

The Nauplius[©]

Volume XV, Number 1

Fall 2003

NAUPLIUS NOTATIONS

Well, as I started organizing this newsletter, I had another one of those revelations. Not only is SENEME celebrating its 20th Anniversary in 2003, *The Nauplius* is starting its 15th volume which means the newsletter is 15 years old! Quite an exciting time for our little chapter!

It was also impressive to see that SENEME had a good-sized contingent way down in Wilmington, NC for the National Marine Educators Association (NMEA) Conference. Those of us from the NMEA 2002 Conference Committee definitely enjoyed watching others run around frantically putting out the “Conference fires.” Some of the highlights of NMEA 2003 for me included: Getting to see Dr. Steve Lyons from the Weather Channel in person; going to the Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rehabilitation Center and cleaning a turtle’s shell; visiting the NC Aquarium at Fort Fisher; the skit Thaxter Tewksbury, Jill Johnen and I did to promote the SENEME basket at the NMEA Auction (I’m afraid you had to be there to appreciate it, and unfortunately no one got it on video, but take my word for it, it was classic SENEME antics!); seeing all the red shirts from NMEA 2002 and getting comments from people who enjoyed our Conference; great food and not having to cook any of it; Twister (even if SENEME’s disqualification was very controversial!); and dancing the night away on the final evening of the Conference with old and new friends. And don’t worry, I did actually attend some workshops with probably the best presentation being on, believe it or not, Coelacanth! While we can still definitely claim that our 2002 Conference was the best, NMEA 2003 was a really great Conference, and their committee is to be commended for a wonderful event.

I would like to give a special thanks to Chris Newlan and Find Pedersen who recently resigned from the Board of Directors. Their time has been greatly appreciated, and luckily for us, they both plan to stay involved in SENEME. I would also like to pass along congratulations to Board member, Kim Standish, who is on her honeymoon as I write this. She married Tom Reohr, and they will be living New York although, for now, Kim plans to stay connected with happenings here in Connecticut.

I hope to see you at one of the SENEME events in 2004 and hope you all have a great holiday season!!

Donna R. Dione, SENEME President

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FROM THE BOARD ROOM.....

For quite a while, the SENEME Board has been mulling over potential updates to our Bylaws and Constitution. We finally have documents ready for presentation to the membership. As per the Constitution, announcements of the changes must be made at two Board meetings and in two issues of *The Nauplius*. Since there are quite a few small changes, the full documents have been placed on the SENEME website for anyone who would like to review them. The address is www.oceanology.org/SENEME/SENEME.html.

Highlights of the revisions include: the addition of Organizational and Corporate memberships; the elimination of the office of Vice-President; the addition of the offices of President-Elect and Past President; and changes to the term lengths and limits of all officers except the NMEA Chapter Representative.

A final vote on the Bylaws and Constitution revisions will take place at the March 8, 2004 Board meeting. If you have any concerns regarding changes to either document, please contact the Board at senemeboard@yahoo.com as soon as possible.

With the resignation of some of our Board members, it is hoped that others in the general membership might be interested in joining the Board of Directors. The dates of upcoming Board meetings are later in this newsletter, and we welcome any member who would like to join us, even if it is for just one meeting. Contact us at the above e-mail for more detailed meeting information. We do promise that you will have some great food!

The Nauplius is the newsletter of the Southeastern New England Marine Educators Association (SENEME) and is published three times per year for members of SENEME. Submissions including (but not limited to) articles, activities to share, student projects, pictures of SENEME members in action, recipes, other organization's announcements and

Bulletin Board items are welcome for all issues. The opinions expressed by authors published in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of SENEME and all its Board members. SENEME is not responsible for any typographical errors that may occur within this publication. Permission is granted by SENEME for readers to make copies of newsletter items for their own, non-commercial use.

Please send submissions and suggestions to Donna R. Dione, 146 Essex Street, Deep River, CT 06417-1901; e-mail: senemeboard@yahoo.com; or fax: 860-526-8392. When sending items via computer disk or e-mail, it is helpful to have them typed in Microsoft Word, in the font of "Times New Roman, size 10". All disks and pictures will be returned.

