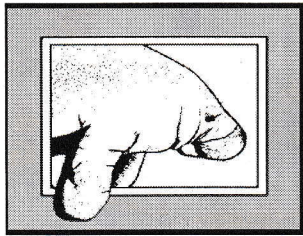
from such a gruesome death. Ironically, his death comes on the heels of recommendations from the Volusia County Council to raise boat speeds that protect manatees in several Volusia County waterways, including the tributaries of the St. Johns River where Shane lived.

Since the county's boat speed zones were adopted in 1991, manatee mortality has decreased, suggesting that boat speed regulations are working. "We have been fighting for over eight years: first to obtain adequate manatee protection in Volusia waters and then to keep this protection from being weakened," said Patti Thompson, SMC Staff Biologist. "This fight has landed us in the courts on several occasions, and it isn't over yet. Shane's death just illustrates that the speed zones in Volusia should not be weakened because some boaters claim to be inconvenienced by the regulations."

Continued on page 2



Shane was a regular visitor to Blue Spring State Park. Shane's brother, Boomer, was also killed by a boat in 1994. (Photo © Wayne Hartley, FDEP)



TAKE ACTION!

comply with the posted speed zones.

Virginia Wetherell, Secretary
Florida Department of Environmental
Protection
3900 Commonwealth Blvd
Tallahassee, FL 32399
Phone: (850) 488-1554
Fax: (850) 922-1432
Email: WETHERELL_V@epic9.dep.state.fl.us

Please also contact Ms. Jamie Rappaport Clark, director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Let her know you want boat speed zones in the waters of the Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge in Volusia County to remain strong.

Jamie Rappaport Clark, Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240
Phone: (202) 208-4717
E-mail: Jamie_Clark@FWS.GOV

Finally, please contact Florida's governor, Lawton Chiles, to let him know that you want strong protection in Volusia County's waters.

The Honorable Lawton Chiles
The Capitol
Tallahassee, FL 32399
Phone: (850) 488-4441, Fax: (850) 487-0801
E-mail Governor Chiles at his web site:
<http://www.eog.state.fl.us/eog/govmailform.html>
Thanks for your help!

Much more needs to be done in the waters of Volusia County where Shane lived and died. If you would like to take some action, please do the following:

Please take a moment to write, call, or e-mail Mrs. Virginia Wetherell, FDEP Secretary. Let her know it is very important to you that the regulations for boat speeds in the St. Johns River tributaries and other waterways of Volusia must remain strong to adequately protect the manatees using these waters. Also, let her know that additional law enforcement is needed to make sure boaters

Shane

Continued from page 1

According to Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) statistics, in the five year period before the signs for the speed zones were posted, fourteen manatees were killed by boats. In the five year period since the signs have been posted, six manatees, including Shane, have been killed by boats. SMC staff feel this is a strong indication that the speed zones have helped reduce boat-related mortality in Volusia County. "If any changes are to be made to the rule, they should be to strengthen it not to weaken it," said Thompson.

"We feel some members of the Volusia County Council have acted irresponsibly by voting for a Manatee Protection Plan that includes raising boat speed limits, but it is the Florida Department of Environmental Protection that must either accept or reject these recommendations," said Judith Vallee, executive director of SMC. "It is up to them to make sure manatees are adequately protected in Volusia's waters, as well as statewide. The tributaries of the St. Johns River offer excellent habitat for manatees, as much of this area remains pristine. If FDEP relies on scientific data, protection will remain strong. They need to keep local and state politics out of their decision."

