

**N**EW (ORTH??)  
**E**NGLAND (AST??)  
**E**STUARINE  
**R**ESEARCH  
**S**OCIETY

VOLUME 3; ISSUE 1

"ALL THE NEWS THAT'S  
FIT FOR NEERS"



Editor: Richard Orson  
Assoc Editor: Robert Radulski

## NEERS DOES BLOCK ISLAND IN STYLE

Story Inside

**H**APPY NEW YEAR TO ALL. Another year and another issue of NEERS News. This year should prove very interesting to all you New England estuarine types out there. First we will be meeting in Wells, Maine in May and just a few short months later, hosting the ERF '97 meetings in Providence, Rhode Island...Watch Out There are also \$\$ opportunities and other little tid bits sure to make those winter afternoons pass quickly. So let's get to it.

To begin it is time to congratulate the newest additions to the NEERS Executive Committee. **Scott Warren** is the President-Elect, **Pam Arnofsky** is the new Treasurer, **Wendy Smith Leo** wins a second term as Secretary and **Robert Buchsbaum** (yes the very same person you used to send your checks to) and **Charlene D'Avanzo** are the new Advisors-At-Large. Another era passes and **Dave Franz's** tenure as President has just come to an end. We all want to take this moment to thank Dave for his years of service and compliment him on a job well done. The mantle has been passed to

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the competent (if not shaky) hands of **Fred Short**, the new President. We want to take this moment to wish Fred good luck and remind him to keep those campaign promises (i.e., free beer).

**Marshall Pregnell** remains Program Chair.

For those of you who cannot believe their eyes, it is true that this is the first newsletter to be printed without **Veronica Berounsky** as a member of the NEERS Executive Committee. She certainly gave it her all and now is giving it to ERF. Of course she still won't leave quietly, the back page still has Veronica listed, but this time with the ERF '97 Committee. Also keep in mind that the ERF '97 Committee is always looking for volunteers. So if you want to help out just give them a call. Those of you not in ERF, the call for papers just went out and abstracts are due April 1, 1997. If you need a registration form give Rich Orson a call or contact the ERF '97 Committee (the info is listed in the Winter 1997 ERF Newsletter).

Below is the new President's message, as you can see by the overlap, great minds think alike...(of course some of you might argue if that is the case then this has to be a stroke of pure coincidence).

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from your new NEERS President! We had a very scenic and enjoyable, not to mention interesting, fall 1996 meeting on Block Island off the Rhode Island coast. This meeting was organized by Veronica Berounsky and Walter Berry. A new team of NEERS officers were



installed at the fall meeting. Many thanks to Dave Franz, for his hard work as President and to Robert Buchsbaum, for his many years of service as Treasurer and Secretary-Treasurer. Charlie Roman and Scott Warren did an outstanding job as Advisors to NEERS during the last two years. In addition to myself, our new crew of officers includes: Scott Warren, President-Elect; Wendy Smith Leo, continuing as Secretary; Pam Arnofsky, Treasurer; David Franz, Past President; and Marshall Pregnall who continues as Program Chair. Thanks also to the new Advisors of NEERS, including Robert Buchsbaum and Charlene D'Avanzo. Veronica Berounsky is now giving her prodigious energies to ERF; we at NEERS think ERF is lucky to have her and thank her for her many years of service as a NEERS officer. Veronica, we'll miss you, but we have your e-mail address!

The upcoming spring 1997 meeting is now well into the planning stage. We will gather in Wells, Maine at the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve, May 1-3. The Reserve headquarters are located in the scenic saltwater Laudholm Farm; the NEERS meeting will take place in the newly renovated cow barn, now an auditorium. The first day of the meeting (Thursday, May 1) will be devoted to a special session on salt marsh ecology in the Gulf of Maine. Regular sessions follow on Friday and Saturday, with a lobster bake and cruise along the Maine coast included.

Look at the spring NEERS meeting as a good place to get feedback on a poster for the fall 1997 ERF meeting in Providence, RI. As you may have read elsewhere, ERF is encouraging poster submissions. If you need more information on the NEERS spring meeting, contact Wendy Smith Leo at: [enquad@world.std.com](mailto:enquad@world.std.com)

NEERS is always looking for new members. We particularly encourage student members and student presentations. We now offer three student prizes at our meetings: best graduate student presentation, best undergraduate presentation, and best student poster.

Looking forward to seeing you in Wells and Providence.

