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an affiliate of the Estuarine Research Federation
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AERS NEWS



*All the news that'll
fit, and then some*

Volume 2006 Number 2

February 2006

AERS SPRING MEETING IN THE CITY OF BROTHERLY LOVE

By Francis J. Reilly, Jr.

This Spring AERS will return to Philadelphia and the Academy of Natural History. We have not had our meeting in Philadelphia in the more than 30 years I have been a member of AERS, although it had previously been a somewhat regular venue for AERS. Thanks to Dave Osgood and Dave Yozzo (President-Elect) for taking the time to arrange this return and for having the political will to make it happen. Early on in the planning for this meeting, we were faced with what may have been insurmountable odds; the venue is pretty far north in recent AERS memory; and the costs associated with the venue seemed prohibitive. Thanks to the intervention of Danielle Kreeger (previously of the Academy of Natural History) and Chris Swarth, as well as some sponsors, we were able to overcome these obstacles as well. The meeting venue is fantastic. Philadelphia is a great city to visit and the technical

*See Spring Meeting
(Continued on page 7)*



Dinosaur Hall at The Academy of Natural Sciences Museum—
Site of the AERS Spring Meeting Banquet and
“other activities?” *Photo courtesy Academy of Natural Sciences*

CHESAPEAKE HISTORY TO BE PUBLISHED.

By Kent Mountford

The University of Virginia Press is currently editing the manuscript of "John Smith's Chesapeake Voyages 1607-1809", the work of three authors. Lead author is Dr. Helen Rountree, Professor Emerita from Old Dominion University and an expert on Powhatan society; Wayne E. Clark is a well known archaeologist and Executive Director for Museum Services for the Maryland Historic Trust; and Dr. Kent Mountford, estuarine ecologist and a historian of the early Chesapeake is with Cove Corporation in Lusby, MD. Mountford has also served as AERS Historian and is an Honorary member. The authors drew upon teams of expertise and a review board made up of archaeologists, cultural anthropologists, estuarine scientists and representatives of Chesapeake Native American Communities to craft this complex volume.

The initial multi-year project was funded by a National Park Service "Chesapeake Gateways" grant and a CD of the manuscript was released in 2005 to "Gateways" sites all over the Chesapeake Ba-

See Chesapeake History (Continued on page 4)

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CHRIS'S SWARTHY SAYINGS

PRESIDENT CHRIS SWARTH

AERS draws its strength as an organization from the diversity and energy level of its membership. We're diverse in professional interests, in work affiliations (private – non-profit – academic - government), and we're diverse as far as the estuaries, wetlands and coastal ecosystems where we all hail from. We are about as heterogeneous a bunch as can be imagined. And while we share a curiosity and fascination with fluctuating tides and dilute seawater (and the cycles and biota within), our individual research pursuits span the spectrum from the molecular to the metapopulation, and from contaminants to environmental education. This diversity makes our conferences lively and unpredictable. Which might also be some reasons why we study estuaries in the first place.

“...allright, allright, here is something for the News.....”

High energy is another AERS characteristic. You can see this at a conference, especially at the poster sessions, or when you read the News (Frank, I said when, not if) and when you visit the web page. These activities all require a large commitment of time from everyone involved and board members take their responsibilities seriously. This is crucial since we're committed as a society to holding two meetings a year. Everyone must lend a hand and there's no rest for the weary here! If you attend enough meetings eventually you too will be tapped to help with some aspect of AERS. Students especially are needed and in return you'll gain valuable leadership skills. Share your energy, your ideas and your knowledge to keep AERS growing. We are

always looking for members who have the time to join the board or to help in other ways.

It's been a privilege, and a great, how do you say... “learning experience”, to serve as AERS president for the past two years. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Academy of Natural Sciences in March.

LOST AERSIANS

When we mailed the last *AERSNews* a number of them were returned as undeliverable. If your name is below, or if you know the person in the list please ask them to update their mailing information with our Membership Chair Steve Storms (sstorms@mdot.state.md.us).

Name	Last heard from
Rita Colwell	No address since 2005
Carol Towle	No address since 2005
David Seebaugh	No address since 2005
Joanna Kotsis	No address since 2005
Kathryn Chop	St. Mary's College of MD
Michael Grove	Mullica Hill NJ
Teresa Crane	Tompkins Cove NY
Angela Hengst	Cambridge MD
Lauren Anderson	Hood College
Claire Buchanan	Inter Comm Potomac R Basin
Roman Jesien	MD Coastal Bays Program
Nelson Marshall	Portland OR
John Matkowski	White Hall MD
Jessie Campbell	Village Landing Dr.
Leandra Lockwood	Village Landing Dr.

