

All the news that'll fit, and then some

Volume 2002 Number 2 March, 2002

April 4 - 6

# Spring Meeting Program, Elections, Workshop

# **AERS Meeting is Port-Stop**

A new coastal studies academic expedition will be making a port-stop at the AERS Spring Meeting!

Hood College's new Coastal Studies Semester is a travel-based, experiential learning program that provides an academic framework for the study of environmental science. This is

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Hood College group with ROV at Harbor Branch Oceanic Institute, Fort Pierce, FL.

Photo courtesy of Maureen Folley

### **AERS Elections**

This Spring at our Business meeting we will hold elections for the Office of Treasurer. The AERS Treasurer serves a 2-year term commencing at the end of the business meeting. A few years ago AERS members decided to stagger the terms of the elected members of the Board to ensure corporate memory. However most members of the Board are so old they have no memory to speak of anyway.

Iris Anderson has succeeded in producing a single candidate for the Office of Treasurer. Steve Storms is a fine candidate, and his biography/ statement appears elsewhere in this rag. The floor is open for nominations until the elections begin. If you are interested in serving and Treasurer, or know some one else who would make a good Treasurer for AERS, please consider mentioning that in the form of a nomination during the business meeting at our Spring Meeting. If you cannot attend the Spring Meeting but would still like the nomination to be considered, Please contact Iris Anderson, Chair of the Nominating Committee.

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Jim Hagy defended his dissertation entitled "Eutrophication, Hypoxia and Trophic Transfer Efficiency in Chesapeake Bay" on November 19 at the University of Maryland. He will be moving on to a 3-year post-doctoral position at the EPA's Gulf Ecology Division in Gulf Breeze, FL starting in January.

Janet Nestlerode, Elizabeth Hinchey, Jim Hagy, and Leila Hamdan were among the more than 200 students who presented their work at the ERF conference in St. Petersburg Beach in November. Leila Hamdan received the Best Graduate Talk award at the meeting. Way to go Leila!!

**Beth Hinchey** and **Janet Nestlerode** sold over 50 AERS hugs at the ERF meeting! (Something I'm sure is illegal in Virginia).

VIMS student **Rebecca Arenson** is spending a year as a Knauss Fellow with NOAA's National Ocean Service. In the Policy, Analysis, and Communication division she is learning lots of government acronyms, gets involved with legislative and budget issues, and coordinates grants and other activities. Highlights of her fellowship year include attending a Supreme Court case and a hearing on the Coastal Zone Management Act.

Scott Lerberg, a VIMS Ph.D. student, was awarded a Graduate Research Fellowship in the National Estuarine Research Reserve System. This fellowship supports management-related research projects and/or research projects that enhance the scientific understanding of the Reserve System. His research focuses on benthic secondary production in tidal marsh habitats looking at variability within and between marsh habitats along the salinity gradient

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# For the office of Treasurer: Steve Storms

Stephen E. Storms, Ph.D. is Chief of Design and Construction for Harbor Development at the Maryland Port Administration in Baltimore, MD. Steve received his B.S. from La-Salle College in Philadelphia, PA, an M.S. in computer science and an M.A. and Ph.D. in estuarine oceanography from Johns Hopkins University. As a graduate student he worked on several Chesapeake Bay Institute initiatives studying primary and secondary estuarine productivity and nutrient cycling in the main stem of the Chesapeake Bay. He joined AERS in 1975.

Steve joined Ecological Analysts Inc. (now EA Engineering, Science, and Technology Inc.) in 1974 and worked on numerous environmental projects for private industry, public utilities, municipalities and military clients in east coast estuaries. In 1997, he joined Maryland Environmental Service in Annapolis, MD as a project manager in dredged material management.

Steve served as elected Treasurer of a small Maryland non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation for almost 20 years, from 1980 until 2000.

Steve's Statement:

"AERS has always been an exception in the arena of large, formal scientific and technical meetings, and it is that exceptional status that I would strive to maintain if elected as treasurer."



