

# National Shellfisheries Association

QUARTERLY-NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2001 - FALL ISSUE

WALDOBORO, MAINE

## President's Message

The annual call for papers signals that NSA's activities for the conference are starting to swing into full gear. Evan Ward and his local team have a great meeting and locale lined up in Mystic. The program and sessions are being organized and co-ordinated by Carolyn Friedman. The invited sessions are highlighted in this current issue of the *NSA Newsletter*. I encourage you to contact Carolyn or the session chairs if you are interested in submitting a contributed paper.

Plans are well underway for a new and updated membership directory. Ami Wilbur has mailed out a form requesting updated membership information. Please take the time to fill it out and send it back today or visit the web site, where the form can also be found.

Another important initiative that has been planned is a fundraising drive for the Student Endowment Fund. Gef Flimlin has published a very good promotional brochure for this initiative and. I encourage you to take the time to read the brochure and consider supporting our student members - the future of our society.

This issue of the *NSA Newsletter* represents a new milestone; it is the transition issue to a new editor - Dr. Chris Davis. Chris has taken up his new responsibilities with energy and enthusiasm. As with all past editors, the greatest fear is not having enough material for the newsletter. Please continue to strongly support Chris' efforts by sending him regular contributions for your newsletter.

Another notable event also occurred recently in the NSA. Dan Kreeger has formally passed on the treasurer's duties to Dave Bushek. Dan has done a tremendous job in keeping NSA's fiscal house in order. On behalf of all members, I want to thank Dan for his efforts and hard work and welcome Dave to his new post.

Finally, I want to encourage each and every one of you to begin making your plans for Mystic. This 94th annual meeting is shaping up to be yet another successful NSA event!

Jay Parsons  
President

## First, Last and Only Call for Papers - Mystic 2002

**94th Annual Meeting of the National Shellfisheries Association  
April 14 - 18, 2002**

Plans for the 2002 meeting of NSA are well underway. The meeting locale will be the Hilton Mystic. Historic Mystic, home of the Mystic Seaport Museum and Mystic Aquarium, is located in the southeast corner of Connecticut, on the Mystic River, less than 1 mile from Long Island Sound. Please start thinking about what poster or oral presentation you would like to contribute and submit an abstract. Your participation at the annual conference makes these meetings a great success. If you have an idea for a session, please contact me at (206) 543-9519 or email: carolynf@u.washington.edu.

Carolyn Friedman  
Vice President and Program Chair

### **Remember these abstract submission deadlines!**

**December 8, 2001** - Deadline for invited papers

**December 17, 2001** - Deadline for contributed papers

### ***In this issue:***

- ***Call for Papers***
- ***Mystic 2002 Special Sessions***
- ***Student Travel Awards***
- ***POC Aquaculture Report***

## Special Sessions

### Mystic 2002

#### Freshwater mussel ecology

Organizer: **Catherine Gatenby**, Patrick Center for Environmental Research, Academy of Natural Sciences, 1900 Ben Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, PA 19103 USA (ph 215-405-5077) Email: gatenby@acnatsci.org

#### Scallop biology and culture

We are still looking for a session organizer! Please contact Carolyn Friedman at carolynf@u.washington.edu or call 206-543-9519 if you would like to volunteer.

#### Lobster biology and fisheries

Organizer: **Dr. Richard A. French**, University of Connecticut, Department of Pathobiology, U-89, 61 N. Eagleville Road, Storrs, CT 06269-3089 USA (ph 860-486-5370) Email: french@uconnvm.uconn.edu

#### Sea urchin biology and culture

Organizer: **Dr. Bruce Barber**, School of Marine Sciences, University of Maine, Orono, ME 04469-5735 USA (ph 207-581-2783) Email: bjbarber@maine.edu

#### Blue mussel biology and culture

Organizer: **Dr. Paul D. Rawson**, School of Marine Sciences, 5751 Murray Hall, University of Maine, Orono 04469 USA (ph 207-581-4326) Email: prawson@maine.edu

#### Offshore fisheries

Organizer: **Dr. James Weinberg**, NMFS/NEFSC, Population Dynamics Branch, 166 Water St., Woods Hole, MA 02543 USA (ph 508-495-2352) Email: james.weinberg@noaa.gov

#### Bivalve habitat suitability and role of bivalves in the ecosystem/Environmental impacts of shellfish aquaculture

Organizer: **Dr. William Fisher**, EPA Laboratory- Gulf Breeze, 1 Sabine Island Drive, Gulf Breeze, FL 32561-5299 USA (ph 850-934-9394) Email: Fisher.William@epamail.epa.gov

#### Diseases of Crustacea

Organizer: **Dr. Jeff Shields**, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, PO Box 1346, Gloucester Pt, VA 23062 USA (ph 804-684-7128) Email: jeff@vims.edu

