Saving History

“SCA provided me with my first big job adventure,” Sarah Dylla says of her internship at Virgin Islands National Park. The ad might have read: Virgin Islands National Park seeks a cultural landscape planner for historic site in ruinous state on deserted island in former commercial hub of West Indies. Must be OK with mosquitoes [lots!] indoor camping [electricity spotty], rats, roaches, and lizards, but also, white sand beaches, amazing barbecue, wonderful people.

“When I saw the position description on the SCA website, I knew it was for me. It spoke to me! I was very interested in the challenge of preserving cultural heritage for future generations. I called Mark Hardgrove, the park superintendent, and forced him to hire me,” Sarah says with a laugh.

Mark apparently didn't need much convincing. “When we saw Sarah's qualifications, there was no question,” he says. “She was it.”

That's Sarah on the right. Right out of college with a degree in art and architectural history, Sarah was to work with an interdisciplinary team of local planners, high school teachers, the St. Thomas Historic Trust, and park professionals to develop a draft cultural landscape plan for Hassel Island in St. Thomas harbor. Sarah's specific assignment was to determine the site's period of significance, inventory the elements that were still on the landscape, determine how best to interpret the history and artifacts of the site to visitors, create a plan, and gather public input before submitting it to the National Park Service for funding and implementation. She had six months.

(continued on page 2)
For extra credit, she was to develop a trails plan for the island.

Acquired by the Park Service in 1978 and left untouched until now, the site was in a “severe state of ruin” according to Hardgrove. Immediate work was needed to stabilize crumbling and collapsing historic structures to make it safe for visitation.

While the site has been occupied for thousands of years, its heyday had been the mid-19th century when prevailing trade winds brought sailing ships directly to the West Indies and St. Thomas harbor, known as the best shelter in the Caribbean. When the Royal Mail Steam Packet located its West Indies hub there, Hassel Island became a bustling trade center. It was the age of steam. Coal to power the huge ships arrived via sailing vessels, which was slower but cheaper, and was carried onto steamships by local women.

One of the significant historical elements on Hassel Island, the Creque Marine Railway, had been used to hoist ships as big as 700 tons out of the water for repairs. The marine railway was in operation right up into the mid-60’s and its huge Boulton steam engine is the only one of its kind known to still exist.

Sarah recently presented the draft plan at a public meeting where it was extremely well received. “Everyone melted after she spoke,” Hardgrove said. “She convinced them to preserve the site in its 19th-century state rather than cover it with palm trees.”

Superintendent Hardgrove had very kind words for Sarah and SCA. “She was awesome. Every time we have used SCA, it gets better and better. It is one of the solutions to many of our problems. Not just for the quality of the interns, which is fantastic, but for the return on our investment. We get great value. The interns are very project oriented.”

The plan will be submitted to the Park Service soon with 2013 as the target date for opening the Hassel Island National Historic Site to the public. Exhibits are to be constructed based on Sarah’s 3D mockups. And, yes, she did manage to do the trails plan as well.

As for Sarah’s next adventure, she’s headed to a job with the University of Virginia as an historical digital humanities specialist. Her dream: to work for the Park Service again someday.
Outdoor Nation Summer Summits... The Revolution Continues!

Outdoor Nation, the youth-led movement championing the outdoors that launched last year in Central Park, returned to New York on June 23 to kick off its 2011 series of Youth Summits in New York City, Atlanta, Minneapolis, Denver and San Francisco. Thirty-eight of the more than 1,300 delegates participating at the Summits are SCA members.


During each regional summit, delegates discuss regional issues and brainstorm project ideas that remove barriers to participation and ultimately engage more young people in the outdoors. They also gain direct exposure, through speakers and targeted sessions, to some of the most transformative national campaigns going on in the country, including America’s Great Outdoors, Let’s Move Outside and the campaign for America’s State Parks.

For more information, visit OutdoorNation.org

We’d like each issue to be better than the one before. If you have suggestions for stories you’d like to see published or ideas on how to improve the newsletter, write to us at thegreenway@thesca.org

Get Hands On, SCA’s email newsletter for alumni and friends. Read and subscribe at thesca.org/hands-on

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Become an SCA facebook fan! Connect and share with thousands of conservation-minded people. facebook.com/StudentConservationAssociation

Watch and listen to member stories on SCA’s YouTube channel youtube.com/user/conservationinaction

Donate today to ensure SCA can say yes to all the students who are hoping to get to work restoring habitats, building bridges, and greeting and teaching park visitors about conservation.