WHERE THE HECK ARE WE GOING??

WHERE DO WE STAY?

Best Western Center City Hotel, 501 N. 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA, (215) 568-8300

Website: <http://book.bestwestern.com/bestwestern/productInfo.do?propertyCode=39087#null>

Directions: From: Interstate 95. Take Exit 22, to Route 676. Take Ben Franklin Parkway to 22nd Street. Bear right onto 22nd Street, cross over the parkway and the Best Western Center City Hotel is on the right.

Crowne Plaza Philadelphia Center City, 1800 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA, (215) 561-7500, (866) 618-0410 (toll-free) Website: <http://cpphiladelphia-centercity.felcor.com/>

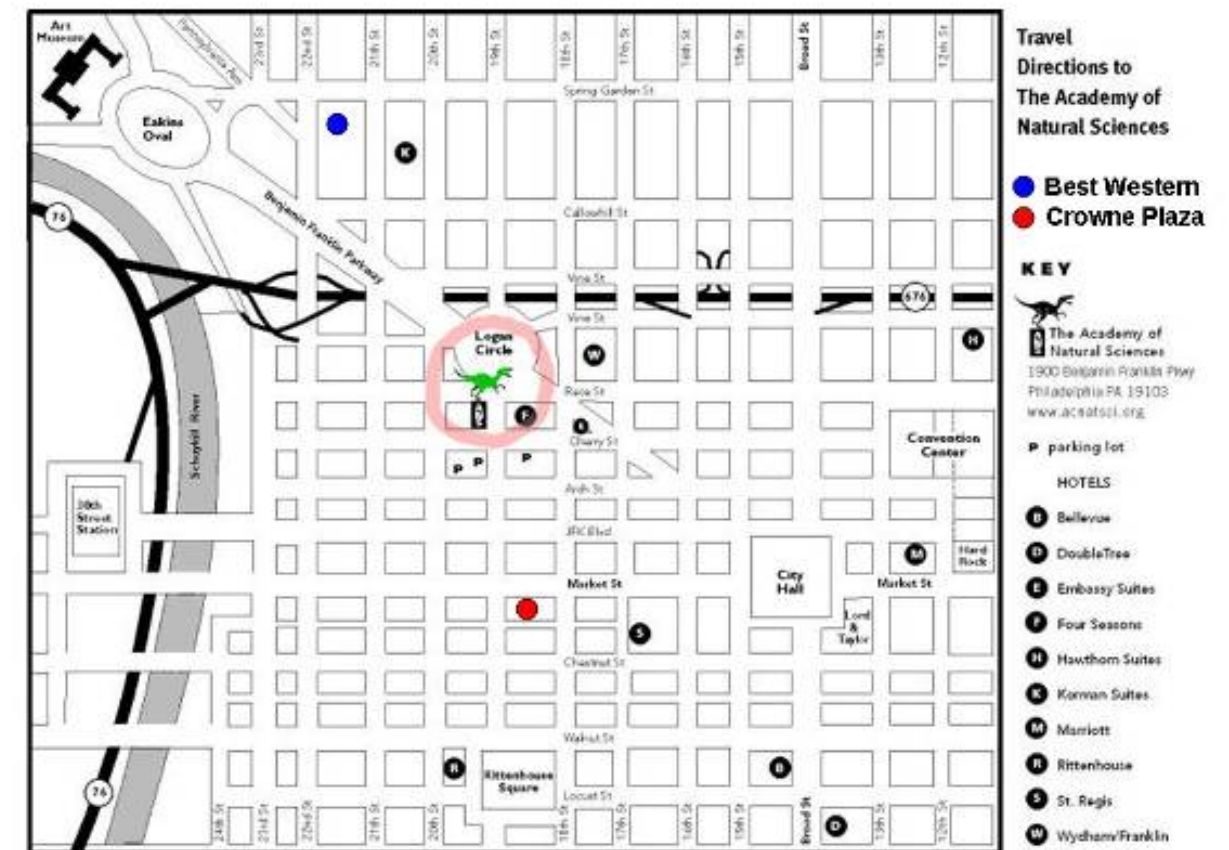
HOW DO WE GET TO THE HOTEL?

Directions From PA Turnpike:

- Exit I-76, Schuylkill Expressway via ramp to Chestnut Street
 - Turn right on Chestnut Street, follow to 20th Street and turn left
 - Continue on Market Street past 19th Street
 - Hotel garage entrance is on the right-hand side, just before entrance to the Lobby
- Custom directions to the Crowne Plaza are available on the website. Follow the link for *Philadelphia Information* then *Interactive Maps*.