#### Perkinsus

Organizers: **Dr. Eugene M. Bureson**, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, P.O. Box 1346 (for mail), Route 1208 Greate Road (for FedEx, UPS), College of William and Mary, Gloucester Point, VA 23062 USA (ph 804-684-7108) Email: gene@vims.edu and **Dr. Jerome La Peyre**, Depart-

ment of Veterinary Science, 111 Dalrymple Building, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803 USA (ph 225-578-5419) Email: jlapeyre@agctr.lsu.edu

#### Harmful algal blooms

Organizer: **Dr. Sandra E. Shumway**, Southampton College, LIU, Southampton, NY 11968 USA (Ph 631-287-840; Email: sshumway@southampton.liu.edu

#### Shellfish pathology workshop

Organizer: **Dr. Inke Sunila**, Shellfish Pathologist, State of Connecticut, Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Aquaculture, P.O. Box 97, Milford, CT 06460 USA (ph 203-874-0696) Email: dept.agric@snet.net

#### East coast bivalve industry session (e.g. in-water nursery systems, culture of hard clams without predator control screens, and *Crassostrea ariakensis*)

Organizer: **Gef Flimlin**, Rutgers Cooperative Extension, 1623 Whitesille Road, Toms River, NJ 08755 USA (ph 732-349-1152) Email: flimlin@aesop.rutgers.edu

#### Bivalve disease status and trends

Organizers: **Dr. Lisa M. Ragone Calvo**, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, P.O. Box 1346 (for mail), Route 1208 Greate Road (for FedEx, UPS), College of William and Mary, Gloucester Point, VA 23062 USA, (ph 804-684-7339) Email: ragone@vims.edu and **Dr. Roxanna Smolowitz**, Veterinary Pathologist, Marine Biological Laboratory, 7 MBL St., Woods Hole, MA 02543 USA, (ph 508-289-7400), Email: rsmol@mbi.edu



*Do you recognize these past presidents of the NSA?*

#### **Web Sites for Attractions in the Mystic Area**

[www.mysticseaport.org/](http://www.mysticseaport.org/)  
[www.mysticaquarium.org/](http://www.mysticaquarium.org/)  
[www.foxwoods.com/](http://www.foxwoods.com/)

# Call for Papers

## Mystic 2002

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR ABSTRACTS

Please read the instructions carefully as they are a little different from previous years. Those of you who have been invited to present in one of the special sessions, please see the instructions for Invited Papers.

**Instructions for contributed papers:** For those who wish to contribute an oral presentation or a poster but who are not an invited speaker of special sessions, please follow instructions below for preparing the abstract. **Abstracts must be received by December 17<sup>th</sup> 2001.**

1. Oral Presentations: Send your abstract and fee (US\$25) to: Dr. Carolyn Friedman, School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences, University of Washington, PO Box 355020, Seattle, WA 98195 USA using the postal service.
2. Poster Presentations: Send your abstract and poster publication fee (US\$25) to: Dr. Carolyn Friedman, School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences, University of Washington, PO Box 355020, Seattle, WA 98105 USA using the postal service.

Note: if you plan to FedEx or UPS your abstract and \$25.00 fee, please send both to Dr. Carolyn Friedman, School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences, University of Washington, 1122 NE Boat Street, Seattle, WA 98105 USA (phone is 206/543-9519). **FAX and email submissions will NOT be accepted.** Students who wish to be considered for the Nelson and Gordon Gunter Awards should indicate their student status on the abstract form.

**Instructions for Invited Papers:** If you have been invited to present a talk in one of the special sessions, please follow the instructions for preparing the abstract, then send your abstract and publication fee (US\$25) to your session organizer. Abstracts must be received by **December 8<sup>th</sup> 2001.**

**A PAGE CHARGE OF US\$25 MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH EACH ABSTRACT.**

Please note that the abstracts and abstract fee are to be sent to the program or session chair. The abstract fee must be paid in order for your abstract to be published in the *Journal of Shellfish Research*.

### PREPARING THE ABSTRACT

All accepted abstracts will be re-typed and included in the *Journal of Shellfish Research*; therefore, it is not necessary to have abstracts in camera ready form. However, it is essential that abstracts comply with the instructions below.

The blank abstract form may be reproduced and used in lieu of the original. Type the title (all capitals) and name(s) of author(s) and address(es), punctuating as shown in the accompanying example. An asterisk (\*) should be placed after the last name of the author presenting the paper. DOUBLE SPACE all typing on the abstract form. Do not leave more than one space between the title information and the body of the abstract. The body of the abstract should be indented.