Fred Short  
NEERS President  
[fts@christa.unh.edu](mailto:fts@christa.unh.edu)

[Editors Note: Welcome To Our New President]

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## MEETINGS

### NEERS SPRING '96

For those of us who attended the meetings on Block Island I think I can speak for all of us when I say WOW, WHAT A TRIP THAT WAS! The meetings were well received and the weather and setting was perfect...indeed, many on the Island expressed interest in having the Fall meetings on the island every year (of course the organizers **Veronica B.** and **Walter Berry**, did not necessarily agree with those sentiments). This was also the largest meetings we have had with about 150 people registering for both the Special Session on Thursday and the regular meetings on Friday and Saturday.

The meetings began with the ferry ride to the island. Many NEERSians took the 11:00 AM boat and registration began there. After a nice ride we arrived on the island and proceeded to the various hotels and accommodations. Many of us stayed at the Manisses and enjoyed beautiful rooms with a spectacular view. Soon after arriving the hotel had a nice lunch for us and we had time to get reacquainted with each other. After lunch we stowed our gear and enjoyed the afternoon special session on oil spills and marine pollution. The talks were interesting as were some of the facts. For example, one talk on bird recovery said that it ended up costing \$52,000/bird and only one bird survived. That drew a response from the audience. The first mixer in the evening was a blast and people had a great time. Llamas, Emus & Goats, oh my!

The Friday and Saturday general sessions had many interesting talks and discussion were plentiful. We learned that **Ernie Ruber** is now immortalized as a copepod (*Apocyclops eruberi*) and that **Fred Short** can come to these meetings and not talk about eelgrass (who knew?). The Friday evening banquet was a nice mix of food, stories and fun. The Rankin Award was presented to **Scott Peabody** for his presentation titled "Environmental effects of discarded batteries on estuarine life". The Ketchum Award went to **Pam Morgan** for her talk on "Assessing primary production and sediment retention in created salt marshes of the Great Bay Estuary" and the first recipient of the David Dean Poster Award went to **A. Hunter Brawley** for his work "Bird use of restoration and reference marshes within the Barn Island tidal wetland complex". Congratulations to all winners, this is really what makes NEERS the organization it is. Besides our student award winners, a number of individuals were honored as well. Past-President



of ERF ('73-75) and Past-President of NEERS ('72-74), **H. Perry Jeffries** was made an honorary member. During the presentation of the honors it came out the the journal Estuaries came close to being called JESUS (Journal of the Estuarine Society of the US). **Dave Franz** was also honored for his time as President of NEERS. To show our appreciation Dave was given an all-expense paid trip to Jamaica Bay (Dave lives in Brooklyn). We also learned that the Dennis Franz's character on NYPD Blue, is modeled after NEERS blues and our own Dave Franz...way to go Dave. And of course what would the evening be without a memorable quote. This year **Bob Buchsbaum** was also honored for his many years as the Treasurer and wondering how Bob was going to afford to send his family on vacation without NEERS funds, Bob said "Just give me the check for the dues and the next Treasurer will send you a receipt". Now **Pam Arnofsky** gets to go on those trips...way to go Pam. The banquet ended with a slide show to Antarctica presented by Doug Tolderlund (Thanks Doug, the penguins were cute as always). As is traditional, following the banquet, NEERSians went out and ransacked the island. We ended up at a local bar dancing, singing and celebrating a strangers birthday. For those of us who attend these dance sessions it seems that we always meet up with some interesting local color (who can forget the lady-in-white in NH) and this time she happened to be wearing a black outfit with knee-high stockings and high-heels. For a nightcap we went to Fred's room and climbed into his hot-tub (of course with all the people we could just get our feet wet, but **Pat Kremer** did manage to go for a swim).

The meetings ended on Saturday after the morning session and a number of people took the time to travel around the island before leaving. The day was beautiful, the meetings great and the ferry ride was fun. What more can anyone ask for. These meetings get better all the time and we are looking forward to Wells, Maine in May.

### NEERS SPRING '97

The Spring 1995 NEERS meeting will be at the Wells Estuarine Research Reserve, Wells, ME, from May 1-3, 1997. The announcement is just about to go out. Contact is Tin Smith (not Tim) 207-646-1555 ext 19. Thursday there will be a workshop on Coastal Wetlands Ecosystems. Abstracts for papers and posters are due to Marshall Pregnall by 3/17/97. Accommodations are at the Village-by-the-Sea in Wells; room rates are by 2-bedroom suites and members are responsible for making their own reservations.

### ERF '97, PROVIDENCE, RI

As always we are still looking for volunteers to help with organizing the **1997 ERF Meetings** scheduled for Providence, Rhode Island. This ERF meeting will be hosted by NEERS so it is our responsibility to make sure it is a great meeting. All of those who may be interested in helping to prepare for the meeting, please contact meeting organizer, **Jonathan Garber**, at **USEPA, 27 Tarzwell Drive, Narragansett, RI 02882** or call **(401)782-3154** or **Veronica Berounsky** at the address listed on the cover page or E-Mail at **vmberoun@gso.sun1.gso.uri.edu**.