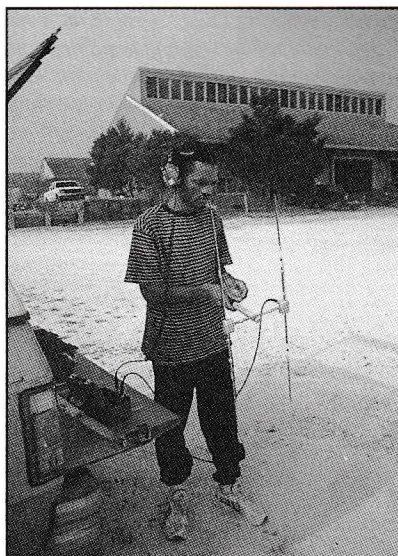
In 1981, Shane was born to Emma, another SMC adoptee, who died from unknown causes in 1986. He became part of the SMC's adoption program in 1985, and he had returned to the park every winter after that time. "Shane was radio-tracked by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in the early 1980's. He was found in an area that we know he used then, just as he was still using it when he was killed," indicated Ranger Wayne Hartley of Blue Spring State Park. Shane's brother, Boomer, was also killed by a boat in the St. Johns River in Putnam County in 1994.

Jamaican Manatee Rescue

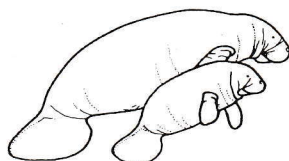
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searchers to do a health assessment on three manatees recently released from Miami Seaquarium. (They are doing great!) This was all good experience for him, since he will be the one to monitor the animals' health once they are released.

The next phase will be the actual capture and release. We are uncertain as to when this exciting chapter will take place, but you can be sure we will report it to you when it happens.



Raymond Pryce, a graduate student from the University of the West Indies, learns the ins and outs of manatee tracking techniques.
(Photo ©USGS Sirenia Project)



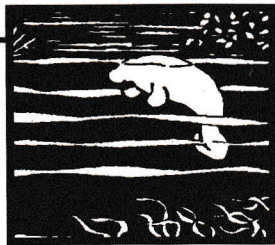
SMC Volunteer News

SMC will have a membership drive at the Avenues Mall (30300 Southside Boulevard) in Jacksonville, FL on Saturday, October 24, 1998, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Another drive will occur at the Countryside Mall (27001 U.S. 19 N.) in Clearwater, FL on Saturday, November 7, 1998, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Mail visitors will have the opportunity to become Club members by adopting a manatee. Those who adopt a manatee at the store receive a free poster.

Upcoming Events:

Wings 'N Water Festival, 9/19-9/20 (Stone Harbor, NJ); Little Red Lighthouse Festival, 9/26 (New York City, NY); PAWS Day, 10/3 (Clinton, MD); Crackerfest, 10/10 (Melbourne, FL); Waterfront Festival, 10/10-10/11 (Punta Gorda, FL); International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council's Annual Conference, 10/15-10/18 (Ft. Worth, TX); Discover Diving Expo, 10/16-10/18 (Atlanta, GA); Florida Association of Science Teachers Conference, 10/16-10/17 (Tampa, FL); Apple Fest, 10/17 (Chambersburg, PA); Autumn Sea Fair, 10/18 (San Pedro, CA); Tails & Tots Family Festival, 11/7-11/8 (Daytona Beach, FL); Connecticut Pet EXPO, 11/7-11/8 (Hartford, CT); Boston Pet EXPO, 11/21-11/22 (Boston, MA); River Dayz, 11/21-11/22 (Stuart, FL); Anna Maria Island Art Festival, 12/5-12/6 (Holmes Beach, FL).

If you want to help staff an SMC booth at any of these events, please contact Kevin Little at 1-800-432-JOIN (5646), Ext. 17 or by e-mail at: volunteer@savethemanatee.org.



Blue Spring News

by Ranger Wayne Hartley

We have had several cow-calf sightings at or near the park this summer, but I was only able to identify about half of them. Lucille and her calf Loopy came in on April 13 and were misidentified several times until I could borrow a pair of binoculars from a park visitor. The Club has bought a beautiful pair for me to use, but they don't work well when they are in the bottom of a closet at home!