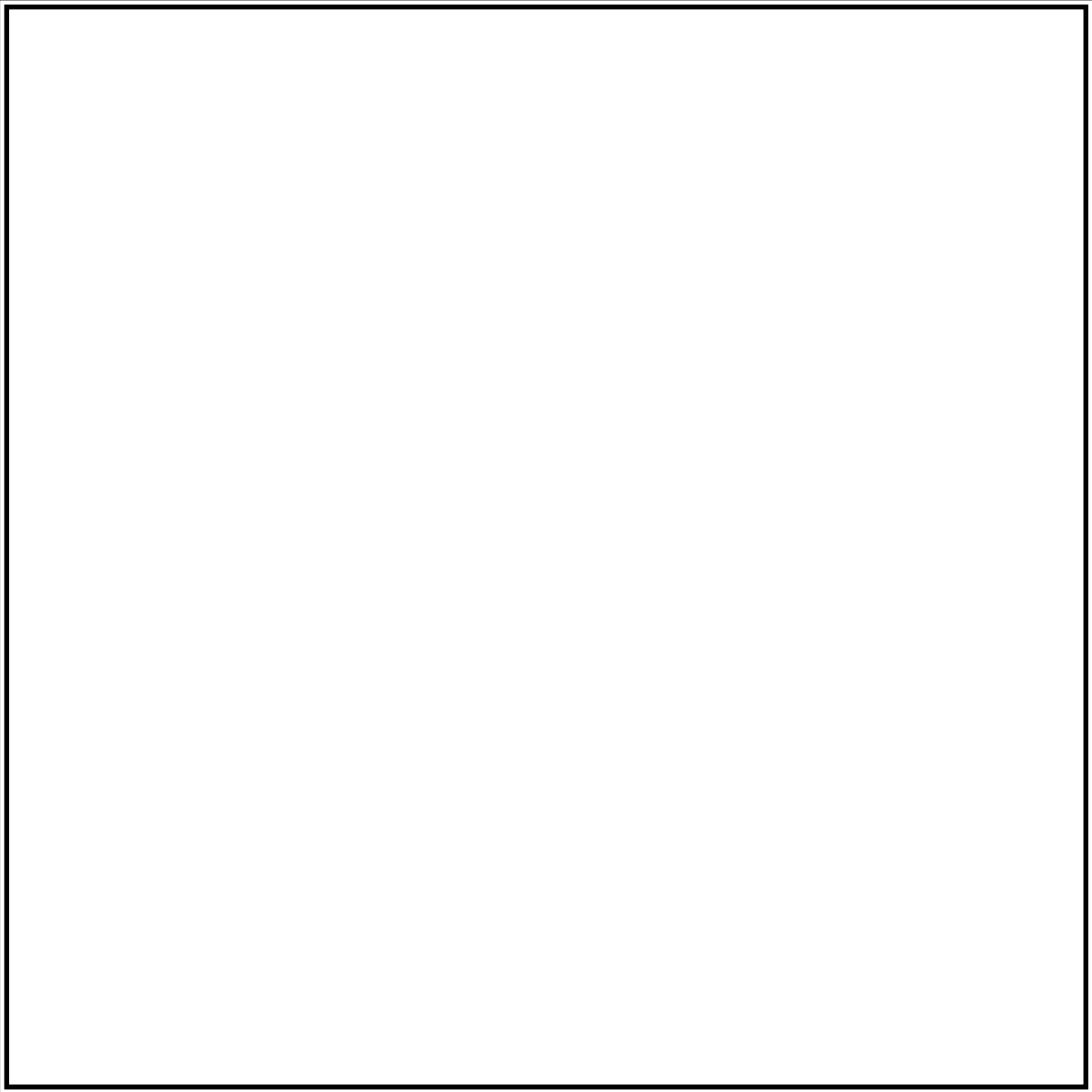
The entire abstract must be placed within the rectangular outline of the abstract form. You can also download the abstract form from the NSA website ([www.shellfish.org](http://www.shellfish.org)) or request it from the program chair via email.

THE SPACE IS DESIGNED TO ACCOMMODATE AN AVERAGE OF 200 WORDS TYPED DOUBLE SPACE WITH A SIZE 10 TIMES NEW ROMAN FONT. When using abbreviations, spell out in full first, followed by the abbreviation in parentheses. PLEASE PROOFREAD ABSTRACTS BEFORE SUBMISSION.

The accompanying abstract form can be used for both oral and poster presentations; specify the preferred method of presentation in the space provided on the form. Check the appropriate box if the author is student or recent graduate and is eligible for the Thurlow C. Nelson or Gordon Gunter Awards.

**Special Instructions for Student Presentations:** In order to maintain and expand student participation in the Association, a Student Endowment Fund has been established. For those students wishing to apply for travel support for presentation of paper or poster, please fill out a Endowment Fund application form and submit it with a copy of your abstract to Dr. Fu-Lin Chu as detailed in the accompanying article on page 6.