The deadline for the Winter issue is January 15, 2004 with Bulletin Board items dated for events occurring after March 1, 2004.

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*** 2003 SENEME LIFE MEMBER ***

At the SENEME Annual Meeting, Dr. Howard "Mickey" Weiss was presented with a SENEME Life Membership in honor of all his contributions to Project Oceanology, SENEME and marine education. Mickey was the Director of Project Oceanology from its founding in 1972 until his "retirement" in September 2002. He remains affiliated with Project Oceanology where he continues teaching, writing and doing research.

In 1972, Mickey obtained Project Oceanology's first boat, *Enviro-Lab*, a 50' wooden liberty launch donated by the Navy, and established the program's headquarters and laboratory in an old boathouse at Avery Point. Under his leadership, the program acquired two new fiberglass research vessels, the 55' *Enviro-Lab II* in 1986 and the 65' *Enviro-Lab III* in 1991, which continue to serve as the program's sea-going classrooms. Since 1973, he has involved local students and teachers in annual research monitoring studies of the environmental quality in the Thames River Estuary.

Mickey has a Ph.D. in marine science from the University of Connecticut and an MAT in science education from Harvard University. He has written several books, including a manual of marine science education methods, *Investigating the Marine Environment*, an identification guide, *Marine Animals of Southern New England and New*

York, and a book on CD, *A Model Oceanographic Field Study*. From 1975 to 1987, he was a member and Chairman of the Groton Town of Conservation Commission, and he currently serves on the Citizen's Advisory Committee of the EPA's Long Island Sound Management Council. In 1997, Mickey received a Fulbright Scholar grant to teach courses to Mexican science teachers at the University of the Yucatan and to conduct research on spiny lobsters at the National University of Mexico's marine laboratory near Cancun. He is a recipient of the Governor's Environment 2000 Award, the CT Sea Grant Environmental Education Award, and the Abeles Science Advocate Award from the Connecticut Science Teachers Association.

Congratulations, Mickey!!!

NMEA 2004! Get on Board!

Start your planning immediately! Be thinking: the best beaches in the world, outstanding fishing and diving, world-class attractions and, oh yes, the National Marine Educators Association annual conference in sunny St. Petersburg, FL on July 18-22, 2004. From our keynote address by Dr. Sylvia Earle to partying with Jimmy Buffett's Land Sharks Band, this will be the place to be next July! For more information, please go to the official website: www.floridamarine.org/nmea2004 today. We'll be adding more information to the website soon so please continue to check back often. The "Amazing Adventure of SuperPike," the NMEA's own superhero, will soon be posted on this site. The conference will likely be limited to about 400 attendees this year so please consider registering as early as possible! If you want more information, please contact Scott Willis at nmea2004@fwc.state.fl.us.

The SeaWorld/Busch Gardens Environmental Excellence Awards

Are you, or do you know a teacher whose class is doing something cool for the environment? That class could be one of eight schools across the country that wins \$10,000 to benefit their award-winning project! Since 1993, the SeaWorld/Busch Gardens Environmental Excellence Awards have recognized the outstanding efforts of students and teachers across the country working at the grass-roots level to protect and preserve the environment. In fact, in the past decade, we've awarded \$1 million to more than 100 schools in 35 U.S. states/territories.

This year, the awards' eligibility is expanded to recognize and reward community groups who are protecting planet Earth. All schools (grades K-12) in the United States as well as select community groups are eligible to apply. The entry deadline for the 2004 Environmental Excellence Awards is Friday, December 19, 2003. For information about how your school or group could win both money and recognition, call the Sea World Education Department and ask for an Environmental Excellence Awards brochure. Call toll-free 800-23SHAMU. Or visit www.seaworld.org and select "Conservation Matters" to learn more.

Previous award-winning projects have tackled a wide variety of environmental problems, including but not limited to: habitat restoration, school yard beautification, energy and waste reduction, environmental education and community outreach, wildlife protection, and natural resource conservation. Previous award-winners have demonstrated creative problem-solving, strong school and community partnerships, active student involvement, and significant educational and environmental impact.