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# Tentative Program

### Friday Morning, April 5

#### 0845 Welcome Denise Seliskar

Session Chair: Steve Fuller

0900 Monitoring, Modeling, and Restoration of Tidal Marsh Hydrology. Montalto, F.A., T. Steehnuis, J.Y. Parlange. Cornell University, Department of Biological and Environmental Engineering, Riley Robb Hall, Ithaca, NY 14850

0920 Foraminiferal evidence of the existence and evolution of a former tidal inlet: Old Currituck Inlet, Virginia/North Carolina. Robinson\*, M.M., and R.A. McBride. Geology Program, Department of Environmental Science and Policy, George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia 22030 \*Presenter is a Ph.D. candidate.

0940 Muddy Waters: Takin' Back My Home. Hicks,R.L., M.L. Biscoe\*, C.H. Hershner. Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William and Mary, Gloucester Point, VA, 23062. \*Presenter is an undergraduate student.

1000 Responses of juvenile Streblospio benedicti (Spionidae) to Chemical Cues Bound to Glass Microbeads. Mahon\*, H.K. and D.M. Dauer, Department of Biological Sciences, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, USA, 23529.

\*Presenter is an MS candidate.

#### 1020 Break

Session Chair: Dave Yozzo

1050 Lead Exposure Produces Spinal Deformities in Post-Hatch Fundulus heteroclitus. Carletta\*, M.A. Dept. of Biological Sciences, Rutgers University, Newark, NJ, 07102; P. Weis. Dept. of Radiology, UMDNJ-NJ Medical School, Newark, NJ, 07103; and J.S. Weis. Dept. of Biological Sciences, Rutgers University, Newark, NJ, 07102.

\*Presenter is a Ph.D. candidate.

1110 A Fisheries Resource Inventory of the Hackensack Meadowlands. Bragin, A.B. New Jersey Meadowlands Commission, 1 De Korte Park Plaza, Lyndhurst, NJ 07071, C. A. Woolcott\* and J. D. Misuik. Meadowlands Environmental Research Institute, Rutgers University Newark, Center for Information Management, Integration and Connectivity, 180 University Ave., Newark, NJ 07102

\*Presenter is an MS candidate.

1130 The effects of submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) presence and density on Mya arenaria(soft-shell clam) predation by Callinectes sapidus (blue crab). Reid\*, CC. University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, PO Box 38, Solomons, MD 20688; DL Breitburg. Academy of Natural Sciences Estuarine Research Center, 10545 Mackall Road, St. Leonard, MD 20685; and KA Boyle, San Francisco State University, 1600 Holloway Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94132. \*Presenter an MS candidate.

### 1150 LUNCH (on your own)

#### Friday Afternoon, April 5

Session Chair: Helen Woods

1330 Modelling baseflow nitrate loading from the Eastern Shore of Virginia. Chauhan\*, M.C. and A.L. Mills. University of Virginia, Department of Environmental Sciences, Charlottesville, VA 22904-4123.

\*Presenter is a Ph.D. candidate.

1350 Nitrogen Fluxes Associated With Created Oyster Reefs at Fishermans Island, Virginia. Sorabella\*, L.A., Anderson, I.C., Moore, K.A. & B.B. Neikirk. Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William and Mary, Gloucester Point, VA, 23062; and M.W. Luckenbach, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Wachapreague, VA 23480

\*Presenter is an MS candidate.

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# Tentative Program

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1410 Development of seasonal anoxia in a shallow lagoon - Delaware Inland Bays. Ma\*, S., M. Blickley, B. Glazer, R. Trouwborst, G.W. Luther, III. University of Delaware, College of Marine Studies, 700 Pilottown Road, Lewes, DE 19958; and M.G. Mensinger, R. Scarborough, R. Tyler. Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, Dover, DE.

\*Presenter is a Ph.D. candidate.

1430 A seasonal study of the Fe-S-P cycling in the sediments of Rehoboth Bay: Implications for nutrient release. Trouwborst\*, R. E., T.F. Rozan, M. Taillefert, B. Glazer, S. Ma, L.M. Valdes, K.S. Price and G.W. Luther III. College of Marine Studies, University of Delaware, Lewes DE 19958 and J. Herszage, N-QUIMAE and Departamento de Quimica Inorganica, Analitica y Quimica Fisica, Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales, Universidad de Buenos Aires C1428EHA Buenos Aires, Argentina.

