

# National Shellfisheries Association

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2005

GROTON, CT



## President's Message

This is what I will call my mid-year report to the NSA membership. During the last annual meeting in Philadelphia, the Executive Committee along with Committee chairpersons developed many points of action. Recently, I asked all those who were given responsibilities to provide me with a progress report. I am pleased to say that almost 70 % of the goals established for this year have already been completed. It is a pleasure to work with such a group of people who are so dedicated to the future of NSA. Much of the following information that I provide is derived from the mid-year reports that I received.

By now, I hope that you have visited the new NSA web portal. The new and improved website is designed to provide NSA members with comprehensive and efficient services, including abstract submission and registration for annual meetings. Please spend some time acquainting yourself with the website, and I invite members to provide me with comments about how it can be improved, where you encountered problems, or what other services you would like to see available through the website. I need your input.

The annual meeting in Monterey, CA is shaping up and I encourage you to look at details of the program in this newsletter and make plans to attend. In particular, efforts have been made to increase the level of participation of industry. Currently, two plenary speakers and a panel discussion devoted to industry perspectives are planned. Thanks go to Joth Davis, Rick Karney, Gef Flimlin, and Bill Walton for their interest and assistance. This year, we are also planning to respond to requests to provide a list of participants to all meeting registrants. Leroy Creswell is the Program Chairman for this year's annual meeting, which is destined to become one of the most memorable for many years to come.

You may have noticed that the duties of Editor of the NSA newsletter have been taken over by Evan Ward. Evan

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*Imagine exploring Big Sur while attending "Oceans of Shellfish" in Monterey, CA.*

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

- ***Call for Abstracts***
- ***Hurricane Impacts***
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- ***Pacific Coast Section Report***

## Recruits Corner

Hey Recruits, it's that time again! Get ready for our next big meeting in sunny California. But not just anywhere in Cali... Monterey, famed for its beauty, its bay, its aquarium, and historic Cannery Row. Now you may be thinking, "that's going to be expensive", or "I can't go because I'm not presenting", or "I haven't been a member long enough to attend a meeting". Well you are wrong, wrong, wrong! Attending the meeting will not be as costly as not attending, as you could miss out on the chance to learn about current work in your field, and meet and mingle with fellow students, accomplished scientists and prospective employers! The resourceful folk of NSA have secured fantastic room rates for us at the lovely Marriott Hotel where the meeting will be held, March 26-30, 2006. You can apply to receive free room or registration through the Student Endowment Fund. You can also contact either Nature or Dane (see back page for contact info) for help with finding roommates. And, with all of this advance notice, you can still get a cheap flight. Furthermore, if you are not presenting you will have that much more time to go to talks, network and even check out the local tourist sights. Lastly, you are never too inexperienced to benefit from attending a NSA meeting. NSA is dedicated to its student members as evidenced by the many financial and experiential opportunities to attend meetings, present their work, participate in the workings of a scientific society, and even learn new skills such as A/V responsibilities and salesmanship! As mentioned below, there will be a Student Orientation Breakfast where you will learn the ins and outs of attending scientific meetings. So don't be shy, come and see what all of the buzz is about. You won't be disappointed!

On our first evening we will be treated to the President's Reception at the Monterey Bay Aquarium! The next morning, Monday, March 27th, be sure to attend the Student Orientation Breakfast where you will be briefed on how to get the most out of the meeting experience, enjoy a free "feed" and chat with other students at every level and in many disciplines. Scheduled for that same night will be Ken Chew's Annual Chinese Banquet. This is always an extremely well attended event for which you must purchase a separate ticket, so don't forget to sign up when you register for the meeting. On Tuesday evening, March 27, there is the infamous Student Auction which raises money for our Student Endowment Fund. See what Sandy will dress up as this year! We will also be holding a special student session on the fundamentals of funding to be called: **Funding: A Primer**. This is an important topic for all of us, pre-doc through post-doc. This session will be lead by experienced and funded scientists who will provide information about all aspects of funding, especially **where to find it, and how to get it**.

So register early, and don't forget that staying at the Marriot is the best way for you to participate in this great association and get the most out of the meeting experience. See you in Monterey!