The ARMADA Project: Research and Mentoring Experiences for Teachers

by Elizabeth Gibbs

There are dolphins everywhere I look. They know I'm here. They're interacting with us. Yes, that gray skin now has visible texture - smooth, shiny with water, sometimes scarred. Those deep black eyes - are they looking at me? They're exhaling as they come up, hitting me with a spray of their breath. How do they inhale so fast? And are they really hurtling out of the water, then turning a 360 in the air before slamming back down with a noisy splash?

This was my first experience with dusky dolphins off the New Zealand coast last July. I had the great fortune to work with researchers there as part of the University of Rhode Island's ARMADA Project, a National Science Foundation-funded program that provides research and mentoring experiences for teachers.

Twelve teachers from Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New Jersey were the first "cohort" of educators to participate in the experience. While I worked with the research team of Bernd Wursig, from Texas A&M University's Marine Mammal Research Program on an Earthwatch Institute-sponsored project, other teachers were on Narragansett Bay, the Black Sea, the Norwegian Sea, the Gulf of Maine and the Bay of Fundy. We all worked closely with oceanographers and marine biologists on projects that ranged from right whales and dinoflagellates to sunken ships to eelgrass beds to shark vertebrae, just to name a few.

We maintained journals during the field experience, then designed units of study to bring the experience into our classrooms. For example, I will have the students create web sites on topics related to dolphin behavior research to kick off the unit, then take a marine mammal observation cruise in Narragansett Bay to see wintering harbor seals. My students and I are also conducting monthly water sampling in Newport Harbor to round out our hands-on research experience.

In addition to the research and classroom projects, ARMADA participants serve as mentors to a teacher in their school or district who has been teaching for three years or less. Mentors work with a different mentee for each of the two years of the project. The goal of the mentoring program is to provide renewal for the mentor and retention of the mentee. Both mentor and mentee are funded to go to the annual National Science Teachers' Association convention during the two years, and both receive money to purchase resources for the classroom. At the fall SENEME conference, four of us did a presentation on our experiences. Our consensus, which we shared with the audience, was that it was a fantastic experience and program, and we encouraged everyone to apply.

Applications are now being accepted for participation in the summer of 2004. The deadline for applications is February 14, 2004. For more information or to download an application, visit the project's web site at www.armadaproject.org. You can also contact the Office of Marine Programs at the URI Graduate School of Oceanography at armada@gso.uri.edu or (401) 874-6211.

Down Where the Water Is

This September, URI's Office of Marine Programs published new editions of **Down Where the Water Is: A Coastal Awareness Activity Book** and an associated comprehensive **Teacher's Guide** for use in grades K-3. The **Activity Book** and **Teacher's Guide** are available FREE from the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council. URI's Narragansett Bay Classroom is offering FREE Interpretive Programs for RI K-3 elementary school classrooms that are sponsored by RI Coastal Resources Management Council and relate to the books.

To order copies of the **Activity Book** and **Teacher's Guide**, contact the Coastal Resources Management Council at 401-783-3370. For more information and/or to book a FREE interpretive program associated with the new editions of **Down Where the Water Is**, contact URI's Narragansett Bay Classroom at 401-874-6211.

Name NOAA's New Ship

NOAA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, in partnership with the Consortium for Oceanographic Research and Education, the National Estuarine Research Reserve Association, the Gulf of Maine Marine Educators Association, the Massachusetts Marine Educators and the Southeastern New England Marine Educators, is inviting students in grades K-12 in the states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont to choose a name for one of its new ships.

The fisheries vessel, which will sail out of Woods Hole, MA, will be built in 2004 and 2005. It has been designed for a wide range of fisheries research, with capabilities for midwater trawling, bottom trawling, hydroacoustic surveys, and oceanographic and hydrographic operations.

Each team will research a name and prepare a related classroom education project to support and justify its proposed name. This project must be adaptable by other teachers in their classrooms so that it can help fellow students learn about NOAA, its environmental stewardship and its ocean-related science and research. Projects will be judged on their interdisciplinary nature (incorporating a variety of subject areas), imagination, creativity and evidence of educational value for students throughout the country.

Students from the first place team will be invited for a day tour of one of NOAA's research and education facilities in New England. During their visit, students will have the opportunity to learn about NOAA research, environmental stewardship and the role they can play in protecting the ecosystem. The first place team's school will receive a small-scale replica of the plate that is permanently affixed to the ship near the keel. The ship's name, developed from the contest, will be shown on this replica.

