

Dauphin Island Sea Lab Foundation  
Annual Overview  
2023-2024

The Foundation office has been opened 6 years and is located at 4513 Old Shell Road. The Assistant Director, Angie Gaillard and Assistant to the Director, Daphne Marcum are still with the Foundation while Helene Hassell remains Executive Director of the DISLF.

The office held Cocktails with the Critters, MEAL, and Employee Campaign in person and the auction remained as a Virtual Fundraiser. The office has continued sending letters and emails to donors. It has been a successful year. I want to thank the Board of Directors and Advisory Committee for all they have done to promote the DISLF.

Projects Funded at the Sea Lab through funds raised by DISLF:

Discovery Hall Programs K5-12

- BayMobile - All In Credit Union
- High School Scholarships - funded by the Jenny Cook Memorial Fund
- ROV competition -Partial funding from Thompson Engineering , Curtis and Edith Munson Foundation and DISLF
- Sea Stars - Funded by Rotary Club of Mobile, Glaze Foundation and Donors Computers - Munson Foundation, Crampton Trust, Bedsole Foundation, Caring Foundation, Hearin Chandler

University Programs Undergraduate, Masters and PhD candidates

- New Microscopes - Regions Bank
- UP Scholarships – CWC and Individual Donors, Employee Giving
- Bays and Bayous Symposium - deGruy Scholarship
- George Cline Scholarship
- Marine Mammal Stranding Network - Anonymous Donor, Fleet Feet
- UP Computers – Donors, RC&D Grant
- New Van for UP – Bedsole and Crampton Grants
- New Hydrophones – Powers Lab – Alabama Power Foundation

Campus Wide

Sun Sail Shades for Campus – Alabama Dermatological Foundation  
Fitness Equipment - Employee Campaign

**Financial Information:**

DISLF's year ended 9/30/2024 with Total Checking of \$1,140,733.00. The Community Foundation of South Alabama had the DISLF Fund at \$2,691,528.15 and the George Crozier Fund at \$267,428.03, for total assets of \$ 4,099,689.18.

**Goals for FY2024:**

Fundraising goals were established at the beginning of the fiscal year. These goals were based on a three-year rolling average of the DISLF donors, gifts and dollars.

Total active donors:	Goal: 724	Actual: 721
New Donors:	Goal: 226	Actual: 194
Total Gifts:	Goal: 1278	Actual: 1195
Total Giving:	Goal: \$390,635	Actual: \$637,456

The Foundation has two funds at the CFSA; The George Crozier Endowment Fund which was established with a matching grant from the Kresge Foundation, which is governed by the restrictive rules, established by Kresge. The second fund is the DISLF Endowment Fund, which has been funded through the fundraising efforts of the Foundation and is a donor directed fund. The DISLF Fund ending 9/30/2024 was \$2,691,528.15 and the Crozier Fund balance ending 9/30/2024 was \$267,428.03 for a total of \$2,958,956.18

**Grant Request for FY24**

Total Requests - \$301,600 Total Funded - \$266,100

Grants 2023-2024: The Caring Foundation

J.L. Bedsole Foundation

Regions Bank Foundation

Rotary Children's Foundation

Thompson Holdings Foundation

Glaze Foundation

Crampton Trust

Moorer Foundation

Curtis and Edith Munson Foundation

Alabama Dermatology Society

**Special Events and Outreach:**

The DISLF hosted four special events: Marine Environmental Awards Luncheon, Cocktails with the Critters Virtual Auction, Cocktails with the Critters Party

**Marine Environmental Awards Luncheon (MEAL) 2023**

The tenth annual Environmental Awards Luncheon was held on Wednesday, October 25, 2023 at the Riverview Hotel. The event was a wonderful success with 300 Reservations with 36 Tables. This year we had no main Corporate Sponsor. Keynote Speaker: Dr. Charlie Rolsky, Executive Director of the Shaw Institute. Area schools in attendance were St. Paul's, Bryant HS, Bishop State and Leflore HS

Gulf Coast Marine Environmental Excellence Award-Recognizes an individual who has made outstanding contributions to marine environmental sustainability in the Alabama Gulf Coast Region. **Winner: John Shell – Eagle Reef Project**

Gulf Coast Marine Environmental Leadership Award-Recognizes a business or organization whose efforts have resulted in the improvement of marine environmental sustainability in the Alabama Gulf Coast Region. **Winner: Downtown Mobile Alliance and Mobile Baykeeper – Peace Out, Plastic Initiative**

**Fundraising**

Friends of the Sea Lab

FOSL membership this year. FOSL had 123 renewals and 118 new memberships

2023-2024	2022-2023	2021-2022
260 Members \$31,423.90	250 Members \$32,917.40	185 Members \$27,180

**Annual Appeal:**

The Annual appeal grossed \$35,126.00 with expenses of \$1,093.41 for a net profit of \$34,032.59. 1,210 letters were mailed.