### STUDENT SUPPORT

1. The **Sounds Conservancy Inc.** has a Marine Conservation Education and Research Program which supports student research projects within the marine region of southern New England (East River, NY to Outer Cape). Grants of \$1,000 to a maximum of \$2,500 are available. Applications are due **April 1 for summer funds** and **October 1 for funding during the academic year**. For application/information contact **Christopher Percy**, The Sounds Conservancy, Inc., 43 Main St., P.O. Box 266, Essex, CT 06426 or call (203)767-1933. The Sounds Conservancy also encourages membership in its organization which helps provide funding for student grants. Anyone interested in becoming a member can contact the Conservancy at the above noted address.

2. Dr. Stephen H. Jones at the **University of New Hampshire** is seeking a graduate student to perform research as part of a new two-year project beginning in February, 1997. The position is fully funded. The research is on the role of microflora in the improvement of larval fish health. The work will focus on summer flounder and will be carried out at UNH laboratory facilities and at a local on-shore recirculating aquaculture system. Applicants should have background knowledge, interest and experience in one or more of the following areas: microbial ecology, fish diseases, fish culture. Please send a letter of interest, a complete resume, copies of official academic transcripts, and three letters of reference to:

Dr. Stephen H. Jones  
Jackson Estuarine Laboratory  
University of New Hampshire  
Durham, NH 03824  
shj@christa.unh.edu



3. The **Hudson River Foundation** and the **Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve** sponsor the Tibor T. Polgar Summer Fellowship Program for undergraduate and graduate research on the Hudson River estuary. They seek proposals focused on increasing our understanding of the physical, chemical and biological processes and relationships that exist in the Hudson River estuary. Projects on public policy aspects of the Hudson River environment are also eligible. Summer grants of \$3,500.00 plus \$500.00 for expenses are available. Students must be sponsored by a major professor. Applications should include 1) letter of interest from the student and of support from the sponsor, 2) 4-6 page project description, 3) a detailed time table, 4) budget, and 5) student's CV. Submit original and five copies **by March 3, 1997** to:

Polgar Fellowship Committee,  
Hudson River Foundation  
40 W 20th St, 9th Floor  
New York, NY 10011

4. The **New York Sea Grant Institute** and the **HRNERR** are soliciting applications for the 1996 Cooperative Research Fellowship from graduate students seeking to fund thesis work on the Hudson River. Emphasis will be on the following three areas: a) developing remediation and evaluation techniques for plans to restore disturbed coastal environments; b) understanding the impact of introduced species on wetland ecosystems and development of effective response, detection and control mechanisms; and c) determining the relationships between wetland ecosystems and the drainage basin. Fellowships will be awarded with a stipend of \$14,000 plus \$2,000 to cover operational costs [this should make somebody out there very happy]. A portion of the work must be conducted within or have direct application to HRNERR. The fellowship will begin as early as June 1 or as late as September 1, concluding one year from starting date. **Deadline for applications is February 21, 1997.** Applicants must consult the sponsors of the fellowship as they develop their proposals. For more information contact Chuck Nieder at (914)758-5193.

[Editor's Note: The past few years NEERS members have received a number of these fellowships and this year should be no different. Let your NEERS dues work for you. So don't be shy and apply for these opportunities before someone else does...it can't hurt to send an application]

## POSITIONS

### Darwin Fellow UMASS

Amherst announces a post-doctoral lectureship in organismic and evolutionary biology. More than 70 faculty members in 10 departments are committed to the study of organismic and evolutionary biology, offering unique training and research opportunities for recent Ph.D.'s. Our 2-year lecture/research position allows independent research with a faculty member and experience developing and teaching a 1-semester undergraduate course. Position subject to availability of funds. 1st year salary: \$25,000. 2nd year salary: \$30,000. To apply, send: CV; 3 letters of reference; statements of research and teaching interests; and letter of support from your proposed UMASS Amherst faculty sponsor. E-mail [darwin@bio.umass.edu](mailto:darwin@bio.umass.edu) or call 413-545-0928 for a list of faculty research interests and more information. Send materials to:

Darwin Fellowship  
Morrill Science Center

University of Massachusetts Amherst Amherst,  
MA 01003-5810

Application review begins: 3/1/97 Position remains open until successful candidate is selected. Start date: 9/1/97