\*Presenter is a Ph.D. candidate.

1500-1700 POSTER SESSION

(See end of program for listing of posters to be presented.)

1700-1800 AERS Business Meeting

1900 -2200 BANQUET,

**Lewes Yacht Club** 

Saturday Morning, April 7

0830 Announcements

Session Chair:

0840 A study of the microbiology of the Douro estuary, Portugal: a progress report. Vieira, M.E.C. Oceanography Dept., US Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD, 21402-5026.

0900 Coliform population dynamics in Several Maryland/Delaware Coastal Bays. Schlicht, O. and H.E Womack, Department of Biological Sciences, Salisbury University, Salisbury, MD 2180

0920 Temporal and spatial patterns of horseshoe crab egg density on Delaware Bay NJ beaches: a 15 year study. Loveland, R. E., Dept. Ecology, Evolution, and Natural Resources, Cook College, Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8551; and M. L. Botton, Dept. Natural Science, Fordham University, New York, NY 10023.

0940 Horseshoe Crab Spawning Success at Proposed Restoration Sites in Jamaica Bay, NY. Botton, M. L., Dept. Natural Sci., Fordham Univ., 113 W. 60 St., New York, NY 10023; R. E. Loveland, Dept. Ecology, Evolution, and Natural Resources, Cook College, Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8551; and T. Itow, Dept. Biol. Sci., Shizuoka University, Japan.

Did we mention that this is a tentative program???

Molecular Markers of Environmental Stress in Winter Flounder (Pseudopleuronectes americanus). Straub, P. F., W. Phoel, K. Erstfeld. Richard Stockton College. Pomona. NJ 08240-0195.

1020 ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDS

1020 ADJOURN

#### **POSTERS**

Nutrient limitation and algal production in a Florida Keys canal. Emore\*, M.S., L.A. Goetz\*, A.L. Harris\*, J.C. Lemay\*, K.M. Sanderson\*, C.

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# Tentative Program

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F. Vaughn\*, C.L. Vinton\*, M.D. Ferrier, M.J. Foley. Coastal Studies Semester Program, Hood College, 401 Rosemont Ave., Frederick, MD 21701.

\*Presenters are undergraduate students.

Living on Limulus. Grant, D. Brookdale Community College.

Recorded changes in the physiography of the oyster reefs of the York River, Virginia during the 1850's and early and mid-1900's. Hargis, Jr., W.J., Department of Environmental Sciences; H.E. Woods, S. Killeen and M.R. Berman, Center for Coastal Resources Management, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William and Mary, Gloucester Point, VA 23062.

Larval recruitment: The effect of storms on the transport of brachyuran megalopae. Jones\*, M.B., C.E. Epifanio. University of Delaware, College of Marine Studies, Hugh R. Sharp Campus, Lewes, DE, 19958.

\*Presenter is a Ph.D. candidate.

Rhizome analysis of Phragmites australis: Assessing the past and predicting the future. League\*, M. T., Gallagher, J.L., Seliskar, D. M. Halophyte Biotechnology Center, College of Marine Studies, University of Delaware, Lewes, DE 19958.

\*Presenter is an undergraduate student.

Comparing production in created and natural tidal salt marshes, in Tidewater, Virginia. Mitchell\*, M. Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William and Mary, Gloucester Point, VA, 23062; Megonigal, J.P. SERC, 647 Contees Wharf Rd, Edgewater, Md 21037; and Perry, J. Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William and Mary, Gloucester Point, VA, 23062.

\*Presenter is a MS candidate.

Occurrence of the spotfin killifish (Fundulus luciae) in the lower Hudson River estuary. F. Ottman, Division of Natural Sciences, Purchase College, State University of New York, Purchase, NY 10577; and D. J. Yozzo, Barry A. Vittor & Associates, Inc., 656 Aaron Court, Bldg. 6, Kingston, NY 12401.

Is Spartina alterniflora is a better microhabitat than Phragmites australis? Robertson\*, T.L. and J.S. Weis, Rutgers University-Newark.

\*Presenter is a MS candidate.