Dane Frank  
Co-Chair, Student Recruits

## Student Endowment Fund Auction

Don't forget to bring items to the Monterey meeting to donate to the SEF 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.



*Auctioneer Sandy Shumway will sell most anything to raise money for the Student Endowment Fund.*

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

# OCEANS OF SHELLFISH

## 98<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL SHELLFISHERIES ASSOCIATION

MARCH 26 – 30, 2006 MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA

Mix together a Monterey venue and a diverse technical program and you have a recipe for a memorable 98<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the National Shellfisheries Association. With the help of so many NSA colleagues who are organizing sessions, the 98th NSA program is well underway. If you are interested in presenting at any of the special sessions, please contact the session organizer, or submit your abstract for other contributed sessions that are forming. Be sure to designate your presentation as oral or poster.

Abstracts should be no more than 300 words. Subsequent to receipt of your abstract, you will be notified of its acceptance as an oral or poster presentation and provided specific guidelines for your presentation.

**ABSTRACTS ARE DUE DECEMBER 1, 2005** and must be submitted through the NSA website – [www.shellfish.org](http://www.shellfish.org). The registration form will be available on the website on November 1. If you are unable to submit via the NSA website or have any questions about abstract submissions, please contact LeRoy Creswell, Program Chairman, at [lcreswell@ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:lcreswell@ifas.ufl.edu), or call (772) 462-1660. If you are an invited speaker, please send your abstract to the session organizer as well.

See you in Monterey!  
LeRoy Creswell  
VP & Program Chair

## LIST OF ORGANIZED SESSIONS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

**Restoration of Oysters and other Bivalves** - Aswani Volety; [avolety@fgcu.edu](mailto:avolety@fgcu.edu), and Bill Arnold; [bill.arnold@myfwc.com](mailto:bill.arnold@myfwc.com)

**QPX** - Roxanna Smolowitz; [rsmol@mbi.edu](mailto:rsmol@mbi.edu)

***Crassostrea ariakensis*** - Mark Luckenbach; [luck@vims.edu](mailto:luck@vims.edu)

**Genetics** - Dennis Hedgecock; [dhedge@usc.edu](mailto:dhedge@usc.edu)

**Freshwater Mussels** - Jeanette Howard; [JeanetteHoward@ctuir.com](mailto:JeanetteHoward@ctuir.com)

**Biofouling** - Bob Whitlatch; [Robert.Whitlatch@uconn.edu](mailto:Robert.Whitlatch@uconn.edu) and Sandy Shumway; [sshumway@uconn.edu](mailto:sshumway@uconn.edu)

**Abalone** - Pete Haaker; [phaaker@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:phaaker@dfg.ca.gov), and Ian Taniguchi; [itaniguchi@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:itaniguchi@dfg.ca.gov)

**Bivalve Physiology** - Dane Frank; [dana.frank@uconn.edu](mailto:dana.frank@uconn.edu), and Evan Ward; [jeward@uconn.edu](mailto:jeward@uconn.edu)

**Introduced Species** - Dianna Padilla; [padilla@life.bio.sunysb.edu](mailto:padilla@life.bio.sunysb.edu)

**Sea Urchin Aquaculture and Fisheries** - Susan Schlosser; [scschlosser@ucdavis.edu](mailto:scschlosser@ucdavis.edu)

**Biotechnology III** - Carolyn Hansen; [karolina@mindspring.com](mailto:karolina@mindspring.com), and Ami Wilbur; [wilbura@uncw.edu](mailto:wilbura@uncw.edu)

**Marketing** - Bill Walton; [wwalton@whoi.edu](mailto:wwalton@whoi.edu)

**Crustacean Biology and Fisheries** – Rich Childers; [childrkc@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:childrkc@dfw.wa.gov)

**Shellfish Industry Issues** – Joth Davis; [jdavis@bainbridge.net](mailto:jdavis@bainbridge.net), and Gef Flimlin; [flimlin@aesop.rutgers.edu](mailto:flimlin@aesop.rutgers.edu)

**Special Student Session/Funding** – Nature McGinn; [namcginn@ucdavis.edu](mailto:namcginn@ucdavis.edu), and Dane Frank; [dana.frank@uconn.edu](mailto:dana.frank@uconn.edu)

