

NEW (ORTH??)
ENGLAND (AST??)
ESTUARINE
RESEARCH
SOCIETY

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NEWS

January 1998

"ALL THE NEWS THAT'S
FIT FOR NEERS"



Editor: Richard Orson
Assoc Editor: Robert Radulski

ERF '97 HITS IT BIG

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL. First I would like to apologize for not getting issue 2 out. I moved over the summer and never got a chance to get the thing finished and in the mail. Well that is the past and it is time to move on. 1997 was a very good one for estuarine scientists here in the northeast. ERF held its biannual meeting in Providence, RI and NEERS was the host affiliate. Over a thousand ERFians attended the October meetings and had a real good time. More about the ERF meetings later. Now let's get to it!

PRESIDENTS CORNER

Greetings from icy New Hampshire!

And Happy New Year to all NEERS members. It's been a good year for NEERS, I think, starting last spring with the meeting at the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve. The Marsh Symposium day of that meeting was a great addition. Many thanks to Michelle Dionne and her crew for organizing the meeting and symposium in their beautiful Maine setting. I wrote an advertisement for NEERS and a synopsis of the spring meeting for the journal *Environmental Conservation* (1997), 24(3):291-292 (perhaps we'll get some international members!)

Great to see many NEERS faces at the ERF meeting in Providence, RI in October. We can be proud of the tremendous job that Veronica and Jonathan did in organizing ERF '97. Thanks to Wendy and those of you who helped her with photographs for our NEERS display panel in Providence. It was among the best society displays and I heard lots of positive feedback. Charlie Roman organized the ERF '97 field trips, with several NEERS members responsible for trips, including a visit to restored marsh sites and to the Narragansett Bay Estuarine Research Reserve.

We held our usual NEERS meeting during ERF event. The item of NEERS financial contributions to ERF meetings arose, and will need to be discussed at the upcoming meeting this spring. That will be **May 7-9, 1998** at Connecticut College in New London, CT. Organizer is NEERS President-Elect **Scott Warren** (RSWAR@conncoll.edu). The fall 1998 meeting is scheduled for Woods Hole **October 22-24** and is being put together by **Linda Deegan** (ldeegan@lupine.mbl.edu).

Our capable multi-year program chair **Marshall Pregnell** (see below) has told me he will have to step down, so NEERS is searching for someone to fill his large shoes. He learned his trade from **Bernie McAlice**: we have been very lucky in having the two of them provide us with continuity and great organizational skills. Who would like to take on this important effort that makes such a difference to NEERS? Contact me at Fred.Short@unh.edu.

Wendy Leo and **Pam Arnofsky** are updating our database of members. They hope to have a new list ready for the spring meeting. Contact Wendy at Wendy@acrcorp.com if your listing needs updating.

I send a particular welcome anyone who became a member over the past year. NEERS especially invites undergraduate and graduate students to join, attend meetings, and present papers. Looking forward to seeing you all in New London.

Fred Short

NEWEST NEERS MEMBER

Maribel and I had a baby girl, Hali Joye, at 11:46 p.m. Friday January 2, 1998. She was 8 lbs, 6 oz, 20 inches long, alert, curious, and hungry. Mother, child, and father are resting infrequently.

Happy New Year,
Marshall Pregnell

MEETINGS

NEERS SPRING '97

Since the last issue never made it to the newsstand, I will report on the meetings here and now. The Spring NEERS meeting were held at the Wells Estuarine Research Reserve, Wells, ME, from May 1-3, 1997. Hosts, **Michele Dionne** and **Tin Smith** did a great job and made the whole meeting a success. The Thursday workshop on Coastal Wetlands Ecosystems was very informative and sparked some very interesting discussions, especially when the group was divided into smaller sections for specialized discussions. Anybody who has debated whether or not to go to NEERS meetings should come to one of those sessions and see how much you have been missing. One of the highlights of the day was the automatic window shades for darkening the room. After the session there was a lobster bake and the now famous NEERS Social (see Editorial). Of course what would a trip to Maine be without stopping in at **Bernie McAlice's** room for bourbon and beer. As usual the NEERS crowd takes very little time to warm up and get the festivities going.