I also reported Phyllis and Phire in on April 5, 1998. Ranger Campbell reported them back in on June 5 in the morning and then watched them leave while Phire was still nursing. Ranger Padgett saw them the first weekend in July. They swam up just short of the swimming area, watched the crowd for awhile and then left. I have mentioned before that I believe Phyllis lives in Hontoon Dead River most of the summer and is often an off-season visitor.

On April 4, I was doing my last complete roll call with water temperatures and all when, just as I was about to finish, Howie came in at flank speed, turned at the far end of the roped-off swim area and departed into the St. Johns River just as fast as he came in. I could practically hear him say, "What, no females?" This was at 9:26 a.m..

The only other sure sighting of an adoptee, sadly enough, was the recovery of Shane on June 7, in the vicinity of Trader's Cove, after he was killed by a boat (see story on page 1). Shane was born the summer of 1981, and he was 17 years old when he died. His mother was Emma, one of the first manatees in the adoption program. Shane had five known siblings: Boomer, Fodderwing, Quinton, Emmett, and Elaine, our current adoptee. Fodderwing was one of the manatees filmed by Jacques Cousteau in the early 1970s. It was the first time a manatee calf was shown nursing underwater. Shane was a quiet manatee, but he did like to hang around in the roped-off swimming area, as long as there wasn't too much activity there. He was occasionally photographed by divers on their way to the dock to leave the water. He would be up on his pectorals (flippers), looking curious. Shane died in the same area he had roamed when he was being radio-tracked in the 1980s. He was often found keeping company with Lucille in those days.

The other news is about Georgia. She became a trial in the swimming area. She was hanging around the visitors so much that she was finally moved by boat about twenty miles away. She was moved in early May and soon had her calf. The calf is very lively, and Georgia is a good mother. They have stayed in the birth area ever since. As I pondered names for the calf pending discovery of its sex, I found

the folks who have the pair in their "backyard" have named it Peaches. We still don't know the sex, but, Peaches it is. (See more news on Georgia and Peaches in the "USGS Captive Release Update" on page 4.)

I received a very nice letter from an SMC member in Boulder, Colorado recently. I am often using the words boil, run, spring boil, and spring run, and they asked, "What are they?" In Florida, we have many large springs that seem to boil up out of the earth. They usually run a short or longer distance to a river or lake. So, basically, a boil is a spring and a run is a creek. Blue Spring supplies Blue Spring Creek which runs a third of a mile to the St. Johns River.

Another question we cover occasionally is, "How are the adoptees chosen?" We try to choose adoptees that are easy to recognize and who return to Blue Spring each year. Of course, this was not true of Elaine this year,

and Dana is not easy to recognize, but every program has exceptions! We don't put calves or young manatees in the program because of the high perinatal mortality rate. Generally, we wait until they are "established" as regular Blue Spring winter visitors before they are chosen for the adoption program.

The Club also asked me to comment on the fires in Volusia County, and how the fires might affect the manatees. Actually, none of the fires in Volusia were very near the St. Johns River, so I expect the manatees are just fine.

Ranger Wayne Hartley entered the Florida Park Service in 1974. He has worked with manatee research since his arrival at Blue Spring State Park in 1979. He is responsible for reporting information on the Blue Spring manatees to the U.S. Geological Survey's Sirenia Project, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and Save the Manatee® Club.

Homosassa Springs State Wildlife Park Update

by Ranger Betsy Dearth

Animals in zoos and aquariums are usually given some enrichment options to enhance their life in captivity. The manatees at Homosassa Springs State Wildlife Park are fortunate to have many natural changes going on in their environment. Water levels (tides), either high or low, can add enhancement. High tide enables the manatees to browse on water edge vegetation and low hanging leaves. Low tide offers some water currents for their swimming pleasure, or allows them to sun bathe on sandbars. Dolphin are sometimes observed chasing fish on the other side of the barrier bridge, and we have many different species of fish that come and go in the park area, as well as wading birds. Of course, nature provides us with a variety of weather.