Population structure of the Eastern oyster, Crassostrea virginica in North Carolina based on 16s ribosomal subunit sequence variation. Sackett\*, R.E. and A.E. Wilbur. Center for Marine Science, University of North Carolina at Wilmington, 5600 Marvin K. Moss Lane, Wilmington, NC, 28409.

\*Presenter is a MS candidate.

Nekton Use of Different Marsh Grasses. Woolcott\*, C.A. and J.S. Weis Rutgers University - Newark, Department of Biological Sciences.

\*Presenter is a MS candidate.



# **Driving Directions**

Excellent driving directions and maps are available at the AERS web site (www.vims.edu/aers). If you take off without checking the site, look for a "UDEL" sign about 6 miles south of the DE-1 and Route 16 intersection. Turn left across the northbound DE-1. Turn right at the stop sign. Go ~1/4 mile and turn left onto New Road. Continue on New Road for 2.1 miles, then turn left into the University Research Park entrance. Drive through the Research Park over a small bridge into the campus. Look for Smith Lab and park in the parking lot on the RIGHT across from it. Cannon Laboratory is the two-story building on the left side just past Smith Laboratory.

Your editors don't know exactly which building we'll be in, but look for the AERS banner, or others who look lost.

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Speaking of Money...

# Are Your Dues Due?

Check your mailing label!!! Above your name is the last year we have for you being current in dues. Those unfortunate deadbeats who have the year 2000 as their last year of paid dues get a special message: *please pay your dues*. If we don't have your dues payment you can't claim to be a member of *the* premier society of the Estuarine Research Federation. Dues are for a calendar year, and payable/past due at the end of the Spring Meeting each year. If you will not be at the Spring Meeting, send your dues to Chris Swarth, Membership Chair, to avoid any interruption in service, and a substantial re-activation fee.

#### **Position Announcement**

Water Resources Specialist (Environmental Projects Analyst) City of Santa Cruz, CA

Job was posted on npsinfo; find details there. \$3,841-\$5,403 Monthly Recruitment #02-061

Final Filing Date: 4/05/02

For details on the selection procedure and application materials, go to www.ci.santa-cruz.ca.us/ps

(Ed. Note: There's a lot of details to attend to in order to file.... Act immediately if interested.)

### **Hood College**

(Continued from page 1)

a "study away" semester that has enrolled students from a wide variety of institutions. The 7 students and 2 faculty began travel in January 2002 from South Florida to the Chesapeake Bay. They are stopping by to attend the AERS meeting and present a poster based on their research this semester! "Pretty neat that they are including AERS as part of their exposure to science!" says Benthic Beth (Hinchey).

Throughout the semester the participants have lived, worked, and studied at marine field stations and environmental centers while taking a total of 16 credit-hours in English, Biology, Environmental Science and Policy, and Interdisciplinary Studies. Their Big Adventure is chronicled at www.hood.edu/coastal. The students are adding links every week or so to show what they have been doing. As the students themselves are responsible for these updates, they give a pretty good idea of how the students feel about what they're doing.

Photos are also included at the web site. The photo on p. 1 shows the group with a Remotely Operated Vehicle, taken at Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute in Ft. Pierce, FL. The students learned how to use this while they stayed there.

AERS is pleased to welcome the Hood College expedition. We hope you will find our student-nurturing society to be both intellectually stimulating and a bit fun-loving.

# Space in Voltammetric Workshop Still Open

Spaces are still available in the special demonstration and workshop being offered prior to the Spring Meeting from 1-5 p.m., Thursday, April 4. The workshop will be presented at the University of Delaware's College of Marine Studies.

The workshop is for those interested in the use of solid-state voltammetric microelectrodes to measure redox species in porewaters. Researchers B. Glazer, R. Trouwborst and S. Ma working in George Luther's laboratory at the University of Delaware's College of Marine Studies will conduct the workshop. This program will include an introduction to the use of solid state gold amalgam microelectrodes to measure dissolved oxygen, sulfide, iron and manganese in waters and porewaters.

Those interested in the workshop should add "Workshop Participant" in the "Additional Comments" section of the registration form. The cost of the workshop is \$20.