Help SCA save America’s parks this summer.

thesca.org/SayYES
The 2-Minute Interview with Dera Iyotte

SCA Intern and Rosebud Sioux Tribal member Dera Iyotte speaks about her internship at the Waubay National Wildlife Refuge in South Dakota. Dera, a student at Sinte Gleska University, is one of twenty interns taking part in SCA's new Tribal Intern Program this summer.

What will you be doing in the Tribal Intern Program?
I'll be working with the biological and maintenance staff on a variety of projects including habitat surveys and monitoring, wildlife surveys, bird banding and general park duties. Also learning about day-to-day refuge operations.

What sparked your interest in doing the program?
I grew up outdoors a lot, raised by my mom and my grandma. I was taught to be one with the Earth so I don't know, I thought—it's different, outside of my bubble—and I went for it because it's a good opportunity...a brand new adventure.

How's it going so far?
I really like it. Right now, I'm working with birds. I actually used to be afraid of them, but because of the bird surveys we're doing I can say: hey, look, that's a cormorant, and that's a gadwall. I was raised to take care of and respect the Earth.

What impact might your internship have in your tribal community?
Hopefully I can spark a revolution of young kids doing something for the Earth rather than for themselves. It's important to me and I really want others to follow through as well. I want people back home in my reservation to say, "Look! Dera's doing something. We can do that too!"

For more about this and other SCA programs, visit thesca.org

SCA and Southwest Airlines Hit the Road

Southwest Airlines and SCA are teaming up to celebrate SWA's 40th Anniversary. We've got an SCA crew, a biodiesel bus, and 40 community service events in 25 US cities. After conducting a warm up project in San Antonio, the Conservation in Action tour officially kicked off June 1, in the airline's hometown of Dallas. More than 700 Southwest employees engaged in conservation projects at the Texas Trees Foundation, Trinity River Audubon Center, and Rochester Park.

Crossing the United States in a biodiesel RV, the Tour40 crew is a diverse group of young people who share a common passion for conservation. In her blog post, Kimberly Teruya, crew member and designer for the RV's eye-catching wrap, recaps the excitement of the day.

"Thank youuuuu Dallas! The Tour40 team just kicked off the Conservation in Action Tour and wished Southwest Airlines a happy 40th birthday by celebrating in true SWA and SCA style with three different service projects and a huge party...in an airplane hangar. Gotta LUV working with an airline! At 6:30 Friday morning, after scarfing down the hotel breakfast buffet, the SCA team donned yellow staff shirts and was ready to divide and conquer...our three Dallas service projects.

Tour40 crew members Diana and Becca led projects at the Texas Trees Foundation, the largest urban non-profit tree farm in the nation, where over 300 blue clad volunteers arrived at 8 a.m. to the sounds of a DJ, SWA CEO Gary Kelly, SCA CEO Dale Penny and the sight of over 500 trees ready for a new home. I helped lead a group of more than 100 excited volunteers who helped repair fences, widen trail, plant native grasses, collect seeds, and remove some dead Christmas trees. Over at Rochester Park, Tour40 crew members Andrew and Marchetti's 100+ volunteers followed in the footsteps of a previous SCA crew that had first created the trail system bringing new life to a park that had been overrun by off-highway vehicles (OHV). One project down, 38 more to go! Can't wait to (as the Texans say) see y'all out on the road!"

Thanks to American Eagle Outfitters, Sony and Coca-Cola Company for also helping to make the tour a huge success.

For photos, more blog posts, team bios and to sign up to participate, visit tour40.thescac.org/roadreports

Dale rallying the crowd of volunteers at Texas Trees Foundation
Tell Your IRA Required Minimum Distribution to Take a Hike!

While putting Young People on the Conservation Trail

If you are 70½ or older, you can make tax-free transfers of up to $100,000 this year from your IRA to qualified charitable organizations like SCA. One of the great advantages of this arrangement is that amounts transferred directly from your IRA to qualified charities count toward your 2011 required minimum distribution. Consider this special opportunity before taking your distribution.

Example: If your required minimum distribution is $15,000 and you arrange for a direct transfer of this amount to SCA, you will no longer have to take any taxable distribution for the year. If you wish instead to make a gift of $5,000, you can transfer that amount to SCA and then take a taxable personal distribution of the remaining $10,000.

Act now! Under current law this opportunity extends only until the end of 2011.

