

#### **Crabs and Kelly Clarkson?**

We want to give a round of applause to our friend **Shawn Miller** who runs the Make the Switch 4 Nature program, MTS4N media pages and Okinawa Nature Photography, also a long time Crab Con speaker, for his feature on the Kelly Clarkson show. Shawn and the crabs are deserving of all the media attention and Shawn, as always, did a wonderful job representing the crabs. Check out his media accounts for posts that even your non-crabby friends would enjoy if you sent them! Way to make conservation absolutely captivating.



 THE KELLY CLARKSON SHOW — Episode 7I131 — Pictured: (l-r) — (Photo by: Weiss Eubanks/NBCUniversal)

### Library Crabs?

Hunter Smith of LHCOS Reddit hooked up Lawrence County High School with crabs!



#### **Celebrate!**

LHCOS 25th Anniversary is 8/8/2024. Save the date and plan something fun!

#### New way to give!

Does your company offer donation and donation matching through Benevity? Now you can donate to LHCOS through corporate matching.



### **New to LHCOS!**



We would like to welcome our new board member Michelle Stephens!

The crabs will not only be reading friends but take part in science class lessons.

# Spring Break Shell Donation competition!

I spoke with Valerie about her contest that really took off. Also, it sounds like it is only the first so keep an eye out next spring to join in! I'll Let her tell you how it happened!



"I started it because every year we see all the posts of the beach shops selling hermit crabs. Since we can't stop that, I thought we could make a positive difference with shells. Especially since everyone takes the shells off the beach. I had a couple extra gift cards from Christmas and started a flier that I shared with Jessica Valderrama and Amber Angelo and they immediately loved the idea and jumped on board with me to spread the word. Amazingly, every shop we shared it with, to see if they would possibly donate an item to help it get seen, jumped on board also.

I reached out to Angela Sayre, with Crustacean Plantation to see if she would be the donor recipient and help get some shells out in the Florida Keys for the wild land and marine hermit crabs and she was more than happy to. Several hermit crab groups on Facebook were kind enough to let me share the information about the competition on their feeds and post updates as well. It wouldn't have taken off without everyone's help.





We ended up collecting 3,155 shells (one batch not counted), 225 painted & broken shells on top of that to Sally Shares Sea Shells (Vivian Van) for restoration. Two shipments were even sent to Shawn Miller in Japan for the Okinawa Nature Photography Project!

Two donations were from children under 10yrs old. We even had college students reaching out to see how they could help without having shells to donate.

We will be continuing the cause every spring break to make a difference for the wild land and marine hermit crabs!" - Valerie

#### **Girl Scouts going to Crab Con?**

Kimberly Strickland (Hermit House Board Member) has created a new initiative to get Girl Scouts of America chapters to join Crab Con and learn about our hermits. Reach out to her at <a href="https://www.initiative.org">https://www.initiative.org</a> for Member) has created a new initiative to get Girl Scouts of America chapters to join Crab Con and learn about our hermits. Reach out to her at <a href="https://www.initiative.org">https://www.initiative.org</a> for Member) has created a new initiative to get Girl Scouts of America chapters to join Crab Con and learn about our hermits. Reach out to her at <a href="https://www.initiative.org">https://www.initiative.org</a> for more information on how to get an inexpensive ticket exclusively for our crab-loving Girl Scouts.

ab

Looking to pitch it to a leader you know?

#### Hello,

I just read that Girl Scout troops can get special tickets to Crab Con and wanted to share. Crab Con is run by The Land Hermit Crab Owners Society and Hermit House, both 501c3 charities. Crab Con is virtual this year and there will be great talks on science, advocacy, care and more. If you have questions let me know or reach out to

Ihcoscrabcon@gmail.com to find out how to set something up. I think it would be great for our troop! Thanks!

#### It takes a community to CrabCon



Staff

The staff, from Mary and Stacy all the way down to media, marketing, and coordinators start working as soon as the last event ends.



Vendors

Our vendors work hard all year but starting early in the new year our vendors start planning. We start planning booths in late winter with swag due the end of May.



#### Presenters

Our coordinators need time to get the event ready, fine tune all the talks and profiles and that means our presenters meet a March 31st due date!

## Checking in with Hermit House President and Founder Mary Akers

Our Crab Celebrity Mary Akers has been up to some fun things.

Mary Akers Radio Lab piece finally aired on NPR! You can hear it on YouTube <u>here</u>.

Mary representing Hermit House visited VA Tech School of Veterinary Medicine and spoke with students regarding the care of hermit crabs and also hosted them at her home to tour her setup and share breeding methods.



Mary showing off specimens collected for Dr. Tudge with her kreisel in the background.

## Don't miss out on the swag. Get your (limited) 2024 VIP ticket today before they are all gone!

## All other tickets on sale too.

Grab the VIP swag box for custom food, merch, pottery, enrichment, 3-D printed items and so much MORE!

There will be talks on advocacy, breeding, shells, crab care, morphology, wild crab habitats, bloopers, and so much MORE! Don't miss out!

Get tickets!

# Psst! Pet stores and employees, we have something special for you!

Click here! Shh! Just for you!

#### Land Hermit Crab Owners Society

403 West Washington Street, 62895, Wayne City



This email was sent to {{contact.EMAIL}} We will scuttle away from your inbox but we might be a little crabby about it.

**Unsubscribe** 