The Friday sessions were excellent as always and get this...all but two of the talks and all of the posters were student presentations. Now that is what I call student participation. The only problem with all this is that these students are doing too good of a job and making it harder for us older folks to come in here and present our little ol' research projects. The students also signed up for the awards and that made it even sweeter. The winners you ask??? Well for the Rankin Award the winner was **Aaron Spares** from Acadia University, Nova Scotia for his talk titled "Goat Lake, a Warm Water Estuarine Refugia for Mollusks"; for the Ketchum Award the winner was **Jennifer Hogan** of Northeastern University for her talk "Distribution of *Melampus bidentatus* in a Natural and Restored Salt Marsh". The David Dean Poster Award went to **Stephanie Getchell** of UNH for the poster titled "Trace Metal Contaminants in the Boothbay Region: Core Profiles of Trace Metal Concentrations and Pb Isotopic Composition". Congrats to all and way to go guys. Thanks also to all the other student participants. Don't kid yourselves, you are the reason that NEERS is so successful and that is why we will be around for a long time to come.

Friday night was the banquet, held this year at the Clay Hill Tavern. The place was very nice and the food wonderful. But as always with this crowd we do better without all the fancy trappings. After dinner and the award presentations, a bunch of NEERSIANS made their way to NORTONS to see and dance to Angry Salad. Boy these guys were hot. When we walked in, there were about ten people sitting around the bar while the band played. Being who we are, we immediately began dancing. These guys told us later that they thought this was going to be like the scene in the Blues Brother's movie when they walk into the country bar and have to play the Theme from Rawhide. However when NEERS entered the room, the roof blew off

the dump. We danced until the State said is it was time to go home. Why we liked the band so much that we asked them to join us in Providence for ERF (which they did). Some members even purchased their CD and dance to them at night around the kitchen stove (we don't know that for sure but it makes for a great image). Of course what would the evening be without some special moment to discuss. This time it was a local boy who supplied us with the most memorable lines. All evening he was trying to pick up one of the "NEERS babes" and came up with such tasty pickup lines such as "my ex-girlfriend picked worms out the mud at Jackson Lab" or what about the ever popular "oh you work at Woods Hole, I've heard of that place...wanna dance" (**Linda Deegan** really enjoyed that one) and of course the one that works every time "save a dance card for me".

The meetings ended on Saturday with talks in the morning and a field trip in the afternoon. **Larry Spencer** attempted to use his computer for his history lesson of Bigelow and the Albatross, but there were still some kinks in the system. But don't give up just yet...we all know that one day slides will be a thing of the past. And to top it all off, we had our first representative from coastal Vermont at the meetings (how does that work...who cares as long as we get the dues).

During the meetings an idea was put forth that NEERS should put together an estuarine cookbook that could feature such dishes as Littorina Soup, Dredged Silver Sides, Fresh Seaweed Salad w/ Salicornia and of course Fundulus fricassee. Anybody interested in submitting recipes should send them to NEERS NEWS.

NEERS SPRING '98

At LONG LAST the dates for this spring's NEERS meetings have been finalized, As of today the meeting is being hosted/sponsored by Connecticut College and the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection. Other local institutions (U. Conn, Sea Grant, Williams College/Mystic Seaport, Project O just to name a few) with or without NEERS members are WELCOME to join in the fun and to sign on as co-sponsors. (We know who you are and we WILL BE in touch!)

The meeting is now scheduled for May 7, 8, and 9 - Thursday, Friday, and Saturday morning. Current plans are to feature the Connecticut River Estuary in Thursday's symposium session (and please consider this the first call for contributions to that symposium!). We will meet on Thursday at the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection's Marine Headquarters in Old Lyme, Connecticut. This facility is ON the Connecticut River with easy walking access to some of the Estuary's more impressive tidal wetlands. The Friday and Saturday sessions are scheduled for Connecticut College and current plans call for the Friday evening banquet to be on the Connecticut College campus. The location >for the traditional Thursday "social" has yet to be determined. Dancing Friday will probably be at down town New London's (in)famous Ell & Gee Club. The Luce Athletic Center has already been reserved for **Marshall's**

traditional Saturday morning "Calisthenics for Fun and Profit", which Rich Orson will lead by singing the NEERS Fight Song.

