

National Shellfisheries Association

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2004



WALDOBORO, MAINE

President's Message

Summer always seems like it should be a time for relaxing and getting caught up on things – rest assured that your NSA EXCOMM is not relaxing, and much is getting done!

First, let me offer congratulations and best wishes to Nancy Lewis, our bookkeeper, who is retiring from VIMS. While I'm sure the folks at the Wachapreague Laboratory (now the Castagna Shellfish Hatchery!!) will miss her warm personality and efficiency, NSA has been lucky enough to convince her to remain as our bookkeeper and work from home. We are very pleased that Nancy has agreed to do this – such great help is difficult to find. Many of you may be blissfully unaware of Nancy's role in NSA, but suffice it to say that she keeps even the Treasurer organized, and we truly appreciate the job she does for us.

Scott Siddall and The Longsight Group are working diligently to get all of our activities (including membership, bookkeeping and conferences), integrated into a WEB-based system. Note that submissions for the Philadelphia meeting will be WEB-based. Improvements to the WEB page are continuing on a steady basis, thanks to the efforts of our new WEB team, LaDonn Swann, Jonathan Jackson, Maille Lyons and Steve Roberts. If you haven't visited lately, please do so. If you have suggestions for change, please send them to LaDonn, and remember that contributions are always welcome.

You'll note in this Newsletter what I hope will become a regular feature - biographies of some of our predecessors. The first in the series is a biographical sketch of Paul Galtsoff prepared by Maille Lyons as part of her Ph.D. qualifying exam (just a hint to other faculty and students). Watch for Victor Loosanoff in the next issue, followed in future issues by David Wallace and Gordon Gunter. Volunteers to cover others are strongly encouraged – let me know if you are interested and about whom you'd like to write, just so we can avoid duplication of efforts.

Continued on page 7.

NSA 2005 Update HEY PHILLY!

The NSA returns to the hallowed shellfish grounds of the mid-Atlantic in April 2005, which will be our 97th annual meeting! This time, our cast of fun-loving characters will take on Philadelphia, the City of Brotherly Love, home of the Liberty Bell, Betsy Ross, Independence Hall, and also Rocky, Mummers and cheesesteaks. We hope this will be our biggest and best meeting ever! So start making your plans now.

Philly '05 will be held from April 10th to the 15th at the DoubleTree Hotel on South Broad Street. We planned early for this meeting and were rewarded with excellent hotel rates (\$139/night single or \$149/night for up to 4). The hotel was renovated recently and is at a prime central location on the Avenue of the Arts and directly across the street from the Kimmel Center. More than a hundred restaurants and nightspots are within walking distance, including 5-star eateries, historic pubs and raw bars, and trendy metro dance clubs. Check out the largest oyster plate collection in the world at Sansom Street Oyster House, less than 2 blocks from the hotel. The historic district, Penn's Landing, Society Hill, and Old City are directly to the east. Funky South Street is to the southeast. Chinatown and Reading Terminal Market are just to the

Continued on page 4

In this issue:

- ***David A. Wallace Award***
- ***Student Award Applications***
- ***Industry Update***
- ***Treasurer's Report***

Treasurer's Update

I take comfort in reporting to you that NSA remains financially stable, but discomfort in reporting that we are looking at our first financial loss from the triennial meetings. In the last newsletter, I reported that all indicators pointed to a healthy profit from the meeting in Hawaii. The indicators were abstract submissions, pre-registrations and reservations for sales booths – all above normal. However, follow through and on-site registrations were low as a result of factors beyond our control (i.e., new restrictions on entry into the US, widespread budget problems, etc.). The meeting organizers have been working hard to minimize the problem, but the deficit to be split among NSA, WAS and AFS totals about \$60,000 US. NSA's share of that will be at or slightly below \$10,000. All other measures of the conference indicated that it was quite successful and the conference organizers learned some important lessons that will be used to budget future triennials. The organizers have signed a tentative agreement to return to Hawaii in 2013 with the budgeting lessons learned in mind. Doing so reduced the current bill by 25% and guarantees a 50% discount on conference rates for the 2013 meeting.

Despite the loss, NSA remains financially sound because of the fiscal responsibility set by former Treasurers and other members of the Executive Committee. The goal of maintaining six months to a year of operating funds was established in anticipation of these sorts of potential shortfalls. We look forward to a successful meeting in Philadelphia where we can possibly regain some ground.

Speaking of recouping finances, please note the following. Page charges for JSR are due immediately upon receipt of your invoice. They are not automatically waived for senior authors that are students unless there is a financial need. The student and the student's advisor or at least one co-author should be current members in good standing (i.e., membership dues for current year paid in full). If a waiver is granted, only the page charge portion of the invoice is waived. Authors are still required to pay for reprints, author's alterations to the proofs, color or other special needs, and the handling fee.

Remember that NSA is only as strong as its membership, so be sure to recruit your colleagues. NSA remains one of the best bargains around with 2004 dues at a mere \$65 and 2005 dues at only \$75. Student dues will remain at the low rate of \$35 annually. So the message is, get out there and recruit a colleague.

Dave Bushek
Treasurer

Special Sessions Still Needed

Here is a second plea — please send your ideas for special sessions for the 2005 Meeting in Philadelphia to Gary.Wikfors@noaa.gov. Special session organizers will be responsible for soliciting presentations on their topic to ensure a critical mass and deciding if contributed abstracts fit within the subject and time constraints of their sessions. The call for abstracts will include a check box for each session and check boxes for “Invited” or “Contributed” to facilitate the process.

The following Special Sessions have been proposed:

Biominalization – Bill Fisher

Lobster Health and Mortality – Tony Calabrese

Bivalve Aquaculture Health Management – Ralph Elston

Introduced Species – Dianna Padilla

Delaware Estuary Shellfish – Danielle Kreeger, John Ewart, Dave Bushek

If you do not see your favorite topic listed here, it is up to you to make it happen! Organizing a special session is a great way to ensure that your favorite topic is covered, and colleagues you invite to participate will appreciate knowing that their work is of interest – sometimes that's all it takes to convince someone to come to the meeting!

CALL FOR PAPERS SCHEDULED FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER

The call for abstracts for presentations at the 2005 Annual Meeting will be in the December Newsletter. Turn-around time will be short, so please begin planning and writing now. We expect the submission process to be entirely on-line, using the NSA web site; instructions will be provided with the call.