### Part-Time Instructor Marine Biology

For Fall 1997. Position requires 3-4 contact hours (one evening) per week for 14 weeks at a Boston-area institution, plus laboratory and field time. Applicants should have a Ph.D. in an appropriate marine science field, previous college teaching experience, and an ability to teach students with different academic backgrounds. The marine studies consortium is an association of Massachusetts Teaching and Research Institutions which share marine science and policy curricula. Applications must include a cover letter, cv, and names of three references. Closing date: February 24, 1997. Send application to:  
Search Committee

Marine Studies Consortium  
400 Heath Street  
Chestnut Hill, MA 02167

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**NASA RESEARCH ANNOUNCEMENT:  
REMOTE SENSING RESEARCH--  
BIOLOGICAL OCEANOGRAPHY**

Category: A--Research and Development  
(PROCUREMENTS). Date Published: January  
16, 1997. Contact:

NASA Headquarters(HQ) Acquisition Division,  
Code CW, 300 E  
Street SW,

Washington DC 20546 POC NASA Headquarters,  
Dr. James Yoder (202)358-0310  
Email: [jyoder@hq.nasa.gov](mailto:jyoder@hq.nasa.gov)

Synopsis: SOL NRA-97-MTPE-01 DUE 040497  
The National Aeronautics and Space  
Administration (NASA) intends to solicit  
proposals for scientific investigations and  
activities in support of NASA's Office of Mission  
to Planet Earth for remote sensing research related  
to biological oceanography and ocean  
biogeochemistry. The focus of this NRA is on  
research emphasizing satellite ocean color scanner  
imagery as the principal data source, although  
studies of ocean biological and biogeochemical  
processes using satellite sensors other than ocean  
color scanners as the principal tool will also be  
considered. Incorporating in situ data in the  
investigation is also encouraged as is assimilation  
of satellite data into mathematical models. This  
announcement also provides a mechanism for US  
and foreign investigators to apply for membership  
in a new, reformed Sea Wide Field Sensor  
(SeaWiFS) Science Team. This NRA will be  
available electronically on 3 February, 1997, via  
the Internet at the MTPE Home Page:  
<http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/mtpe/>  
under  
"MTPE Research Announcements or via  
anonymous ftp at: [ftp.hq.nasa.gov/pub/mtpe](ftp://ftp.hq.nasa.gov/pub/mtpe). A  
paper copy of the NRA will be available to those  
who do not have access to Internet by calling  
(202)358-3552 and leaving a voice mail message.  
This announcement will be open for the period  
from 3 February, 1997 through 4 April, 1997 and  
proposals may be submitted at any time  
throughout that period. (W-014 SN020790) URL:  
<http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/mtpe/>

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**EDUCATION**

Dear NEERSians,

Thanks to all of you who participated in  
my teaching workshop at the Block Island  
meeting. You were all so very patient and  
generous. I'm in the early stages of trying to  
figure out how to lead workshops on teaching, and  
it is only because you are all such nice people that  
I felt brave enough to give this one a try. (Plus  
Veronica said she really, really, really wanted me  
to do it).

The Block Island session was a trial  
balloon for a longer 2-3 hour workshop I'll be  
giving at the ERF meeting next fall. The format  
will be similar with everyone working in small  
groups much of the time. I haven't decided on  
specifics but the overall focus will be the same -  
how to get students engaged in active learning in  
courses. So I will much appreciate any  
suggestions you can give me so that this will be a  
fun, useful workshop.

Other educational events at ERF '97 will  
be a poster session called "Teaching and Learning  
About Estuaries: Strategies That Work" and a  
workshop on "Using the Internet: Even  
Landlocked Students Can Do Investigations in  
Marine Science" (see the ERF Fall 1996  
newsletter). Anyone who participates in the  
education poster session can also give another  
talk or poster elsewhere in the meeting. Several  
folks at the Block Island meeting asked me for a  
copy of my teacher-researcher comparison. Here  
it is:

1. The scientist had very little training in  
research. He did not know the literature and  
was not interested in reading current papers in  
scientific journals. His research received little  
or no peer review. He did not devise ways to  
test whether his research procedures produced  
meaningful results.
2. The professor had very little training in  
teaching. He did not know the literature and  
was not interested in reading current papers in  
education journals. His teaching received  
little or no peer review. He did not devise  
ways to test whether his teaching procedures  
produced meaningful results.

My sincere thanks again for your help and  
support.

