

SAMREC – SA MARINE REHABILITATION AND EDUCATION CENTRE



NEWSLETTER - March 2010

Volunteers urgently needed!

An urgent request from Jared:

We need volunteers urgently to assist in all aspects of SAMREC. At the moment, we have about 60 volunteers on our database, but we have only 6 trained volunteers that are assisting in the penguin side of SAMREC while we have 3 dedicated volunteers assisting in the education side of SAMREC. Weekends we have one staff member and sometimes we have volunteers coming but it's mainly Libby and that's all we have.

At the moment, we have no morning volunteers on Penguin Duty on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. And we have no volunteers on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday afternoon. And we have hardly anyone assisting in tours and Education.... SO PLEASE COME AND ASSIST AS OUR VISITOR NUMBERS ARE INCREASING AS WELL AS OUR SEA SCHOOL PROGRAM.



NB: SAMREC volunteers must please commit to one shift per week and if you have put your name down for any specific day, you must please do that particular shift.

Volunteers must also remember that shifts that deal with the penguin rehab will be from 7:45 to 13:00 and afternoon shifts will start from 13:30 til 17:00 (varsity and school students can start there shift after there lectures or school has closed.)

P.S REMEMBER that volunteers will be expected to assist in cleaning, washing windows, tours, education, field guiding and many other tasks

We are also planning a volunteer training session on Saturday 6 March 2010 at SAMREC and we want all volunteers that work in the rehab centre as well as anyone who helps in the education department. ALL TRAINED VOLUNTEERS TO PLEASE COME AS WELL!!!!

“The Godfather” Italian Mafia theme Valentine’s dinner / dance

We held our “The Godfather” themed dinner dance on 13 February. This was a collaboration between SAMREC and the Animal Welfare Society. The event was a success and enjoyed by all.

Seabird rehabilitation meeting - Bayworld

A meeting was held on 3 March to discuss ways to work towards an open, collaborative working relationship between seabird rehabilitation centers in South Africa and to find practical solutions to working together in an efficient way going forward. East London Aquarium, SAMREC, Penguins Eastern Cape, Tenikwa, Eve Joubert, SANCCOB and SANParks attended. This was seen as a big step in the right direction and towards working together for the greater benefit of our seabird life.

Penguin news

We received another penguin, Elton (No.5) from Cannon Rocks on 30 January 2010 and he was dehydrated and moulting. He is progressing well (and Jared reports that he has a lot of attitude...!)

Darling (No. 4) is also doing great and his seal injury is healing well. He is currently still on Antibiotics and is eating well.

General news

We have been extremely busy the past few weeks and have been visited by the Consumers Association, WESSA, Harvest Primary Grade R's and many members of the public.

We would like to thank Cape Recife and Pearson High pupils for coming to SAMREC on a regular basis and assisting in the cleaning and general assistance where needed.

We have received several Cattle Egrets from 4th Ave Summerstrand and are happy to confirm that all have been successfully released.

We received a Cape Cormorant in from NMMU and thank Dr. Zimmermann from SANparks for bringing him in on 15 February 2010. He is currently doing well. We also received another Cape Cormorant in from Cape Recife Nature reserve who is also doing well.

Our Field trail is nearly complete and soon we will be able to do more field trips in our reserve where we will be able to show the public and our visitors all the wonderful plants and birds in the reserve.

Please contact Jared or Libby if you would like to purchase an honour disc on our wall.

Thank you to:

As always we would like to acknowledge and thank **Oceanfresh Seafoods** for the supply of Sardines for our Penguins. Your contribution is very much appreciated. Please support Ocean Fresh in acknowledgment of their kind assistance to our Penguins.



A SAMREC penguin enjoying an Ocean Fresh sardine



Please offer your time as a volunteer, if possible, and tell your friends and families about SAMREC. It is indeed a very rewarding experience to interact with these beautiful birds and to know that your efforts are making a very real difference in their existence. We need help in all areas of the SAMREC organization, including rehab, reception and the restaurant.

The **"Flying Penguin" restaurant** is open from Tuesday till Sunday from 10h30 till 16h00.

Please see our web site, www.samrec.org.za and join our **Facebook Group** (SAMREC – SA Marine Rehabilitation and Education Centre) for more information.

Please give Jared a call on (041) 583 1830 or 074 049 4687 for more information on how you can assist by means of volunteering, donations and sponsorships.

Kind regards,

The SAMREC Team

SAMREC is open 7 days a week from 8:30 to 17:00. The entry fee is R20 for Adults and R15 for Children/Pensioners. Your fee includes a guided tour that guarantees you great memories to take back home.

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