Gary Wikfors
Program Chair, Philadelphia '05

Looking for the NSA Bylaws?

**They are now published on
the NSA web site at**

www.shellfish.org

Dr. Susan E. Ford

2004 David H. Wallace Award

Dr. Susan Ford is one of several individuals I have been fortunate to have worked with in my career who combine the traits of being persevering, talented, and nice at the same time. Susan also tends to be a very private person but she was born in Minnesota and her early schooling was in New York, Washington, DC, Paris, Copenhagen and Williamsburg, VA. She attended Carleton College, in Northfield, MN from 1960 to 1962, and began her career in the study of molluscs as a Laboratory Technician for the Department of Oyster Culture at Rutgers University in 1966. She was hired with considerable trepidation, by Hal Haskin, who was not entirely convinced that a woman could work on boats sampling oysters. It was Hal's working relationships with government and industry that provided the model Susan was to follow throughout her career. She worked in that position while receiving the Thurlow C. Nelson award from NSA in 1970 for an epizootiological analysis of MSX, and until she completed her BA in Zoology at Rutgers in 1978. She then began work on her Ph.D. at Duke University and finished her studies on growth physiology of freshwater snails in 1984. After finishing that degree she returned to the Department of Oyster Culture at Rutgers as an Adjunct Instructor, became an Assistant Professor the following year, an Associate Professor in 1990, and a Professor in 1997. Susan retired, after too short (19 years from receiving a Ph.D) an academic career, as Professor Emerita in 2003, but is still very actively pursuing several studies on molluscs and molluscan diseases.

A prolific author and speaker, Susan has authored or coauthored over 100 publications, and has contributed to over 150 published abstracts. Since she received the Nelson Award she has been active in NSA affairs serving on numerous committees and ad hoc panels and working groups. In spite of the urgings of several NSA administrations she has steadfastly declined to run for an elected office, but prefers to work behind the scenes. An example of these society efforts is the chapter in the newly published "Taming the Oyster" on the contributions of women to NSA, a challenging task which she gladly accepted.



Susan has served the shellfish community with distinction, has a passion for knowledge, and has actively worked on laboratory, and field studies, on government, private sector and academic committees, panels, and workgroups at the local, state and national level. She has been a colleague that is extremely generous with her time whenever NSA, the shellfish community, students, the public or government have asked for her expertise. She spent 6 years on the Board of Trustees of the New Jersey Nature Conservancy, provided

testimony to the US Congress on oyster diseases twice, has been on numerous scientific panels, working groups (including International Council for Exploration of the Seas – (ICES)), and been an invited lecturer in Mexico, China, Italy, and France, and was recently on the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Introduction of Non-native Oysters in Chesapeake Bay. In 2004 Susan received the Wallace Award for her service to NSA, and her efforts to bridge the communication gaps between the Academic, Governmental and Public sectors of society.

Susan has contributed enormously to our fundamental knowledge of bivalve biology and the effects of pest and parasites on bivalves, but more importantly from a Wallace Award point of view, in applying that basic science to the betterment of the shellfishing industry. One outstanding example of this is the establishment of a recognized diagnostic laboratory which certified the disease status of shellfish to be shipped by the shellfish industry between states and even internationally. This laboratory was built as part of the research mission, but the services it provided often came at the expense of time that could have been spent on more fundamental science efforts. This service was recognized to be of the highest quality by both the industry and the state regulatory communities.

Susan was going to be honored with this award in 2003, and while she is regular attendee of most NSA meetings, she didn't attend because she was busy in France on brown ring disease of manila clams. Unfortunately, she was also not present at the 2004 NSA meeting to receive the award. It is entirely within character that Susan would not attend

Continued on page 6

Hey Philly... Continued from page 1

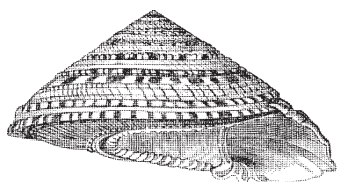
northeast. The Rittenhouse area and museum district are just to the west, where you can find the famous Philly Art Museum, Free Library, Academy of Natural Sciences and the Franklin Institute.

The local organizing committee consists of Dave Bushek, Gef Flimlin, Susan Ford and myself. I'm pleased and excited to report that we have LOTS of fun planned. Gary Wikfors and John Ewart have assembled a great local band to kick off the President's Reception (Sunday night). Ken Chew is already planning the route through the gates of Chinatown for our traditional Chinese banquet. The wild and crazy auction will be held Tuesday night, and we're exploring various options for another fund-raiser (or some other excuse for another party) on Wednesday night. Field trips are being considered. And of course, there are plenty of reasons to bring families to Philly as well - the historic sites, Camden Aquarium, theater row, and the renowned Philadelphia Zoo. The weather is also usually very nice in Philly in mid-April.

Oh, I almost forgot to mention the science! Gary Wikfors is Program Chair, and he's been working hard to assemble a strong list of special sessions. There are numerous emerging shellfish issues along the eastern seaboard, and we expect the program to be timely and generate a lot of interest. You'll be sorry if you miss it! See Gary's notes about the program development on page 2. If you have any input regarding **session topics**, you must get in touch with Gary **now!** **Abstracts** will be due on **December 15th, 2004**. Abstracts will be submitted through the NSA web site, and submission protocols will be posted on the web site in September as well as in the fall newsletter. Stay tuned.

Student travel awards will be offered for the Philly meeting, and we expect to have a similar number of awards for lodging and registration assistance as were offered in New Orleans in 2003. Applications for **student travel awards** will also be due on **December 15th, 2004**, and the submission protocol will also be posted on the web and in the fall newsletter.

Danielle Kreeger, Chair
Local Arrangements Committee



NSA Publications Questionnaire

The NSA Publications Committee recently sent out a questionnaire with the NSA Newsletter asking questions on the *Journal of Shellfish Research*, NSA Newsletter and NSA web site. We had about a 4% return rate of questionnaire mailed back to the Publications Committee.

There was very strong support for the *Journal of Shellfish Research (JSR)*; 100% of respondents thought the *JSR* was generally useful. NSA members felt that the *JSR* was good to very good quality and people read on average 5 articles per issue. In addition, 80% of respondents have published an article in the *JSR* and 59% would submit their best research to the *JSR*.