We will be arranging reduced room rates with local motels; this information will go out with the official meeting announcement and if people find it helpful this can go out sooner via email.

The standards for NEERS meetings have been raised considerably over the past few years so the pressure is on Southeastern Connecticut NEERSians. Clear your calendars and start thinking about those abstracts - this could be another good one!

Scott Warren
Phone: 860-439-2132
FAX: 860-439-2519

ERF '97

CONGRATULATIONS TO ERF AND NEERS FOR A VERY SUCCESSFUL SET OF MEETINGS IN PROVIDENCE THIS PAST FALL. The meetings were excellent and received high praise from all. I do not have the final totals, but I did hear that we had over a thousand registrants for this meeting...that's a a lot of estuarine type people to have in one place...talk about getting your feet wet! Not only was there a lot of science, but there was also a lot of fun to be had. There were the usual parties such as the Field trips on Sunday, the President's Pow-wow on Sunday night, and a host of luncheons throughout the week. ANGRY SALAD (the band noted in the Spring Meeting Section) played at a local bar on Monday night and gave us all a chance to dance. Of particular note was the banquet on Wednesday. Unfortunately, there was construction going on at the Capitol Building so we were forced at the last minute to move the festives to a nearby mall, but in no way did that dampen the festivities. The banquet began with the usual drink and eat portion of the party. Some fine tasty tidbits were served including meat and fish and plenty of veggies and pasta. After people sufficiently stuffed themselves it was time to work off the meal. The **James Montgomery Blues Band** came on stage and the place was hopping. The band did a great job and everyone danced for the next three hours. Why we even got an encore out the fellows. WAY TO GO!

The sessions were excellent and it looks like we have finally gotten past the wall of having too many sessions to be able to attend. With a very few exceptions, it was possible to make the trip between rooms in time to see the talks. And yes...Fred did chair sessions on sea grass. The poster session this year was also very good and easily accessible to all. This ERF meeting featured a number of very good workshops where the participants got a lot of opportunity to voice their opinions (and opinions they had). As noted by our illustrious el Presidente in his message...a big thanks to **Veronica** and **Jonathan** for doing a great job organizing the meetings (and by the way that was a great room that Veronica stayed in).

So if any NEERS members missed the meetings and wondered how they went...all went well. By the way there were plenty of NEERS members who did attend the ERF meetings and, as always, was great to see them. I would particularly like to thank the following NEERSians on behalf of NEERS and ERF for taking their time to make these meetings a success: **Charlie Roman, Barbara Welch, Pat Kremer, Charlene D'Avanzo and all the session organizers and other volunteers...THANKS GUYS!** For more information about the meetings keep your eyes peeled for the next issue of the ERF Newsletter.

By the way, ERF '99 Chair, Denise Reed, said that if you thought that Providence was fun...wait you ain't seen nothing yet...Come down to New Orleans in Fall 1999 and get ready to do the Mississippi Half Step and the Cajun Two Step (that's two and a half steps)...crowdads and hot sauce for everybody. The standard has been raised and now it is New Orleans turn to turn up the heat (I have a feeling this will be one not to miss, especially if one of the parties takes place on a river boat as discussed in Providence). So start planning for '99 (but not too fast first...we still have a few NEERS meetings to dance to yet...let's see...New London, CT; Woods Hole, MA and who knows where else NEERS will end up or should I say be allowed back to).



"Oh, for the love of—there goes Henry! . . . Rita, you're closest to him—give that c-clamp about a quarter turn, will ya?"

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

At the ERF meeting, a poster advertised a new Marsh Ecology Research Program (MERP) and soon-to-be-issued Request for Preproposals for 1998. MERP is independent, non-profit, and based on a high of peer review. They have supported 9 projects over the past two years with funds from private industry and Sea Grant. Give them a call and see what they may have.

