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UNH Marine Docent Program Seeks Volunteers

Informational Meeting Scheduled Aug. 27

By Kathleen Schmitt
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August 5, 2002

DURHAM, N.H. -- The University of New Hampshire Marine Docent Program is looking for volunteers who love the ocean and want to help others learn about it.

Now in its 25th year, the program offers volunteers the chance to learn about the marine environment and share their knowledge with students, teachers and the community.

Docents present SEATREK programs to schools and community groups, work at the Seacoast Science Center in Rye and the Discovery Center on Great Bay, give tours of UNH marine laboratories, and teach aboard the UNH research boat, the Gulf Challenger.

No prior experience is required. New docents attend classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning in September, and are educated by university faculty, extension educators and other experts in the marine field. After completing their training, new docents can begin assisting with programs and presentations.

Those interested should plan to attend an informational meeting at the N.H. Sea Grant office, Kingman Farm on Route 155 in Madbury. The meeting will take place at 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 27.

The Marine Docent Program is sponsored by N.H. Sea Grant and UNH Cooperative Extension. For more information or directions, call Sharon Meeker or Barbara Pinto-Maurer at 603-749-1565 or e-mail sharon.meeker@unh.edu.