

# National Shellfisheries Association

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2006

GROTON, CT

## President's Message

The 98<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the National Shellfisheries Association is rapidly approaching and shaping up to become one of the most momentous in many years. There are so many “don’t miss it” parts of the meeting. When I last checked, the number of submitted abstracts was already 165 and I suspect that we will easily exceed 200. The diversity of special sessions that constitute the program is really remarkable. If your interest is biofouling, restoration, marketing, or fisheries, there is a session for you. If your interest is mussels, oysters, sea urchins, abalone, or crustaceans, there is a session for you. If your interest is physiology, disease or genetics, there is a session for you. Thanks to Vice-President LeRoy Creswell for developing such an attractive array of session topics. Of notable interest is a session devoted to shellfish industry issues, coordinated through the efforts of Joth Davis and Gef Flimlin, to bring together researchers and producers. Problems and possible solutions will be reviewed and evaluated relative to addressing the needs of industry. Already, a follow-up session is being considered for the 2007 annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas, which is the triennial meeting of NSA, the World Aquaculture Society, and the Fish Culture Section of the American Fisheries Society. A special session that will focus on **non-native oyster research** is sponsored by The **Chesapeake Bay Office of NOAA**. At our Monterey meeting, NOAA is also funding a special edition of the *Journal of Shellfish Research* as part of the agency’s Non-native Oyster Research Program. This 3 year, \$6 million research program will continue to fund projects through 2007. However, the objective of NOAA is to disseminate research findings as soon as possible and the NSA meeting will serve as an excellent conduit. Hopefully, information presented will be expeditiously published and thereby serve to support the oyster Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) currently under development by federal and state agencies. NSA is pleased to have many other sponsors of the 2006 Monterey meeting and they include California Sea Grant, Oregon Sea Grant, Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium, South Carolina Sea Grant, and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Sea



*Exploring “Cannery Row” is just one of the many attractions waiting for you at our annual meeting “Oceans of Shellfish” in Monterey, CA.*

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- ***Courses, Workshops, & Events***

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## An Oyster Endangered....

### Or Not?

One year ago, shellfish growers and scientists alike were informed of a petition to list the eastern oyster, *Crassostrea virginica*, as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973. Wolf Dieter Busch, an environmental consultant and former employee of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, submitted the petition to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), citing concerns over, “very low abundance of the eastern oyster,” in the Chesapeake Bay. Busch claimed that the need to list the oyster was due to, “failure to protect its habitat from numerous anthropogenic stresses,” including physical, chemical, and biological degradation of habitat, over utilization of the species, diseases (MSX and Dermo), inadequate regulatory management, and the potential introduction of the non-native oyster *Crassostrea ariakensis*.

NMFS reviewed the petition following its receipt in January 2005 and determined that action on the petition was warranted and that a year-long review would ensue. The decision-making process for ESA listings is lengthy, and for good reason. Once a species has been designated as threatened or endangered, strict management guidelines are established in order to protect the species and habitat critical to that species. Those guidelines may have environmental, as well as economic implications, especially for invertebrate species such as the eastern oyster. Under the ESA, invertebrates must be declared endangered throughout their entire range. Listing the species as endangered or threatened would place severe restrictions on the wild harvest, and could eliminate commercial cultivation of the oyster.

The possibility that terms such as “endangered” and “threatened” could be applied to the eastern oyster have caused an uproar among shellfish aquaculture industry members along the U.S. East and Gulf Coasts. Many researchers and producers don’t believe these terms have any validity when it comes to *C. virginica*. Bob Rheault, oyster producer and spokesman for the East Coast Shellfish Growers Association (ECSGA), maintains that regional declines are mostly due to fisheries mismanagement, but in areas where aquaculture invests in sustainable production, harvests are stable or increasing. Dr. John Kraeuter, Associate Director of the Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory at Rutgers University noted, “Although a precipitous decline in numbers has occurred within specific locations of its range, the oyster is flourishing in many eastern and Gulf States.” Several government and private groups also took a firm stand against the ESA listing and legislators in the states of New York, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Louisiana passed