Both the first place and the second place schools will receive a visit from the NOAA Administrator, Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr., U.S. Navy (Ret), and both schools will receive a video tape of the keel laying ceremony and the launch of the

vessel; these activities will take place in Pascagoula, Miss. and will occur during calendar years 2004 and 2005. In 2006, representatives of the winning teams will receive an invitation to the commissioning ceremony of the ship in Woods Hole, Mass. The commissioning ceremony marks the time that the ship officially becomes part of the NOAA fleet.

A representative teacher from each school in New England will receive a copy of the NOAA poster with information about the ship's capabilities, NOAA Marine and Aviation Operations, the NOAA Teacher at Sea program and the rules for the competition. Posters will also be sent to all NOAA facilities in New England and to the other partners of the contest. More information can be found at www.education.noaa.gov. To receive a copy of the poster, contact NOAA-OUTREACH@noaa.gov by email.

International Children's Conference on the Environment

The 2004 Tunza International Children's Conference on the Environment will convene at Connecticut College in southeastern Connecticut on July 19-23, 2004. Six hundred international students aged 10-13 will explore topics on the themes of "Oceans, Rivers, and Waterways," "Extinction and Biodiversity," "Indigenous People's Environmental Ways," and "Energy--Save It, Renew It, Recycle It."

The conference planners will be calling for proposals for children's workshops, children's fieldtrips, and adult seminars. The applications will be web based, and will need to be submitted by December 31, 2003 for consideration. Although the request for proposals has not yet been posted, it is expected to be online by mid November. Please visit the website for information about the themes and programs: www.icc04.org.

Applications are now being accepted for student delegates. They are available online at the same site. For eligibility requirements, please check the event website. Student applications must be submitted by December 15, 2003.

Connecticut, Rhode Island and the region have many fabulous educators. Please consider submitting a proposal for a workshop, fieldtrip or adult seminar. Be a part of this truly unique experience. If you have questions after you have visited the website, please email Laurel Kohl at KOHLL@easternct.edu or call 860-465-0256.

Reflecting on the Fall Conference...

(Editor's Note: As I did after NMEA 2002, I asked for volunteers to share their thoughts on the SENEME Fall Conference held on October 18, 2003 at Project Oceanology in Groton, CT. While there are a few "you had to be there to really understand" comments,

hopefully the overall article will give everyone a sense of what a great day it was. A couple highlights that are not mentioned below but added to the enjoyment of the day: **Eight** bluefish were caught this year; Jill Johnen put together a wonderful slideshow of SENEME's past; and there was a bit of confusion on the part of the cake decorator so that the anniversary cake read "Happy 20th Anniversary SENEME and Thaxter!"

From Katrina Barrett...

"I really enjoyed my workshops with both Beth Troeger and Lance Arnold. Normally, I don't get a chance to attend workshops so it was a treat! I enjoyed being outside with Beth and learned about how to have students be creative while observing and then creating discussion. Lance is so enthusiastic about jellyfish that it is easy to like them! Of course, I enjoyed the lobster after a fun day of workshops!"

From Jill Johnen...

"It was a calm day, perfect conditions for visiting the New London Ledge Lighthouse. Brae and Kirsten provided an informative program about the history of the lighthouse and plans for the future. I was surprised to see how much space is inside the house - it will make a wonderful B&B. In the afternoon, I was delighted to hear the ARMADA teachers present their summer research findings and ways that they will be bringing their experiences into the classroom. Then to top off the day, a delicious lobster dinner combined with great conversations with fellow SENEME members. I am looking forward to next year....."

From Elizabeth Gibbs...

"Beth Troeger's workshop made me even more excited about the field trips I have planned for my students. The idea of using a field trip as an introductory activity is so much in keeping with the spirit of inquiry that we all try to cultivate, and the activities that Beth presented were varied and inspiring. It's the kind of stuff we go to SENEME conferences for! (Other than the food, of course!)"

From Lance Arnold...