Prepare one original abstract form and send it with check (personal or institutional) or money order for US \$25 (checks must be drawn on a US bank and made out to the NSA), to Program Chair Dr. Carolyn Friedman at the address above or one of the session chairs (if applicable). Abstracts for the contributed sessions must be received by **December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2001** and abstracts for special sessions with invited speakers must be received by the session organizer by **December 8<sup>th</sup> 2001.**



**Abbreviated title:**

\_\_\_\_\_ (seven words or less)

**First author's mailing address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred Method of presentation:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Oral** \_\_\_\_\_ **Poster** \_\_\_\_\_ **Either**

**Is this an invited paper for a special session?** \_\_\_\_\_ **Yes** \_\_\_\_\_ **No** **If yes, which?** \_\_\_\_\_

**IS FIRST AUTHOR A STUDENT OR RECENT GRADUATE?** \_\_\_\_\_ **Yes** \_\_\_\_\_ **No**  
(all student authors are eligible for the Thurlow C. Nelson or Gordon Gunter Awards)

**SIZE AND DEPTH DEPENDENT LARVAL MORTALITY: A MODELING STUDY.**

**Margaret M. Dekhenieks,\* Eileen E. Hofmann, and John M. Klinck,** Center for Coastal Physical Oceanography, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA 23529; **Eric N. Powell,** Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory, Rutgers University, Port Norris, NJ 08349.

The rates of mortality for larval stages of most marine organisms are difficult or impossible to measure, and as a consequence are largely unknown. This is problematic since mortality, in particular predation loss, is an important process determining recruitment and the structure of marine communities. Simulation models provide one means of testing the effects of different mortality losses on population structure. Thus, a time and depth-dependent model of the growth and behavior of larvae of the Eastern oyster, *Crassostrea virginica*, was developed to investigate the effects of different predation strategies on the survivorship of this species. Simulations that included a size-dependent mortality showed that the largest number of larvae survive to settlement size if predation loss decreases with larval size. Simulations that included depth-dependent predation loss showed that more larvae survive to settling size when predation is concentrated in surface waters. However, few larvae survive if benthic predation rates are high or if predation rates are constant with depth. Simulation results clearly illustrate the differences in larval survivorship resulting from variable size and depth dependent predation mortality.

**Abbreviated title:** Size and depth dependent mortality

(seven words or less)

**First author's mailing address:** same  
(if different from above)

**Telephone:** 804-683-5550 **Email:** deks@ccpo.odu.edu

**Preferred Method of presentation:**  Oral  Poster  Either

**Is this an invited paper for a special session?**  Yes  No **If yes, which?**

**IS FIRST AUTHOR A STUDENT OR RECENT GRADUATE?**  Yes  No

(all student authors are eligible for the Thurlow C. Nelson or Gordon Gunter Awards)

## NSA-Student Endowment Fund

The National Shellfisheries Association Student Endowment Fund was established in 1989 to maintain and expand the participation of students in the Association. Contributions for the Fund are tax-deductible and are used to defray the costs associated with presenting oral and poster presentations at the Annual Meeting. The funds are administered by an appointed committee which reviews student applications and makes recommendations for disbursement of funds.

### STUDENT ENDOWMENT AWARDS MYSTIC 2002

Students participating in the 2002 meeting in Mystic are invited to apply for both **travel awards** and **presentation awards**. For consideration for either award, students must present only their original research. Recent graduates will also be considered if they present only research gathered while a student. A short description of these awards and the requirements for consideration follow. Please note that incomplete applications may not receive equal consideration for either type of award.

#### **PRESENTATION AWARDS**

At every annual meeting, the best oral and poster presentations by students are acknowledged.

The **Thurlow C. Nelson Award** is to be given for the outstanding **oral** presentation of research that represents a distinctive and valuable contribution to shellfisheries science. The award is named after the distinguished shellfish biologist who served as NSA President from 1931 to 1933 and contributed more than 125 papers, many relating to oyster biology. The award includes a certificate of accomplishment and membership for four years in the Association. Oral presentations are judged on the following aspects: a) written abstract, b) scientific content and relevance, c) oral and visual aspects of the presentation, and d) handling of questions.

The **Gordon Gunter Poster Award** is to be given for an outstanding **poster** presentation of research that represents a distinctive and valuable contribution to shellfisheries science. The award includes a certificate of accomplishment and membership for one year in the Association. Poster presentations are judged on the following aspects: a) written abstract, b) scientific content and relevance, c) quality of figures and text, and d) handling of questions.

#### **STUDENT TRAVEL AWARDS**

To facilitate the active participation by students in the 2002 meeting, travel awards will be granted to cover either registration and/or lodging. These funds are competitively awarded based primarily on abstract quality and content, and

## **AWARD REQUIREMENTS**

Students will only be considered for travel and presentation awards if they complete all of the following items. Students who do not need travel assistance but still wish to be considered for a presentation award **must** still complete these tasks.