Dr. Daniel A. Kreeger
Patrick Center for Environmental Research
Academy of Natural Sciences
1900 Ben Franklin Parkway
Philadelphia, PA 19103
email: kreeger@say.acnatsci.org
office: (215) 299-1184
FAX: (215) 299-1079

STUDENT SUPPORT

1. 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 9, 1998** to:

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

2. The New York Sea Grant Institute and the HRNERR are soliciting applications for the 1997 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 March 9, 1998.** Applicants must consult the sponsors of the fellowship as they develop their proposals. For more information contact **Chuck Nieder** at (914)758-5193.

3. Postdoctoral Position in SEAGRASS RESTORATION

Postdoctoral position in the restoration of eelgrass habitat. Applicants should have interests and experience in coastal ecology/biology, with habitat restoration, seagrass ecology, and SCUBA diving experience desirable, but not essential. The individual will be involved in all aspects of restoration from site selection and transplanting, to monitoring. This 2 to 3-year position begins on **15 April 1998**. Send letter explaining interest in the position and relevant expertise with a Resume to:

Frederick T. Short,
University of New Hampshire,
Jackson Estuarine Laboratory,
85 Adams Point Road, Durham, NH 03824.
phone 603-862-2175, fax 603-862-1101,
email <Fred.Short@unh.edu>.

[Editor's Note: To all NEERSians reading this section, be advised that we have made a difference in the past and that a number of these grants have been awarded to our members based on the advertisement through the newsletter. Let's keep it up. For those of you saying that you don't work in NY, it is not necessary for the Hudson to be the primary site, you may want to use it as a comparative site for your system in New England. That is a valid use of the Hudson and DOES qualify you for inclusion in these funds. Think about it and let Chuck Nieder give you some money for your research.]

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Anyone interested in moving to the South Shore of Boston or Cape Cod? We are looking to fill the position of Environmental Scientist as soon as possible. The position is with the Environmental Services Branch of the consulting firm Technology Planning and Management Corporation and is located in Scituate, Massachusetts. A description of the position is as follows:

Coordinate the collection, analysis and interpretation of information. The environmental scientist will oversee the organization and implementation of scientific workshops and scientific meetings. The organization of technical information for presentation and dissemination to scientific experts will be included in this position. The environmental scientist will support the implementation of peer review programs. In this capacity they will identify, recruit and arrange for technical experts to attend and participate in peer reviews.

Required Skills: A Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Science and three year's experience or a Master's Degree and one year's experience is required. Experience in fresh water ecology, forestry, agriculture or oceanography is desirable. If you are interested in this position please contact me for further information.

Kellie Merrell
Associate Consultant
Technology Planning and Management Corporation
Mill Wharf Plaza, Suite 208
Scituate, MA 02066
(718) 544-0477
(781) 544-3086 fax
kmerrell@tpmcscituate.com

NEERS HOME PAGE GETS A MAKE-OVER.

Most of you have probably not been there, but if you have, revisit the NEERS home page. I am in the processing of "beautifying" and "spiffing-up" the NEERS home page. It is still an unfinished project, but it does have a new look. Visit the site at:

<http://oz.plymouth.edu/~biology/neers.html>
and then get back to me with your feedback as to its appearance and utility. It's not perfect, but I hope it is somewhat useful. Send comments to:

lts@plymouth.edu

Thanks, Larry Spencer

A NAME CHANGE FOR NEERS?

To the NEERS membership; topic, report of a name change survey. From. E. Ruber

Here is my report on the e-mail census of the membership regarding my NEERS name proposals. The report is scientific since it was solicited and is reported by a scientist and it was responded to by scientists (what more could one wish for?). There were 14 respondents. Since the whole NEERS membership is now ca. 400 and the e-mail list is probably about 150, the respondents represent either ca. 3.5% or 9.3% of NEERS. Still, there are some weighty names among them and if we account for this and the thoughtful nature of the responses we should assume that they reflects about 60% of the membership.

I provide first the quantitative results of the census, second, comments of interest, third, my assessment.