There was also strong support for having the *JSR* available electronically, in addition to receiving a hard-copy version of the Journal. About 70% of respondents would like the Journal available on the NSA web site including current issues as well as past issues and 28% would like *JSR* also available on CD. When asked if members would be willing to pay slightly higher dues for having the Journal available electronically, 54% and 46% of members agreed for current issues and back issues of the Journal, respectively.

There were generally positive comments about the quality of the Journal and acknowledgement of the efforts of the editor on improving the quality of the Journal. About 10% of the respondents cited the cost of page charges as a deterrent to publishing in the Journal.

For the *NSA Quarterly Newsletter*, 100% of respondents read on average about 80% of the content of the Newsletter, demonstrating its importance as a vehicle for communication within the Association. Comments on the Newsletter were all very favourable and offered suggestions for new features, such as 'hot topics', research and research group profiles, more industry articles, more international content, etc.

For the NSA web site, 59% of respondents had recently visited the web site and 43% found the site useful. Comments generally reflected that members felt that the web site was too static in terms of its content and people wanted to see more current and dynamic information (i.e., more regular updates on the site). Generally there was a lower level of recognition of the existence of the NSA web site and of the information content of the site.

This questionnaire has served as a useful tool for assessing some of the perspectives of the NSA members on our

Continued on page 5

A New Career for Bob Hillman?

Rumor has it that when Mikhail Baryshnikov heard that Bob Hillman was looking for a career change, he contacted the world-renowned Boston Ballet, suggesting that they grab Bob up before the Royal Ballet of London took him. Actually, Bob, a long-time patron of the Boston Ballet (and scientist with Battelle Laboratories) recently joined the cast of the Boston Ballet's production of *Swan Lake* as a supernumerary. Bob writes:

...I received the rehearsal schedule, which was quite intense. I figured that since I asked for it, I couldn't very well back out. The first few rehearsals were at the ballet headquarters without costume. Then we moved into the Wang Theater for the rest of the rehearsals, sometimes two a day. As a "royal guest," I was on stage throughout the whole of Act III, mingling with the dancers. I rehearsed as a backup as a servant in Act I, but fortunately didn't have to perform that role (there are no supers in Acts II and IV). As one who has sat in the audience for many



Bob Hillman as a "royal guest" in the Boston Ballet's recent production of *Swan Lake*.

years, I had no idea of all the little things that take place on stage during a performance - the little goofs, the ad-libs, and, most surprising, the occasional pranks. But everyone, from Mikko Nissinen, to the Ballet Master, Tony Randazzo, to all the dancers, couldn't have been nicer. It was not only a lot of fun, but also a rewarding experience. Now I'm a member of Supercast, which also supplies supers for other things, such as plays and operas. We're hoping that when the Bolshoi Ballet comes to Boston next October to do *Swan Lake*, unless they bring their own supers, they will need us. The Boston Ballet is doing *Sleeping Beauty* next year, ...and I've been told that I have a spot if I can handle the rehearsal and performance schedule."

Questionnaire... Continued from page 4

publications. Comments from respondents have been passed onto the respective editors. And NSA has or will be instituting a number of the suggestions including a revision of the web site to make it more dynamic and to provide more content. We are in the processing of upgrading the capabilities of the web site and server to include a 'members-only' area. With regards to the availability of the JSR electronically, NSA now receives an electronic version of the Journal and once the NSA has the capacity to institute a 'members-only' area, current issues of *JSR* will be posted on the web site. In addition, we are in the process of scanning back issues of the *JSR* with the eventual hope of having all back issues of the Journal available on the general NSA web site.

On behalf of the Publications Committee thank you to all NSA members that responded. As well, if NSA members have additional comments, please forward them along to me or Dr. John Kraeuter, co-chair.

Jay Parsons
NSA Publications Committee Co-Chair

Taming of the Oyster

A History of Evolving Shellfisheries and the National Shellfisheries Association

by Dr. Melborne Carriker

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Dedication of Shellfish Lab to Michael Castagna

On July 8, 2004 representatives of the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, friends from other institutions, and members of the shellfish industry met at the VIMS Eastern Shore Laboratory to dedicate the Shellfish Lab to former Director, Michael Castagna. The dedication, under a tent overlooking the Shellfish Lab and the bay and marshes, was brief but meaningful and brought back very fond memories of our friend and colleague. The naming of the hatchery in his name is a well deserved honor, and a reminder of his generosity in helping so many students, faculty, and fisheries people over many years.

Mel Carriker

Nominations for Elections Requested

For the upcoming election, we will be voting on the following officer positions: President-Elect (2 years), Treasurer (3 years), Member-at-Large (3 years), and Vice-President (1 year). During October, the Elections Committee will narrow the list of candidates and work to prepare the ballot. Members are encouraged to send any nominations to Danielle Kreeger by September 30, 2004. Nominees are expected to be capable of performing the tasks for the office and should have demonstrated a commitment to NSA through past committee service. There should also be a reasonable chance that the nominees might be willing to serve (but don't worry, we'll do the arm-twisting!)

Danielle Kreeger

Metamorphosis

NSA warmly congratulates **Ms. Nancy Lewis** on her retirement from the VIMS Eastern Shore Laboratory where she has served as secretary, receptionist and administrative assistant for many years. As you know, Nancy also serves as bookkeeper for our organization. We are most pleased and comforted to know that Nancy's decision to retire from VIMS does not include her role at NSA. It will, however, require a change of address as she begins to work out of her home and eliminates her daily commute to work. Her new contact information is available on the back of the newsletter or on our website. Nancy, we hope you enjoy the new free time you have earned in your retirement from VIMS and continue to appreciate the hard work and dedication you provide to NSA.

Pacific Coast Section Report

The 2004 conference of the National Shellfisheries Association-Pacific Coast Section and the Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association is scheduled for October 12-15 and will be held at the Sheraton Hotel in Tacoma WA. The second call for papers was announced on August 4. The NSA-PCS chair, Richard Childers, and PCSGA President Mark Schaffel are calling for papers for the conference and requesting abstracts on subjects related to **shellfish biology, ecology, management, culture, disease, nutrition, and genetics**. Special sessions will be held on Echinoderms, Abalone, Crustaceans, Freshwater Mussels, Exotic Species, Estuarine Habitat, Genetics, Geoducks, Assessment, Management and Marketing of Shellfish Resources. Please submit abstracts as indicated no later than September 1 to **both** Graham Gillespie (email: gillespieg@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca) and Richard Childers (email: childrkc@dfw.wa.gov). Registration information will be available on the PCSGA website (<http://www.pcsga.org>) and those interested in presenting papers at the meeting can contact Rich Childers (see back page for contact information).