# ABSTRACTS ARE DUE DECEMBER 1, 2005

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

replaces Chris Davis who, during his tenure as Editor, most definitely took the newsletter to a higher level of production, making it a very popular benefit among NSA members. Chris' departure is the result of his being elected to the office of Treasurer. Many of you who know Evan, a past President of NSA, know that he will maintain the Newsletter's high quality to which members have become accustomed. Evan is already at work. He has enjoined three volunteer reporters (NSA members) who will be responsible for writing factual articles on current topics of interest. These reporters will interview a variety of individuals in the interest of assembling multiple perspectives. In addition, Evan plans to add a page that will include "interesting tidbits about shellfish including recipes, facts, and trivia." Look for these new features in the next newsletter! Evan is also seeking sponsors who might be interested in funding the cost of production of one of the quarterly newsletters. Please contact him if you have any ideas about potential financial sponsors.

I want members to know that during the last few months the Publications Committee has reviewed a number of scenarios that should ultimately result in a reduction of page charges for the publication of manuscripts in the *Journal of Shellfish Research*. We recognize that page charges can be significant for people whose line item for publication costs in their budgets is generally inadequate to meet needs. Our goal is a meaningful reduction in page charges, but only after we identify fiscally responsible ways to reduce operational costs and realize increases from other sources of revenue. A recommendation for the reduction of page charges is being prepared by the Publications Committee and will soon be submitted to the EXCOM for consideration. In an effort to reduce operational costs, the Publications Committee has also provided a recommendation to the EXCOM relative to the costs for stockpiling issues of *JSR* charged by Sheridan Press. A significant savings in costs should ultimately be realized by simply reducing the number of copies of each volume that are held over time. The Publications Committee has recently developed a proposal for on-line publications of the *Journal of Shellfish Research*. We are indebted to John Kraeuter (co-Chair), Susan Ford (co-Chair), Dave Bushek, and Sandy Shumway who have diligently collaborated on addressing these important publication issues.

Please take note of a new NSA bookkeeping operation. If you do not renew your membership, all membership benefits will terminate December 31st of each calendar year. All notices and accompanying invoices for membership renewal will be sent out to members around mid-October of the calendar year of membership. For those who do not renew membership, the probationary

membership status no longer exists. Please note that you cannot register to attend an annual conference until you have renewed your membership (unless you elect to pay the non-member registration fees).

Most of you are familiar with the two NSA logos that you often see in a correspondence, on the website, and on pins that are sold at the annual meetings. Unfortunately, these logos are frequently appearing on communications associated with other organizations. To protect our right to, and the integrity of, the logos, I have applied to the United States Patent and Trademark Office through the Trademark Electronic Application System (TEAS) to have NSA logos (trademarks) officially registered. The post-application process takes some time, but I should know of the fate of the application by the time the annual meeting in Monterey convenes.

As I conclude my column for this newsletter, I invite you to participate actively in attracting new NSA members. The Membership Committee (Bill Walton and Gef Flimlin, co-Chairs) cannot do it alone. They need your assistance. All members of NSA ultimately benefit from more members. The principle benefits are more opportunity for exchange of ideas, more membership benefits, and improved financial stability of the association. In this newsletter, look for the announcement of a contest to enlist new members.

I am committed to keeping the NSA membership highly informed of what your elected officers and assigned leaders of standing committees are doing. I welcome your questions about our activities. If there is something that you want to know, or want to seek clarification about an issue that we are addressing, just e-mail me. I will respond in the next newsletter to any inquiries that I receive.

Lou D'Abramo  
President

## Cover Photos Needed for *JSR*

The most difficult task associated with every issue of *JSR* is locating a suitable cover photo! If you have any appropriate pictures that you would like to have considered for publication, send them along. If your photograph is chosen, you will receive one year of free membership in NSA. If you see other photographs that might be appropriate, encourage the owners to submit them for consideration or send a copy to the Editor who will contact the photographers. Congratulations to Guillermo Roman, our first recipient whose cover photo is on the upcoming Volume 24:4 December issue.