WHERE IS THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES?

Directions to the Academy of Natural Sciences and parking information can be found on the website (www.acnatsci.org) by following the *Learn about the Academy* link.



MESSAGE FRO YOUR PRESIDENT-ELECT, DAVE YOZZO



As the dates for our Spring 2006 Meeting draw closer, I am very much looking forward to seeing everyone in Philadelphia. Over the past several months, Dave Osgood and I have been in close communication with our meeting host and co-sponsor, the Academy of Natural Sciences. Our Program Chair Dave Gillete is busy assembling the agenda of contributed talks and poster presentations, and I recently had a chance to look over the impressive and diverse array of estuarine and coastal topics represented. Joel Hoffman is at the helm of the AERS web site, and constantly updating the Meeting page with new resources and helpful links. Many of our familiar member institutions are well-represented among the abstract submissions and there will be some new faces present, as well. We have an expert team of panelists, led by Dr Jon Sharp, University of Delaware, to inform us about the environmental condition of Delaware Bay, and plans for future improvements. Ken Hayes, President of Aqua-Survey, Inc., will be on hand to entertain us at the Friday evening banquet with tales and slides of his recent underwater archaeological expeditions in Egypt. At the conclusion of the meeting, on Saturday afternoon, a field trip will be conducted at the John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum Marsh, a tidal freshwater wetland located close to the city's urban core. See you in Philadelphia!

ALL THE NEWS

THAT'LL FIT.....

Joel Hoffman, AERS webmaster and VIMS student will be completing his PhD this May and has accepted a post-doc with the EPA at the Mid-Continent Ecology Division in Duluth, MN. Most likely, he will be working on linkages between terrestrial ecosystems and coastal fish dynamics (Great Lakes fishes). In a sense, he is following in the foot steps of other venerable VIMS students and active AERSians Janet Nestlerode and Beth Hinchey into the EPA post-doc program.

Speaking of ...Janet Nestlerode and Beth Hinchey Malloy were invited to represent their agencies (EPA and NOAA Sea Grant, respectively) at the seventh annual Dissertations Initiative for the Advancement of Limnology

and Oceanography (DIALOG VII) Symposium Dec 3-9, 2005 at Dauphin Island Sea Lab, Alabama. DIALOG is an annual symposium open to recent Ph.D.s with interdisciplinary interests in the aquatic sciences. This Symposium is designed to bring together international scientists early in their professional careers to forge lasting collegial bonds across peer groups and as a training forum from student to professional scientist. The DIALOG participant selection process is competitive, and seeks to recruit "the best of the best" of those who have received their PhDs within the past year in aquatic sciences. DIALOG VII featured team-building exercises, training in interpersonal/working group skills and resources for early-career development. Beth and Janet gave presentations

on NOAA Sea Grant & EPA funding and job opportunities during a session featuring other federal agencies and participated in with DIALOG work groups throughout the symposium.

Dr. Alessandra Sagasti (former AERS Best Student Oral Presentation winner) is continuing to share her love of epifauna with students at Montgomery College (Maryland), where she is a professor of biology in the Department Natural Sciences. She teaches General Biology, Environmental Biology and Principles of Biology II. In her spare time, she continues to work on her new home with husband Chris Taggi. Hinchey is hoping that someday Alessandra publishes the children's book she has written as it reportedly features a worm named Beth."

CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

AERS EMERITI—WHO'S WHO

By Mario Vieira

Thursday March 9, 2006

4:00 - 6:00 AERS Board Meeting
Registration and Happy Hour
6:00 - 8:00

Friday March 10, 2006

8:00 - 8:30 Breakfast
8:30 - 8:45 Welcome/ Opening Remarks
8:45 - 9:30 Keynote Address, Dr. John Sharp
9:30 - 11:15 Panel Discussion on Delaware Bay
11:15 - 11:30 Break
11:30 - 12:00 Submitted Papers*
12:00 - 1:00 Lunch
1:00 - 2:45 Submitted Papers*
2:45 - 3:00 Break
3:00 - 4:30 Submitted Papers*
4:30 - 5:30 AERS Business Meeting
5:30 - 7:00 Poster Session** and Happy Hour
7:00 - 9:00 Banquet at the Dinosaur Hall

