



## News from...

# Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

## Sink your teeth into the 'Summer of Sharks'

Rookery Bay Reserve celebrates the "Summer of Sharks" with adult and youth programs tied to the shark theme.



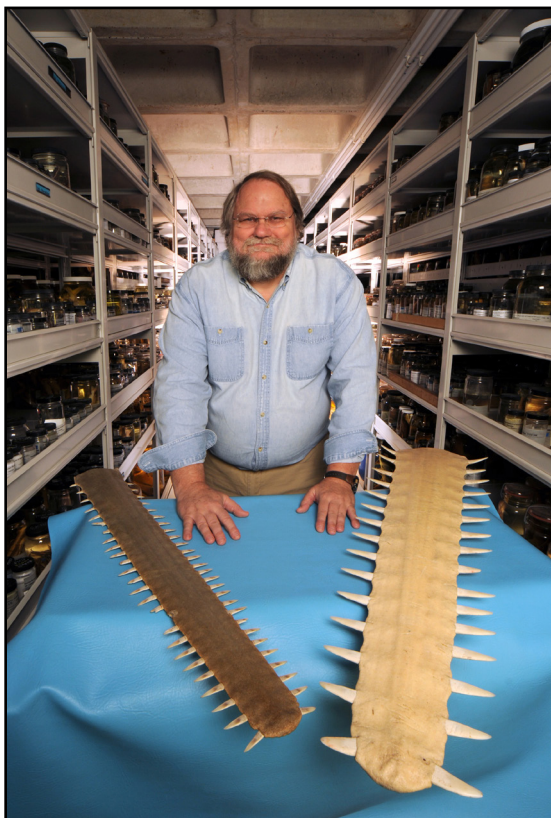
The "Sharkabet" traveling art exhibit is the centerpiece for an evening lecture series, children's art classes and Kids Free Fridays this summer at Rookery Bay. Beautifully illustrated images of living and extinct sharks swam into Naples last month for the "Sharkabet" exhibit by Alaskan artist Ray Troll through Sept. 2 at the Environmental Learning Center.

The evening lecture series features guest speakers who will present their amazing adventures with sharks and sawfish. **Presentations include:**

- June 8: George Burgess (see details, right)
- July 20: "The Perfect Predator" with Dr. José I. Castro, from Mote Marine Laboratory in Sarasota.
- July 27: "In The World Of Sharks" with Stan Waterman, a scuba diving pioneer captured on film swimming with big sharks off South Africa.
- Aug. 17: "Shark Nurseries in the Ten Thousand Islands Estuaries" with Pat O'Donnell, Rookery Bay Reserve fisheries biologist.

**Kids invited to paint with a master** Maritime mural artist David Dunleavy brings his paints, and his ladder, to transform the back wall of the Environmental Learning Center from June 27 to July 1. Children are invited to paint alongside him June 28 -30 from 9 to 11 a.m.

*Right: Dunleavy and one of his murals in the Florida Keys*



*Above: George Burgess is shown next to saws from both the endangered smalltooth sawfish and its close relative, the largetooth sawfish. Distinguished by its long rostrum or saw, the sawfish is a historical and cultural icon that is rapidly disappearing. As part of his lecture this month, Burgess will explain how and why to report sightings of this unusual fish.*



Rookery Bay Reserve, located in southwest Florida, is recognized as one of the few remaining pristine, mangrove-forested estuaries in the U.S. The Reserve is managed by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas in cooperation with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). As one of 28 sites within NOAA's National Estuarine Research Reserve System, Rookery Bay serves as an outdoor classroom and laboratory for students and scientists from around the world. (239) 417-6310, 300 Tower Rd., Naples, FL 34113 (located off Collier Blvd. 1 mile south of U.S. 41/East Tamiami Trail). [www.rookerybay.org](http://www.rookerybay.org), [facebook.com/friendsofrookerybay](https://www.facebook.com/friendsofrookerybay)

## Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center June 2011 Events

**Wednesdays (9 to 11 a.m.)**  
**Guided Kayak Tours.** Pre-registration required.

### Special Deals!

From Memorial Day through Labor Day, enjoy \$1 off up to four admissions when someone presents a valid Florida driver's license, and "buy one, get one free" for up to four free admissions with a valid Collier County driver's license.

**June 8 (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)**

### World Oceans Day

Enjoy a Touch Tank program at 11 a.m. and a series of IMAX (not 3-D) ocean films in the afternoon.

**June 8 (5:30 to 7 p.m.)**

### Summer of Sharks Lecture: George Burgess

"Smalltooth Sawfish: America's First Endangered Marine Fish" with George Burgess, director of the Florida Program for Shark Research at the Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida. The fee is \$10 for the general public and \$5 for members, and it includes light refreshments. Pre-registration is suggested at [rookerybay.org](http://rookerybay.org) or to 417-6310 x401.

**June 10 to Aug. 19**

### Kids Free Fridays

Enjoy crafts, storytelling and shark-related activities from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Kids ages 6-12 get free admission with paid adult. Food vendor.

**June 16 (6 to 8:30 p.m.)**

**Eco-Tour Operators Series lecture** topic t.b.d.  
FREE

**Pre-register for events at [www.rookerybay.org](http://www.rookerybay.org)**

Summer hours: Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Admission: \$5 adults, \$3 kids 6-12, under 6 FREE.  
Daily programs offered at 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.