

Bonehenge Update by Keith – 14Apr2010

1) **Sperm whale coat rack:** Pictured at right is a 1-of-a-kind piece inspired by “our” sperm whale and created by local crafters. It features 3 sperm whale teeth that were cast from molds of the original teeth. This was auctioned at the Friends of the Museum’s Boatshop Bash in November, 2009.



Tooth molding by Angela Dunn, Barton College
Woodworking by Tom Bulla, Waters Edge Woodworks

Tooth casting by Keith Rittmaster, NC Maritime Museum
Staining and finishing by Daphne Littiken, Dafni’s Touch

2) **Giving up the grease – Jacuzzi update:** Jacuzzi treatment of the skull began in Bonehenge in October, 2009. Soon afterwards, the heat and moisture caused mold to show up on some wood frames and bones, so we moved the jacuzzi outside under a sturdy branch of a live oak tree. Then came the March snow and branches broke. Luckily our skull jacuzzi fared fine (left photo below). The 2 photos below on the right show grease from the skull on my fingertip after 1 and 3 months respectively. Grease is still coming out and is getting lighter in color.



Jacuzzi survives near miss



Grease from skull, Nov., '09



Grease from skull, Jan., '10

3) **Replicating flipper bones:** Nan Bowles and John Russell have made silicone molds of all bones from the left flipper (pectoral fin). They then poured casting resin into the molds to create replicate bones for a touchable display. Michelle McConnell printed the right flipper radiograph (“x-ray”) life-sized to facilitate the flipper assembly. Interestingly, we have found some asymmetry between the two flippers.



Extracting humerus cast from mold



Five of the replicate flipper bones on life-size radiograph print