

In Memoriam

Victor Gregory Burrell 1925-2009



Former NSA President and Honored Life Member, Vic Burrell, passed away on the morning of December 20, 2009. Vic was born September 12, 1925 in Wilmington, NC, but grew up in Florence, SC. He joined the U.S. Navy in 1943 and saw action in Okinawa and Ie Shima. After the war, he received a B.S.

from the College of Charleston and began working in a family meat packing business, during which time he also owned and operated a charter boat and oyster business. He returned to school to earn both an M.S. and Ph.D. in Marine Science from the College of William and Mary.

While at VIMS, Vic worked as a field party chief and helped to establish the Marine Advisory Program, for which he was the first industry liaison officer. He served as scientist on several joint Canadian, Russian and U.S. cruises in the North Atlantic (IGNAF) before returning to South Carolina in 1972 as an Associate Marine Scientist at the South Carolina Marine Resources Research Institute. In 1973, he became Assistant Director and in 1974 the Director of the Institute. Using IGNAF program methods, Vic initiated the Marine Mapping and Assessment Program (MARMAP) for the South Atlantic coast of the U.S.

Vic helped to organize the South Carolina Fisheries Workers Association and was a charter member of the Southeastern Estuarine Research Society. He served as president and was eventually elected an Honorary Life Member of the Society. Vic held adjunct faculty appointments at the College of Charleston, Medical University of South Carolina, and The Citadel.

After "retiring" in 1991, Vic wrote several histories of important South Carolina fisheries and continued to publish scientific papers. He served on the founding board of the South Carolina Aquarium and was chosen Fishery Conservationist of the Year in 2007 by the South Carolina chapter of the American Fisheries Society.

Vic Burrell is survived by four daughters, eight grandchildren, and twelve great grandchildren. Known as a mild mannered gentleman from the South, Vic will be remembered dearly by all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Dave Bushek

Arthur S. Merrill 1916-2009



Arthur S. Merrill, former President of NSA and Editor of its *Proceedings*, died this past year at the age of 93. Arthur was born in Savannah, GA on April 16, 1916. He enlisted in the Army in 1942, eventually serving as a B-24 Liberator pilot and obtaining the rank of First Lieutenant. After service, Arthur obtained a high school diploma

and entered the University of Miami where he majored in Zoology with a Geology minor. He completed his degree at Miami in 1952, obtained an M.A. from Harvard in 1961 and received his Ph.D. in 1970 from the University of Delaware for his study of the Architectonicidae of the Western Atlantic.

Arthur was a long time researcher and administrator with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and, as a senior administrator, he oversaw much of the research conducted at numerous NMFS labs along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. From 1958 to 1964, he was a Research Biologist with the USFWS Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, MA. He was appointed Assistant Laboratory Director of the Oxford Biological Laboratory at Oxford, MD and in 1968 was promoted to Director of the Oxford lab. From 1971 to 1976, he served as Director of Resource Assessment Investigations at the NMFS Middle Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Center and was stationed in both Oxford, MD and Highlands, NJ.

Arthur's contributions to shellfish research were extensive. He added some 7,330 lots of molluscs, from Maine to Florida, to the collection at Harvard's Museum of Comparative Zoology. He contributed nearly 100 publications and reports on shellfish, including papers written with the great oyster expert, Paul S. Galtsoff and two widely cited and pioneering papers on the Quaternary marine environments on the Atlantic Continental Shelf coauthored with eminent marine geologist Kenneth O. Emery. Arthur served as Vice President and President of the Malacological Union (1968-1972) and was, at various times, on the editorial boards of *The Nautilus*, the *Fisheries Bulletin*, and the *Proceedings of the National Shellfisheries Association*. The latter expanded and flourished under his guidance and in 1968 Arthur was cited by NSA Executive Committee for his outstanding leadership and service as editor of the *Proceedings*.

Richard Johnson