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## Recruits’ Corner

Hello fellow Recruits. I hope that many of you are planning to join Dane and me at the meeting in Monterey. The abstract deadline will have passed by the time you get this newsletter, but even if you are not planning to present, don’t let that stop you from attending the meeting. There are great opportunities for learning and networking at the annual meeting that you just will not find anywhere else. So, register online now to get the early-bird, student rate and we’ll see you in Monterey!! Another way to cut costs is to share a room at the Marriot with another student or two (or three or ...). If you need help being matched with a **ROOMMATE** for the meeting, please contact Dane or me (contact info on back cover). We matched up at least two full rooms last year and already have several students looking to share a room this year. Finally, if you are thinking that it might be too expensive to fly all the way over here to the “Left” Coast, fear not, if you book a flight early you can usually fly for less than \$300 round trip (I do it fairly frequently).

Besides the usual meeting events – such as the President’s reception at Monterey Bay Aquarium on Sunday night, talks, posters, etc. – we have some special events for students planned for the 2006 meeting. First, there will be a **Student Orientation Breakfast** on Monday, March 27. This is a great, early opportunity to meet other students (besides your roommates), learn a little about the meeting and NSA from us veteran students, give the Recruits Co-Chairs some feedback about being an NSA student member (what can we do for you?) and grab a free breakfast (the most important meal of the day). During the meeting, we also will have the second in our continuing series of special student sessions. This year we will be focusing on a topic near and dear to all of us – **FUNDING**. Please join us for the special session on **Funding: A Primer** where we will discuss how to find funding sources and how to put together a great grant or fellowship application. This session will feature funding resources such as take-home guides, sample proposals, and people with expertise. We will cover funding from pre-doc to post-doc, full-ride fellowships to good-sized research grants. And the session is not just for students, faculty who mentor graduate and undergraduate students will be on hand, so please join us and spread the word about this special session. Also, if you have a great funding resource that you think should be included in the session please send it to me, Nature, before the meeting (Thanks!). Finally, something no other meeting has, the **Student Endowment Auction**. For those of you that have been to an NSA meeting before, you know that this is something not to be missed. For you first-time attendees, believe me when I say, you must attend. Of course, if you have any great shellfish-related items that you are willing to part

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## President's Message... Continued from page 1

The early bird registration for the meeting has been extended until February 10, 2006 and I believe that the rates are very reasonable for what is offered. Registration includes admission to the world renowned Monterey Bay Aquarium as part of the President's Reception, complete with a strolling dinner featuring contributed seafood. During the evening of the following day, the traditional Ken Chew's Chinese dinner is planned. Ken is again working to evaluate a number of Chinese restaurants in the Monterey area to select one that will provide great food and a special time for conference participants to establish, renew, and continue contacts. Detailed information about NSA 2006 in Monterey can be found in this newsletter. On behalf of all NSA members, I thank Susan Schlosser and Paul Olin for their dedicated efforts in helping to plan and arrange many aspects of the Monterey meeting. I ask all members who are planning to attend NSA 2006 to use the designated conference hotel for their accommodations (Monterey Marriott). The hotel offers not only the convenience of being on site for all meeting events, but also helps NSA meet particular commitments associated with the hotel contract and corresponding amenities that are provided. Some attractive alternatives for hotels may exist, but please keep in mind that your reservations at the Marriott are helping to keep the costs of the meeting at a fiscally reasonable level. Finally, please note that there are several Marriott hotels in the Monterey area; so use the information provided in this newsletter to register at the correct hotel.

During initial visits to the new web portal for NSA, I know that some members encountered problems, particularly as they tried to register for the meeting or to submit abstracts. On behalf of the entire Executive Committee, I want to apologize for any inconvenience and frustration caused to you. The kinks that you may have encountered are really a function of growing pains of our association as we strive to provide the best possible on-line resources for the membership. Through the outstanding efforts of many, particularly President-Elect Dave Bushek and former President Scott Siddall, the minor logistical problems were eventually resolved. I sincerely appreciate the patience and understanding that NSA members have demonstrated. With the availability of an on-line directory and other member-only access information, non-member access to the website had to be limited. Accordingly, members must login in with a name and corresponding password. Non-members are still afforded access to widespread information about NSA, and for security reasons they must create an account. This non-member requirement will also allow us to contact those who have visited the site and follow-up with an encouragement to join. Bill Walton has recently initiated this process of membership solicitation, and hopefully his efforts will be rewarded with a good response. Even without this effort, NSA has experienced a

notable increase in members during mid-November to mid-December, probably arising from interest in the annual meeting. I do believe that the new website now offers a multitude of convenient, efficient, and informative resources for members and will continue to improve. If you have any suggestions about what might be added to the website or how a service might be improved, please contact me or another member of the Executive Committee. Your suggestions about how members can be best served through the web portal are very important and will help us retain members from year to year.

