

**NEERS SPRING 2007 MEETING  
FINAL ANNOUNCEMENT**

**May 3-5, 2007  
Boothbay Harbor, Maine 04538**

***HOSTED BY***

**BIGELOW LABORATORY FOR OCEAN SCIENCES  
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**MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**

**MEETING SITE:** The Spring 2007 meeting of the New England Estuarine Research Society (NEERS) will be held at the historic Opera House in Boothbay Harbor, Maine. Early May, before the summer tourist crunch, is an ideal time to visit this picturesque coastal tourist/fishing/boatbuilding community. There are a multitude of accommodations and activities available. The latter include art and antiques, hiking, kayaking, boat trips and fishing, lighthouses and scenic drives. It's an ideal location for a family trip. All venues are within a short walk of each other so you can park your car and forget it. Parking is available at the Opera House. Please contact the Boothbay Harbor Region Chamber of Commerce (207-633-2353; [www.boothbayharbor.com](http://www.boothbayharbor.com)) for more information and an area guide.

**SPECIAL THURSDAY SYMPOSIUM: New England's Other Estuaries: The Functioning of Rock-bound, Boreal, Macrotidal Estuaries.**

This special symposium on the estuarine systems most characteristic of northern New England and Atlantic Canada will be held at the Opera House Thursday afternoon from 1300 to 1700. Speakers include: Brian Beal (University of Maine at Machias), David Brooks (Texas A&M University), Curtis Brown (University of Maine), Maria-Ines Buzeta (St. Andrews Biological Station), Daniel Campbell (US EPA), Larry Harris (University of New Hampshire), Joseph Kelley (University of Maine), Gerhard Pohle (Huntsman Marine Centre), and Thomas Trott (Suffolk University).

**PROJECTION:** Please bring your PowerPoint presentation on a CD or a USB flash drive to the projection desk at the NEERS meeting. We will load your presentations the evening before your talk. Speakers should not plan to use their own computers for their presentations. If you intend to use slides or overheads, please let Peter Larsen know by April 18<sup>th</sup>.

**POSTER GUIDELINES:** NEERS will provide foam-core mounting boards that can be propped on tables, easels or partitions. The suggested maximum poster dimensions are 40" x 60". Push pins and tape will be made available to poster presenters to mount their posters starting Thursday evening. Presenters will be expected to be present during the dedicated poster viewing session on Friday.

**NEERS STUDENT PRIZES:** Prizes will be awarded to students chosen by the judging panel in the following categories: graduate student oral presentation (Buck Ketchum Prize, \$100), undergraduate student oral presentations (Stubby Rankin Prize, \$100), graduate student poster presentation (David Dean Prize, \$100) and undergraduate student poster presentation (Scott Warren Prize, \$100). All eligible students will be automatically entered into the appropriate presentation-prize competition. Papers and posters are judged by a committee in terms of overall effectiveness, scientific content, and quality of the presentation. **Students are encouraged to review the scoring criteria posted on the NEERS web site.** Students who have won an award are not eligible for that award again. NEERS appreciates contributions towards the endowment fund for these prizes, so give generously when you register. **One free ticket to the Awards Banquet is provided for the lead author of each student presentation. Students receiving free banquet tickets should note this on their registration forms.**

**REGISTRATION:** The pre-registration fee for this meeting is \$15.00 for NEERS members, \$20.00 for non-members, and \$5.00 for students. The registration fee includes admission to the Thursday afternoon special symposium, the Thursday evening social, Friday and Saturday's contributed papers, the poster session and all coffee breaks. The pre-registration deadline is **April 18th**. After this date, walk-in rates will be assessed. Pre-register on the meeting web site ([www.neers.org](http://www.neers.org), click on "meetings" and "Spring 2007") and follow that with a check made out to "NEERS" and mailed to NEERS Treasurer Ed Dettmann at the given address. *To get the pre-registration rate, your check must be received by the Treasurer by April 25<sup>th</sup>, one week after the pre-registration deadline.* To qualify for the member rate, your 2007 dues must be paid as of April 25. Note that all presenters must be members. Use this opportunity to make sure your 2007 NEERS dues are paid!