The manatees seem to enjoy it when a branch falls in the water. They eat the leaves and play with the bare branches. We also feed them several different types of lettuce twice a day, and they get carrots three times a day. They also get alfalfa hay in the morning and timothy hay in the evening, and they are treated to natural vegetation (such as seagrass or water hyacinth) twice a month. We have also used some unusual enrichment objects like floating coconuts, melons and ice blocks of fruit or vegetables they usually like to grab with their flippers.

Physical exams are also part of the routine for the manatees living at the park. In July, Betsy, Star, and Holly (a manatee from Sea World currently living at the park) were taken out of the water for their physical exams. Star asked me not to publish her weight, but she is a very big girl! When the manatees were taken out of the water for their physical exam, Ariel cleverly eluded capture. She chose to wait until the next physical exam was scheduled.

At the beginning of the manatee education program at the park, carrots are thrown into the water to arouse their attention. If they are not already there waiting, the manatees usually come when they hear the carrots hit the water. The younger manatees usually swim over fast for the carrots, while the adults may be busy doing something else and come a few minutes later. Although she is an adult, Betsy is still acting like a youngster. She is starting to splash with her head like her mother Amanda does to get attention. This is not unusual as manatees seek to copy one another from time to time. Speaking of Amanda, she and Rosie have been looking after the young manatees from Sea World. Both have been observed resting alongside the younger manatees.

Ranger Betsy Dearth has been at HSSWP for 10 years. Caring for the resident manatees is one of her primary responsibilities, and she also presents manatee education programs.

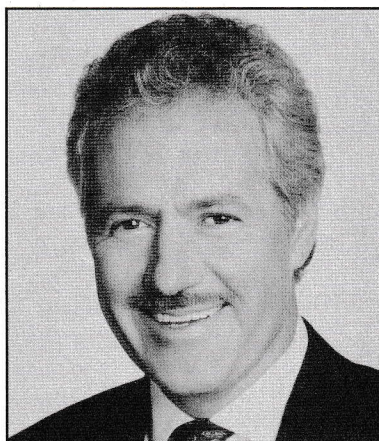
ALEX TREBEK TO SPONSOR HOLIDAY ORNAMENT BENEFITING CLUB

Manatee public awareness efforts are about to get some help. Jeopardy! host Alex Trebek, SMC, and Joy to The World Collectibles are teaming up to help the manatee's cause. SMC will benefit from the sale of a specially designed Christmas ornament endorsed by Mr. Trebek. The ornament will be a part of the Joy to The World Collectibles Collection, a new line of "ultra collectible," holiday ornaments for the 1998 season.

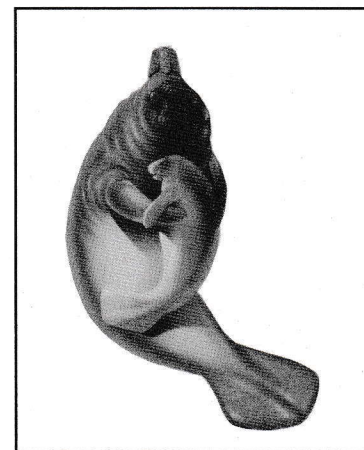
"Baby of Mine," designed to create awareness about the plight of the manatee, is an exquisite, handmade European glass ornament that retails for \$55.00. Ten percent of the proceeds from each sale is donated to SMC. The piece will be distributed throughout Florida, as well as nationally through Christmas shops, gift and collectibles shops, upscale catalogs and other fine retailers.

"Without the much needed awareness, future generations may not be fortunate enough to know these wonderful animals," says Mr. Trebek, who is interested in the large, slow-moving and gentle manatee.

The ornament benefiting SMC is a limited edition, made from a custom mold that will be



Jeopardy! host Alex Trebek



"Baby of Mine" holiday ornament

retired at the end of one year. In addition to the funds raised from donations made by Joy To The World for the sale of each ornament, fund raising events, including an auction of ornaments signed by Mr. Trebek, are planned and are expected to raise further dollars for the Club.