Since my last communication to you, Chris Davis has officially assumed the responsibilities of Treasurer from President-Elect Dave Bushek. In conjunction with this turnover, Evan Ward assumed the responsibilities of Editor of the NSA newsletter. Evan worked with Chris on the production of the last issue of the newsletter and this one is the first of his tenure. Thank you Evan and Chris for your continued service to NSA. Past-President Sandy Shumway is working on a slate of candidates for the 2006 election. This year, officers for the positions of Secretary, Vice-President, and Member-at-Large need to be elected.

The Executive Committee is always looking for ways to better serve the membership and to find more efficient ways to use the funds available to us. We have recently reduced the number of copies of the *Journal of Shellfish Research* volumes that are stored at Sheridan Press. This action will result in a substantial annual savings. Finding a way to reduce the page charges associated with publication in JSR continues to be a primary issue under review. We are also reviewing strategies that may help to reduce, at least partially, the demands of annual meeting preparation placed upon the EXCOM.

These are exciting times in the renowned history of NSA: a new web portal, a fantastic 2006 annual meeting, lots of new interest and new members, a long established and ever-increasing commitment to students, and extended efforts to make industry and outreach a vital component of our association. We continue to strive to be the best that we can be for our members. The interest and support of NSA members are essential to our association. Come to the Monterey meeting and be part of the exciting happenings!

Lou D'Abramo  
President





**98th Annual Meeting of the National Shellfisheries Association  
 Monterey Marriott, 350 Calle Principal Monterey, CA 93940, March 26-30, 2006  
 REGISTRATION FORM**



**Complete a copy of this form for each person registering and mail with payment to:**

Dr. Chris Davis, Treasurer  
 P.O. Box 302, 1957 Friendship Road  
 Waldoboro, ME 04572

Questions? Contact Chris at:  
 Phone/FAX (207) 832-6067 (call before faxing)  
 Email: cdavis@midcoast.com

**MAILING INFORMATION:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov.: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP/Post.Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME BADGE INFORMATION** (please print, max. 25 characters for each line):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

**NSA 2006 REGISTRATION COSTS:**

Fees include entry into technical sessions, refreshment breaks, President's reception (Sunday), student's reception (Tuesday), poster session (Wednesday), and NSA business lunch (Wednesday). Additional tickets for friends and spouses can be purchased for the President's reception, student's reception and NSA business lunch (see below).

	<u>Early Bird</u>		<u>Late</u>
	<u>By Feb 10</u>	<u>Regular</u>	<u>After Mar 1</u>
NSA Member	US \$295	US \$320	US \$350
Non-NSA Member	US \$375	US \$400	US \$430
NSA Student Member	US \$175	US \$195	US \$195
Daily Registration	US \$195	US \$195	US \$195

Registration Fee = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**NSA 2006 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP:**

Regular (US \$85), Student (US \$45 + advisor's signature: \_\_\_\_\_) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**REGULAR EVENT TICKETS FOR ADDITIONAL PEOPLE** (included for full registrants): **US\$ # tickets**

Presidents Reception (Sunday, Mar 26, 7-11pm) Incl. Aquarium admission + dinner \$60 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Student's Reception/Auction (Tuesday, Mar 28, 7-10pm) \$35 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 NSA Business Lunch (Wednesday, Mar 29, 12-2pm) \$35 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIAL EVENT TICKETS** (not included with registration; first come first served):

Chinese Banquet Pay at registration desk

**TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED** (check, money order, VISA/Master card) US \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment must be in US dollars payable to **National Shellfisheries Association**.

Checks and money orders must be drawn on US banks.

NSA Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) is 52-1128190.