For further information and a sample letter to send to your IRA trustee/custodian, please contact Hugh Montgomery at 603.504.3241 or hmontgomery@thesca.org

Alumna Finds Career in Last Frontier

Allyssa Gabriel first visited Alaska on vacation. An SCA internship brought her back. And now, thanks to a new job with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, she may never leave.

In 2009, the Georgia native was installed as “greening coordinator intern” for three Fairbanks-based refuges: Arctic, Kanuti and Yukon Flats. She soon discovered that some refuge waste bins contained up to 90% recyclables, but was told recycling wasn’t feasible due to relative isolation of the refuges.

Allyssa not only refused to take no for an answer—she became the answer, persuading skeptical colleagues to participate and even fly in trash from remote site visits. In the first month alone, her newly launched recycling program recovered 1,100 pounds of materials. Allyssa also formed a coalition of local recycling partners, instituted new waste prevention measures, and arranged the purchase of a fleet of bicycles for staff use.

Fast forward to today and Allyssa, 25, is still in Alaska, now officially a member of the Kanuti Refuge staff, conducting youth outreach in addition to other responsibilities. “Since my first fishing trip in 2008, I knew I wanted to stay. I can’t see myself being anywhere else.”

Although she majored in Geography, Allyssa says she “kind of wanted to get into natural resources. SCA opened my eyes to opportunities that I had never considered before.”

As a Fish and Wildlife staffer, Allyssa says she most enjoys inspiring village students by relating her personal SCA experiences and promoting career opportunities with the agency. “The field work, getting out in the community, meeting people and seeing the village up close and personal—I just love coming to work,” she states.
SCA Alums and Partner Receive Well-Earned Recognition

Congratulations to SCA alumnae Jennifer Raabe and Christine Chung on being selected to receive Audubon’s Women of the Gulf Recognition at the Women in Conservation 10th Annual Rachel Carson Awards Luncheon. The recognition honors women conservationists who have put themselves at the frontline of efforts to repair environmental damages caused in the wake of the Gulf Oil Spill.

SCA alumna Jennifer Raabe, a resident of Mississippi, was stationed at the Gulf Islands National Seashore along the Mississippi-Alabama border, where she conducted surveys monitoring osprey and other nesting birds. After sightings of tar balls and the heavy presence of oil which followed, Jennifer underwent extensive hazardous materials training and began searching for affected marine life and alerting responders.

Christine Chung, an SCA Resource Management Intern at the Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge in Wells, Maine, was deployed to Grand Isle, Louisiana for two weeks during the spill. She worked as a Technical Specialist with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, assisting in the surveying and recovery of oiled and injured wildlife. During her stint in the Gulf, Christine was able to successfully rescue eleven birds in one day.

A surprise twist for the SCA award winners was the opportunity to meet SCA founder and 2010 Rachel Carson Award winner Liz Titus Putnam, who also made an appearance at the ceremony.

When asked about the events of the day Christine Chung stated, “When I realized Liz Putnam was here I couldn’t believe it. I was…star struck. I thought, ‘wow! the founder who started everything for me. I wouldn’t be where I am now if it wasn’t for her.’”

The Student Conservation Association recently presented its “Serving Youth Serving Nature” Partner Award to Amy Shaw of Kenai, AK.

Shaw, a biologist and internship coordinator at the Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association (CIAA), has recruited and trained 65 SCA interns over the last two years. The interns sample smolt and adult salmon throughout the Yentna, Susitna and Skwentna watersheds, which stretch from Denali National Park to the Kenai Peninsula. Their efforts help to protect salmon resources, maintain the stability of fish populations, and ensure the salmon’s economic viability for the Cook Inlet region.

Interns gain many benefits from conducting hands-on research at the remote field sites, including increased skill sets, on-the-job experience, and a greater familiarity with Alaska’s unique salmon runs.

Shaw says her greatest satisfaction comes from seeing the interns grow more confident and capable with experience. “It’s amazing to see how self-reliant they become,” she notes. “By the end of the summer, they’re calling me and saying, ‘we had a problem while you were gone and we tried this and this... and fixed it.’ That’s probably the coolest thing I get to see.”

In order to work effectively from their remote Alaskan camp sites, Shaw ensures that every intern is outfitted and deployed safely and successfully trained in field sampling, bear safety, boat safety and plane safety, wilderness first aid, and backcountry base-camp design. “Alaska is such a big wild place,” Shaw says. “Safety is my number one priority.”