Saturday March 11, 2006

7:30 - 8:00 Breakfast
8:00 - 9:45 Submitted Papers*
9:45 - 10:00 Break
10:00 - 11:30 Submitted Papers*
11:30 - 11:45 Break
11:45 - 12:15 Student Awards and Closing Remarks
1:00—? Field Trip to Tinnicum marsh

* See [Page 5](#) for the TENTATIVE times and specific titles of presentations

** See [Page 6](#) for the titles and presenters for the Poster Session.



Editor's Note: Here is the first article in a casual series about AERS Emeriti. Our featured AERS Emeritus personality in this issue is the latest

emeritus: Dr. Joseph Mihursky. Dr. Joseph A. Mihursky received a B.A. in Biology from Lafayette College, Easton, PA. in 1954, followed by a M.S. in Microbiology from Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA in 1957 and a Ph.D. in Zoology/Ecology from this same institution in 1962. In 1967, as a Research Assistant Professor at what was then the University of Maryland Natural Resources Institute and is now the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory (CBL) Center for Environmental Science of the University System of Maryland he became Chairman of the Department of Environmental Research and Scientist-in-Charge of the Hallowing Point Field Station. In 1968 he was promoted to Research Associate Professor, maintaining his previous position. In 1974 he was promoted to Research Professor, In 1975-76 he served as Interim Director of CBL, Center for Environmental Science, University System of Maryland at Solomons, MD. In 1982 he was a Senatorial Science Fellow working with U.S. Senator Charles McM. Mathias (D-MD). He was again Interim Director of CBL from 1982 to 1983. During 1983-85 he became Associate Director of Chesapeake Regional Affairs, Center for Environmental Science, University System of Maryland at Solomons, MD. In 1988 he rotated to Director of the Chesapeake Research Consortium at Solomons (later Edgewater), MD until 1994. He continues to work at CBL doing research in thermal

See Mihursky (Continued on page 4)

Mihursky (Continued from page 3)
and pollution ecology, fisheries science, estuarine population and community dynamics and regional planning and environmental policy. We are proud to count Dr. Mihursky among our ranks!

[Interests][Professional Experiences]

1977-Present Professor, Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, Center for Environmental Science, University System of Maryland, Solomons, MD
1988-1994 Director, Chesapeake Research Consortium [rotational appointment], Solomons (later Edgewater), MD
1983-1985 Associate Director, Chesapeake Regional Affairs, Center for Environmental Science, University System of Maryland, Solomons, MD
1982-1983 Interim Director, Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, Center for Environmental Science, University System of Maryland, Solomons, MD
1982 Senatorial Science Fellow, United States Senate [with Senator Charles McM. Mathias, (D-MD)], Washington, DC
1975-1976 Research Professor; Interim Direc-

tor, Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, Center for Environmental Science, University System of Maryland, Solomons, MD
1974-1975 Research Professor, University of Maryland Natural Resources Institute [UM/NRI; now the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, Center for Environmental Science]; Chairman, Department of Environmental Research, and Scientist-in-Charge, Hallowing Point Field Station, University of Maryland
1969-1973 Research Associate Professor, University of Maryland Natural Resources Institute [UM/NRI; now the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, Center for Environmental Science]; Chairman, Department of Environmental Research, and Scientist-in-Charge, Hallowing Point Field Station, University of Maryland
1967-1968 Research Assistant Professor, University of Maryland Natural Resources Institute [UM/NRI; now the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, Center for Environmental Science]; Chairman, Department of Environmental Research, and Scientist-in-Charge, Hallowing Point Field Station, University of Maryland

FROM THE DESK OF THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

(OR IS IT A STOOL?)

The sleeping giant has awakened. New members are coming out of the woodwork, and existing members are renewing! We're up to a grand total of 343 honorary, student, and regular (I use that term loosely) members. We've attracted 13 (thirteen) new members in anticipation of the Spring meeting, and eight existing members have renewed. Undoubtedly the swell of new and renewal members will be even larger when those joining or renewing through ERF are credited in the next few days. Unfortunately, scores of others have neglected to renew and stand to be purged once the clamor of the Spring meeting has receded. Don't make me publish a list of tardy renewers! So, go to the web site without delay and PayPal your renewal now.

Steve Storms

Editor's Note: AERS dues year ends with the Spring meeting. The year your dues expire(d) is given above your name on your mailing label.

Chesapeake History (Continued from page 1)

sin. The text has been widely read, and over a year of review, revision and expansion has put in line a large volume profusely illustrated for lay readers and with exhaustive references and end-notes for the serious scholar. Publication is being hurried in advance of the 2007 400th anniversary of the Jamestown Settlement.