If you institution requires electronic wire transfer payment, contact Chris at address above.

Name on credit card: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_ **Circle Type:** VISA / MC

**OTHER:** Check here if you prefer a vegetarian option for the NSA Business Lunch \_\_\_\_\_

Don't forget to reserve your room at the Marriott Monterey by March 6, 2006 for conference rates

# Meeting Information – Monterey, CA, 2006 – Oceans of Shellfish

## Registration

Registration can be completed on-line at <http://shellfish.org/> OR using the form in this newsletter. NSA 2006 will meet between March 26 and 30, 2006. In order to receive the lowest registration rate, complete the early bird registration online by Feb. 10, 2006. **IF YOU DO NOT USE ONLINE REGISTRATION**, mail the form to Chris Davis by Feb. 10, 2006. Questions concerning registration should be directed to Chris Davis ([cdavis@midcoast.com](mailto:cdavis@midcoast.com)).

Your registration fee covers entry to all programs and events at the hotel and the President's Banquet at the Monterey Aquarium. Additional tickets for friends and partners to attend regular events (reception, auction, business lunch) can be purchased with your registration. In addition we have one special event, **NOT** included in the registration fee: Ken Chew's Chinese Banquet on Monday, March 27. Tickets for the Chinese Banquet will be available at the Conference Registration Booth (limited number of tickets).

## Hotel and Venue Information

The conference will be held at the Monterey Marriott hotel in historic downtown Monterey. The hotel is located at 350 Calle Principal, Monterey, less than 5 minutes walking distance to Fishermen's Wharf, Del Monte Beach with numerous historic landmarks, shops, and restaurants. Monterey was the first capital of California and many architecturally unique historic Spanish adobes are nearby. The Monterey Bay Aquarium and Cannery Row are about 15 minutes walking distance from the hotel, along the scenic waterfront path with views of the harbor, sea otters, harbor seals and sea lions.

The Monterey Peninsula offers a pristine coastline full of wildlife, breathtaking vistas, and some of the world's most dramatic golf courses. Spectacular attractions a short drive from the hotel include 19 championship golf courses, the 17-Mile Drive, Pebble Beach, Big Sur, Carmel-by-the-Sea, Monterey vineyards, whale watching, and the Laguna Seca Raceway. The beaches provide opportunities for scuba diving, fishing, kayaking, sailing, and whale watching. The Monterey Visitor Center's website, <http://www.montereyinfo.org>, has information on all aspects of Monterey including art and culture, food and wine, attractions, recreation, and events.

Hotel reservations at the Marriott can be made by phone or on-line (<http://marriott.com/property/propertypage.mi?marshaCode=MRYCA>). The room rate is \$149 for a single or double, if reserved before March 6. This is the same rate as the Philadelphia meeting. When making your hotel reservation, refer to the Group Code: **NSANSAA** to receive the special rate. You may also book hotel reserva-

tions by phone at 831-649-4243 or 800-831-4004 (group reservations). If you wish to reserve a Bay view room at the Monterey Marriott, place NSANSAA in the Group Code box. The special rate for Bay view rooms is \$179.

*It is most important for everyone to use the conference hotel. NSA is able to use the meeting spaces for greatly reduced fees, but this is contingent upon the use of the hotel by our members! The special room rates at the Monterey Marriott are far below the standard rates for this hotel.*

Local arrangements for the NSA 2006 meeting venue are being made by California Sea Grant. For information **contact Paul Olin** ([fgolin@ucdavis.edu](mailto:fgolin@ucdavis.edu), 707-565-3449) or Susan Schlosser ([scschlosser@ucdavis.edu](mailto:scschlosser@ucdavis.edu), 707-443-8369).

## Travel and Parking

There are various options for travel to Monterey. Often, better airfare can be obtained by flying to larger airports in the region. The Monterey Airport is 10 minutes from the hotel. Cabs from the airport are \$15.00. The Monterey Visitors Center's website (see above) provides schedules of all airlines flying into the Monterey Airport and lists cities that have direct flights to Monterey. To drive from the Monterey airport to the Marriott, take the Monterey Fishermen's Wharf exit. At the first light, turn right on Aquajito. Turn left onto Del Monte. At the third light, get into the left lane and continue on Del Monte to the hotel. The Monterey Marriott has a parking garage. The charge is \$15.00 per day.

