

Nature Notes

by Patricia Clark-Gray



whales that have perfected this unique technique. Because there are small pebbles on the beach, the whales can hear the sea lions moving on the pebbles and then come up on the beach and grab the sea lions. They are able to go back into the ocean because the pebbles are slippery and help them ease back into the water. Also, the older whales are teaching the younger ones to hunt.

whales. The people who were on the ship were ordinary people who came from all walks of life. They all shared the common passion to save the whales. It was a dramatic film that showed the beauty of the Antarctic and the amazing whales. During this campaign they estimated that they saved 500 whales from being slaughtered. Even

At some of the films the film-makers answered questions after the film. After watching the excellent film *Mysteries of the*

Blue Ocean Festival and Conversation Summit

Last week I attended the Blue Ocean Festival in Monterey. The festival presented an amazing collection of underwater photography and over 100 films. In the three days that I participated I saw 14 films with some of the films being short films. The films were shown at the IMAX,



Filmmaker Howard Hall and Michele Hall on the right. They filmed *Under the Sea 3D* On the left is Greg Mac Gillivray who has produced IMAX films like *Everest* and *the Living Sea*.

Osio, Maritime Museum and the Golden State Theater.

It is hard to say which was my favorite because each film was so different. The Coral Reef Adventure inspired me to want to take Scuba diving lessons so I could swim among the corals and the colorful fish. The End of the Line was the most educational film as it featured Scientists sharing their data about the decline in various fisheries.

One of the more interesting films was *At the Edge of the World* which was about the Sea Shepherd organization's Antarctic campaign to stop the Japanese Whaling ships from killing

though they are Eco-terrorists, I could understand their frustrations that the Japanese were illegally hunting the whales in the name of research.

Another unique film was *Into the Dragon's Lair* which showed two diver who swam into the underwater chambers of the Okavango Delta to film Nile crocodiles. I have to admit that I held my breath when on the 14 feet long crocodiles almost charged the divers.

The most amazing film was the *Orca Killing School*. This film showed the Orcas of Valdez Bay intentionally stranding themselves to hunt juvenile sea lions. They are the only known pod of

Shark Coast Celine Cousteau, the granddaughter of Jacques Cousteau, talked about the filming of the movie. I was excited to meet Jacques's grand-daughter because when I was young I wanted to be a Marine Biologist/Diver like Jacques after watching his t.v. shows. I believe that Jacques's film got people interested in the ocean and many of the current film-makers, scientists, and conservationists were inspired by Jacques to choose their careers and to protect the oceans. Celine, her father Jean-Michael, and brother Fabien also received the 2010 Making Waves Award at the festival.

Aging

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isign huge gains.

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*Insurance sales people who make you feel that you must pay now for a policy you're not sure you want or need. Call HICAP (1-800-424-0222) if you need help understanding health insurance or long term care insurance before paying any money.

products or services that are almost too good to be true. *Investment schemes promising

*Even emails from friends can be bogus. I received one saying my friend was on vacation and had been mugged and robbed. Supposedly he was asking me to send money to his hotel so he could pay his bill and come home. But a scammer had hacked into his email account, stolen his email contacts, and was waiting to collect the money I would send without my friend even knowing.

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