Mountford's contributions were pulling together information on the ecology of Chesapeake Bay and as an experienced mariner, interpreting how the voyages were accomplished against the vagaries of Chesapeake weather. As a result of the manuscript, Mountford has subsequently worked with The US Forest Service, the Sultana Foundation's "John Smith 400 Project", the Conservation Fund and the National Geographic Society.

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IMPORTANT DATES

March 9-11, 2006 **Atlantic Estuarine Research Society Spring Meeting.** To be held at Philadelphia, PA Academy of Natural Sciences. For more information please see: <http://aers.info/>
March 30-April 1, 2006 **Southeast Atlantic Estuarine Research Society Meeting.** To be held at Ponte Vedra Beach/St. Augustine, FL. Abstracts due by February 15th. For more information see <http://links.baruch.sc.edu/seers/meetings.htm>
April 24-27, 2006, **9th National Mitigation & Conservation Banking Conference** to be held in Portland Oregon. Abstracts are now closed. For more information please see: <http://www.mitigationbankingconference.com/>
May 8-11, 2006. **7th Marine & Estuarine Shallow Water Science and Management Conference.** To be held at the Holiday Inn-Boardwalk, Atlantic City. Abstracts due by February 19th. For More Information please see: <http://wetlandsworkgroup.org/>
June 6-8, 2006. **The Ecology and Management of Atlantic White Cedar (*Chamaecyparis thyoides*) Ecosystems.** To be held at the Holiday Inn-Boardwalk, Atlantic City. Abstracts due by February 19th. For More Information please see: <http://wetlandsworkgroup.org/>
June 9-14. **Society of Wetlands Scientists.** To be held in Cairns Australia. Abstracts due by February 14th. For more information please see: <http://www.catchments.org.au/index.htm>
June 14-15, 2006 **"Stream Restoration And Protection In The Mid-Atlantic Region"** to be held at Montclair State University's New Jersey School Of Conservation. Abstracts deadline has

past. For more information see: http://awra.org/state/new_jersey/mac2006/
July 30 - August 5, 2006 "Salt Marsh Restoration & Monitoring - Short Course" To be held at Humboldt Institute. For more information please see <http://www.eaglehill.us>
August 6-12, 2006. **"Advanced Topics in Salt Marsh Restoration & Monitoring - Short Course"** To be held at Humboldt Institute. For more information please see <http://www.eaglehill.us>
September 17-23, 2006 **"Integrated Ecological Restoration of Rivers& Streams in Floodplains, Riparian Zones & Waterways - Short Course"** To be held at Humboldt Institute. For more information please see <http://www.eaglehill.us>
October 23-26, 2006. **9th Wetlands & Water Sheds Workshop in conjunction with Society of Wetlands Scientists – Mid Atlantic Chapter.** To be held at the Holiday Inn-Boardwalk, Atlantic City. Abstracts due by July 18th. For More Information please see: <http://wetlandsworkgroup.org/>
November 5-9, 2006 **27th Annual Society Of Toxicology & Environmental Chemistry.** Montreal, Quebec Canada. Abstracts accepted from February 13 through June 1. For More information please see: http://setac.org/htdocs/who_guna.html
December 9-13, 2006 **"Restore America's Estuaries."** To be held at Hilton Riverside Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana, Deadlines for submissions vary. For More information please see: <http://www.estuaries.org/conference>

Thanks to these sponsors for their help with our Spring 2006 Meeting










NEWS FROM ERF

Dear AERSians,

Thanks to all of the wonderful AERS folks who participated and played leadership roles in last Fall's successful Federation conference in Norfolk. Past AERS presidents Linda Blum and Bob Christian led the team, strongly supported by then ERF president Linda Schaffner.

Kevin Sellner with the Chesapeake Research Consortium convened a colloquium on Chesapeake Bay research that was very timely for AERS scientists. Thanks to all who presented your work – it was outstanding.

In Norfolk we had good science and good times. The networking with old and new friends and colleagues was terrific. Approximately 1,470 people attended the 2005 conference. We tried some new things in Norfolk we are interested in your opinions on. Tell Bob Christian, Linda Blum, Linda Schaffner or Janet Barnes

in Philly or send me an email. These new ideas were as follows: we held the plenary/awards session on Sunday afternoon. We had 5 synthesis sessions that were designed to pull the major themes of the scientific program together. We held all of the poster sessions at lunch time to allow the poster presenters to have a more attentive audience. Three out of four of the replies on the conference evaluation forms said people really liked this change. We provided brief verbal summaries of the posters in related oral sessions. Finally, we held a lively Town Hall meeting to tell members about the work the Board has done to plan for the Federation's future.