You also may wish to check fares into the San Jose or the San Francisco airports. Rental cars or the Monterey-Salinas Air Bus are recommended to get to Monterey from either airport. The Salinas Air Bus phone number is 831-373-7777. It is approximately one and a half hours from San Jose and two and half hours from San Francisco to Monterey.

## Oral and Poster Presentations

All oral presentations will be expected to use Power Point formatted for computer projection. A dedicated laptop will be available in each meeting room, and these must not be disconnected from the projectors. Please bring your presentation either on a CD or USB stick drive (**NO FLOPPIES; NO ZIP DISKS**). **Time will not allow individuals to connect their laptop to the session projector. Presentations brought to the conference should be loaded onto to the PC dedicated to the room for your session the day before your presentation.** For participants presenting Monday, be sure to deliver your

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**98<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the National Shellfisheries Association  
 Monterey Marriot Hotel, Monterey, California  
 March 26 – 30, 2006**

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES**

<b>DAY AND TIME</b>	<b>FUNCTION</b>
<b>SUNDAY through THURSDAY</b>	
9:00am – 4:00pm	Slide ready room
<b>SUNDAY, March 26</b>	
All day	Poster set up
9:00am – 6:00pm	EXCOM meeting
3:00pm – 6:00pm	Registration
7:00 – 10:30pm	President's Reception at Monterey Aquarium
<b>MONDAY, March 27</b>	
All day	Posters on display
7:00 – 8:00am	Student Breakfast (students only)
8:00 – 9:40am	Freshwater Mussels
8:00 – 9:40am	Bivalve Genomics
8:00 – 9:40am	Physiology and Autecology of Bivalves
9:40 – 10:20am	Morning Break
10:20 - Noon	Freshwater Mussels
10:20 - Noon	Bivalve Genomics
10:20 - Noon	Physiology and Autecology of Bivalves
Noon – 1:20pm	Past Presidents' Lunch
1:20 – 3:00pm	Biofouling
1:20 – 3:00pm	Bivalve Genomics
1:20 – 3:00pm	Shellfish Aquaculture and the Environment
3:00 – 3:20pm	Afternoon Break
3:20 – 6:00pm	Biofouling
3:20 – 6:00pm	Bivalve Genetics
3:20 – 6:00pm	Shellfish Aquaculture and the Environment
7:00 - 10:00pm	Ken Chew's Chinese Dinner
<b>TUESDAY, March 28</b>	
All day	Posters on display
8:00 – 9:40am	Shellfish Diseases
8:00 – 9:40am	Abalone Biology, Ecology, and Fisheries
8:00 – 9:40am	Shellfish Restoration
9:40 – 10:20am	Morning Break

10:20 - Noon Shellfish Diseases  
10:20 - Noon Abalone Biology, Ecology, and Fisheries  
10:20 - Noon Shellfish Restoration

Noon – 1:20pm Lunch on your own

1:20 – 3:00pm QPX  
1:20 – 3:00pm Abalone Biology, Ecology, and Fisheries  
1:20 – 3:00pm Shellfish Restoration

3:00 – 3:20pm Afternoon Break

3:20 – 5:40pm QPX  
3:20 – 5:40pm Industry Issues  
3:20 – 5:40pm Shellfish Restoration

7:00 – 11:00pm Student Auction

**WEDNESDAY, March 29**

All day Posters on display

8:00 – 9:40am Crustacean Biology and Fisheries  
8:00 – 9:40am Sea Urchin Biology and Culture  
8:00 – 9:40am *Crassostrea ariakensis*

9:40 – 10:20am Morning Break

10:20 - Noon Crustacean Biology and Fisheries  
10:20 - Noon Sea Urchin Biology and Culture  
10:20 - Noon *Crassostrea ariakensis*

Noon – 2:00pm Business Meeting Lunch

2:00 – 3:20pm Geoduck Biology, Culture, and Fisheries  
2:00 – 3:20pm Sea Urchin Biology and Culture  
2:00 – 3:20pm *Crassostrea ariakensis*