Richard Childers, Chair
Pacific Coast Section

Susan Ford... continued from page 3.

the triennial meeting with the World Aquaculture Society and American Fisheries Society. She thinks these meetings are too large and too expensive, and she cherishes the small collegial nature of NSA. It was awarded, without her attending, so the record of her being the first woman to receive this honor, could be entered into the Taming of the Oyster book as it was being published. You also now know that even if she had put on her resume when she was born, I couldn't divulge it because in addition to her many accomplishments she is a true lady, and it is never appropriate to divulge a lady's age.

That said, it was my distinct honor and privilege to present, on behalf of the National Shellfisheries Association, the 2004 Wallace Award on a lady, esteemed colleague, and friend, Dr. Susan Elizabeth Ford, Professor Emerita of Rutgers University.

Dr. John N. Kraeuter
Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory

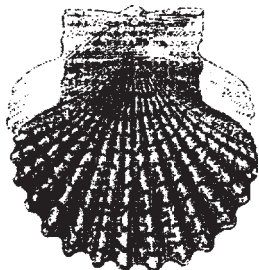
Recruits Corner

Hello fellow shellfish students. I hope that everyone has had a productive summer and taken a little time to relax as well. (Just a little.) Now that you have some brilliant research under your belt, please consider preparing an abstract for next year's Philadelphia meeting in April. The call for papers will go out this fall and I hope that there will be a strong student presence at the meeting. Many of you have heard or read my thoughts on the benefits of attending national meetings as a student, so I'll save a reminder for the next article. For now, keep the meeting in mind, watch www.shellfish.org for details, and happy data gathering.

There are some important thanks to send out this time around. First, let me please extend my gratitude to all the students that helped with the NSA sales booth and auction at the Hawaii meeting. It's been a while (we all have a little tropical memory tucked away somewhere), but we did a great job and we could not have done it without all of your help. The second thanks goes out to Maille Lyons and Jonathon Jackson for their preparation of the new Recruits web page. The great news is it will be up and running soon. On the Recruits web page you will find all the necessary info about being a student member of NSA, as well as News, Announcements, and perhaps most importantly, Grant and Award information. So, send any news or announcements that your fellow student members will be interested in to me (e-mail address, back page) and we will get it posted.

Speaking of **GRANTS**, the deadline for the Carriker and Castagna student research grants is coming up again this fall. Each grant carries an award of **\$1000**. All the details about the grants and other student awards can be found at www.shellfish.org/awards.htm. Start preparing your applications now. So here's your call to action – prepare your abstracts for Philadelphia (and don't forget about the student endowment awards), start your applications for the Carriker and Castagna grants, and keep checking the NSA web site for the new and improved Recruits page. And as always, I welcome helpful comments and suggestions!

Nature McGinn



Scott Gifford (left) received the 2004 Thurlow C. Nelson award for his paper on the environmental impacts associated with pearl aquaculture. He recently met up with Sandy Shumway (right) at the World Congress of Malacology meeting in Perth, Australia.

President's Message... Continued from page 1

Philadelphia is just around the corner and it is not too late to organize a special session (see page 2). Meetings are only as interesting and successful as you make them, so rather than sit back and wait to see what's being offered, why not plan a session and perhaps even invite some 'outsiders' to participate in our meeting? Contact Gary Wikfors, Program Chair, if you have suggestions. Even if you don't want to organize a session, let us know what you'd like to see on the agenda - maybe we can find an organizer. While Dee Kreeger is getting ready for the Philadelphia meeting, Paul Olin and Susan McBride are busy making arrangements for the 2006 meeting in Monterey, California. For those who have not had the experience, this is a truly blissful setting for a meeting, so put it on your calendar now. Our next triennial will be in 2007 in San Antonio, Texas and our centennial meeting is in 2008, most likely in Rhode Island.

In closing, I want to make the case, yet again, for volunteerism. National Shellfisheries is a society of people with a common interest and it can only grow and prosper if the membership makes it happen. Less than 20% of the membership votes, approximately 30% attend conferences, and a very small percentage keeps things moving forward. These numbers have not changed in well over a decade. Committees are a great way to become more active and to learn the workings of the Association. While membership on some committees is mandated by the Constitution, other committees need pro-active participation of members, especially the Membership, Publications and Student Awards Committees. Lou D'Abramo will soon be soliciting volunteers to serve on committees and I will be soliciting members for two ad hoc committees (stay tuned) – PLEASE SAY YES – and become an active member of your Association.

Cheers,

Sandy

A Note From the Editor of JSR

Just an update on the *Journal of Shellfish Research*. By now you should have received Volume 23(1). Volume 23(2) will be mailed in September and 23(3) is scheduled for mailing in December. In addition, watch for two special issues, one on lobsters being Guest Edited by Tony Calabrese, and the Proceedings of the International Abalone Conference being Guest Edited by Peter Cook and Kangsten Mai. Both of these issues are being paid for by grant and conference funds and are being made available to NSA members at no charge. They should also be mailed by the end of the year. Why not think about organizing a special session, tracking down sponsors and publishing the proceedings in the *Journal*? A great way to further your own field of interest and support NSA and the *JSR* at the same time.

In case you haven't noticed, the *Journal* is now truly international and approximately 80% of the papers are from outside the United States. This is not reflective of our US:foreign membership ratio and I would like to encourage our members to consider publishing their work in the *JSR*. While most papers arrive on my desk unsolicited, many are the result of personal invitations extended at conferences or during visits to other campuses. When you are talking with colleagues, remember to recommend *JSR* as a venue for their research. If you are attending an appropriate conference, take some NSA materials with you. If anyone needs back copies of the *Journal* to provide as samples, please contact me.

I get little to no feedback on the *Journal* and live by the 'no news is good news' theory. If you have comments, suggestions or complaints, let me or the Publications Committee know. It's your journal!