On-site registration is \$20.00 for members, \$8.00 for students, and \$25.00 for non-members. A daily registration will be available at \$10 per day. It is a huge help to the organizing committee

to know about how many people will attend the meeting, plus pre-registration saves you money: so PLEASE PRE-REGISTER!

**NEERS WELCOMING SOCIAL:** The traditional NEERS social and registration will be held in the antique barroom on the top floor of the Opera House beginning at 1700 immediately following the special symposium and it will last until 2000. This is your chance to catch up with old friends and meet new ones. Attendees can then retire for dinner at one of the fine restaurants listed below.

**AWARDS BANQUET:** Our Friday evening banquet this year features an authentic Maine clambake! Start with steaming bowls of New England clam chowder. Enjoy lobster, clams, mussels, salmon, onions, potatoes, corn on the cob, sausage and eggs steamed in a bed of seaweed over a cozy wood fire in the Opera House parking lot. The "bake" also includes clam broth, melted butter and coleslaw, and finishes with a berry shortcake on homemade biscuits. Ed and Kathy Rhodes are providing us with this delight at their cost of food and materials. At only \$20 this is the best deal on the Maine coast! Pre-registration is appreciated.

For non-seafood eaters we also offer herb-roasted chicken as an alternative, and for the veggie purists in addition to the veggies in the "bake" you can select a delicious "chili sin carne" that will be served with an assortment of spicy sauces and peppers to help you "kick it up a notch".

The event will start at 1800 with an hour-long social while we watch Ed and Kathy prepare the clambake. The buffet style banquet will begin at 1900 and student awards for best oral and poster presentations will be awarded at the close of the banquet. The assembled mass will then retire to Gray's Wharf (located on Pier 1, see map) for a traditional NEERS night of dancing to the Zac Tyler Band. Music begins at 2100.

**FRIDAY LUNCH:** A very ample luncheon buffet will be served at the Opera House at mid-Day on Friday. The cost is a modest \$10 per person. Your participation will help keep the meeting on schedule. Please sign up on the pre-registration form.

**OTHER MEALS:** There are several fine restaurants within a stone's throw of the Opera House and others a short walk away. Breakfast choices are highlighted in bold. PLEASE SEE MAP.

Mr. C's Food and Spirits – 204 Townsend Ave. **Breakfast**, lunch and dinner. Adjacent to the Flagship Motel.

Thistle Inn - 55 Oak St. Lunch and dinner. The traditional local's place even cozier now.

China by the Sea – 96 Townsend Ave. Lunch and dinner. Just what it sounds like.

93 Townsend – 93 Townsend Ave. Lunch and dinner. Really fine dining.

Baker's Way – 89 Townsend Ave. **Breakfast**, lunch and dinner. Casual Vietnamese.

Townsend Ave. Coffee House & Wine Bar – 53 Townsend Ave. Lunch and dinner. Wifi.

Ebb Tide – 43 Commercial St. **Breakfast**, lunch and dinner. A Boothbay icon.

Blue Moon Café – 54 Commercial St. **Breakfast** and lunch. On the water.

**BUSINESS MEETING:** The NEERS Business Meeting will be held after the last presentation on Friday afternoon. Please plan on attending the meeting as we value all member input and participation. Come learn about some possible constitutional changes, the proposed NEERS Young Members Achievement Award, future NEERS meetings, and the latest on ERF2007 to be

hosted by NEERS in fall 2007 in Providence. This will include Veronica's research on dance venues. Free carbohydrate snacks will be distributed to all who attend the business meeting

**FIELD TRIP:** Don't miss the Saturday afternoon estuarine cruise! We will board the Harbor Princess at Pier 6 (adjacent to Fisherman's Wharf Inn) and depart at 1300 for a narrated cruise through Boothbay Harbor, Townsend Gut, and the Sheepscot, Sasanoa and Kennebec Rivers. Depending on weather, we will return past Fort Popham, Seguin Island and The Cockolds, or do a side trip into Merrymeeting Bay, the second largest tidal freshwater system on the east coast. Food and drink will be available onboard. We will return at about 1600.