## East Coast Shellfish Growers Association

It has been a very busy summer for the ECSGA. Many of us have spent a huge amount of time and effort fighting the petition to list the eastern oyster as an endangered species. Several of us have made many trips to DC to inform our congressional delegations about the ramifications of this frivolous petition. I testified to the House Resources Committee and made a presentation to NOAA's Eastern Oyster Status Review Team pointing out that a listing would severely impact the oyster market and cause more harm than good to both the species and the environment. Several states have issued resolutions condemning the petition and numerous politicians have rallied to our side.

Last week marked ECSGA's third trip to DC this year, and it was by far, our most productive visit yet. Karen Rivara, Tom Kehoe, Ed Rhodes and I were joined by Mike Garvey (owner of the Grand Central Oyster Bar), Joe Gergela (of the Long Island Farm Bureau), Bill Dewey of the PCSGA and a large contingent of Gulf Coast growers. We were there to kick off the formation of the Congressional Shellfish Caucus and support efforts to fund relief for oyster farmers impacted by hurricane Katrina.

The Congressional Shellfish Caucus is a group of like-minded Representatives who have agreed to support shellfish-related issues. This is a very exciting development for our industry. All Representatives have been invited to join the six co-chairs on the Caucus and we have received a great response so far. I encourage everyone to ask their Congressperson to join up because the bigger this group is, the more clout it will have. Frankly, I can see no downside to being a member of the Caucus as there is no anti-shellfish lobby group. The six co-chairs include Thelma Drake (VA), Brian Baird (WA), John Larson (CT), Bobby Jindal (LA), Mike Thompson (CA) and Henry Brown (SC) – making the Caucus a bipartisan team that represents molluscan shellfish interests on all three coasts. The kickoff event at Phillips Flagship Restaurant featured half a dozen varieties of donated oysters and clams, and attracted a roomful of representatives and their staff. This event was made possible by NFI and by generous donations from many different sectors of the shellfish industry. These events offer a great opportunity to meet politicians and introduce them to the issues.

While we were in DC we visited staffers from dozens of Senators and Representatives and reacquainted them with our issues. We are cautiously optimistic that we will see several positive developments from all this effort. While we were there we supported our Gulf coast brothers who were in town seeking funds for restoration of the gulf oyster industry following the devastation of hurricane

Katrina. The ECSGA continues to work on issues of concern to growers such as the repeal of the Byrd Amendment, which is leading to tariffs of 15% on all oysters exported to Canada. We have shown that oyster aquaculture removes more than 357 tons of nitrogen and 110 tons of phosphate from the coastal environment each year, and the benefits to the marine environment are significant.

ECSGA sponsored two oyster festivals this year generating some much-needed revenue for the association. The first was in July at the Spring House Hotel on Block Island (RI), where we shucked nearly 3000 oysters. The second was in late August at the Milford Oyster Festival (CT), where we served 8,000 oysters to a huge crowd of eager eaters. Thanks to all those who participated.

All of this effort and travel costs money, which to this point has been born by a few dedicated individuals. We thank our members for their support, but we need to do a better job of recruiting new members so we can continue this work. Please spread the word. Visit our website ([www.ECSGA.org](http://www.ECSGA.org)) for more information on the above issues, to join the online discussion group or to print an application.

Bob Rheault

## Great Attractions in Monterey!

In addition to the excellent program Leroy Creswell outlined in this newsletter, Monterey is rich in history, natural attractions, culture and shopping. You may want to extend your trip a few days before or after the conference. Within two blocks of the conference venue are landmarks such as the Cooper-Molera adobe and Customs House, which are part of the Monterey Historic State Park. Also within walking distance is shopping in downtown Monterey or along the Wharf. Old canneries along Cannery Row are packed with shops, galleries and places to eat. A special way to experience Monterey is to get out on the bay in a kayak. This will bring you close to sea otters, harbor seals, and sea lions. Several companies offer instruction and interpretive tours of the Bay via kayak. The Big Sur Coast begins about 10 miles south of Monterey. Panoramic views along the Big Sur Coast include beaches, coastal mountains, meadows, and woodlands. Big Sur is also a hiker's paradise with numerous state parks, especially Garrapata State Park, with many trails along the coast and through redwood forests to the coastal ridge. For lots of information about attractions see [http://montereyinfo.org/page/Monterey\\_Attractions](http://montereyinfo.org/page/Monterey_Attractions). Monterey really is a wonderful place to visit!