Hey, have you heard that our beloved journal *Estuaries* now has a longer name? Starting with the February 2006 issue the name is now *Estuaries and Coasts*. The words "and Coasts" were added to clarify that we are interested in all coastal estuarine systems. As the Federation has grown internationally, we came to realize that not all people define estuaries as

broadly as we do. Because we want our authors to have the greatest potential readership possible, we have clarified our scope.

Please let me issue a personal invitation to ALL AERS members to become members of the Federation if you are not already a member. The Federation is the world's greatest collection of people who work on estuaries and coasts. Join your voice to ours so that we can increase the number of people who are part of our communication and education work. We need you. You are important to the Federation. You can join at our web site, erf.org.

For more info on all Federation activities, please visit www.erf.org. Look for ERF's Chief Operations Officer at the AERS spring meeting.

Your humble ERFant,
Joy Bartholomew
ERF executive director
jbarth@erf.org

A Message from ERF President Bob Christian, who wants you to know that he reads the **AERSNews**

Opportunities are increasing for ERF to contribute to sound science-based policy of coastal resources. We joined the Ecological Society of America, Society of Wetland Scientists, and American Society of Limnology and Oceanography, as *amici curiae*, in the preparation of a brief to the U.S. Supreme Court for June Carabell, et al. v. United States Army Corps of Engineers, et al. regarding "wetlands adjacent to tributaries." ERF is also scheduled to co-host with several societies a congressional briefing in March on hurricane effects and coastal ecosystems. Robert Twilley will be representing ERF. Finally, Bob Christian is scheduled to testify at a briefing before the National Ocean Policy Study of the Senate Committee of Commerce, Science and Transportation on the "Coastal and Estuarine Land Protection" act designed to protect sensitive lands, especially near NERRS sites.

Bob Christian,



TENTATIVE* SCHEDULE OF PLATFORM PRESENTATIONS

*The times for these presentations are tentative that means subject to change. Please make certain to both check www.AERS.info prior to your travel to the meeting, and the printed program when you arrive at the meeting.

8:45 AM John Sharp Keynote Address

9:30 AM Invited Panel Discussion Delaware Bay

11:30 AM Botton, Mark L. Assessing Trends in the Delaware Bay Population of Horse-shoe Crabs: Are We Falling Victim to the Shifting Baseline Syndrome?

11:45 AM Hernandez, Daniel Bayesian Behavioral-Models as Tools for Shorebird Conservation on Delaware Bay

1:00 PM Wilson, Bartholomew The Delaware Bay Benthic Mapping Project: Bottom Sediment and Bathymetry

1:15 PM Trumbull, V. Lyle Athos I Oil Spill Response: Submerged Oil and Wildlife Recovery

1:30 PM Boyd, Sean Establishment and Impact of an Asian Isopod in Delaware Bay

1:45 PM Kraemer, George P. Density of Non-native Crab *Hemigrapsus sanguineus* is Controlled by Habitat Structure

2:00 PM Shisler, Joseph K. Successful Restoration of an Urban Tidal Wetland

2:15 PM Alvarez, M. D. Planning Considerations for Large Scale Collection of Smooth Cordgrass (*Spartina alterniflora*)

2:30 PM Muscio, Cara Phase One of an Agricultural Assessment for a Regional Stormwater Management Plan in Coastal Monmouth County, New Jersey

3:00 PM Meyer, Gregory

Does Juvenile Blue Crab Recruitment Respond to Land Use Changes in North Carolina Estuaries?

3:15 PM Bright, Gerald Comparison of Habitat Utilization Between Juvenile Hatchery-Reared and Wild Blue Crabs

3:30 PM Jimenez, Joanna Long-Term (1995-2005) Road Mortality of Diamondback Terrapins (*Malaclemys terrapin terrapin*) on the Margate/Northfield Causway in Atlantic County, New Jersey: Implications for Conservation

3:45 PM Ruzicka, Victoria The Influence of Predation on the Nesting Ecology of the Diamondback Terrapin

(*Malaclemys Terrapin*) in the Lower Chesapeake Bay

4:00 PM Jivoff, Paul Habitat Quality, Species Diversity and Secondary Production at Artificial Versus Natural Shorelines in Little Egg Harbor, New Jersey

4:15 PM Ren, Ling Effects of Mississippi River water on phytoplankton growth in upper Barataria Estuary, Louisiana