"I have a fond memory of Trina Barrett trying to get the hang of my nematocyst (cnidocyst) model by blowing in a rubber glove and popping out a red finger with a snap. Her initial tries were humorous, but she was happy to get the hang of it. Enjoyed and could sympathize with Mickey's comment that Life Members are usually chosen when they have relatively little life left!"

From Christine Kirch...

"I was particularly impressed with the keynote speaker, Gail. I learned a lot from her speech and now realize the full impact of Global Warming. I was always a skeptic. (This won't be a surprise to many people who know me.) I am also glad that Mickey got inducted into the SENEME Hall of Fame, if you will. I am an oceanology teacher today because of him. I found his speech on Lobsters most informative and was sorry we ran out of time. I am hoping that SENEME members take advantage of the ARMADA program as it is a win-win experience. I loved the shipboard research experience but was hesitant with regard to the mentoring piece. However, it has been an eye-opening venture. I am learning from my mentee as I hope she is learning from me. And I cannot wait to attend the NSTA conference! My other session was with Barbara Walton-Faria. Since my Physical Oceanography is my weak point, I get lesson plans from her presentations. All in all it was a very worth while day."

From Jeffrey Sack...

"After the Annual Meeting, we were off to the Race to "catch them Blues!" Now, last summer I was out

there twice, once for the National Conference in July, and again at the SENEME meeting in October. After a combined 15 hours at the Race in 2002 I didn't catch a single fish! I was hoping that my luck would be different this year.

About 10 of us geared up, boarded the *EnviroLab II* and left the dock. We were at the Race in about 30 minutes and saw lots of other boats out there fishing. Maybe this would be my year?? Well, I baited up (using mackerel) and dropped my line. I waited, waited, and waited some more. No luck. We brought our lines up and we headed off to another spot. Time to drop again. This time, after about 10 minutes, I felt a strong pull on my pole. I started to reel it up, but the line kept going out. It was a huge battle, but in the end, the ocean won. If anyone asks, I caught the new wreck that was discovered by the *Thomas Jefferson* earlier that week! I re-baited my pole while we were off to another spot. I dropped my line and within a few minutes heard "fish on" coming from the other end of the boat. John McNulty's son had landed our first catch."

BULLETIN BOARD

MYSTIC AQUARIUM & INSTITUTE FOR EXPLORATION

Jellyfish Workshop: Elly Jelly Looks at Marine Animals

Friday and Saturday, January 9 & 10, 2004

\$15 per person for 2 days – receive 6 storybooks and 6 corresponding teacher's manuals!

Intended to build science & literacy skills for grades 1-3!

Developed and Presented by the Bronx Zoo & New York Aquarium Education Staff for teachers of grades 1-3 (CEU's provided).

Your students' fascination with animals is a perfect starting point for building an education in the life sciences. Picture your classroom as they become immersed in the world of animals, observing, reflecting, questioning, experimenting, and thinking about what they are seeing and doing. The *Elly Jelly Looks at Marine Animals* curriculum is made up of six modules, each consisting of a Teacher's Guide and storybook which focus on different marine animals and habitats. You do not need to be a science expert to use these books, so don't miss out!

Whale Workshop

Saturday, March 6, 2004, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Cost: \$35 per person

Open to teachers of all grades (CEU's provided).

Capture your students' attention with lessons about dolphins and whales! Learn about the biology of cetaceans (whales, dolphins and porpoises), how we care for our animals, and the many environmental issues affecting their survival in the wild. Get an up-close look at a beluga for a better understanding of their unique adaptations and hear about our exciting cetacean research. Participate in engaging classroom activities appropriate for all ages and leave with useful materials to share with your students!

JASON XV Broadcasts

January 26-February 6, 2004 - daily at 9:30 am, 11:00 am, 12:30 pm & 2:00 pm

Highlight **LIVE** Science expedition from Panama! Choose the Mystic Aquarium Marine Theater for large groups, Mystic Aquarium Immersion Institute for groups up to 36 or the Education Center in Hartford for groups up to 45 (call 860-543-8464 for Hartford reservations). What a fantastic learning opportunity!

Workshops for Secondary Educators on Long Island Sound's Marine Mammals and Sea Turtles!

