



BERMUDA ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY
"to inspire appreciation and care of island environments"



SUPPORT CHARITY OF THE BERMUDA AQUARIUM, MUSEUM & ZOO

July NEWS

Eagle Ray expert to give free lecture



BZS members are invited to a free lecture about eagle rays next week. Researcher Matthew Ajemian is a two-time recipient of the Eric Clee Environment Fund Award and a PhD student at the Dauphin Island Sea Lab and University of South Alabama. He researches sharks, eagle rays and other related marine creatures. Ajemian's talk, "Exploring Eagle-Ray Ecology: Population Biology and Feeding Ecology of the Whip Morays," will be held at 7 pm in the Aquarium Hall on Tuesday, July 7.

Reefs: past and present

Reef researcher Bermudian Jessie Hallett will also give a free talk in July. Hallett, a research assistant for the BZS-supported BREAM programme, will speak at 7 pm at BAMZ on Wednesday, July 29. The title of her talk is: "Two-hundred years of change to Bermuda's marine environment: New perspectives from old maps."

'I Am BZS!' Photo & Poetry Competition

Entry forms for the BZS Photo & Poetry Competition will be available later this month at BAMZ reception and on-line at www.bamz.org. The deadline for entries is September 18 and winners will be announced in October.

This year's theme categories include the Natural Environment, Challenges to the Natural Environment, and "I Am BZS—what I am doing to protect the environment." We're encouraging all our members to capture the essence of what it means to appreciate our natural heritage, or be a nature-loving BZS member, in photos or verse.



The contest will have four entry categories: ages five to 13, open amateur (14 years-plus), professional, and BZS/BAMZ staff & JVs. As always, we'll have a slate of fantastic prizes for the winners, including the honour of having their entries published in our members' magazine, *WILD*.

BZS financial statements

Members can find BZS financial statements for the 2008–09 year posted on our website (www.bamz.org) for download.

BZS Nature Encounters

Sign up now for these exciting Nature Encounters

GLOWWORM CRUISE

Thursday, July 9, 7:30–10:30 pm

All ages (one adult must accompany every three children). Enjoy a night out on the water aboard *Endurance*, on this moonlit expedition to view Bermuda's unique glowworms. Boat leaves and returns to the BAMZ dock opposite the Aquarium entrance. Drinks and snacks provided. *Fee: Members \$40, non-members \$45.*

NORTH ROCK SNORKEL

Saturday, July 25, 11 am–3 pm

Participants must be experienced snorkellers, and bring their own masks, snorkels, fins, plus food or drinks. Minimum age 10 years. There must be one adult for every three children. *Fee: Members \$45, non-members \$50.*

BZS members will be given first option for all Nature Encounters and tours. If space becomes available, non-member bookings will be considered one week prior to events.

ENDURANCE FOR CHARTER

Endurance is also available for charter. Entertain friends, family, staff or corporate groups with a day or evening outing aboard *Endurance*. Hourly base rate (8 am–6 pm): members \$160; non-members \$175. Contact Captain Tim Hasselbring at endurance.bzs@gov.bm or 293-2727, ext 137, for more information and booking. There is a two-hour minimum.

For more information or to register for any of our events, visit www.bamz.org.

BZS in BRIEF



WILD a winner!

BZS is very proud to announce that our new members' magazine, *WILD*, has won a Best of Bermuda Award 2009. Launched just last November, with three issues now published, the full-colour, quarterly magazine produced by Brimstone Media Ltd. grabbed an award for Best Marketing Material and was touted as "one of Bermuda's best new local publications." The popular awards, given annually by *The Bermudian* magazine, are published in its Summer issue.

Works in progress

Construction on the new Animal Care Centre continues at BAMZ. The walls of the facility have now gone up and the first-level slab is being poured. The state-of-the-art hospital, featuring a surgery, quarantine and dietary preparation areas, is slated for completion later this year. BZS members will notice several other improvement projects around our facility this summer. Old railings are being replaced around the Harbour Seal Pool with new aluminium rails and a pure glass shield.



New touchscreen

Check out our new touchscreen in front of the North Rock Exhibit. The hands-on screen features beautiful underwater images from Ron Lucas's *Reef Portraits* book, published by BZS. We plan to add more touchscreens around the facility, featuring Google Earth and information on Bermuda's native and endemic creatures and plants. Tell us what you think!

Thank you, Bank of Bermuda HSBC!

A total of 172 Bank of Bermuda HSBC employees volunteered their time at BAMZ recently to refurbish Discovery Cove. Bank staff painted, scrubbed, swept, added plants and replaced sand-pits in the popular outdoor playground area during their week-long stint at the Zoo. Their efforts helped complete tasks needed for BAMZ's upcoming re-accreditation by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA). Thank you!

PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS EMAIL ADDRESS. TO BE REMOVED FROM OUR EMAIL LIST OR FOR GENERAL INFORMATION, CONTACT: info.bzs@gov.bm or 441/293-2727

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