To order ornaments, please call Joy To The World Collectibles™ Inc., 1-877-ORNAMENT (676-2636) or visit them on the Internet at <http://www.joyworldcollectibles.com>. Delivery begins in September.

PARROT HEADS HELP MANATEES

3rd Annual Manatee Ball Scheduled For October 10th

The Tampa Bay Parrot Heads in Paradise Club, Inc., is sponsoring the 3rd Annual Manatee Ball to be held at the St. Petersburg Coliseum in Florida, on October 10, 1998. If you have an item or service to donate, please call SMC at 1-800-432-5646. If you would like to purchase tickets, or become a Manatee Ball sponsor, please call Chuck Althoff, Manatee Ball Chair, at 1-813-733-6642. There will be live and silent auctions of great items, a buffet dinner, dancing, and lots of fun. Don't miss out!

2nd Annual "One Particular Harbour" Cruise A Smashing Success

For the second year in a row, the Chesapeake Parrot Heads sponsored a cruise on Chesapeake Bay on May 30, 1998, and proceeds from the event were donated to SMC. The amount — \$9,000, was more than double what the event raised last year. Our warmest thanks to Deb Daly, who works so hard to put it all together, and to all the Chesapeake Parrot Heads who give of their time and talent. We also want to extend our thanks to the community businesses that donated to this event.

Parrot Head Clubs are fans of the music of Jimmy Buffett. They are also outstanding volunteer community service organizations. If you would like more information on these Clubs, you can call Ron Allred at (817) 498-8068 or e-mail Ron at: iguana555@aol.com.



More Ways To Help SMC

Adopt-A-Manatee® for a Friend or Relative for the Holidays

What makes the perfect gift for the special people on your holiday gift list? Why, a manatee adoption, of course! For \$20, your gift recipient(s) will receive an adoption of a special manatee, including the manatee's biography, photo, and adoption certificate, as well as a 24-page membership handbook. This is the gift that keeps on giving, because they will also receive four newsletters throughout the year! For helping us spread the word, you will receive a free gift from us, eight notecards and envelopes (5 1/2" X 3 3/4") printed on recycled paper. You'll receive one shrink-wrapped package of notecards for every gift adoption you purchase. Call our toll-free phone number, 1-800-432-5646 and order now. Just be sure to indicate that you are a member adopting a manatee as a holiday gift.

Matching Gifts

If the company you work for has a matching gifts program, and if SMC qualifies, the donation you make to SMC can be matched by your employer. Ask your employer if they have such a program, or if they are interested in establish-

ing one. If you need more information, please call Connie Graham at Club headquarters. Thank you for helping us out!

A Payroll Deduction Plan to Help the Environment? Read On...

SMC is a member of The Environmental Fund For Florida (EFF), a fund raising group of Florida's finest environmental organizations. If you own a business, or if you are an employee interested in a payroll deduction plan at your place of work which will benefit Florida's environmental causes, please call SMC headquarters and we will be happy to give you additional information. The goal of EFF is to provide a stable, long term source of funding for its member groups who are largely membership-based.

Republic Bank

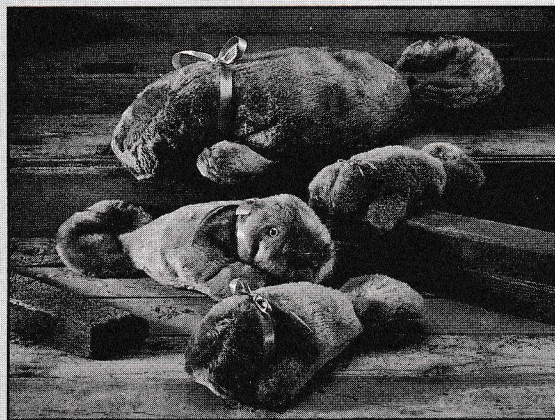
Get a Visa or Mastercard credit card from Republic Bank and the bank will donate \$1.00 to SMC and \$.50 when you annually renew. The credit cards feature a full color manatee photo by renowned wildlife photographer Robert Rattner. Thanks to Republic Bank for participating in this on-going promotion, as well as to our participating members.