1) Fill out the abstract submission form. Check the appropriate box(es) on the abstract submission form requesting consideration for student presentation and / or travel awards.

2) Fill out the Student Endowment Award application form on page 7.

3) Obtain one letter of recommendation from your advisor or other faculty mentor.

4) Enclose the Student Endowment Award Application in a separate envelope addressed to the Student Awards Committee. The application should consist of a) the **Endowment Award application form**, b) **letter of recommendation** and c) a **copy of the abstract** submission form.

5) Mail your complete set of Student Endowment Award application materials to Dr. Fu-Lin Chu (contact information on back page) by the **abstract deadline December 17, 2001**.

Remember that the original abstract, abstract submission form and fee should also be submitted to the Program Chair, Dr. Carolyn Friedman, at the address listed on page 3 (or session chair if applicable). Please forward any questions concerning student awards to either Fu-Lin Chu or Maureen

### Judges Wanted for Student Endowment Fund Awards

Students have always been an integral part of NSA, and we encourage their active participation in meetings and the Association through awards made possible by the Student Endowment Fund (SEF). Most of you have probably taken part in one of our fabulous and audacious auctions to benefit the SEF, or have purchased hats, cookbooks, pins and mugs, with the proceeds benefitting the SEF. Where exactly does the money go? The SEF provides monetary travel and registration assistance to students presenting at our Annual Meetings and sponsors the Thurlow Nelson Award for best student oral presentation and the Gordon Gunter Poster Award. Both travel and presentation awards are competitive, and that's where YOU come in. The Student Awards Committee needs your help judging applications for travel awards and for student presentations at our Annual Meeting in Mystic, Connecticut. If you are willing and able to serve as a judge for one or both competitions, please contact one of the co-chairs of the Student Awards Committee, Maureen Krause or Fu-Lin Chu (contact information on back page).

## Note from the (New) Newsletter Editor

It is with pleasure that I take on the editorial responsibilities of the *NSA Quarterly Newsletter*. Jay Parsons deserves kudos for a job well done over the past four years. Jay's assistance was greatly appreciated during the editorial transition. Thanks are also due to all who responded to my request for articles. Please pass along your ideas for any changes you would like to see in the newsletter. Remember, this is **your** newsletter! Finally, please send along articles, photographs, special announcements etc. to me for inclusion in forthcoming issues (contact information is on the back page).

## NSA Web Site Update

The NSA web site ([www.shellfish.org](http://www.shellfish.org)) is plugging along at a steady pace. We underwent a switch from our old server to a new, faster one. Hopefully no one has noticed the change since it was supposed to be transparent to our website users. The only noticeable difference for the users is that the old listserve [shellfish@kenyon.edu](mailto:shellfish@kenyon.edu) is no longer operating and all

subscribed members are now on [forum@shellfish.org](mailto:forum@shellfish.org). The Forum is open to the public and we encourage all NSA members to periodically check the Forum and see what is being discussed. It is a wonderful opportunity to interact with the shellfish community as well as to educate the general public.

The web site continues to grow and we all know what that means - more time and effort involved in maintaining it. We will be looking for "associate webmasters" over the next few months who would be interested in maintaining a particular page on the web site, for example "Positions Open", "Shellfish Resources", and "Awards". Karolyn Hansen would continue to act as gatekeeper in uploading all pages, but the webmaster for each page would be responsible for content. Should you be interested in maintaining a particular page, please contact Karolyn at [karolina@mindspring.com](mailto:karolina@mindspring.com) or call her at 865-691-6808.

Be sure to check for 2002 NSA annual meeting updates at [www.shellfish.org/mystic.htm](http://www.shellfish.org/mystic.htm) over the next few weeks - all abstract information, student endowment application information, and session updates will be posted as soon as they become available.

Karolyn Hansen

## STUDENT ENDOWMENTS AND AWARDS

### APPLICATION FOR THE 94th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL SHELLFISHERIES ASSOCIATION Mystic, Connecticut, April 14-18, 2002

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

INSTITUTION: \_\_\_\_\_

DO YOU WANT TO BE CONSIDERED FOR A PRESENTATION AWARD? YES NO (Circle one)

DO YOU WANT TO BE CONSIDERED FOR A TRAVEL AWARD? YES NO (Circle One)

PRESENTATION FORMAT: ORAL POSTER (Circle one)?

PRESENTATION TITLE (Attach a copy of abstract form):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

REFERENCE (Advisor / Mentor): \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

## **East Coast Shellfish Growers Association?**

A groundswell of support for an east coast shellfish growers association that would unite dozens of independent growers has been steadily mounting in recent months. Many of these growers agree that their industry could only benefit by banding together and becoming proactive on issues that directly impact their livelihoods – watershed management, shellfish safety and health, educating the public, and advancing new technologies for growing and processing shellfish.