Susan Schlosser  
Paul Olin

## Pacific Coast Section Report

The 59<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Pacific Coast Section of the National Shellfisheries Association (NSA-PCS) was held September 26-29, 2005 in Hood River, Oregon. The meeting was held in conjunction with the Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association (PCSGA). Seventy presentations were given at the conference on issues related to Shellfish Management, Assessment, Biocontaminants, Invasive Species, Crustacean Management, Shellfish Safety, Marketing and Export Regulations, Genetics, Shellfish Aquaculture, and Burrowing Shrimp Control. Pacific Shellfish Institute President, Bill Dewey, coordinated a special open forum to update and establish research and educational goals and priorities for the west coast. Over 200 participants attended the conference.

Eight student presentations were made at this year's conference. The quality of the students' research and presentations continues to be of the highest caliber. Two NSA-PCS Student Paper Awards were given at this year's conference. Mr. P. Sean McDonald (University of Washington) won best Graduate Student Paper Award for his presentation titled, *Curious Case of Carcinus maenus: Bioenergetic Model*. Mr. Cody Dunigan (University of Washington) won best Undergraduate Student Paper Award for his presentation titled, *Settlement Rate and Habitat Preference in Larval Spot Prawns*. Support for students to attend the meeting was provided through the Ken Chew Student Fund. The fund provides funds for conference registration, hotel rooms, publishing costs of abstracts in the *Journal of Shellfish Research*, banquet tickets, and best paper awards. The Chew Fund is supported through a variety of fund-raising activities including student sponsorship, silent auctions and other functions.

The NSA-PCS held its annual business meeting in conjunction with the conference on September 28. A total of 57 members and non-members attended the meeting. All NSA-PCS executive positions changed hands this year with the following election results: Don Velasquez (outgoing vice-chair) was elected to the Chair position. Kelly Toy (outgoing Secretary/Treasurer) was elected Vice-Chair. The Secretary/Treasurer position was split into two separate positions and Randy Hatch and Lizzie Nelson were elected Treasurer and Secretary, respectively.

The 60<sup>th</sup> annual meeting/conference of the PCSGA will again be held in conjunction with PCS-NSA and is being scheduled for September, 2006. The conference location will be announced in early 2006. The first call for papers will be announced in March 2006. Registration information will be available on the PCSGA website

(<http://www.pcsga.org>) and those interested in presenting papers at the meeting can contact Don Velasquez (contact information on back page). In addition, I urge all PCS-NSA members to join us in Monterey, CA (March 26-30) for the annual meeting of the National Shellfisheries Association.

Mr. Don Velasquez, Chair  
NSA-Pacific Coast Section.

## NSA Membership Drive

NSA is looking to grow – and we need your help! We hope you encourage folks to join NSA and enjoy the benefits that you already enjoy. Now it's now easier than ever – new members can join online ([shellfish.org/application.htm](http://shellfish.org/application.htm))!

As a means of thanking you for your efforts to help NSA grow, we are holding a contest with free registration for the Monterey meeting as the award! When you recruit a new member from now until December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2005, your name will go into a pool for the drawing held at the end of December. The more members you recruit, the more chances you have to win!

We are hoping to significantly increase the numbers of members prior to the meeting in Monterey and are looking forward to welcoming many new faces in the coming year.

Bill Walton  
Co-Chair, Membership Committee

## AQ '07 - Science for Sustainable Aquaculture

Put it on your calendar now - February 26-March 7, 2007 - and get ready for another triennial extravaganza in San Antonio, Texas. The Program Committee is already working diligently to guarantee a packed schedule of sessions addressing the most current topics and issues in global aquaculture. Jason Clay of the World Wildlife Federation will present the plenary lecture and you are all encouraged to submit ideas for special sessions. Even if you don't want to organize it yourself, let us know what topics you'd like to see covered - especially the shellfish-oriented ones – we'll find an organizer! Send your suggestions to Sandy Shumway, Program Chair or Leroy Creswell, NSA Program Representative.

## **New Genetic Test Can Detect Clam Disease Crippling Shellfish Industry**

A sensitive new genetic test can now detect a crippling disease called QPX occurring in clam beds from Cape Cod south to Virginia and north to Canada. Although it does not affect humans and it is not as well known as red tide, the disease can have a significant impact on a local economy by killing clams and devastating shellfish harvests and commercial aquaculture operations.