Save the Manatee Club GIFT CATALOG

Allow 2-3 weeks for delivery.

POSTAGE, TAX AND HANDLING ARE INCLUDED IN ALL PRICES.



Plush Toys



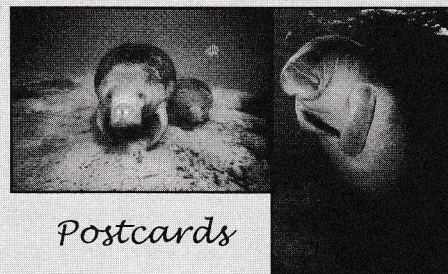
License Plate

Bumper Sticker

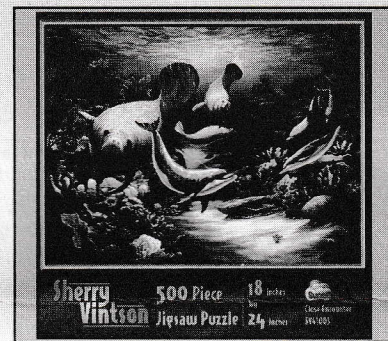
Decal



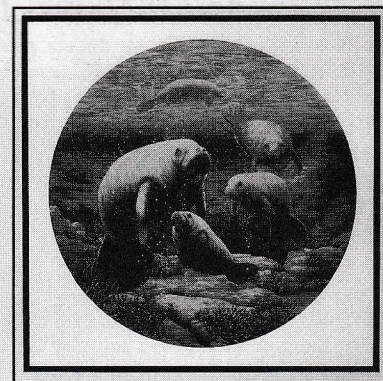
Lapel Pin



Postcards



Puzzle



Tile

0003 License Plate: In durable, rustproof, recyclable aluminum. Club logo in green, blue and white. Price \$6.50.

0009 Bumper Stickers (2): Green, blue and white. Feature Club logo. Set of two stickers for \$2.00.

0008 Decals (2): Green, blue and white. Feature Club logo. Set of two decals for \$2.00.

0007 Lapel Pin: Wear our beautiful enamel pin on our Club T-shirt. It's 3/4 inches in diameter. Price \$4.50.

0006 Postcards: Two new images by world-renowned photographer Robert Rattner. Each full-color postcard measures 4 1/4" x 6". Ten postcards (5 of each image) for only \$3.75.

0021 Puzzle: We used to sell this as a tile and thought we'd try something new. You'll get many hours of enjoyment working on this 500 piece puzzle. Then frame it! Measures 18" x 24". Price \$16.95.

0039 T-Shirt: Let the world know how you feel! Shirt bears the message from our waterway signs. Excellent quality, 100% cotton shirt. White only with blue, green and black design. Adult sizes only: S, M, L, and XL. Price \$18.95.

0053 Tile Wall Hanging: A new Sherry Vintson tile. As usual it is absolutely fantastic! (Not suggested to be used as a trivet as it is not kiln-fired.) Measures 8" x 8". Price \$21.95.

TOYS: From the Manatee Toy Co. in Crystal River, Florida come these plush gray toys which are top quality, cute and cuddly.

0010 Large (23") \$31.95

0011 Medium (15 1/2") \$21.95

0012 Small (11 1/2") \$15.95

0013 Extra Small (9") \$11.95

0027 Cassette Tape:

The very popular "Cry of the Manatee" is an outstanding collection of soothing instrumental music featuring REAL manatee vocalizations. Available on cassette tape only. Price \$14.95 for cassette tape.