Finally, my usual plea for reviewers. I receive approximately 150 manuscripts/year for consideration of publication in the *JSR*. That means a minimum of 300 reviewers, sometimes more. This is a society journal and the society needs to support it. I know everyone is busy, I try not to overload any individuals with requests for reviews and I certainly understand when one has to refuse the task; however, reviewing manuscripts is a critical and integral part of being a scientist and everyone needs to participate in the process, busy or not. If you are publishing, you should be reviewing – remember, someone has to review your papers! So, if and when you are asked, please make every effort to help out, even if it's just suggesting other reviewers. If you would like to volunteer, contact me!

DOES YOUR LIBRARY SUBSCRIBE TO THE JOURNAL?

Sandy Shumway

Nominations for Honored Life Member and David A. Wallace Award

The Awards Committee is now accepting nominations for NSA Honored Life Member and for the David A. Wallace Award. Nominations should include a 100 to 200 word description of the nominee's achievements that will allow the Committee to evaluate the suitability of the nominee for an award. The person proposing a candidate will also work with the Awards Committee to provide a description of the candidate's accomplishments that will be published in the *NSA Journal of Shellfish Research* and the *NSA Quarterly Newsletter*.

Honored Life Member Award

Nominees must be NSA members who, by their exemplary service to the Association or to the profession, deserve recognition as Honored Life Members of the Association. In general, nominees should be highly respected individuals who have made substantial contributions to shellfisheries science, education, or the industry.

David A. Wallace Award

Nominees should be individuals whose actions most demonstrate the principles and actions concerned with programs in shellfisheries, aquaculture, and conservation as exemplified by Mr. David Wallace during his lifetime. These principles and actions should include promoting understanding, knowledge, and cooperation among industry members, the academic community, and all levels of government (states, national, and international); and outstanding success in bringing together shellfish scientists and industry officials for the benefit of shellfisheries. The award is not linked to NSA membership.

The deadline for nominations will be December 15, 2004. Nominations should be sent to Danielle Kreeger at the address listed on the back page.

Shrimp on the Barbe Anyone?

NSA President and *JSR* Editor Sandy Shumway has yet another title - Columnist for *Barbeque and Beverage Magazine*. Check out her articles on shellfish (July), crabs (August) and scallops (fall) by going to www.bbqmag.com or go buy a copy at your newstand! More to follow!



West Coast Industry Update

Bivalve shellfish culture on the US west coast has continued to be constrained by ongoing regulatory issues. This update will attempt to take a high-resolution snapshot of the US west coast industry to give readers an idea of where we are today with respect to research needs and the regulatory playing field – a landscape that shellfish growers are finding increasingly difficult to navigate.

A classic case of a potential regulatory nightmare has unfolded in Humboldt Bay, California in the last year. The basic facts are as follows: Coast Seafood's Company was presented with a Cease and Desist Order by the San Francisco office of the US Army Corps of Engineers (USCOE) in 2003 for not having permits required under the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act. The San Francisco office had made the case, among other points that the addition of oyster seed to the bay should be considered "fill" and that the addition of PVC pipes for off-bottom longlines for oyster culture be considered "pilings". Needless to say, there was disagreement between Coast Seafood, the industry, and the USCOE on this opinion. A Cease and Desist Order would essentially shut down Coast's oyster culture operations in Humboldt Bay, as well as set a precedent for much of the west coast industry with respect to culture operations in the intertidal. Much discussion and legal wrangling has occurred, including and culminating with a March 04 visit to the Eureka site by USCOE Assistant Secretary, J.P. Woodley and his staff, escorted by representatives of Coast Seafood's and the PCSGA. The good news is that the site visit resulted in Secretary Woodley and the COE recognizing the relatively ecologically benign nature of the culture activities in question, and more importantly that there are significant inconsistencies in both law and policy with respect to shellfish aquaculture in general. While the outcome of the case is still unknown, the industry is hopeful that increased understanding of the shellfish industry by the USCOE will in fact bring increased regulatory stability to the industry. Biological assessments will be required to develop both site specific and regional. The critical issue is the determination of what shellfish culture activities on the west coast are already covered by a Nationwide Permit 4. A point to underscore is the critical involvement of the PCSGA in focusing attention on the issues facing Coast Seafood's and the industry generally. These included innumerable meetings, visiting with the USCOE in Washington, DC, marshalling of industry wide resources and generally moving the process along – all activities that individual companies would have a very difficult time doing on their own.

This example has served to focus the need by the industry to conduct the ecological research that may serve to help better understand the effects of culture activities on the marine environment that the public and the regulatory

agencies are increasing focused on scrutinizing. This remains a critical concern to the west coast industry. Advances in genetics, husbandry and nutrition may help make farming bivalves more profitable with increased production on a smaller footprint, but what growers also need is an atmosphere of increased regulatory stability. The intertidal farming community generally recognizes the ecological importance and fragility of intertidal marine environments and the need to operate softly on these landscapes. There is also the need to produce food and shellfish products for an ever-hungry.

How shellfish farmers react to increased public and regulatory scrutiny in the future will be very interesting to observe. Perhaps the creation of an Office of Sustainable Marine Aquaculture, as recommended by the US Commission on Ocean Policy this spring could help move the process forward. Critical to the shellfish industry is a proactive approach that focuses research on linkages between watershed and water quality, mechanisms for a sustained reduction in water pollution from non-point sources, the importance of bivalve suspension feeding on water quality, the recognition that nitrogen addition in nutrient sensitive estuaries constitutes significant pollutant, and the proliferation of HABS in recent years (including the timing, intensity and duration of harmful algal blooms in coastal estuaries and near-shore waters) are among "big picture" problems that only large scale, collaborative approaches with the ultimate intent of changing human behaviors can address.

As Industry Committee co-chair, I am making a plea for increased collaboration between the shellfish industry and academia to consider the "big picture" problems. We need to develop better information for the public that focuses on the myriad of linkages between the public use of the watershed and downstream water quality. Shellfish culturists just happen to be in the middle both literally and geographically, and form a natural constituency that, working together with scientists, can help put a human face on solving the pervasive and increasing problems associated with non-point pollution. The focus among west coast growers has been to hang onto the end of the rope a little tighter each year because letting go is not an option!