As a marine extension agent with Rutgers Cooperative Extension in New Jersey, Gef Flimlin has spent a lot of years working with clammers and shellfish growers. He saw how organizations like the Pacific Shellfish Growers Association can be a boon to industry, and wondered why there wasn't a counterpart in the east.

Having a powerful industry voice that speaks to such emerging issues as the regulations set forth by the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference (ISSC) or the development of organic standards for molluscan shellfish is becoming more critical to the survival of growers, many of whom operate on a smaller scale than their counterparts on the West Coast.

Flimlin noted that after positive reactions to the concept of a growers association during discussions at various gatherings, such as the International Conference on Shellfish Restoration, and the Milford Aquaculture Seminar, the organization went to the next phase.

He mailed around 60 postcards asking growers if they would be interested in joining an association and asking for names of people to head up the association in each state. So far around 50% of the cards have been returned, and the continued positive response has been encouraging, Flimlin said.

Some of the issues that an East Coast shellfish growers association could address: interstate shipment of seed and disease concerns; state-to-state differences in permitting criteria; Army Corps of Engineers regulations regarding

structures; exploring various markets; developing uniform seed sizes and pricing structures; and developing market size standards.

Discussions will continue via email over the summer to lay the groundwork on operational details such as possibly hiring an executive director, developing an equitable fee structure, and defining the mission of the association, to name a few. Flimlin noted that the goal is to get people together again for further planning and discussion at big meetings like the Milford Aquaculture Seminar in Connecticut next February.

If you have any ideas or issues you would like to add to the discussion, contact Gef Flimlin at (732) 349-1152 or send an email to [flimlin@aesop.rutgers.edu](mailto:flimlin@aesop.rutgers.edu).

Ann Kane Rheault

## **NSA-Membership Directory**

It's not too late to be a part of the NSA membership directory! Most of you have by now received a form requesting information (name, address, phone, fax, email and shellfish interests) and your permission to include this information in a directory of NSA members. The membership committee thanks the many of you who have taken the time to return the form (or email me the information), and for your enthusiastic support of this project. I would also like to encourage any of you that have not returned your form and would like to be included in the directory to do so as soon as possible. You can email your information to [wilbura@uncwil.edu](mailto:wilbura@uncwil.edu) or mail it to A.E. Wilbur, Department of Biological Sciences, Center for Marine Science, University of North Carolina-Wilmington, 5600 Marvin K. Moss Lane, Wilmington, NC 28409. We would like to include as many members as possible to produce a directory that will serve as a valuable resource for everyone. Thanks again for your participation!

Ami E. Wilbur  
Co-chair, Membership committee

*Visit the NSA Web Site for the latest updates*



## Review of the Pew Oceans Commission Report on Aquaculture

In case you missed it there is a new glossy publication enumerating the horrible impacts of aquaculture on the environment.

Marine Aquaculture in the United States was commissioned by the Pew Oceans Commission and authored by Rebecca Goldberg and Matthew Elliott, both of Environmental Defense, and Rosamond Naylor of Stanford. Goldberg was the primary author of *Murky Waters, Environmental Effects of Aquaculture in the US* in 1998 and this report draws heavily on the anti-aquaculture bias of her earlier work.

According to their literature, the Pew Oceans Commission "is an independent group of American leaders conducting a national dialog on the policies needed to restore and protect living marine resources in US waters." They are studying five main areas of concern: marine pollution, aquaculture and fisheries, coastal development, stock status, and laws and programs. Pew hopes to make recommendations to Congress in 2002.

Funded by Sunoco-backed Pew Charitable Trusts, the Pew Oceans Commission is chaired by Leon Panetta and its members include a diverse group of 17 politicians, scientists, environmentalists, fishermen, and business executives. The Pew Oceans Commission is not to be confused with the recently appointed federal Commission on Ocean Policy.

Goldburg et al. make selective use of the available evidence to draw conclusions that support the worst case scenario. They draw widely upon non-peer reviewed grey literature (much of it their own) and select their facts to paint a dire image. They speculate about potential problems, problems in third-world countries and problems that are associated only with freshwater systems. They also dwell on problems that have already been addressed by recent changes in regulations or management practices.

All these shortcomings aside, I agree with most of the report's recommendations and research priorities, which will continue to improve the industry and help ensure that aquaculture remains sustainable and ecologically sound as it continues to grow.

The authors focus primarily on problems associated with salmon net-pen culture, but shellfish farming does not escape unscathed. They acknowledge that there are some environmental benefits associated with shellfish culture, but then go on to describe problems such as "biological pollution" from exotic species introductions, diseases and parasites, and transgenics.