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** Boothbay Harbor has a great variety of accommodations although not all will be open in early May. The following list includes a range of accommodations from simple to upscale within walking distance of the Opera House. Contact the Boothbay Harbor Region Chamber of Commerce ([www.boothbayharbor.com](http://www.boothbayharbor.com), 207-633-2353) for more options. Please identify yourself as a NEERS member and reserve by April 20. SEE MAP FOR LOCATIONS

#### MOTELS

Flagship Motel – 200 Townsend Ave. (800-660-5094; [www.boothbaylodging.com](http://www.boothbaylodging.com)) Large motel 0.5 miles from Opera House. Special rate of \$62 single or double. Rooms have king bed or two doubles.

Seagate Motel – 138 Townsend Ave. (800-633-1707; [www.seagatemotel.com](http://www.seagatemotel.com)) 25 rooms 0.25 miles from Opera House. Special \$70 rate for two includes continental breakfast. Extra people in room at \$5 each.

Tugboat Inn – 80 Commercial St. (800-248-2628; [www.tugboatinn.com](http://www.tugboatinn.com)) A more upscale motel over the water in 'downtown' Boothbay Harbor 0.5 miles from Opera House. Continental breakfast. They are offering 15% off their usual prices of \$80-130.

#### SELECTED BED AND BREAKFASTS

Thistle Inn – 55 Oak St. (207-633-3541; [www.thethistleinn.com](http://www.thethistleinn.com)) Much more refined than last time. Five rooms, \$110-125. 100 m from Opera House. Serving lunch and dinner.

Harborage Inn - Townsend Ave. (800-565-3742; [www.harborageinn.com](http://www.harborageinn.com)) Twelve rooms across the street from Opera House. Buffet breakfast. \$90-130.

Blue Heron Seaside Inn – (866-216-2300; [www.blueheronseasideinn.com](http://www.blueheronseasideinn.com)) Six rooms very near the Opera House. Full breakfast. \$145-175.

Pond House – (207-633-5842; [www.pondhousemaine.com](http://www.pondhousemaine.com)) Special rate of \$70. Six rooms a little further from the Opera House (0.75 miles) but a great coastal Maine experience for a small group or a couple of families.

**GETTING THERE:** Boothbay Harbor is easy to find. From the south follow Interstate 95 to Brunswick. From Brunswick take Rt. 1 north for about 22 miles, pass through the village of Wiscasset, cross the Sheepscot estuary and turn south on Rt. 27 for about 12 miles. From the north follow Rt. 1 south and turn left onto Rt. 27 south.

**LOCAL ATTRACTIONS:** The Boothbay region is packed with points of interest and activities. The best source of information is the Boothbay Harbor Region Chamber of Commerce (207-633-2353; [www.boothbayharbor.com](http://www.boothbayharbor.com), ask for an area guide).

**NEERS LISTSERVEN SIGNUP:** Future conference updates will occur via the electronic NEERSLIST. It is highly recommended you sign up on the NEERSLIST in order to receive conference updates and other important NEERS communications in a timely manner, (we do not share the NEERS list with others). Go to [www.neers.org](http://www.neers.org) and click on the link to the LISTSERVEN (just to the right of the beautiful eelgrass photo). Instructions for signing up (quick and painless) are contained on the listserver page.

## **QUESTIONS?**

General information – For general information on meeting, special symposium and local knowledge –contact Peter Larsen or John Sowles, Meeting Organizers ([plarsen@bigelow.org](mailto:plarsen@bigelow.org), 207-633-9600; [john.sowles@maine.gov](mailto:john.sowles@maine.gov), 207-633-9500)

Abstracts or other program concerns – Hilary Neckles, NEERS Program Chair ([hneckles@usgs.gov](mailto:hneckles@usgs.gov) or 207-622-8205 ext. 119)

Registration, Student Travel Awards – Ed Dettmann, NEERS Treasurer ([dettman.edward@epa.gov](mailto:dettman.edward@epa.gov) or 401-782-3039).

Agenda Items for the Business Meeting – Robert Buchsbaum, NEERS President ([rbuchsbaum@massaudubon.org](mailto:rbuchsbaum@massaudubon.org) or 978-927-1122 x2703)