3:40 – 5:40 Poster Session  
5:00 Dismal Failures

**THURSDAY, March 30**

All morning Posters on display

8:00 – 9:40am Introduced Species  
8:00 – 9:40am Sea Urchin Biology and Culture  
8:00 – 9:40am *Crassostrea ariakensis*

9:40 – 10:20am Morning Break

10:20 - Noon Biotechnology III  
10:20 - Noon Sea Urchin Biology and Culture  
10:20 - Noon Open Discussion on Intentional Introductions

Noon – 1:00pm Poster removal

## Oysters and ESA... Continued from page 2

resolutions formally objecting to the listing of the eastern oyster, while Senators and Representatives from Maine to Florida sent letters opposing the potential listing. Associations such as the ECSGA and Louisiana Oyster Task Force have traveled to Washington DC to document the “healthy” status of the oyster.

Following months of public scrutiny over the potential ESA listing, Busch withdrew the petition in late November; however, the process has not ceased. The status review team will move forward and complete its report, but NMFS is no longer under a deadline to make a decision. The agency will continue to process information it received during the public comment period including: historical and current distribution of the species throughout the range, historic and current condition, population status and trends, activities that may adversely impact the species, efforts to protect and restore the species and its habitat, and information on the existence of separate subspecies.

Although many stakeholders are relieved, the fury did not end when the petition was withdrawn. Rheault commented, “Industry members were forced to waste thousands of hours fighting this misguided petition. We pulled together as never before sending hundreds of letters, testifying to Congress and meeting with dozens of Senators and Congressmen and regulators. We are relieved that this fight is over and we can rest assured that we did all the right things to defeat this petition. We hope that we can now harness the unity and momentum we have generated towards more productive endeavors.”

For additional information, visit: [http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot\\_res/CandidateSpeciesProgram/eas.htm](http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/CandidateSpeciesProgram/eas.htm). To view the full text of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, visit: <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esaall.pdf>

Tessa S. Getchis  
NSA Newsletter Reporter

### **Reminder - Auction Items Needed for Monterey Meeting**

Don't forget to bring along items that you would like to donate for the Student-Endowment-Fund auction. The auction is a fast-paced, fun event that raises money for our NSA students. If you have items for the auction but cannot attend the meeting, send them to Sandy Shumway (address on back page).

## Recruits' Corner... Continued from page 2

with, please send them along to Sandy Shumway (contact info on back cover) to be auctioned off in her own unique style in Monterey!

As always, Dane and I (your Recruits Co-Chairs) are open to comments and suggestions. Please feel free to send them our way anytime. We also are happy to receive news of great changes taking place in the lives of NSA student members. Have you graduated, landed a new job, decided to go on for a Ph.D. after receiving your Masters? Send us the news for the Metamorphosis column here in the newsletter. Finally, don't forget to visit the Recruits web page on the NSA web site (click on “About NSA” in the left menu, then click on “Student Members”). I am looking forward to seeing many old friends and new faces at the annual meeting in Monterey. See you here in California in March 2006!!

Nature McGinn  
Co-Chair, Student Recruits



## **Dismal Failure Session to Reconvene in Monterey**

Have you ever had an experiment or new fangled idea that didn't quite pan out as you had expected? Are you guilty of committing acts of pseudoreplication in your experimental designs? Well now's your chance to get all those horror stories off your chest and come clean with your peers! Announcing the Second Annual Dismal Failures (ad hoc) Session to be held at the Annual Meeting in Monterey.

Last year's Dismal Failures session in Philly was such an unexpected success and because rumor has it that there are some NSAer's who want to dethrone Sandy Macfarlane of her dubious 2005 title, Sandy has (reluctantly) agreed to moderate this year's competition in Monterey. So, if you'd like to take on the champ with a synopsis of your failure and the lessons learned, email your title and a brief description of the unfortunate event to Chris Davis (cdavis@midcoast.com). Ten contestants will be selected to make their case before a panel of judges and one will be chosen to take home the coveted award. Disguises (and beer) will be available at the podium to protect the innocent.



## Meeting Information... Continued from page 5

presentation to the Registration Booth between 4 and 6 pm on Sunday, March 26. If you are arriving late, leave your presentation at the front desk for Debbie Marshall. A speaker ready-room with a laptop will be available for viewing your presentation.