QPX - for quahog parasite unknown - is a single-celled organism related to slime mold. It was first detected in 1995 in Provincetown, MA and spread to nearby clam beds, killing nine of ten clams in many of the beds. The disease spreads from clam to clam, infecting the clam by secreting a thick mucus layer to insulate itself from the clam's immune system.

Rebecca Gast, an associate scientist in the Biology Department at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI), has developed a genetic test to detect the organism not only in clams but in seawater and sediment. Since QPX also decomposes seaweed, researchers now believe it can be found in all coastal waters but doesn't become deadly to clams until it reaches a critical concentration in the water.

Gast notes that although red tide got a lot of media attention this year, QPX is actually a bigger problem. The toxins that cause red tide in clams and other shellfish in New England do not kill the shellfish and will wash away once the red tide bloom diminishes, eventually making the shellfish safe to eat. QPX kills the clams, and there is no known cure.

Gast is working with Roxanna Smolowitz, a veterinarian at the nearby Marine Biological Laboratory, to find out what triggers the organisms to reach concentrations that become deadly, and whether that threshold varies among clam strains. Smolowitz uses traditional microscopic examination of tissues to determine if clams are sick. Gast's genetic test can now also be used to ensure clams without visible symptoms are not carrying the disease. With the disease spreading along the East Coast and no cure, the researchers say the best solution for shellfishermen and aquaculture operations is to keep infection levels as low as possible and try to keep seed clams free of the disease. One possible remedy may be rotating shellfish crops, much like farmers do on land.

Suzi Fraser Dominy  
Publisher, [Aquafeed.com](http://Aquafeed.com)

## **Hurricanes Katrina and Rita Decimate Gulf Oyster Production**

Oyster production in the gulf region was severely impacted by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Louisiana and Mississippi's shellfish growing waters have been closed to harvesting since Katrina's landfall, exacerbated by a strong storm surge from Hurricane Rita as well. Oyster resource evaluations are continuing, with early analyses showing >50% mortality on Louisiana's public oyster grounds, causing delay in the opening of harvest season. Similar damage is expected on private oyster leases, with field sampling being planned. Katrina's storm surge also wrecked much of the industry's fleet and infrastructure in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, which will take months to rebuild.

Louisiana Sea Grant's Grand Isle Oyster Hatchery was destroyed by a twelve-foot storm surge. The hatchery plays an important role in the gulf region's oyster research and development. Approximately 69 million larvae were released when the tanks were breached during the storm. Brood and seedstocks survived remarkably well in an Australian adjustable longline system under evaluation near-shore the hatchery, saving years of polyploidy and Dermo-resistant research efforts. Oyster recovery efforts include hatchery utilization, so planning and rebuilding efforts are underway.

The names Katrina and Rita were added to a growing list of potential students whose application to LSU's oyster program will receive greater scrutiny.

John Supan

## **NSA 2008: Celebrating a Century of Shellfish**

The NSA Centennial meeting is now set for Providence, Rhode Island in the spring of 2008. Few scientific societies can boast a 100-year history and we plan to celebrate in style. Some have already signed up to work on the planning committee, more are always welcome. Ideas for a logo, themes, special sessions, historical displays or other attractions (in addition to our usual fun-filled sessions, auction and downtown Providence) should be sent to Sandy. Watch the newsletter for details.

## Message from the Incoming Newsletter Editor

This is my first issue as Editor of the *NSA Quarterly Newsletter*. Actually, Chris Davis has helped a great deal with this issue, and I thank him for his assistance and training. For the next issue, I will be flying solo and hope to initiate a few changes. One of these changes will be to include articles from newsletter reporters; NSA members who have volunteered to write articles on various topics related to shellfisheries research and the shellfish industry. Using reporters to

prepare and write short articles for the newsletter will provide a multi-person perspective, and hopefully make the articles more informative and interesting. So don't be surprised if you are contacted by one of these reporters for information. Also, if you would like to volunteer to write an article for the Newsletter, please don't hesitate to contact me. As always, I encourage all members to send me shellfish-related anecdotes, news, announcements for upcoming events, and changes in status or address (metamorphosis).