Heather Medic, Stranding Coordinator from Mystic Aquarium & Institute for Exploration will present 3 workshops about marine mammals and sea turtles. They will be held both on site and off site. The workshops will focus on current marine mammal legislation, local species, in depth information on species identification of seals and sea turtles, local statistics on sightings and strandings and how the public can help. One CEU will be offered for this workshop. Each participant will be provided with a CD-ROM copy of the Power Point presentation and marine mammal response guides will be available. This workshop is part of Long Island Sound License Plate Project Grant and so there is no charge. One of the workshops will be held at 10:00 am at Mystic Aquarium on March 26, 2004. For information on additional workshops email hmedic@mysticaquarium.org.

Vacation Mini Camps

First session: December 29, 30, half day – December 31, 2003; Second session: January 17, 18, half day – January 19, 2004; Third session: half day - February 18, February 19, 20, 2004.

Your child can have FUN learning about ocean animals with hands-on activities to include live animals, crafts, and behind the scenes. For further information, contact April McGivern at amcgivern@mysticaquarium.org.

Please call Reservations at 860-572-5955, ext. 520 to register for any of the above events.

BULLETIN BOARD

URI'S NARRAGANSETT BAY CLASSROOM

COASTAL INSTITUTE VISITOR CENTER - Tuesdays & Thursdays

Coastal Institute Bookstore and Living on the Edge: An Interactive Coastal Exhibit, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. FREE Admission to exhibit. Group programs and tours by appointment. At URI's Narragansett Bay Campus, South Ferry Road, Narragansett (off Route 1A). Call the Office of Marine Programs for information or directions, 401-874-6211. * *The Bookstore and exhibit will be closed from January 1 through January 8.*

JASON PROJECT LIVE BROADCASTS FROM PANAMA

January 26-31, February 2-6, 2004

Travel to the Rainforest without leaving Rhode Island. *JASON XV: Rainforests at the Crossroads* live broadcasts will take place 5 times daily at URI's Narragansett Bay

Campus, South Ferry Road, Narragansett (off Route 1A). Fee is only \$1 per person. Call the Office of Marine Programs for reservations, 401-874-6211.

SPECIAL EXHIBIT AND BOOKSTORE HOURS

January 26-31, February 2-6, 2004

The Living on the Edge Exhibit and Coastal Institute Bookstore will be open from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm daily. At the Coastal Institute, Narragansett Bay Campus, South Ferry Road, Narragansett (off Route 1A).

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE EDUCATION

Classes meet nine Wednesdays beginning February 25, 2004 plus two Saturday sessions in May. Plan your spring school schedule so you can join instructors Gail Scowcroft, URI's Office of Marine Programs, and Paul Hargraves, URI's Graduate School of Oceanography, for this three-credit ocean science course designed specifically for teachers. There is a fee of \$495 per person (additional fee paid separately to CCE if requesting credit). At the Coastal Institute, URI Narragansett Bay Campus. Call for details, 401-874-6211.

NATIONAL OCEAN SCIENCES BOWL - REGIONAL COMPETITION

Saturday, February 28, 2004

High school teams from Rhode Island and Connecticut will compete in the 2004 Quahog Bowl, regional competition for the National Ocean Sciences Bowl. The competition is held at the Narragansett Bay Campus, South Ferry Road, Narragansett (off Route 1A). Call the Office of Marine Programs for information or directions, 401-874-6211.

CONNECTICUT OUTDOOR & ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ASSOC.

Annual Conference: "Reading the Landscape - Integrating Environmental Education"

March 19, 2004

Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT

FUNDANAS!

Fundanass are games about nature on bandanas designed to teach kids and adults about the environment around them in a fun, different way. The Fundanass have no loose pieces, are washable, 100% cotton, easy to carry, can be customized with a logo and are reusable. We currently have 7 different Fundanass-Beach Quest, Lily's Pond Bingo, Bug Bingo, Tree Quest, Nature Quest, Wild Bird Bingo and our constellation Fundana-Star Quest. The Fundanass wholesale for \$3.50, and we don't have a minimum opening order. For more information, please call 800-593-7076.