Joth Davis
Industry Committee co-chair

Pioneering Shellfish Biologists Series

Paul S. Galtsoff

by Maille Lyons

Paul Simon Galtsoff was born in 1887 in Moscow, Russia. He was trained in invertebrate zoology at the Imperial Moscow University. Upon graduation in 1910 he received a two-year governmental scholarship for research and preparation for a professorship in zoology which allowed him to conduct scientific investigations in Western European research laboratories. During this time, Galtsoff was awarded a gold medal from the University of Moscow and two monetary prizes from Moscow Scientific Societies based on his investigations in protozoology and fresh water biology. He rapidly advanced to become one of Russia's leading scientists and in 1914, as a senior zoologist at the Imperial Academy of Sciences, he became the Director of the prominent Marine Biological Station at Sebastopol on the Black Sea. The 1917 Bolshevik Revolution reeked havoc throughout Russia and in 1921, with only 12 hours to spare; he escaped to New York City aboard a British naval vessel. Unfortunately when Galtsoff arrived in the United States marine science was not a focus of research. There were no university courses in oceanography or fishery biology, yet government positions required training in these fields. Consequently, many fisheries position remained vacant. In December of 1921, Galtsoff finally found a temporary position with the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries to survey the shellfish, fish and plankton of the upper Mississippi River following the construction of the Keokuk Dam in Iowa. Dr. Hugh Smith, Commissioner of Fisheries, was impressed with his meticulous and systematic study and, in 1923, offered him a permanent job at the Bureau of Fisheries' Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. Commissioner Smith, using his Civil Service Commission authority to fill vacant positions without competitive examination, appointed Galtsoff to the Bureau's staff as the Naturalist onboard the *Albatross*, a position that had been vacant for nearly two years. Galtsoff simultaneously pursued graduate studies and in 1925 was awarded his Doctoral Degree from Columbia University. Also in 1925, at the request of the Oyster Growers and Dealers Association (OGDA), the Bureau assigned Galtsoff to lead a shellfish research program in Long Island Sound. At that time, most oyster research was conducted in New Jersey under Dr. Thurlow Nelson. Galtsoff initiated a comprehensive survey of oyster habitat and, through his extensive analysis, he concluded that the combination of over-fishing and predation (from both starfish and oyster drills) were the primary reasons for the recent oyster declines.



Paul S. Galtsoff
1887 - 1979

Disaster struck the oyster industry in 1924-25 with a typhoid epidemic in Chicago linked to oysters from the Chesapeake Bay and New York. Demand for oysters plummeted nationwide. Government officials scrambled to save the industry and restore confidence in the public over the safety of consuming oysters. Commissioners turned to biologists, including Galtsoff, for practical solutions to this difficult situation. The vital issue was how to obtain "pure oysters, devoid of contamination by pathogenic bacteria."¹ Although the importance of the oysters' filter feeding was recognized, rates of feeding and the effects of temperature on feeding were not known. Galtsoff started an innovative study on ciliary motion of the gills and designed methods to measure the volume of water passed through the oyster gills. Galtsoff's 1927 presentation on oysters was among the few scientific presentations at the OGDA convention but marked the return of scientists to the oyster industry meetings. Industry wanted oyster biologists to predict the time of spawning and the location of setting. Galtsoff investigated the sex, spawning and setting of oysters during a period when most of the research on oyster reproduction was still observational. Galtsoff published experimental data on the physiology of reproduction, the fundamental differences between the processes of male and female spawning, and the effects of temperature on spawning. In 1927, oyster research at the Bureau of Fisheries in Woods Hole continue to expand as Galtsoff collaborated with H. Federighi and H. R. Sewell on the effects of external factors on the survival of oyster larvae, with A. E. Hopkins on the sensory stimulation by chemicals, with E. B. Perkins on oyster culture, and with D. Whipple and H. B. Pease on oyster physiology. In the 1930s, following a sharp reduction in allocated funds, activities at the Woods Hole Fisheries Laboratory

declined and as a result, no summer Director for was appointed in 1932. Galtsoff, in charge of the Shellfisheries Section of the Bureau, continued his oyster research concentrating on diurnal oyster activities and the control of predatory starfish. He also conducted experiments on the growth and fattening of oysters with R. O. Smith. Over the next several years Galtsoff adamantly fought to maintain the Fisheries Laboratory against strong public opinion to have it declared as surplus property and sold off. Galtsoff was a passionate advocate and the Shellfisheries Section was allowed to continue the oyster research but without a formal Director. Galtsoff assumed all administrative responsibilities for the Laboratory in addition to his own research. He continued to collaborate on oyster research projects including the deposition rate of shell material in oysters with D. H. Algire and oyster feeding physiology and the life history of the mud worm (*Polydora ligni*) with E. Morrison. The research station was closed by the U.S. Navy from 1941-1944 but Galtsoff remained at the Laboratory and continued some investigations. Shortly after the Laboratory reopened in 1944 a devastating hurricane damaged most of the buildings. Yet again it was Galtsoff who battled against the prevailing attitude of abandonment and campaigned for its rebuilding. By 1947, the Laboratory was operational and Galtsoff, continuing to serve as Director of the Laboratory, persisted with research on the variations in density of oyster blood under environmental conditions and completed toxicity tests of water and plankton associated with blooms of “red tide” organisms. In addition to being an excellent investigator with a wide array of interests, he was also a skillful organizer and proficient administrator. He proudly functioned as the Director until William F. Royce, Chief of the North Atlantic Fisheries Investigations, was officially appointed Director of the Laboratory in 1948.

Although best known for his work with mollusks, Galtsoff also studied sponges and enjoyed traveling on behalf of the U.S. government to foreign field sites. He could read Russian, French, German, Spanish, Italian and English² and sought research articles in each language. Galtsoff accompanied Operation Crossroads ordered by the U. S. Joint Chiefs of Staff to test the effects of dropping two atomic bombs off Bikini Atoll, Marshall Islands and documented their destructive results on the sea life in the area. In 1938, he evaluated the problems associated with the sponge population at Andros Island, Nassau, Bahamas, and led the Pearl and Hermes Reef Expedition in Hawaii. Another of his passions was the protection against pollution. Often bellowing “there is no pollution that is good pollution”, he investigated and condemned many forms including: crude oil, pulp and paper mill wastes and heavy metals (e.g., iron, copper, zinc and manganese). Galtsoff believed pollution was primarily a social problem and the focus should be on educating the public on the dangers of all marine pollutants.