Evan Ward  
Newsletter Editor

## STUDENT ENDOWMENTS AND AWARDS

### APPLICATION FORM FOR STUDENT PRESENTATION AND TRAVEL AWARDS FOR THE 98<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL SHELLFISHERIES ASSOCIATION, MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA, MARCH 26-30, 2006

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

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

PRESENTATION TITLE (Attach a copy of abstract form):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PRESENTATION FORMAT: ORAL POSTER (Circle one)?

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

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

IF YOU ARE SELECTED FOR THE TRAVEL AWARD, WHAT IS YOUR PREFERECE OF  
THE AWARD? LODGING REGISTRATION WAIVER (Circle One).

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

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

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

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

**DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS IS DECEMBER 1, 2005**



# NSA-Student Endowment Fund

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

## STUDENT ENDOWMENT AWARDS MONTEREY 2006

Students participating in the 2006 NSA meeting in Monterey are invited to apply for both **travel awards** and **presentation awards**. For consideration for either award, students must present only their original research. Recent graduates will also be considered if they present only research gathered while a student and within one year of receiving their degree. A short description of these awards and the requirements for consideration follow. Please note that incomplete applications will not receive equal consideration for either type of award.

### PRESENTATION AWARDS

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

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

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

### STUDENT TRAVEL AWARDS

To facilitate the active participation by students in the 2006 meeting, travel awards will be granted to cover either registration and/or lodging. These funds are competitively awarded based primarily on abstract quality, and secondarily on financial need (i.e., distance of travel, support level) and the student advisors' recommendation.

### AWARD REQUIREMENTS

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

- 1) Fill out the abstract submission form or submit electronically via the NSA web site. Check the appropriate box(es) on the abstract submission form requesting consideration for student presentation and/or travel awards.
- 2) Fill out the Student Endowment Award application form on page 8.
- 3) Obtain one letter of recommendation from your advisor or other faculty mentor.
- 4) Enclose the Student Endowment Award Application in a separate envelope addressed to the Student Awards Committee. The application should consist of a) the **Endowment Award application form**, b) **letter of recommendation** and c) a **copy of the abstract** submission form.
- 5) Mail your complete set of Student Endowment Award application materials to Dr. Maureen Krause (contact information on back page) by **December 1, 2005**.

Remember that the original abstract, abstract submission form and fee should also be submitted on-line. Please forward any questions concerning student awards to either Maureen Krause or Ryan Carnegie (contact information on back page). Good Luck!

**Attention faculty advisors: Please don't forget** to write letters of recommendation for your students applying for SEF travel awards! Your support is very important for your students to compete for the awards.

**Attention students:** Travel award recipients will be expected to assist at the meeting (e.g., manning the sales booth table or operating the A/V or other assistance as needed).

## Special Lobster Issue of *JSR*

By now you should have received your copy of Volume 24(3) of *JSR* - a special issue on lobster disease. I would like to express my very special thanks to the Guest Editors: Tony Calabrese, Nancy Balcom and Antoinette Clemetson. This research is the result of the Long Island Sound Lobster Research Initiative (2001-2004). Funding for the publication of this issue was provided by the NOAA Fisheries Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Connecticut Sea Grant College Program, New York Sea Grant Institute, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Thank you to all of the authors, guest editors and sponsors for making dissemination of this information possible!

Sandy Shumway  
*JSR* Editor



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## 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](mailto: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 more information, contact Pete Haaker at [phaaker@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:phaaker@dfg.ca.gov) or visit <http://www.abalone2006.cl/>.

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

**National Shellfisheries Association 98<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting:** March 26-30, 2006, Monterey Marriot, Monterey, CA. Contact Paul Olin at [pgolin@ucdavis.edu](mailto:pgolin@ucdavis.edu) for more information.

**AQUA 2006: Linking Tradition and Technology:** May 9 - 13, 2006. Fortezza Da Basso Convention Centre, Florence, Italy. For more information, contact Mario Stael at [mario.stael@scarlet.be](mailto: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 more information, please contact Steve Emmett-Mattox at [sem@estuaries.org](mailto:sem@estuaries.org).

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

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).

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