	2023-20224	2022-2023	2021-2022
Gross Income:	\$35,126.00	\$31,534.00	\$28,500.00
Expenses:	\$1093.41	\$1671.00	\$724.25
Net income:	\$34,032.59	\$29,863	\$27,775.75
Letters:	1,210	1,366	1476
Donors:	96	104	97

**Cocktails with the Critters:**

The Virtual Auction was held April 28, 2024 – May 1, 2024. The date for the in-person event was May 2, 2024. The Auction site Betterworld was chosen and used for this year’s online auction. Everything went great with the site.

Sponsors: 405 Corporate sponsor letters were mailed on Nov 13, 2023, and 377 on Jan 17, 2024. The number of corporate sponsors was 60. The number of individual sponsors was 17.

Ticket Sales: Actual ticket pre-sales \$7,562

Donations: Totaled \$3,687

In-kind sponsor Gwins Printing and PMT Publishing

Silent Auction: This year’s auction generated a gross revenue of \$22,013 from 130 items with a FMV of \$61,685.00.

Foundation staff uploaded pictures and descriptions of all the Auction items to Betterworld. Betterworld was very user-friendly with excellent reporting. We had a total of 63 Bidders sign up for the Auction. The ability to sign up for the auction ahead of time however was not offered. Once the Auction live the Bidders could register. A formula was used to determine starting bids (40% FMV) and bid increases were uniform based on the item’s value. We had 2 trips that did not sell.

	Actual 2024	Actual 2023	Actual 2022	Actual 2021
Total Income	\$116,464.00	\$117,272.00	\$106,763	\$106,280
Expenses	(\$23,856.00)	(\$26,936.33)	(\$21,642.34)	(\$24,857)
Net Income	\$92,608.00	\$90,335.67	\$85,120.80	\$81,423.00

**Employee Campaign:**

The employee campaign was held again this year and was well received. The duration of the campaign was two pay periods. The kickoff was an ice cream social on Sept 14, 2023 – Oct 12, 2023, at the conclusion we celebrated with Smokin'Gringo taco truck. The campaign was well received and all the departments having 100% participation, which was the goal. The total amount raised was used to build a Fitness Course, UP Scholarships, and Jenny Cook Scholarships. The total amount raised was \$6,800. Bob Collins, John Valentine and Ben King made matching donations. The Employee Campaign will remain an annual event.

**Officers**

Ben King, Chair  
Margaret VanLoock, Vice Chair  
George Davis, Treasurer  
Sarah Watkins, Secretary

**Trustees**

John Bell  
Scott Browning  
Catherine Burton  
Cele Cameron  
Susan Carley  
Karen Chambless  
David England  
Charlie Gray  
Scottie Green  
Robert Greer  
Lee Hammons  
Jay Ison  
Mark Langan  
Eliska Morgan  
Patrick Murphy  
Jeff Schock  
Tiffany Seibt  
Burley Shedd  
Jim Smith  
Sean Sullivan  
Richard Tremayne  
John Valentine  
Bestor Ward IV  
Wes Williams  
Garrett Williamson  
Claire Wilson

**Honorary Trustees**

Dr. George Crozier  
Dr. John Dindo

DISL Representatives

Dr. John Valentine

David England

**Advisory Board**

Kinley Bell

Bart Briggs

Joe Busta

Bob Collins

Tom Gaillard

Lisa Goodloe

Bill Haffner

Fred Hardman

Scott Heggeman

Charlie Jackson

Ernest Ladd

Austill Lott

Jeff Luther

Beth Lyons

Tomi Sue Mayer

Jimbo Meador

George Oswalt

Jocko Potts

Jason Smith

Chuck Stapleton

Marty Stapleton

George Talbot

Amy Thompson

Alan Tolson

Chris Tracy

Bud Urquhart

Marc Whitehead

Patrick Wilson

Respectively Submitted,

Helene Hassell Executive Director