8:00 AM Ruck, Christopher M. The Assessment of Juvenile Abundance of *Alosa aestivalis*, *A. psuedoharengus*, and *Morone americana* in a Tidal Freshwater Embayment of the Potomac River

8:15 AM Hoffman, Joel Terrestrial Matter Fuels an Estuarine Food Web

8:30 AM Straub, Peter Effects of Degraded Habitat on Liver Gene Expression in Young of the Year Bluefish

(*Pomatomus saltatrix*)

8:45 AM Luczkovich, Joseph Using Sound to Map the Sound: Acoustics as a Tool in

Studies of Estuarine Fish Biology

9:00 AM Bass, Celine Santiago Effects of Heavy Gill Parasite Burdens on the Anatomy, Physiology and Behavior of *Fundulus heteroclitus*

9:15 AM Kruge, Michael A Novel Method for Rapid Characterization of Organic Compounds in Sediments Using Pyrolysis-Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry

9:30 AM Wang, Taiping A Note on Certain Characteristics of Shallow Water Hypoxia in Chesapeake Bay and Its Adjacent Region

10:00 AM Christian, Robert R. A Post-Modern Coast

10:15 AM Fitzpatrick, J A Preliminary Assessment of the Importance of Point Source Nutrients on Primary Production in the Coastal Waters of the Virginian Province

10:30 AM Nagel, Jessica Davis Influence of the Submersed plants *Ruppia maritima* and *Potamogeton perfoliatus* on biogeochemical cycling in mesohaline Chesapeake Bay

10:45 AM Testa, Jeremy Exchanges of Nitrogen and Phosphorus Between Tidal Freshwater Marshes and the Patuxent River Estuary: Temporal Variability and Relevance in Large-Scale Nutrient Budgets

11:00 AM O'Keefe, Jennifer Sedimentary Profiles of Biogenic Silica Burial in the Salinity Gradient of the Patuxent River Sub-estuary, Maryland

11:15 AM Hartzell, Jeanne Phosphorus Distribution Patterns Across a Salinity Gradient of a Chesapeake Bay Subestuary

POSTER PRESENTATIONS SCHEDULED AT THE TIME OF THIS PRINTING

Adams, Emily;Relative Microbial Diversity of Anacostia River Sediments Using Denaturing Gradient Gel Electrophoresis	Water Flea <i>Leptodora Kindtii</i> in the Chesapeake Bay and its Tributaries	Graduate Course in Larval Fish Identification and Ecology
Adamowicz, Susan;Sudden Wetland Dieback in New England	Kopala, Stephanie;Distribution and Abundance of Appendicularians in Coastal Virginia Waters	Renny, Madeline;Use of Sonic Telemetry to Determine Behavior of Northern Diamondback Terrapins (<i>Malaclemys terrapin terrapin</i>) in a Southern New Jersey Salt Marsh
Ambler, Julie;Distribution of Blooms of <i>Thalia democratica</i> off Chincoteague, VA	Lambert, Mary;The Prevalence of Vibrionaceae in Feral Horse Manure from Assateague Island National Seashore, Maryland	Swarth, Christopher;Waterbird Distribution Along an Estuarine Gradient in Winter
Bushaw-Newton, Karen;Investigations of the Biogeochemistry and Microbial Diversity of Cove Point Marsh, MD	Martin, Dorothea;Polychlorinated Byphenyls (PCB) levels in Blue Catfish From Portions of the James River	Velinsky, David;Climate Change and Salinity Intrusion into Tidal Freshwater Marshes: Coupling Shifting Microbial Populations and Community Compositions to Attendant Changes in Metabolic Rates
Ferreir, Andrew;Population Demographics of the Northern Diamondback Terrapin (<i>Malaclemys terrapin terrapin</i>) in Four Salt Marsh Creeks on the Cape May Peninsula, New Jersey	McGrath, Patrick;Preliminary Stomach Content Analysis of Longnose Gar with the Tidal Waters of Virginian Rivers	Vile, Melanie;The Impact of Salinity Intrusion on the Biogeochemical Cycling of C in the Sediments from Tidal Freshwater Marshes
Gillett, David J.;Macrobenthic Production and Trophic Transfer in Disturbed and Non-disturbed Shallow Estuarine Habitat	Modjeski, Alek, Capt.;NOAA Patuxent River Maryland Remote Sensing Pilot Project: Water Quality Determination using Aerial Hyperspectral Imaging, Analysis, and Field Verification	Wood, Roger C.;Reducing Diamondback Terrapin Road Mortality: Conserving Turtles by Installation of Roadside Barrier Fencing
Isleib, Richard;The Effects of Nutrient Inputs on a Heavily Urbanized Tidal Bay	Munyei, Nicholas;The St. Jones River Watershed Monitoring Network	Wootton, Louise; <i>Carex macrocephala</i> : A New Threat to the Ecology of New Jersey's Coastal Dune
Johnson, William S.;The Occurrence of the Giant Predatory	Olney, John E.;Early Life History of Marine Fishes: A	