SCA relies on the support of many resource management partners like Shaw, whose support helps SCA achieve its mission of “building the next generation of conservation leaders.”
成为SCA赞助人并接收来自田野的信函

...和心。

“就像我们与你一起在野花田间漫步，为高山湖泊的纯洁欢欣鼓舞。”

—匿名SCA捐赠者

当我15岁时，我遇到了两个人，他们改变了我的生活。他们的名字是史蒂夫和布鲁克，他们是一对。史蒂夫是华盛顿州的一名研究生，沉默寡言，但同时又是令人惊奇的真诚和随机信息，让他成为我遇到过的最好的Trivia玩家。布鲁克是一位二三十岁的马拉松训练者，她有一口厚厚的牙齿和红润的脸颊，她的笑容是传染的。我第一次见到史蒂夫和布鲁克是在机场，他们来接我和另外五个目不转睛的青少年去Wind Cave National Park参加SCA高中保护营。

关于这个营队我还有很多值得我列出来的魔法：离开家四周，仰望星空，学习烹饪，用双手和原木建造桥梁，穿生日斗篷一天，建造一座桥在16岁生日那天，攀登南达科他州最高山峰，攀登怀俄明州更高的山峰，洞穴探险，世界最长洞穴之一，以及发现改变我思考方式的意想不到的友谊。直到几年前，当我成为SCA营队领导者自己时，我明白了这个“魔法”不仅仅是一种偶然，而是可以直接归因于史蒂夫和布鲁克的无私奉献。

在营队领导者培训时，我突然感觉到我与史蒂夫和布鲁克比15岁时更团结，因为我们都是SCA营队领导者中的一员。我们是这个圈子中的一员，这个圈子不会缩小，只会增长。

营队的能源是传染的。去年夏天，我的队员发明了一个词，这个词是我所遇到的最好来形容SCA的能源，那就是“正性热情”。这是你看到地平线时的感觉，你会感觉无限。这是你在热浪中冲洗你的胸口时的感觉，当你意识到你会感到宽广。这就是春天，它从头开始。这是感受单片花朵的复杂性时的无限。

我们来自各行各业。我们有共同点，我们都致力于为年轻人赋权，我们坚信户外是最伟大的课堂。我们共同的愿景是一个，每个人都认真地走在这个伟大的生命景观上，相互扶持。最重要的是，我们内心深处充满了对年轻人力量的信念，我们从这个信念中找到了希望。

今年，我要带领营队到优胜美地和维珍群岛国家公园。要进行这些营队的准备工作是一个非常艰难的任务，但是最重要的部分发生在我们的心灵和头脑中，我们必须在开始之前完成这项工作。

在我面前的步道上，我看到了2011年高中营队的参与者们，他们将很快在机场。在我身后，我看到了史蒂夫和布鲁克，我记得他们教我关于步道工作的一些事情。他们教我步道是手工雕刻的。他们教我工作是一个慢而有意识的过程。但当一切说完了，你们将能够走一条坚定不移的路。

领导者的培养

Anna Brown, SCA校友和营队领导者

The SCA tradition of sponsorship connects you directly with an SCA member. When you give at least $250 annually, you will receive a biography and a personal letter describing the impact of the SCA experience and the tangible accomplishments achieved along the way.

You can become a sponsor by making a sustaining monthly gift for as little as $21 through our Partners in Conservation giving program—use the included reply envelope, or visit thesca.org/donate
Create a Legacy that will Perform “Double Duty”

Provide an Income Stream for a Loved One and then send the principal to SCA.

Would you like to send income to a friend, sister, brother, adult child or other individual, but ensure that your principal will ultimately come to SCA?

Using your will or living trust, you can create a charitable remainder trust or charitable gift annuity that will take effect after your lifetime. Assets that you direct to either of these arrangements will first work for your loved one—providing him or her with income for life. Then your principal will be put to work by SCA—creating new generations of conservation leaders. These arrangements also provide you with an estate tax deduction.

For further information, please contact
Hugh Montgomery at 603.504.3241 or hmontgomery@thesca.org

Follow SCA members working coast to coast as they blog in real time from Acadia National Park in Maine to Denali National Park and Preserve in Alaska. Together, we’ll share in their excitements, frustrations, and epiphanies as they explore the world around them and gain a deeper understanding of the role they can play in conserving it.

Follow Russ Aguilar and other SCA members on a journey of personal, professional and outdoor exploration at followme.thesca.org