Paul Galtsoff was a prolific writer. He authored more than 100 papers on edible and pearl oysters. In 1964 he published *The American Oyster* an 18 chapter monograph with over 1,000 references. In his preface he explained the book was written for “biologists, administrators of oyster resources of various States, public health officers, students of marine biology, and oyster growers who may be interested to learn about the life history and mode of living of this species.”³ He acknowledged the difficulty in “trying to be scientifically accurate and at the same time to make the text understandable to those who have only elementary knowledge of biological sciences.” Galtsoff started the classic in 1925 and, as each chapter was concluded, he would eagerly report his results at the subsequent convention. In 1972 he published an impressive 17,500+ entry bibliography titled *Bibliography of oysters and other marine organisms associated with oyster bottoms and estuarine ecology* compiled during research at the Marine Biological Laboratory library in Woods Hole. The bibliography, representing 43 years of collection by Galtsoff, is a massive folio-size book weighing almost 9 pounds and divided into subjects from “abundance” to “zinc.”⁴ Although considered “costly” at \$74.00 in 1975 it was immediately recognized as an invaluable tool for any laboratory interested in “bivalves, mariculture, estuarine studies or environmental protection.” Much of the background material for both the bibliography and *The American Oyster* are now housed at the Pell Marine Science Library of the University of Rhode Island’s Narragansett Bay Campus. The collection was donated by Galtsoff and includes more than 200 boxes of original papers, reprints, reports, maps, letters, memos, newspaper articles and conference notes. It is indeed an impressive sight!



The Galtsoff Collection in the Challenger Room of the Pell Library at the University of Rhode Island. The commemorative plaque (top) and a few of the boxes (bottom).

Continued on page 12

Paul Galtsoff... Continued from page 11

Throughout his memorable career Galtsoff was energetically involved in the National Shellfisheries Association (NSA). He “heartily endorsed”⁵ the 1931 name change from National Association of Fisheries Commissioners to the National Shellfisheries Association to better reflect the more active role that scientists were taking in the society. Throughout the years he would lead fervent discussions on topics such as: Production and conditioning of oysters (1934); The pulp mill menace to the oyster industry (1937); Productivity of oyster bottoms (1942); Increasing production of oysters and other shellfish in the United States (1943); and Important milestones of scientific discoveries in oyster biology (1957). He served as President of NSA 1939-1941. In 1957 when the NSA Honored Life Member Award was reactivated Paul Galtsoff, along with Thurlow Nelson, Reginald Truitt and Trevor Kincaid, were elected “in recognition of distinctive and valuable contributions to the knowledge and utilization of shellfish.”⁵ In Galtsoff’s tribute Dr. Victor Loosanoff wrote “under his leadership oyster research ceased to resemble, in some respects, the fine arts and began to approach an exact science”⁶ and predicted Galtsoff’s “contributions in the field of applied biology will constitute a remarkable chapter in the history of shellfisheries.”⁶

Those who remember him described Paul Galtsoff as a confident, articulate man who was sometimes domineering and often intimidating. Galtsoff never hesitated to comment on the presentations of other speakers, especially students. But those who knew Galtsoff also describe him as friendly and outgoing⁷. He enjoyed designing and preparing exhibits for the Public Aquarium at the Fisheries Laboratory in Woods Hole, MA. He made it a practice to wander through the crowds pretending to be a visitor so that he could gauge honest reactions to the aquarium displays. He was often surprised to learn many people had never seen living invertebrates like squid, starfish and sponges. Occasionally large sharks were housed in the aquarium’s outdoor pool. This often led to large crowds discussing the dangers of sharks and their attacks on humans. On one occasion Galtsoff noticed some men arguing over the sharks and refreshing themselves with “frequent excursions to hip-pocket flasks.”⁸ Galtsoff recounted:

“...I moved close to the group and heard how one rather fat and vociferous fellow proposed a bet of \$5 to \$25 that he would enter the water where sharks were swimming and remain there immobile for 10 minutes. The bet was accepted, and the man stripped to his bathing trunks, stepped into the water while his companions anxiously looked at their watches. When he successfully emerged from the pool and collected his bet, I quietly remarked that the large sand sharks in the pool are sluggish animals which subsist on small fish and never attack humans. Since the explanation was not appreciated by the winner, I hastily retreated to my quarters...”⁸

Galtsoff was also known for his compassion and generous support offered to other Russian refugees in the United States. Although he officially retired in 1957 he actively participated in talks at the Marine Biological Laboratory, Fisheries Bureau and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institutions until his death in 1979. Paul Simon Galtsoff is remembered as one of shellfisheries pioneering biologists.

Acknowledgements

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**The next installment of the Pioneering Shellfish Biologists Series
will feature the life of Victor Loosanoff**

Application Details for the Student Research Grants

The National Shellfisheries Association has now instituted two student research grants, the Melbourne R. Carriker Student Research Grant and the Michael Castagna Student Grant for Applied Research.

The Melbourne R. Carriker Student Research Grant

This is a competitive grant that is awarded annually to recognize a student's excellence in any research in the area of shellfisheries.

The Michael Castagna Student Grant for Applied Research

This is a competitive grant that is awarded annually to recognize a student's excellence in applied research in the area of shellfisheries. The practical, applied aspects of the research should be highlighted.

Students applying for the Michael Castagna Student Grant for Applied Research may also apply for the Melbourne R. Carriker Student Research Grant, **but must submit separate applications and designate which applications correspond to which grant.**

General Rules:

Applications will be reviewed by the NSA Awards Committee, which is a standing committee chaired by the Past-President. The deadline for proposal applications is **November 21, 2004**. Notification of the successful applicant will be made by January 31, 2005.

The applicant must be a student member in good standing of the National Shellfisheries Association and currently enrolled as a Master's or Ph.D. student in a recognized degree granting institution anywhere in the world. Students who have previously been awarded a Student Research Grant are not eligible to apply for that grant again. Grants will be made in the form of a check made personally payable to the recipient and no institutional overhead can be charged on these funds. The \$1,000 is designed to allow a student to purchase supplies and equipment essential to performance of their research. It is neither intended to allow purchase of general items, such as computers, nor to fund travel expenses associated with attending professional meetings. Students seeking travel support to attend NSA meetings should apply separately for money made available through the NSA Student Awards Committee. It is expected that students who are recipients of the Student Research Grant will present results of their research at one of the annual NSA meetings.

