

## REC AND PARKS

## Big Award Is No Fish Tale

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium wins coveted zoological award for raising garibaldi.

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium (CMA) received the Association of Zoos and Aquarium's (AZA's) 2010 Edward H. Bean Award for Significant Achievement in raising garibaldi. CMA's Director Mike Schaadt and Research Curator Dr. Kiersten Darrow accepted the award in front of 1,700 attendees at AZA's annual conference in Houston Sept. 16.

"Winning the Bean Award is thrilling and is important recognition for the years of hard work CMA staff and volunteers have invested in raising garibaldi," Schaadt said. "This is a fish with a long, rich history at CMA. The garibaldi project involved many individuals, multiple departments, as well as several separate projects and studies all leading to our ability to share baby garibaldi with other aquariums and zoos."

Under Darrow's supervision, Aquatic Nursery staff developed a system for successfully growing baby garibaldi from eggs, qualifying CMA to apply for and win this prestigious award. This achievement also prevents garibaldi from being taken from their natural ocean habitat.

The Edward H. Bean Award was established in 1956 to recognize the most significant birth or hatching of a species and/or subspecies. Later the award requirements expanded to recognize propagation or management programs as first births/hatchings became less frequent and collection management focused increasingly on long-term programs and commitments. With this evolution in mind, it is now awarded for propagation or management programs that contribute to the reproductive success of one or more species and/or subspecies.

Previous years' winners have included; Chicago's Shedd Aquarium, Monterey Bay Aquarium, Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific, Vancouver Aquarium, Waikiki Aquarium, SeaWorld San Diego, and Disney's Animal Kingdom.



Cabrillo Marine Aquarium.

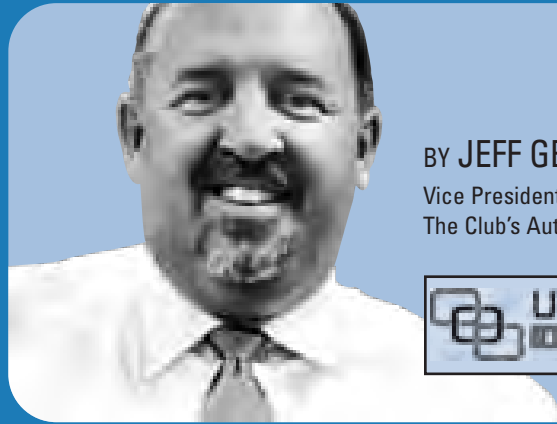
AZA is a network of 6,000 committed zoo and aquarium professionals, organizations and suppliers worldwide that accredits only those institutions that have achieved rigorous standards for animal care, education, wildlife conservation and science. Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is proud to be a fully accredited member and to have previously won back-to-back AZA Munson Aquatic Conservation Exhibitory Awards for the Aquatic Nursery (2005) and the Exploration Center (2006).

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is a facility of the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks. Free Aquarium and tidepool tours are offered to over 150,000 school children and over 300,000 visitors annually. The Aquarium's staff of scientists, educators, support professionals and volunteers work to increase public awareness, education and concern for the marine environment. Recognized as one of the best teaching aquariums in the world, CMA has a 75-year record of innovation and excellence as an important educational resource for the residents and visitors of Los Angeles.



An exhibit inside Cabrillo Marine Aquarium.

# REST INSURED



BY JEFF GELINEAU

Vice President of United Agencies,  
The Club's Auto and Home Insurance Partner



## Beware of Fire Season

It's California's least favorite season. No that doesn't mean the holidays. I'm talking about brush fire season. This month's article is about how you can prepare for brush fires.

Brush fires cause damage of more than \$1 billion and destroy thousands of homes every year. The good news is that there are precautionary measures you can take to keep your family and home safe. Please read on to find out what your fire risk is; create safety zones around your home; understand the laws protecting fire survivors; and more.

### First: Find out what your fire risk is.

Learn about the history of wildfire in your area. Be aware of recent weather. A long period without rain increases the risk of wildfire. Consider having a professional inspect your property and offer recommendations for reducing the wildfire risk. Determine your community's ability to respond to wildfire. Are roads leading to your property clearly marked? Are the roads wide enough to allow firefighting equipment to get through? Is your house number visible from the roadside?

- Learn and teach safe fire practices.
- Build fires away from nearby trees or bushes.
- Always have a way to extinguish the fire quickly and completely.
- Install smoke detectors on every level of your home and near sleeping areas.
- Never leave a fire – even a cigarette – burning unattended.
- Avoid open burning completely, and especially during dry season.
- Always be ready for an emergency evacuation.
- Evacuation may be the only way to protect your family in a wildfire. Know where to go and what to bring with you. You should plan several escape routes in case roads are blocked by a wildfire.

### Second: Create safety zones around your house.

All vegetation is fuel for a wildfire, though some trees and shrubs are more flammable than others. To reduce the risk, you will need to modify or eliminate brush, trees and other vegetation near your home. The greater the distance is between your home and the vegetation, the greater the protection.

- Create a 30-foot safety zone around the house.
- Keep the volume of vegetation in this zone to a minimum. If you live on a hill, extend the zone on the downhill side. Fire spreads rapidly uphill. The steeper the slope, the more open space you will need to protect your home. Swimming pools and patios can be a safety zone, and stonewalls can act as heat shields and deflect flames. In this zone, you should also do the following:

- Remove vines from the walls of the house.
- Move shrubs and other landscaping away from the sides of the house.
- Prune branches and shrubs within 15 feet of chimneys and stove pipes.
- Remove tree limbs within 15 feet of the ground.
- Thin a 15-foot space between tree crowns.

### Third: Prepare a family disaster plan.

Wildfire and other types of disasters – floods, tornados, earthquakes and hazardous materials spills – can strike quickly and without warning. You can cope with disaster by preparing in advance and working together. Meet with your family to create a disaster plan. To get started:

- Contact your local emergency management office or your local American Red Cross chapter.
- Find out about the hazards in your community.
- Ask how you would be warned.
- Find out how to prepare for each type of disaster.
- Meet with your family.
- Discuss the types of disasters that could occur.
- Explain how to prepare and respond to each type of disaster.
- Discuss where to go and what to bring if advised to evacuate
- Practice what you have discussed.
- Plan how your family will stay in contact if separated by disaster.

**Be safe and have fun!**

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**Have a question?** Is there something about insurance that you've always wanted to know, but were too ashamed to ask? Maybe something that you've just always been curious about? Feel free to send me an email at [jgelineau@unitedagencies.com](mailto:jgelineau@unitedagencies.com), and I will try to answer your question in one of our monthly columns.

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4470 W. Sunset Blvd, Suite 101  
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323-667-1985  
FAX 888-891-5743  
[rosebud@getpromos.com](mailto:rosebud@getpromos.com)

[www.RosebudMarketing.com](http://www.RosebudMarketing.com)