1. a. responses about a name change
yes,9; no,4;anything OK,1

b. choices

NEAP (New England and Atlantic Provinces) - 2

NEAPS (New England and Atlantic Provinces Society) - 5

NEAPERS (New England and Atlantic Provinces Estuarine Research Society) - 7

NEERS (Northeast/ern) - 4

NEERS (New England) - 1

I know, I know, the numbers do not add up. Save your comments for the next meeting in Madagascar.

Imaginative and or elaborative comments received by e-mail.

Barbara Baker: What about ERS of NEAP, Estuarine Research Society of New England and the Atlantic Provinces??

Ken Keay, MWRA, ENQAD: Your rendition of NEAPS would retain the problem identified by some of leaving New York out of the mix, although it would be explicitly inclusive of the Atlantic Provinces. I suggest a cleaner "fix" to the "problem", namely take it upon ourselves to define in the NEERS charter the term "New England". I suggest statement taking it upon ourselves as the most appropriate arbiter of terms for the coastal oceanographic community to define "New England" as the region extending from the Gaspé Peninsula to Sandy Hook.

T. Crago: I like "Northeast" and the acronym stays the same

Veronica Berounsky: Thanks for thinking about the NEERS name! But what about the NY and NJ NEERS members?

Perry Jeffries: I vote for NEAPS or whatever. Being married to a Canadian, I'm very much aware of a tendency we have in the US not to give due recognition north of the border, where it is most certainly justified. Years ago, when a journal for ERF was under consideration, I suggested a name which was promptly ignored, so while we're at renaming, here it is again: Journal of Estuarine Science of the United States; abbreviation JESUS.

Jay Moore: I like NEAP/ERS better. Has a computer ring to it.

Dave Franz: The problem with your suggestion is that it over emphasizes the Canadian provinces and ignores the little matter of New York and the Hudson. [Just what I would expect from a left wing, multicultural blankety blank!]{you just wait Franz,you can't get away with that scurrilous stuff now you're not president anymore!}}

B. Tripp: I would save "Neapers" to refer to those who join NEAP(S)...

Wendy Leo: I like the idea of keeping "New England" but I don't think NEAP etc will fly because it doesn't include NY or NJ. We actually have more members from those (overpopulated?) states than from our neighbors to the north (especially after the Poughkeepsie meeting). So I would vote for keeping the status quo.

Mat Liebman: I think the Northeastern EERS is a good idea because it includes New York, whereas NEAP does not. However, I really like the acronyms, so I will go with NEAPERS. How about the North Atlantic Estuarine Research Society (NAERS)?

Pete Larsen: I do not believe our name is exclusionary in any way. The name American Society of Limnology and Oceanography 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, Northeastern lacks personality (not as a University, but as an estuarine research organization) {thank you Pete} and excludes our Canadian Maritime colleagues who would be southeastern from their perspective.

We continue with imaginative or imagined comments received at the meeting by word of mouth or just psychically.

Julie Rankin (with apologies): NEERS (Northeast) already #\$\$&***

Bob Radulsky: NEERS already stands for Neerly everybody.

Anon. NEERS New England Eelgrass Research Society

3. Ernie Ruber

a. I really like what Bob Keay suggested : amending our charter to define New England as spanning from the Gaspé Peninsula to Sandy Hook (might as well make that Cape May while we are at it). Thus, we retain both the acronym NEERS and New England.

b. I have thought frequently and deeply (I am on sabbatical) about inclusiveness and especially about acronyms. The search for a good acronym is what got me started (as well as my dislike for northeast/ern).

My present thoughts lie towards Northwestern Atlantic Estuarine Research Society. This is certainly inclusive enough even for Dave Franz and could yield the acronym: NowAERS!