"In some instances, mollusk-farming has harmed marine environments by depriving wild filter-feeders of food and generating anoxic sediments through feces deposition. However, these negative impacts occur only

when farms are too large and densely seeded. Such impacts have not been reported in the US."

Goldburg et al. also take shellfish farmers to task for habitat modification.

"Farmed mollusks — typically grown on bay bottoms along the East Coast — are harvested like wild mollusks, using hand rakes, tongs, and hydraulic dredges. Mollusk dredging has effects similar to bottom dredging by commercial fishermen, altering the bottom habitat and temporarily reducing levels of biodiversity. Harvesting mollusks from off-bottom systems, such as the rafts and lines commonly used on the West Coast, avoids severe bottom disturbance."

Goldburg *et al.* make a number of policy recommendations including:

- \*Speedy adoption of EPA aquaculture effluent guidelines with jurisdiction expanded to include "biological pollution" (i.e. introduced species and disease), as well as EPA's traditional mandate to regulate nutrients, organic matter and chemicals.
- \*Federal legislation to protect water quality, promote research and development, regulate the development of off-shore aquaculture, limit species introductions and the use of transgenics.
- \*Improving the consistency and scope of state oversight on aquaculture.
- \*Adoption of organic standards for aquatic species and promotion of consumer or market-directed programs to encourage sustainable practices.
- \*Establishing cooperative international agreements to minimize the impacts of salmon farming and promote world trade in sustainably cultured aquaculture products.

For better or worse, the Pew Commission did not write or edit Goldberg's latest contribution and in fine print on the back page they appear to distance themselves from the rhetoric when they indicate that the "views expressed" in the document "are those of the authors." In their own writing and in summaries available on their website, the Pew Oceans Commission appears to hold a more balanced view of aquaculture. They state that all of their publications "are subject to rigorous peer review before publication," but as one of the four reviewers asked to comment on the draft, it is clear to me that many of my comments and criticisms were ignored.

I get some solace from the fact that the Pew report on Marine Pollution (which I found to be accurate and comprehensive) does not even mention aquaculture. To view the full text of the report and all of the other Pew Oceans Commission publications visit the web site at [www.pewoceans.org](http://www.pewoceans.org). Comments should be addressed to Chairman Leon Panetta at 2102 Wilson Blvd., Suite 550, Arlington, VA 22201.

Robert B. Rheault  
Moonstone Oyster Co.

## Recruits Corner

Hello Recruits,

I hope this newsletter finds you all in good health and good spirits.

It's that time of year again for everybody to start gearing up for the annual meeting, this year in Mystic, CT. For those recruits who are new to NSA and have never been to a meeting, they are a great place to get your research out and make some good contacts and friends in the world of shellfish. When submitting an abstract for either a poster or oral presentation, consider applying to the Student Endowment Fund for travel and presentation awards.

For those of you who may need rides or would like to share

a room there is a web forum for the NSA Recruits at the following web address:

<http://longsight.com/phpBB/viewforum.php?forum=3&0>

Please feel free to use it to leave messages and ask questions about problems you might be having with your research. If you cannot get it to work please email me at: [crassostrea@excite.com](mailto:crassostrea@excite.com) and I will try and get it straightened out. If you have been to the website lately you know that it is under construction, we need a student who would be able to assist our webmaster in designing a useful web page. Anyone who is interested please email either the NSA Webmaster or myself.

Thanks for your time and please contact me if you have questions about the up-coming meeting.

Cheers  
Steve Allen

Recruited by? \_\_\_\_\_

### ***How to Join the National Shellfisheries Association***

Fill out and mail a copy of the application blank below. The dues are US \$65.00 per year (\$35.00 for students) which may be paid by credit card, check, or money order. Membership entitles you to receive *The Journal of Shellfish Research* and the *Quarterly Newsletter!*

#### **NATIONAL SHELLFISHERIES ASSOCIATION - APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP (NEW MEMBERS ONLY)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ For Calendar Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Institutional Affiliation, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Shellfisheries interests: \_\_\_\_\_

Regular or Student membership? \_\_\_\_\_

Student members only - Advisor's signature **REQUIRED**

If paying by credit card: Type of card: VISA  MASTERCARD  (circle one)  
Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Upcoming Meetings

**ERF 2001: An Estuarine Odyssey:** November 4-8, 2001, The Tradewinds Conference Center, 5500 Gulf Blvd., St. Pete Beach, Florida. The following are the general themes for the conference, all of which may be of interest to NSA members: Detecting estuarine change; Measuring estuarine health; Temperate/tropical comparisons; Marine restoration/conservation; Essential fish habitat: new perspectives on habitat use and trophic interactions; Combining science and management to solve estuarine problems; Technological advances: applications to estuarine science; Modeling estuarine processes; Ecological impacts of invasive species and of disease. A variety of special sessions are also scheduled that will interest many NSA members. Details can be found at the web site: [www.erf.org](http://www.erf.org).