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## Missing AERS Members

When we sent out the last AERS News, we got a few returned issues because we have incomplete or outdated information. If you know any of the folks below, let us know where to find them. Contact Chris Swarth, Membership Chair.

Juliet Christian, last seen at Wilmington, NC Luke Cole, no address information Matthew C. Harwell, last seen at Gloucester

Point, VA
Harold J. Humm, last seen at Brevard, NC
Fred Jacobs, last seen at Bowie, MD
Tami Lunsford, last seen at Gloucester

Point, VA

Amanda Maxemchuk-Daly, last seen at Red Bank, NJ

Laura Pyzik, no address information Andrew J. Weaver, last seen at Lexington Park, MD

Jerome Williams, last seen at Area 56, NV Tamara Williams, last seen at Norfolk, VA

### Student News

(Continued from page 2)

of the York River sub-estuary. This study will provide information on the relative value of different marsh habitats, especially in tidal freshwater areas where little is known about the invertebrate communities within these habitats, and how they compare to their saline counterparts.

**Jen Rhode** is still working to complete her dissertation at VIMS. In the meanwhile, she has taken a position as visiting assistant professor of biology at St. Mary's College of Maryland. Watch out for Bob Paul!

One of our (former) undergraduate AERS members, **Lauren Batte**, graduated from The College of William and Mary in May. During her senior year she conducted an honors thesis at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, under the guidance of Dr. Linda Schaffner, for which

# Lodging Choices Revisited

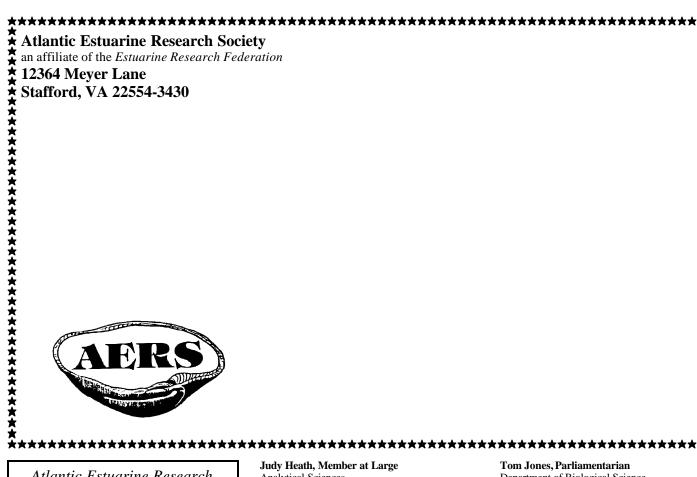
The official AERS housing accommodations are being provided by the Beacon Motel. Regular rooms for up to 4 guests (2 double beds) are available at \$55 per night, and larger rooms with accommodations for 6 people (2 double beds + sleeper sofa) are available at \$85 per night. Reservations can be made by phone (800-735-4888 or 302-645-4888; Fax, 302-645-8138) or by e-mail (see www. lewestoday.com). Please be sure to indicate that you are with AERS when making your reservation.

The Bay Moon Bed and Breakfast has also agreed to offer special rates for AERS members. The price for the rooms varies according to the room you select for your stay. This 1887 Victorian Inn is located at 128 Kings Highway in the heart of historic Lewes and within walking distance of the Canal and many "watering holes." You can call (302)644-1802, visit www.lewes.com/baymoon, or write Pamela Rizzo (baymoon@dmv.com) for more information or to make reservations.

Camping is available at CHSP; the park's web-page (www.destateparks.com/chsp/chsp. htm) includes a description of the park's amenities and an on-line registration system.

she received high honors! We hope that Lauren will present her results at the Spring AERS meeting in 2002. Inflicted by the Marine Science bug, Lauren spent this summer at the Duke University Marine Lab, studying Marine Policy and Marine Conservation.

Helen Woods finally graduated from VIMS (Yeah!) with a degree, according to her translation of the Latin "in scientific magnetism." She continues working at VIMS as a part-time scientist for Bill Hargis and Carl Hershner studying oyster reefs in the Center for Coastal Resources Management. She plans to complete aircraft training shortly and find work as a natural resource pilot.



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