Those who consider this too derivative and too blatantly descriptive of the territorial grab which we are making, might prefer North Atlantic (as Matt Liebman suggested) or

Northwestern Atlantic using the acronym NAERS which would be pronounced -nehrs- which given time (and helped along by our New York colleagues), changes gradually to a pronunciation which would be neer enuff to the original. Have a Happy!

ernie

As you will remember from the last couple of NEERS meetings, the issue of a name change for NEERS has come up and been extensively discussed at meetings as well as on this NEERSlist. The proposal made was to change the name of the society to better cover the range of estuaries where NEERS members conduct research. Our procrastination has led a group of Canadians to consider forming their own estuarine research society. Actually, although it had nothing to do with NEERS, the proposed new society in the Atlantic Provinces is considering an affiliation to ERF in the same manner as NEERS and other regional affiliates. It is not clear yet when the Canadian group will form or if Canadian NEERS members will connect with this new group [Editor's Note: Mile Dadswell, our NEERSian in Nova Scotia told me that he has no intention of joining the new Canadian Society and will remain committed to NEERS]. In any event, given this new development, it seems inappropriate to make a change in the name of our society at this time. So I have made an "executive decision" that we will postpone, yet again, the decision on the name change until the Canadian group situation is clarified (or someone else is president). Thanks for all the input and ideas.

Best,
Fred

GLOBAL DIRECTORY OF MARINE AND FRESHWATER SCIENTISTS

The last directory of people working in marine and freshwater related disciplines was published by Unesco in 1983. As part of our work in marine information management with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) and the International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers (IAMSILIC), we would like to compile a new directory. The most obvious way is online and so we have set up a web based Directory. We will of course have to derive other methods for collection of data to pick up those who do not have access to the Web but we thought we should try the Web approach first

The database has some 700 entries at the moment, and it is just waiting for all of you to input your details. We are making this request worldwide, so that eventually it will become THE online finding tool for those working in marine and freshwater related disciplines and those seeking contract partners, co-authors, reviewers, specialists etc. PLEASE input your details it will take no more than a few minutes. The data will be validated and loaded within a day or so. You will find a general GLODIR page (with links to input and search pages on)

<http://www.unesco.org/ioc/infserv/glodir.htm>

The input form can be found on:

<http://www.unesco.org/ioc/isisdb/html/glod.htm>

If you belong to any appropriate listservs please forward this request. Thanks so much for your help.

Pauline Simpson

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European Way, Southampton, SO14 3ZH, UK

Tel: 44-(0)1703-596111:

Fax 44-(0)1703-596115

Internet : pauline.simpson@soc.soton.ac.uk

DEVELOPMENT OF A REGIONAL DATABASE ON COASTAL HABITAT RESTORATION

Habitat restoration, a relatively young science, is increasingly employed to reduce ecological deficits. Habitat creation and enhancement are also commonly pursued to compensate for lost or damaged habitat. With a rise in the number and types of restoration, creation, and enhancement projects, there is a need to collect, distribute, and share current information throughout the Gulf of Maine (from Cape Cod to Cape Sable, Nova Scotia). By sharing information and lessons learned from past experiences, the success of projects may be improved.

A regional Coastal Habitat Restoration Database has been designed to expand coordination and facilitate information exchange among the regions research community natural resource agencies, land preservation groups, funding and regulatory agencies, and other non-governmental organizations. The database will provide information on projects involving the restoration, creation, and enhancement of habitats, including tidal marshes, dunes, and seagrass, and the restoration of species, including anadromous fish and sea birds. Information is specific to individual projects and includes site descriptions, site locations (including USGS topographic maps), work descriptions, evaluation and monitoring information, funding sources, and project manager information. In addition to the database, a directory of individuals and organizations involved with all aspects of habitat and species restoration, an updated list of publications and reports, and a resource guide on habitat restoration in the Gulf of Maine will be produced.

All final products will be made available on the Internet on the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment's Environmental Data and Information Management System (EDIMS). If you have information regarding a project, have recent publications or reports to include in the bibliography, and/or would like to be included in the directory, please contact Chris Cornelisen at Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management, 100 Cambridge St., Boston, MA 02202. Phone:(617)727-9800x249. Email: Christopher.Cornelisen@state.ma.us. Information for the database may be submitted electronically on EDIMS at <http://gulfofmaine.unh.edu/edims.html>. At EDIMS simply click on "Coastal Habitat Restoration Database -submission form" that is listed under Environmental Database Directories.

DUES INFO - PLEASE READ

Your mailing label shows the amount of dues you currently owe. This includes 1998 dues, which are due at or before the Spring 1998 meeting in May. To make it easier to figure out who's paid what amounts for what year, Pam and Wendy have recently upgraded the NEERS database (with huge amounts of expert assistance from Matt Leo).