HUDSON RIVER GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PROPOSAL DEADLINE: THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2006

In 2006, the Foundation will award up to four full-time research fellowships to advanced graduate students conducting research on the Hudson River system. Fellowships awarded to doctoral students will include a stipend of up to \$15,000 for one year, and an incidentals research budget of up to \$1,000. Fellowships awarded to master's level students will include a stipend of up to \$11,000 for one year, and an incidentals research budget of up to \$1,000. The student's home university will be expected to be the primary source of support for materials and expenses required to do the thesis research, and will also be expected to cover any indirect costs associated with the project. In special cases, applicants can apply for a 15-month fellowship in order to extend the proposed project through an additional summer. The Foundation will not accept applications for extensions of existing fellowships. The award is conditional upon a full tuition waiver or reimbursement by the University. Applications for graduate fellowships must be received by 5:00 pm, Thursday, April 20, 2006. Decisions will be made by the end of June. Applicants must be enrolled in an accredited doctoral or master's program, must have a thesis advisor and advisory committee (if appropriate to the institution), and must have a thesis research plan approved by the student's institution or department. For more info, and detailed application instructions, go to www.hudsonriver.org.

Spring Meeting (Continued from page 1)

program arranged by David Gillett is outstanding. The Conference theme is "*The Delaware Estuary - much improved water quality, but...*"

Several hotels have been chosen in close proximity to the Academy. See the "*Where do we stay?*" on [page 11](#) for more details. Please make your hotel reservations directly with the hotels, and remember to pre-register for the meeting at <http://aers.info/spring06registrationform.htm>. Pre-registration is critical to help us arrange the (expensive) catering.

Our meeting layout will be as usual with registration beginning Thursday afternoon; beverage consumption event on Thursday evening, papers Friday and Saturday in the AM; business meeting late Friday afternoon; and banquet Friday evening. Dr. John Sharp will give the Keynote address followed by a special panel presentation on the Delaware Bay on Friday Morning. Panel participants include; Dr. David Velinsky, Biogeochemist, Patrick Center for Environmental Research, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Dr. Danielle Kreeger, Science Director, Partnership for the Delaware Estuary, Wilmington, Delaware, Kellie Westervelt, Restoration Director, Partnership for the Delaware Estuary, Wilmington, Delaware, and Kenneth A. Strait, Manager of the Public Service Enterprise Group's (PSE & G) Estuary Enhancement Program

The Conference theme is "*The Delaware Estuary - much improved water quality, but...*"

Another addition to his Spring's meeting will be a visit to [Tinicum Marsh](#) Saturday afternoon after the student awards are given. For a complete listing of the events see Conference at a Glance on [page 3](#). The presentations and poster presenters are also listed see Tentative* Schedule of Platform Presentations on [page 5](#) and Poster Presentations on [page 6](#). Now for something completely outlandish. One of my most memorable characters in AERS was

the late Don Lear. He brought us the Venerable Clam Award, and originated many other AERS traditions. He told me on several occasions of the last time AERS met in Philadelphia; usually when I lamented that we never met there. He maintained that we may never be invited back given the events of the last meeting held in Philadelphia. As always, the beverage consumption event was an important part of each AERS meeting. The local arrangers had neglected to note that the hotel scheduled for the meeting was a "dry one!" Obviously this presented a major problem, so the "event" was moved to the Academy of Natural History. Scientists familiar with AERS meetings refused to allow their labs or offices to be the site for the festivities, so a large storage area in the Academy museum was selected. In those days card-playing was also considered to be a critical part of the information dissemination process. Chairs and tables were not readily available for the event. Our ever-resourceful AERS antecedents improvised. Certain artifacts were pressed into service as tables, stools, beer holders, and card-playing surfaces. These artifacts included chests from the Lewis and Clarke expedition and dinosaur skulls of inestimable value. As I mentioned previously Don Lear was of the opinion that we would not be asked back.

Apparently AERS has outlasted the corporate memory of the Academy staff, and we are again welcome. See you at the banquet—to be held in the Dinosaur hall!!!



STUDENT NEWS

BY HEIDI MAHON

"I really don't have any new student information to send you."