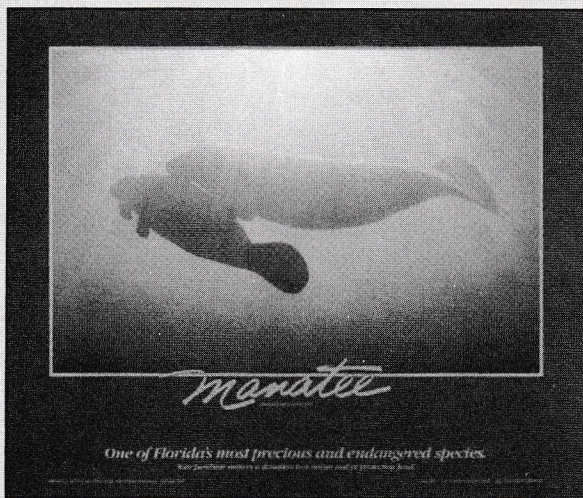
NEW



T-Shirt (front & back)

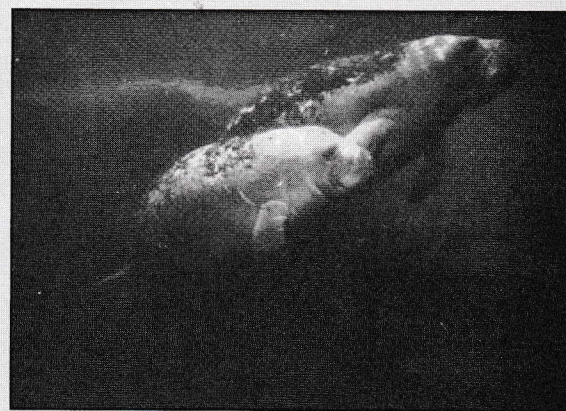


Cassette Tape



Kim Walker Stanberry Poster

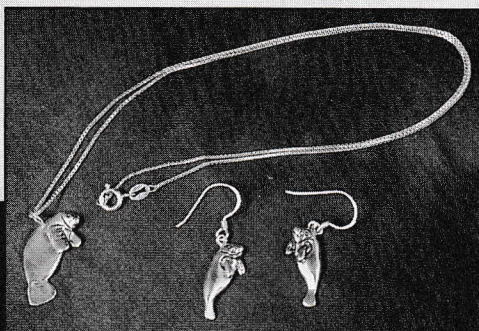
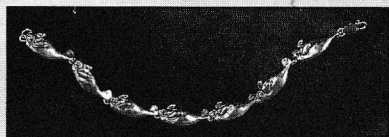
Posters



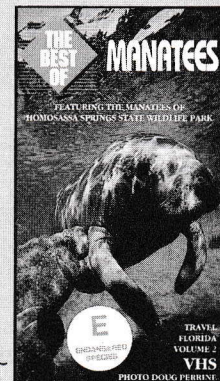
Robert Rattner Poster

Jewelry

NEW



Video



Jewelry:

0031 Bracelet: Manatees swimming head to tail create this very unique 7" sterling silver bracelet with lobster claw clasp. Price \$29.95.

0033 Necklace:

A very tasteful sterling silver manatee 1-inch in length dangles from a 20-inch box link sterling silver chain. Treat yourself, then buy one for a friend. Price \$23.95.

0032 Earrings:

"How beautiful!" is what your friends will say when they see you wearing our manatee earrings. Sterling silver on french ear wires, the manatee measures 7/8" in length - not too big and not too small but just right! Price \$17.95.

Posters:

0035 Robert Rattner Poster:

This is the new official Club poster featuring Robert Rattner's full-color photo. Measures 17" x 22". Price \$9.95.

0022 Kim Walker Stanberry Poster:

Beautiful full-color poster by underwater photographer Kim Walker Stanberry. Measures 22" x 26". Price \$10.95.