You should be aware of the following:

- NEERS membership automatically renews each year. So, if you paid dues in 1996 but not since, you owe dues for 1997 and now 1998. If you would like to be dropped from membership, please let us know.

- If you've paid NEERS dues through ERF, we may not yet have been informed by ERF, so we may show a balance due for 1998 even though you've already paid through ERF. ERF tends to send us the updates every few months.

- You may owe a weird amount (such as \$5 for a regular member, or \$25 for two years' dues). This may mean, for example, that you had a \$10 surplus at some point because you paid your 1996 dues twice. Any amount you pay over the amount we say you owe will be donated to the student prize fund.

- If you currently have a credit (the amount is followed by "CR" on your label), we will consider that amount to be a donation to the student prize fund unless you tell us by April 15, 1998 that you wish to receive a refund OR apply the surplus to your 1999 dues.

- Many people still owe dues for 1997, and some for 1996 and 1997. Any dues payments you make will be applied first to your oldest dues. Matt tells us that's "standard accounting practice".

- If you owe dues for 1996 and 1997, you should receive a dunning letter from us soon saying that you'll be dropped if you don't pay up. Such "lapsed" members will receive this newsletter (obviously) but not the Spring meeting announcement. You don't have to wait for the dunning letter to send your dues to Pam. Generally, this means you if you're a regular member and you owe MORE than \$30, or you're a student member and you owe MORE than \$10.

If you have any questions, please call or email:

Pam Arnofsky (508-289-3465, parnofsky@whoi.edu) or
Wendy Leo (617-241-6501, wendy@acrcorp.com)

Announcement & Call for Papers
Spring Meeting of the
AMERICAN GEOPHYSICAL UNION
May 26-29, 1998

Boston, Massachusetts, USA
Abstract Deadline February 19 or February 26 on a
Web form (available at <http://www.agu.org>)

Society of WETLAND SCIENTISTS

June 8 - 12, 1998
Anchorage, Alaska
E-mail: alaskahelp@sws.org
Alaska's Wetlands: from the Tundra to the Sea

NEW LTERS

NSF has announced a special competition, deadline May 2 1997, for two new Long Term Ecosystem Research sites that focus on urban ecosystems. The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) Harbor Studies Program would like to suggest that project groups consider proposing Boston Harbor as a site for such research. The MWRA is in the process of upgrading sewage treatment to secondary, and in 1998 will move the waste water discharge out of Boston Harbor, offshore into western Massachusetts Bay. The MWRA would be able to assist the project group in the following ways:

(1) A considerable amount of monitoring data are available over the last several years. MWRA data sets on harbor T,S, DO, and sewage indicator bacteria include 1989-present, benthic community and sediment contamination 1990-present, and nutrients and chlorophyll 1993-present. We also have available data from older monitoring studies conducted by other organizations. We also have experience with database management of large, interdisciplinary data sets.

(2) We have a vigorous school education program, and would be able to help integrate the LTER research into the local school systems, one of the Urban LTER goals.

(3) A water quality (eutrophication) model has been developed for Massachusetts Bay, including Boston Harbor, for the MWRA, which could potentially be used by the project group.

(4) We may be able to provide a limited amount of (non-Federal) matching funds.

I have attempted to attach the announcement from NSF to this mail message, but as I am a "newbie" I have no idea whether it worked [Editor's Note: It didn't]. The URL is http://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/verity/vdkw_cgi@8080/xad70c814-956/Search/3916520/2.

--Wendy Leo, MWRA

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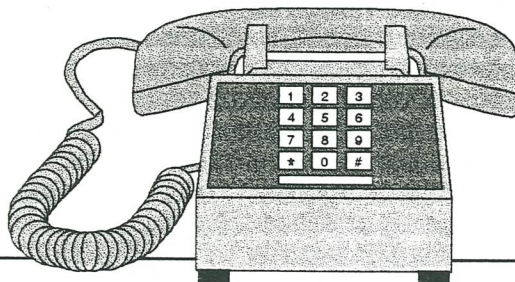
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