



Shark Experts to be Auctioned on eBay

Princeton, NJ, August 05, 2009 --(PR.com)-- If you are watching Discovery Channel's Shark Week, you are seeing the world's top shark experts. Want to meet them in person? Then go to eBay and bid on lunch or dinner with your favorite shark expert. Meet for lunch or dinner, learn why they love sharks, and hear some great stories about sharks.

Shark celebrities and shark experts are allowing themselves to be auctioned on eBay during Shark Week 2009 to raise funds for the Shark Research Institute's conservation programs. Up for auction are dinners (or lunches) with 29 of the world's best-known shark people. It is a unique opportunity to “talk shark” face-to-face, one-on-one, with an authority on sharks.

Some of celebrities and shark experts being auctioned include: Dr. Sylvia Earle, National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence and unquestionably the most eloquent spokesperson for ocean conservation; legendary filmmakers Tom Campbell, Jeff Kurr, Howard Hall Marty Snyderman and Jonathan Bird; award-winning underwater photographers Amos Nachoum and Don Tipton, marine painter and author Richard Ellis and Sherman Lagoon's Jim Toomey.

Other celebrities on the auction block this week: Jeff Gallant, of Drummondville, Quebec, Canada who studies the elusive Greenland Shark, Chris Fallows who studies and films the aerial acrobatics of huge white sharks off the coast of South Africa; Ralph Collier, the expert on shark attacks along the Pacific coast, and Dr. Richard Fernicola, the author of Twelve Days of Terror, the definitive book on the 1916 shark attacks along the New Jersey shore that was the inspiration for Jaws. Also up for auction are: Jupp Kerckerinck, Dr. Alessandro De Maddalena, Doc Anes, Dr. Jennifer V. Schmidt, Ph.D., Jason Holmberg, Mark Marks, Dr. Erich Ritter, Dean Fessler, Marie Levine, Dr. Alex Antoniou, Matt Potenski, Steve Fox, Eli Martinez, Neil Hammerschlag and Patric Douglas.

Each one has a wealth of information and tales to share with their highest bidder.

How it works: Bid on a shark expert or celebrity that lives or works nearby, unless you are willing to drive or fly to the expert's location. The winning bidder pays for the celebrity's meal, and may bring guests. (An exception is field researcher Chris Fallows who will be taking his winning bidder out to sea with him to observe white sharks.) Shark Research Institute will introduce each winning bidder to his or her shark celebrity, then the two schedule a day, time and place to meet.

The auction runs throughout Shark Week 2009: Sunday, August 2 to August 8. The easiest way to enter the auction is through the Shark Research Institute's home page at www.sharks.org.

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Contact Information:

Shark Research Institute

Marie Levine

609.921.3522

SRILevine@gmail.com

sharks.org

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