*The computer platform for projecting Power Point images is Windows based. Mac users should trial run their presentations on a PC. Often compressed TIFF images will not be read on the Windows based version of Power Point and the result is a blank image.*

Presenters are strongly encouraged to provide their presentation in advance of the meeting, email your Power Point to Debbie Marshall ([dmmarshall@ucdavis.edu](mailto:dmmarshall@ucdavis.edu)). If your presentation is large, use a zipped format. **We will send a confirmation on receipt of your Power Point file.** We suggest that you bring your own back up of the presentation to the meeting.

Posters will be exhibited in San Carlos III on 4' x 8' poster boards. Each poster presenter is allocated a **4' wide x 4' tall space. Posters should not exceed 4 feet.** We will provide tacks. If you have other poster mounting needs, please bring them yourself. Poster boards will be set up Sunday (March 26) and removed Thursday (March 30). You may put up your poster beginning Sunday evening. Posters must be removed by Thursday midday. Please be sure to attend to your poster during the poster session.

### President's Reception

The President's Reception will be held in the Outer Bay Wing of the Monterey Bay Aquarium on Sunday evening, March 26, from 7 to 10:30 pm. This world class aquarium is not to be missed, and we are grateful to Julie Packard for the opportunity to share the experience with friends and colleagues, while sampling delicious food and drinks. The reception includes a strolling dinner, dessert and bar as well as seafood donated by generous shellfish producers which will be prepared by Aquarium chefs. The Aquarium menu emphasizes local, seasonal foods prepared from scratch. All seafood conforms to the Aquarium's Seafood Watch Guidelines. The evening's entertainment will include unparalleled opportunities for viewing giant tunas, the living art of jellies, sea turtles and other amazing marine species while enjoying a beautiful evening at the Aquarium. Two buses will run continuously between the hotel and the aquarium between 6:30 pm and 10:45 pm.

### Ken Chew's Chinese Banquet

The exact venue is still to be determined. Keep the night of Monday, March 27 open. A sign-up sheet and tickets will be available at the Conference Registration Desk. Ticket price will be approximately \$22.00

## Student Benefit Auction

Sandy Shumway's annual auction to benefit the NSA Student Endowment Fund will continue our regular tradition. The auction will occur in the San Carlos III room on Tuesday, March 28 between 7 and 11 pm. Hors d'oeuvres and drinks will be available.



## Message from the Program Chair

I'm not sure if it is the wonderful venue of Monterey or the dedication of so many colleagues organizing technical ~~sessions~~, but I do know that the 98 NSA meeting in Monterey, California, March 26 – 30, 2006 will be one of the largest and most diverse conferences in this organization's history. Over 270 authors from 17 countries will be presenting this year, and based on the number of student award entries, the competition among these bright, aspiring scientists will be intense! Within these pages is a tentative schedule of activities for the meeting; but by the time you are reading this, the NSA website will have posted a complete program schedule, including titles, authors, and order of presentations.

Due to the high number of submissions for the meeting, scheduling for a limited number of available slots for oral presentations was a challenge. So please check the NSA website to determine if your presentation is scheduled for oral or poster presentation. Also, if you submitted an abstract that does not appear on the program schedule, contact me immediately. I understand that early-on there was some confusion with the submission process, so if your paper doesn't appear on the schedule, contact me, and we can make the appropriate arrangements.

See you at "Oceans of Shellfish!"

LeRoy Creswell  
Vice-President



## Announcement - Juvenile Oyster Disease Workshop

A Juvenile Oyster Disease (JOD) Workshop will be conducted February 28, 2006 as a special concurrent session of the Milford Aquaculture Seminar. The intent of the workshop is to (1) provide a forum to summarize the existing body of knowledge on JOD, (2) seek critical review from a panel of unbiased disease experts on the investigative process and findings regarding the disease process and causative agent(s), (3) synthesize the findings in a report, and (4) provide recommendations as to the need and/or direction of future research in this area. The session will involve presentations by recognized experts in JOD research that will provide pertinent historic perspectives, industry experiences with JOD, and recent scientific findings. Persons involved in the shellfish industry, shellfish managers, and scientists interested in oyster disease are encouraged to participate.