A completed application will consist of the following five components (total of 6 pages maximum):

1. **Cover sheet** with the applicant's name, professional address, phone number, email address, thesis title, degree being sought (Master's or Ph.D.), date they entered the graduate program, and anticipated graduation date.
2. **Text** (2 pages): This will consist of a maximum of two pages single-spaced 12-pt font plus one page for figures (if needed). This should include an introduction to the research problem being addressed and the objectives and hypotheses being tested. There should be a clear statement of how the funds being requested will further the student's research. The literature cited section is not included in this page limit.
3. **Budget** (1 page): Briefly itemize how the \$1,000 being requested will be spent (e.g., \$150 for scintillation vials, \$200 for scintillation cocktail, \$120 disposable safety supplies, etc.).
4. **Resume** (1 page): List educational background, awards/honors, presentations at meetings, and any publications.
5. **Letter of endorsement** (1 page): The student's major advisor must provide a succinct letter of support commenting on the student's research and confirming that the funds are necessary.

Five copies of the application should be sent to reach the following address by close of the business day on **November 21, 2004**. No faxed, electronic, hand-written, or late applications will be considered.

Danielle Kreeger

ATTENTION ALL PAST-PRESIDENTS

There will be a luncheon for all
Past-Presidents
Monday, April 11th at the Philadelphia
meeting. Save the date,
invitations are forthcoming.



How many of these shellfish biologists of the NSA can you identify? The first person to correctly ID the people and approximate date will receive a copy of *Taming of the Oyster*. Send your answers to Sandy Shumway (her contact information is on the back cover). The answer to the quiz will be in the next issue of the Newsletter.

How to Join the National Shellfisheries Association

Fill out and mail a copy of the application blank below. The dues are US \$75.00 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 *NSA Quarterly Newsletter*!

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

Name: _____ For Calendar Year: _____ Date: _____

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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: _____

Make checks (MUST be drawn on a US bank) or international postal money order for \$75.00 (\$35.00 for students with advisor's signature) payable to the National Shellfisheries Association and send to Ms. Nancy C. Lewis, NSA Bookkeeper, P.O. Box 302, Accomac, VA 23301 USA.

Upcoming Meetings

Second National Conference on Coastal and Estuarine Habitat Restoration: September 12-15, 2004, Washington State Convention & Trade Center, Seattle, Washington. For more information, please contact Nicole Maylett, Conference Coordinator by phone at 703-524-0248 or email: nmaylett@estuaries.org or visit <http://www.estuaries.org>.

Littoral 2004: September 20-22, 2004, Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Center, Aberdeen, Scotland, UK. This year's theme will be "Delivering Sustainable Coasts: Connecting Science and Policy." For more information on the conference program and venue, or to register and submit abstracts, contact the conference office at phone +44 (0) 1223 333438, email: enquires@littoral2004.org or visit <http://www.littoral2004.org>.

Australian Aquaculture - Profiting from Sustainability: September 26-29, 2004, Sidney Convention Center, Sidney, Australia. For more information, contact the Conference Manager, 2423 Fallbrook Place, Escondido, CA 92027 or phone (760) 432-4270 or visit <http://www.australian-aquacultureportal.com>.

Annual Meeting of the NSA Pacific Coast Section: October 12-14, 2004, Sheraton Hotel, Tacoma, WA. For details about this meeting, contact Rich Childers (contact information on back page).

Aquaculture Canada 2004: October 17-20, 2004, Fairmont Le Château Frontenac Hotel, Québec City, Québec, Canada. For more information, visit <http://www.aquacultureassociation.ca>.

Aquaculture Europe '04: October 20-23, 2004, Barcelona, Spain. This year's theme is Biotechnologies for Quality. For more information, visit <http://www.easonline.org/agenda/en/AquaEuro2004/default.asp>.

11th International Conference on Harmful Algae: November 15-19, 2004, Cape Town, South Africa. For more information on the conference program and venue, or to register and submit abstracts, contact the conference office at phone +27 21 683 5522, email: aecon.e@mweb.co.za or visit <http://www.botany.uwc.ac.za/pssa>.

7th International Conference on Shellfish Restoration: November 17-20, 2004, DoubleTree Suites, Charleston, SC. Those interested in participating should request more infor-

mation by contacting Elaine Knight: e-mail: Elaine.Knight@scseagrant.org. You may also find continuously updated information on ICSR 2004 at www.scseagrant.org.

4th Northeast Aquaculture Conference & Exposition: December 3-4, 2004, Center of New Hampshire Holiday Inn, Manchester, New Hampshire. For more information, visit <http://www.northeastaquaculture.com> or contact JJ Newman-Rode, NACE 2004 Conference Coordinator, c/o UNH Cooperative Extension, Durham, NH 03824-3515. Phone (603) 749-1565 or email to jj.newman@unh.edu.

Aquaculture America 2005: January 17-20, 2005, Marriott New Orleans, New Orleans, Louisiana. For more information, contact the Conference Manager, 2423 Fallbrook Place, Escondido, CA 92027 or phone (760) 432-4270 or visit <http://www.was.org>.

National Shellfisheries Association 97th Annual Meeting: April 10-14, 2005, Doubletree Hotel, Philadelphia, PA. Contact Dee Kreeger or Gary Wikfors for more information (see back page for contact information).

15th International Pectinid Workshop: April 20-26, 2005, Mooloolaba, Queensland, Australia. For more information, contact Mike Dredge by email at flatcalm@ozemail.com.au or Peter Duncan by email at pduncan@usc.edu.au.

World Aquaculture 2005: May 9-13, 2005, Bali International Convention Center, Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia. For more information, contact the Conference Manager, 2423 Fallbrook Place, Escondido, CA 92027 or phone (760) 432-4270 or visit <http://www.was.org>. Abstracts due November 1, 2004.

6th International Crustacean Congress: July 18-22, 2005, University of Glasgow, Scotland, UK. For more information, visit <http://gla.ac.uk/icc6>.

National Shellfisheries Association 98th Annual Meeting: March 26 - 30, 2006, Monterey Marriot, Monterey, CA. Contact Paul Olin by email at pgolin@ucdavis.edu for more information.

If you would like to announce a meeting, conference or workshop that might be of interest to NSA members, please contact Chris Davis (see back page for contact information).

Check out the new and improved NSA web site at
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