0002 Video: "The Best of the Manatees" is a 30 minute educational video featuring the manatees of Homosassa Springs State Wildlife Park. Beautiful underwater footage. Price \$24.95.

All prices include postage, handling, and tax (U.S. orders only). Please call (407) 539-0990 for international rates

All items are MADE IN AMERICA.

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Address _____
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Daytime Phone () _____
Date _____

SHIP TO:

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Address _____
City, State, Zip _____

Quantity	Item Number	Item Description	Price	Total

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Card No. _____ Exp. date _____

Total check or money order (No cash, please): _____

Please mail this form to: Save the Manatee Club

500 N. Maitland Ave., Maitland, FL 32751

For phone orders call 1-800-432-JOIN



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U.S.G.S.

Continued from page 4

servation and treatment. "Mo seems to have fared well despite his ordeal and is expected to fully recover" said Dr. Mike Walsh, a Sea World Orlando veterinarian who participated in Mo's rescue. "However, Mo would almost certainly have died without human intervention, given his location, condition, and disorientation."

"We believe that Mo wandered offshore into deep waters where he drifted south with the currents. After 30 days, he was 284 miles from his release site," said Reid. Mo is the first radio-tagged manatee documented to move so far offshore.

On May 6, another captive-reared manatee, Georgia gave birth to a calf in the wild. Georgia was rescued as an orphaned calf in 1991 and spent almost six years in captivity in Sea World Orlando. She was released a year ago at Blue Spring State Park. Georgia is the first captive-reared manatee known to have successfully reproduced following her release. The calf is now about four months old. Normal nursing behavior has been observed, and mother and calf are doing fine.

"The birth of Georgia's calf is a landmark event in the captive manatee release program. Other captive-reared, female manatees have been released in Florida, but Georgia is the first we have documented to give birth," stated Dr. Lynn Lefebvre, director of the Sirenia Project manatee research program. "Georgia's successful calving is particularly gratifying because Georgia was extremely tame and frequently sought human attention before the birth of her calf. It is still too early to tell, but the birth of her calf may have broken this pattern of behavior. Georgia and Mo could be described as reflecting the extremes of captive manatee release success and failure."

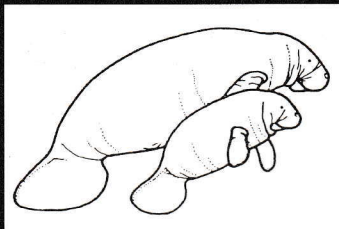
Make the future safe for manatees. Contribute to our endowment fund. For more information, please call 1-800-432-5646.

Petition

Continued from page 4

of law enforcement agencies. WCI also agreed to work with the Club and FDEP in reviewing existing boat speed zones affected by the development and to offer its support for additional speed zones should they be warranted.

"We believe this agreement represents a significant victory for manatees in Palm Beach County. One of the greatest weaknesses in manatee protection efforts in Florida is a lack of law enforcement officers to enforce manatee boat speed zones. In this case, the developer has committed funds and its efforts to increase law enforcement in the area directly affected by the project it is going to build. This example of development 'paying its own way' represents an important alternative to placing the full burden for manatee protection on the shoulders of overextended and underfunded government agencies, and may provide a glimmer of hope for manatees affected by future coastal development," said Rob Goodwin, SMC's staff attorney.



If you see an injured, dead, tagged, or orphaned manatee, or if you see a manatee being harassed, call 1-800- DIAL-FMP (342-5367) OR *FMP on your cellular phone, or use VHF Channel 16 on your marine radio.



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Save the Manatee® Club, Inc.

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1-800-432-JOIN

BEQUESTS TO SMC

If you are considering drafting a will or revising an existing document, we hope you will consider making a bequest to SMC. Please consult your attorney for advice. SMC's legal name is Save the Manatee® Club, Inc., a Florida not-for-profit corporation. Your help will assure that future generations will be able to enjoy manatees in the wild.