The JOD session is sponsored by NOAA's National Sea Grant Oyster Disease Research Program and National Ocean Service, National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS), Center for Coastal Environmental Health and Biomolecular Research (CCEHBR). The workshop will be held at the Four Points Sheraton in Meriden CT. For further information please contact Jay Lewis (410-226-5193, jay.lewis@noaa.gov), or Cheryl Woodley (843-762-8862, cheryl.woodley@noaa.gov) who are serving as the coordinators for this session.

## Upcoming Events

**Aquaculture America 2006:** February 13-16, 2006, Riviera Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada. For more information, contact the Conference Manager at worldaqua@aol.com.

**6th International Abalone Symposium:** February 19-24, 2006, Puerto Varas, Chile. Note change in dates from the Spring Newsletter. Abstracts are due December 31, 2005. For information, contact Pete Haaker at phaaker@dfg.ca.gov or visit <http://www.abalone2006.cl/>.

**Milford Aquaculture Seminar (26th Annual):** February 27-March 1, 2006, Four Points Sheraton, Meriden, CT. For information contact Walter Blogoslawski at (203) 882-6535 or visit <http://mi.nefsc.noaa.gov/seminarworkshop.html>.

**Benthic Ecology Meeting:** March 8-12, 2006, Loews le Concord Hotel, Quebec City, Canada. For information contact Ladd Johnson at ladd.johnson@bio.ulaval.ca.

**4th International Workshop, CONyMA 2006 (Pollution and Environmental Protection), Harmful Seaweeds and Coastal Humedals:** March 13-17, 2006, Campeche, Mexico. This workshop is hosted by the State of Campeche, Mexico, and the Fisheries Research Centre of Cuba. For information contact conyama2006@gmail.com.

**National Shellfisheries Association 98th Annual Meeting:** March 26-30, 2006, Monterey Marriot, Monterey, CA. For information contact Paul Olin at pgolin@ucdavis.edu.

**AQUA 2006: Linking Tradition and Technology:** May 9 - 13, 2006. Fortezza Da Basso Convention Centre, Florence, Italy. For information contact Mario Stael at mario.stael@scarlet.be.

**Restore America's Estuaries, 3rd National Conference:** December 9-13, 2006, Hilton Riverside Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana. The Conference theme will be "Forging the National Imperative for Restoration." For information contact Steve Emmett-Mattox at sem@estuaries.org.

**Aquaculture 2007:** February 26 - March 2, 2007, San Antonio Convention Center, San Antonio, Texas. For information contact the Conference Manager at worldaqua@aol.com.

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



## Volunteers Needed to Organize Shellfish Sessions - NSA 2007

The Program Committee needs volunteers to organize special sessions on shellfish-related topics for the NSA-WAS-AFS triennial meeting in San Antonio, Texas, February 26-March 7, 2007 dra.shumway@uconn.edu). Jason Clay of the World Wildlife Federation will present the plenary lecture. We are already working diligently to guarantee a packed schedule of sessions addressing the most current topics and issues in global aquaculture - **but we need your help**. If you are interested in developing a special session, contact Sandy Shumway, Program Chair, or Leroy Creswell, NSA Program Representative, as soon as possible with your ideas (contact info on back page). Please consider organizing a session so that shellfish topics are well represented at the meeting.

## Bivalve Culture Methods

May 22-26, 2006  
Darling Marine Center  
Walpole, Maine



A one week hands-on residential course exploring the theory and practice of marine bivalve aquaculture. Bivalve taxonomy, anatomy, reproductive biology and genetics; algal culture; larval and juvenile rearing techniques, site selection, water quality and human health issues are among the topics to be covered. College credit available through the University of Maine. For more information, contact Linda Healy, Course Coordinator, Darling Marine Center, 193 Clark's Cove Road, Walpole, Maine 04573; phone: (207) 563-3126 ext 200, email: lhealy@maine.edu, or visit: <http://server.dmc.maine.edu/>, or contact Dr. Chris Davis, course instructor (contact information can be found on the back page).

## Thank you Reed Mariculture for sponsoring this issue of the NSA Quarterly Newsletter

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