Charlene D'Avanzo  
Professor of Ecology/School of Natural Science  
Hampshire College  
Amherst, MA 01002  
413-5825569; FAX (413-5825448)  
email: [cdavanzo@hampshire.edu](mailto:cdavanzo@hampshire.edu)



## BUSINESS NEWS

A Message from our Secretary, Wendy:

### NEERS DUES ARE DUE

1997 dues are due at or before the Spring Meeting; dues are now \$15 for regular members and still \$5 for student members. Please pay your back dues! Check your mailing label, which has a number in the upper right to show how many \$ you owe including 1997 dues. Please note that if you have recently paid your 1997 NEERS dues through ERF, the Secretary and Treasurer may not yet have that information. Those who have not paid for 1996 or 1997 will be dropped from the mailing list immediately after the Spring meeting. Don't miss out! Make it easy on the volunteer officers! Send those checks with your meeting preregistration or separately, but send 'em to:

Pam Arnofsky  
Biology Department, Redfield 1-44,  
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution  
Woods Hole, MA 02543.  
508-289-2598; fax 508-457-2134;  
email [parnofsk@mail.whoi.edu](mailto:parnofsk@mail.whoi.edu).

### Apology:

New member, **Timothy J. Iannuzzi** did not receive any info or mailings since he moved up here from AERS last year. We do apologize and will try never to let it happen again. Welcome Aboard Tim.

### SEMINAR SERIES

Connecticut College, The Coast Guard Academy and UCONN/Avery Point are presenting a series of coordinated seminars for the Spring of '97. The seminars are presented on alternate Tuesday evenings at the Coast Guard Academy, Thursdays afternoons at Connecticut College and Thursday evenings at UCONN/Avery Point. For those of you in the New London area, they may provide some interesting and informative sessions. For schedules and more information contact: Lt. Com. Bob Shields at (860)444-8634 for the Coast Guard schedule; Dr. Peter Siver at (860)439-5021 for Connecticut College and Dr. James Kremer at (860)405-9026 for UCONN events.

Just in case you missed the other reminders:

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## COMMENTARY

I regret doubly that an inviolable obligation will keep me away from attending the NEERS meeting. First it looks like a great meeting. Secondly, and this is my reason for writing, a proposal to change the name of NEERS is to be considered. I feel very strongly about the New England in NEERS and am completely opposed to any changes.

I do not believe our name is exclusionary in any way. The name American Society of Limnologists and Oceanographers has not discouraged scientists from all over the world from joining. In addition, the name New England conjures up an image of the environments we study, tidally driven, seasonally pulsed, formerly glaciated, diverse habitats, etc. The name identifies us and sets us apart as no other could.

Alternative names have even more problems. For example, North East lacks personality and excludes our Canadian Maritime colleagues who would be southeastern from their perspective.

I could go on, but Heidi is sitting in our packed truck ready to leave. I don't want her to go without me. Please give very serious consideration to our name, its history and meaning and the consequences of changing it.

Very Sincerely Yours,  
Peter F. Larsen

[received 10/15/96. The opinions expressed here are those of Peter and do not necessarily reflect those of the NEERS NEWS staff]





**CARTOON VIEWPOINT: DANA SUMMERS**

SUMMERS THE OPLAND SENTINEL

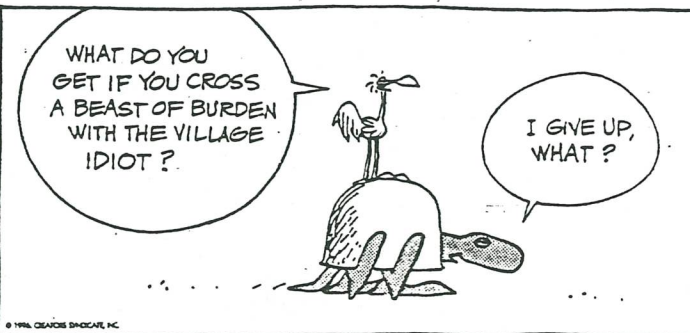
THE EASTERN SEABOARD CAN EXPECT AN ADDITIONAL 16 INCHES OF GLOBAL WARMING TOMORROW!



WEATHER



WIZARD OF ID



B.C.

SEE YOU IN WELLS, MAINE AND PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

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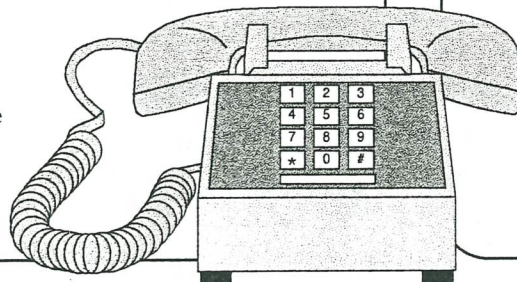
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NEERS News letter