Long Island Sound and Its Watershed Photography Contest

The Long Island Sound Foundation in cooperation with the Connecticut Sea Grant College Program is looking for young photographers to participate in a photography contest for a 2004 **poster** entitled "Long Island Sound and Its Watershed". This contest is funded in part by the EPA Long Island Sound Study.

Eligibility:

The Long Island Sound contest is open to all students in grade seven through grade twelve.

Requirements and Conditions:

The photographs must be taken by the student and should, in some way, reflect the contest theme - Long Island Sound and the Watershed: "What it means to Me." A brief description of each photograph must accompany each submission. The description should explain how the image relates to the theme and must include the approximate location and date the picture was taken.

Winning entries will become the property of The Long Island Sound Foundation for use as indicated. All other entries will be returned ONLY IF a self-addressed envelope with proper postage and cardboard packaging are included with the entry.

Prints:

Participants may submit one or two photographs.
Prints must be 5x7 or 8x10 inches. Prints should not be mounted or matted.
Prints can be black & white, color, or digitally generated.

If any readily recognizable people or private property appears in the photographs, a signed release form must be submitted as part of the entry.

Contest Deadline: Friday, February 27, 2004.

For photographs submitted through schools, the appropriate grade level release form must accompany the photograph from each grade. A photo unaccompanied by such a release form fully completed and signed by a parent/guardian and/or the teacher will be ineligible for the contest.

Judging will be done by educators and professional photographers. The panel of judges will select two "First Place Honors" photographs for grades seven through nine and two "First Place Honors" photographs for grades ten through twelve. Additionally, one "Honorable Mention" photograph will be selected from each grade, seven through twelve. Winners will be notified by mail no later than March 31, 2004.

Awards:

The winning photographers will be honored in a ceremony on Thursday, May 24, 2004. For one year the winning photographs will travel to our sponsors' facilities to be publicly displayed. Contest winners will receive either a family membership, a boat or schooner ride, or a class program from one of the following sponsors: Mystic Aquarium, Project Oceanology, Schooner Sound Learning, Soundwaters, Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk, CT Sea Grant Program, Bruce Museum of Arts and Science, Audubon Society, Quinnipiac Watershed Association or the Science Center of Eastern Connecticut. All contest winners will receive savings bonds from the Long Island Sound Foundation.

Address and contact: All entries must be submitted to:

The University of CT, Avery Point Campus, Marine Science Dept.
Attn: Sue McNamara, Executive Director
1080 Shennecossett Road, Groton, CT 06340
Phone: 860-405-9166; Fax: 860-405-9153; E- mail: mscadm05@uconnvm.uconn.edu

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 12, 2004	SENEME Board Meeting – Ashford, CT, 4:30 – 7:00 pm
March 8, 2004	SENEME Board Meeting – URI Coastal Institute, Narragansett, RI, 4:30 – 7:00 pm
April 2, 2004	Long Island Sound Educators Conference, Norwalk, CT, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm
May 3, 2004	SENEME Board Meeting – New Haven, CT, 4:30 – 7:00 pm
June 14, 2004 pm	SENEME Board Meeting – Project Oceanology, Groton, CT, 4:30 – 6:00
June 14, 2004	Coals on the Coast – Project Oceanology, Groton, CT 6:00 pm - ?
July 17 – 21, 2004 FL	NMEA 2004 – “Changes in Latitude, Changes in Attitude,” St. Petersburg,

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~SAVE THE DATE~

SENEME PRESENTS...

***The 2004 Long Island Sound Educators Conference
The Maritime Aquarium, Norwalk, CT
Friday, April 2, 2004
8:00 am – 4:00 pm***

Workshops, field programs, IMAX movie and more!

Contact Diana Payne at diana.payne@uconn.edu for a “Call for Presenters” form.

Sponsored by SENEME, NYSMEA, CT Sea Grant, NY Sea Grant, EPA, and The Maritime Aquarium

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Water Activities from the EPA

The Environmental Protection Agency's "The Water Sourcebooks" helps students learn about all aspects of water environments, conservation and pollution. Over 300 science and mathematics activities organized by grade-level clusters address drinking water and wastewater treatment, surface water, ground water, and wetlands and coastal waters. They are available free at www.epa.gov/safewater/kids/wsb, or contact 800-424-4372 to request a free CD-ROM.