**22<sup>nd</sup> Milford Aquaculture Seminar:** February 25-27, 2002, Quality Inn Conference Center, New Haven CT. For program information, contact Walter Blogoslawski at phone (203) 579-7035, email [walter.blogoslawski@noaa.gov](mailto:walter.blogoslawski@noaa.gov) or visit [www.mi.nmfs.gov/](http://www.mi.nmfs.gov/). Final abstracts are due January 4, 2002.

**National Shellfisheries Association 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting:** April 14-18, 2002, Hilton Mystic Hotel, Mystic, CT. For program information contact Carolyn Friedman or local arrangements contact Evan Ward (addresses on back page).

**World Aquaculture 2002:** April 23-27, 2002, Beijing Convention Center, Beijing, China. Annual meeting of the World Aquaculture Society. For more information visit [www.was.org](http://www.was.org), or contact Director of Conferences and Sales: John Cooksey, phone 760-432-4270, fax 760-432-4275 or email [worldaqua@aol.com](mailto:worldaqua@aol.com).

**The 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Molluscan Shellfish Safety:** June 4 to 8, 2002, Santiago de Compostela (Galicia, Spain). The 4th ICMSS will be hosted by the Centro de Investigacións Mariñas (CIMA) and the Centro de Control da Calidade do Medio Mariño (CCCMM), both depending on the Consellería de Pesca, Marisqueo e Acuicultura of the Xunta de Galicia. Oral presentations and posters will be presented dealing with the following topics: 1. Microbiological contamination 2. Chemical contamination and bioaccumulation 3. Harmful and toxic algal events 4. Shellfish contamination by marine biotoxins 5. Depuration 6. Management and mitigation 7. Water quality at harvesting sites 8. Public health, epidemiology and toxicology 9. Monitoring, quality assurance programmes and regulatory controls 10. Allergies associated with shellfish consumption. Proceedings will be published in the Journal of Shellfish Research. The Conference venue is the Faculty of Medicine (University of Santiago de Compostela), located in the

historic mediaeval city of Santiago de Compostela, an important pilgrimage centre, designated as Patrimony of Humanity by UNESCO. Its International Airport is located less than 15 minutes drive from downtown. The city is close to the Galician Rías Baixas, one of the world's largest mussel production areas. For information, contact: CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT ICMSS Centro de Investigacións Mariñas Aptdo. 13 36620 Vilanova de Arousa. Pontevedra Spain Phone: 34 986500155 Fax: 34 986506788 E-mail: [icmss@cimacoron.org](mailto:icmss@cimacoron.org) or Web site [www.atlanticocongresos.com/moluscos/index.html](http://www.atlanticocongresos.com/moluscos/index.html)

**American Malacological Society 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting:** August 3-7, 2002, Lightsey Conference Center, College of Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina. For more information contact Rob Dillon at phone 843-953-8087, email [dillonr@cofc.edu](mailto:dillonr@cofc.edu) or visit: [http://www.cofc.edu/~dillonr/AM\\_S2002.htm](http://www.cofc.edu/~dillonr/AM_S2002.htm).

**Fourth International Symposium on Aquatic Animal Health:** September 2-6, 2002, Sheraton New Orleans Hotel, New Orleans, LA. For information, contact ISAAH2002 at Department of Pathobiological Sciences, School of Veterinary Medicine, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA, 70803, fax 225-578-9701, email [ISAAH2002@vetmed.lsu.edu](mailto:ISAAH2002@vetmed.lsu.edu) or visit web site [www.vetmed.lsu.edu/isaah2002.htm](http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu/isaah2002.htm).

**Aquaculture Canada '02:** September 17-20, 2002, Delta Prince Edward Hotel, Charlottetown, PEI Canada. The 19th annual meeting of the Aquaculture Association of Canada. For more information contact Cyr Couturier at phone 709-778-0609, fax 709-778-0535, email [cyr@mi.mun.ca](mailto:cyr@mi.mun.ca) or visit [www.mi.mun.ca/mi/aac](http://www.mi.mun.ca/mi/aac).

**National Shellfisheries Association 95<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting:** April 13-17, 2003, Doubletree Hotel, New Orleans, LA.

**14<sup>th</sup> International Pectinid Workshop:** April 23-29, 2003, Hilton Hotel, St. Petersburg, Florida USA. For information visit workshop web site at <http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/scallops/> or contact Beth Miller-Tipton, Conference Coordinator, Phone: 352-392-5930, fax 352-392-9734 or email: [bmiller-tipton@mail.ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:bmiller-tipton@mail.ifas.ufl.edu).

If you know of any meetings, conferences or workshops that might be of interest to NSA members, please contact Chris Davis. (see back page for contact information)

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