

COA'S BEACH PARTY WAS THE "ABSOLUTE ULTIMATE!"

Cowabunga, Gidgets and Moondoggies!



The "coolest of the cool" pose with Gidget Look-a-Like, Lynn Ward. (L-R) Nick Brown, Lynn Ward, Scott Thompson, and Casey Wolfe

Gidget and Moondoggie Look-a-Like Contest Winners:

Child: Indigo Jane Hennessey
Family: The Feiring Family
Couple: TR and Patty Rodillosso
Gidget: Lynn Ward
Moondoggie: Dave Crowley

The Committee:

Louise Hall, Chair, Barbara Bell, Tracy Brown, Lorri DeBernardis, Linda Decelle, Betsy Ford, Marie Jackson, Ingrid Justick, Nicky Kelly, Linda Lembeck, Claudia Lucey, Christine O'Rourke, Liz Thees, Stevie Thompson, Carolyn Waters, Sue Weiss, Patty Wolfe



With surf rock playing and the sun shining, over 300 families celebrated beach-side and raised over \$40,000 for the ocean at COA's Annual Family Beach Party for the Ocean. The event, which was open-to-the-public, was held on Sunday, May 20, at the Ship Ahoy Beach Club in Sea Bright. The theme was Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. "Eco" tips were displayed on handmade signs on the beach for all to see and to take action. Waves of thanks to everyone who attended, volunteered time, sponsored, and donated goods and services to support COA's ocean protection efforts and to have a "groovy" good time.

Guests enjoyed the "Out of this World" BBQ by Gourmet Picnic, seafood by Lusty Lobster and Fisherman's Dock Co-Op, a dipping station by Panera Bread Bakery Café, smoothies by Surf Taco, homemade cookies and delectably decorated cupcakes by the Flakey Tart, tiki bar refreshments from Hunterdon Brewing Co. and the Margarita Man of Monmouth County, and festive florals by Guaranteed Plants & Florist.

Families danced to the surf rock sounds of the Jettyrats, participated in a Gidget and Moondoggie look-a-like contest, made sand castles with Matt Deibert, tie-dyed shirts with the Community YMCA Children's Cultural Center, and created crafts with employees from Blue Tulip. The Gidget and Moondoggie contest was open to all ages. Judging criteria: similarity to authentic 1960s surf wear, creative interpretation, and actual authentic 1960s clothing. Special thanks to the judges: Nick Brown ("100% Simon Cowell"), Mary-Beth and Scott Thompson, and Patty and daughter Casey Wolfe.

The Beach Party fundraiser was a big success! Auctions raised over \$10,000 and included unique prizes such as a "BBQ Bash" for 30 people, valued over \$5,000 and donated by Gourmet Picnic, Jettyrats, and Lusty Lobster.



(Above) COA's staff "hang ten" by a sand sculpture by Matt Deibert.

(L to R) Michele Plantamura, Mary-Beth Thompson, Kari Martin, Cindy Zipf, Dr. Jennifer Samson, Jennifer Smiga, and Emily Hackett

(Left) Indigo Jane Hennessey and proud mom Caroline

(Below) Cowabunga! Local businesses donated catering and auction packages. Pictured at Gourmet Picnic in Fair Haven (L-R): Cindy Zipf, COA's Executive Director; Doug Douty of the Lusty Lobster, Highlands; Louise Hall, Beach Party Event Chair; Suzette O'Brien of The Gourmet Picnic; and Marie Jackson of Ship Ahoy Beach Club, Sea Bright, and The Flakey Tart, Atlantic Highlands



Beach Party Sponsors:

Skee Ball Sponsors: Anthony and Pamela Diaco, Hunterdon Brewing Co., Matzel and Mumford, Medallion Financial, New Jersey Natural Gas, Shore Point Distributors, & The Torcivia Family

Surfer Sponsors: Arbonne International, Centro Inspection Agency, Gordon N. Litwin, Monmouth Memorial Park Cemetery Association, New Jersey American Water, The Nitto Children, & Kelly and Michael Small