Dear SENEME Members,

As spring winds down and we enter into the summer, I hope that you all are able to take some time to relax and get outside and explore. Most in Rhode Island and Connecticut have the benefit of the coastline not too far from us. This gives us the opportunity to learn more about the coastal environment. Ocean Literacy Principle #6 talks about how the oceans and humans are interconnected.

Some key points from that principle that we should all remember are:
- The ocean affects every human life.
- From the ocean, we get foods, medicines, and mineral and energy resources. It provides jobs, supports our national economy, serves as a highway for transportation of goods and people, and plays a role in national security.
- The ocean is a source of inspiration, recreation, rejuvenation and discovery.
- Everyone is responsible for caring for the ocean. The ocean sustains life on Earth and humans must live in ways that sustain the ocean.

(To learn more about the Ocean Literacy Principles and the Scope and Sequence, visit http://oceanliteracy.wp2.coexploration.org/.)

So as you take your vacations or participate in summer programs or just take a walk along the beach, remember that the ocean affects you, and you affect the ocean.

In SENEME news... the Board will be meeting on July 26 for an all day retreat to discuss items such as committees, conferences and events. This retreat is open to the membership and if you would like to attend, please contact me. And for other ways you can become involved in SENEME, check out our new “Help Wanted” section of the newsletter.

We will also be hosting a Salt Marsh field trip that will also take place on July 26. You can find more information about this event on our website and here in the newsletter. And for future planning, SENEME will host its annual fall conference on Saturday, October 13, so mark your calendar for that event.

The new SENEME website is live. Don’t forget that with our new website and a continued email listserv, it’s important for you to visit the website often and look out for announcements in your email inbox!

I welcome your comments about the website and ideas for events you would like SENEME to host. You can send those to me at agingras@gso.uri.edu.

Thank you,

Andrea Gingras
SENEME President
SENEME Board of Directors & Committee Members 2011-2012

President
Andrea Gingras, URI Inner Space Center

President-Elect
Amy Ferland, Marine Science Magnet High School

Past-President and Chapter Representative
Lauren Rader, Project Oceanology

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Lorrie Martin, Coginchaug High School
Amy O’Neal, Ocean Exploration Trust
Diana Payne, Connecticut Sea Grant
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Celia Cackowski
Donna Dione

Nominating Committee
Lauren Rader, Chair
Katrina Barrett

Scholarships & Awards Committee
Lauren Rader & Amy Ferland, Co-Chairs

Nauplius Notations
By Donna Dione, Editor

First, I would like to welcome our newest Organizational Member, the New England Science & Sailing Foundation based in Stonington!!

Second, a huge “Congratulations” to the Ledyard High School Ocean Bowl Team. As was reported in the last issue, they were our Regional Quahog Bowl Champion. Well, this spring, they went on to their school’s first appearance at the National Ocean Science Bowl Competition, and as you’ll see later in this issue, they made us all proud by bringing home the Sportsmanship Award!!

If you are headed to Alaska for the National Marine Educators Conference, make sure you track down the SENEME contingent. It may be a small group this year, but I’m positive those going will be making sure everyone knows that SENEME is in the state. At this event, our own Diana Payne, the current NMEA President, will be passing on the gavel as her term comes to an end. We thank her for time, dedication and a job well done!!

Have a great summer, and I look forward to seeing everyone on October 13th at the Fall Conference!!

SENEME Organizational Members
Mystic Aquarium
New England Science & Sailing Foundation
Project Oceanology
URI Office of Marine Programs

Thank you for your support!!

SENEME LIFE MEMBERS
2002 Find Pedersen
2003 Mickey Weiss
2004 Thaxter Tewksbury
2005 Ralph Yulo
2006 Elizabeth Gibbs
2010 Katrina Barrett

MARINE EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR
2005 Lance Arnold
2006 Matt Schardt
2010 Vicky Sawyer
2011 Joseph Hage
SENEME PRESENTS...

MARSH MADNESS!
Thursday, July 26th from 8AM – 10 AM
Galilee Salt Marsh, Narragansett, Rhode Island

The Galilee salt marsh is an extremely productive yet fragile ecosystem containing abundant plant and animal life. Located in southern Rhode Island east of the historic Galilee fishing village, the marsh is teeming with birds, clams, blue crabs, and juvenile fish. It is also a major breeding ground for horseshoe crabs. Join outreach scientists from the University of Rhode Island’s Graduate School of Oceanography as we investigate why salt marshes are such productive ecosystems, how they protect the coastline from flooding, purify water, and act as an important habitat for countless marine and terrestrial species. We recommend wearing clothing that you aren’t afraid to get muddy and closed toe water shoes to prevent cuts from hidden clam shells. If you’re sensitive to mosquitoes, you’ll want to bring repellant along, just in case.

Cost: $5 for SENEME members, $20 for non-members (includes a one-year SENEME membership).

For directions and to register, please visit SENEME.org > Announcements > Member Events.

2012 SENEME Fall Conference and Annual Meeting
Saturday, October 13, 2012
Project Oceanology
Groton, CT

Workshops, Field Programs, Silent Auction and more!

Visit the SENEME website for more information on presenting, exhibiting and attending.
Auction donations are also needed!

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR SENEME AWARDS

Would you like to recognize a fellow SENEME member for their contribution to marine and aquatic science education? Nominations are being accepted for the awards below. Further information can be found at SENEME.org > Grants & Awards.

SENEME Marine Educator of the Year: For effective and innovative teaching, and/or distinguished performance by either a classroom teacher or professionals who are not classroom teachers. This nomination requires completion of a nomination form and a letter of recommendation from at least one active SENEME member. Recipient receives one-year membership to SENEME and registration to the annual Fall Conference.

SENEME Life Member: Life membership is the highest recognition the Association offers and is reserved for those individuals who have demonstrated a distinguished career in teaching, research or service in marine education. This nomination requires completion of a nomination form and letters of recommendation from at least three active SENEME members. The Awards Committee will present its recommendation to the SENEME Board for consideration. Upon endorsement by the majority of the Board, the successful nominee shall be declared a Life Member and will receive lifetime membership in SENEME.
Ledyard Takes Home Sportmanship Award at NOSB National Competition
By Diana Payne, Connecticut Sea Grant and Regional Co-Coordinator, Quahog Bowl

The 2012 NOSB finals competition, consisting of winning teams from 25 regions across the country, was held April 19-22 in Baltimore, MD. The Quahog Bowl was represented by Ledyard High School coach Dave Bednarz, team captain Ronnie Tardiff, Jenna Farquhar, Bryauna Phillips, Qiuyin Ren, and Lucy Zhang. The team participated in field trips on Friday, and the round robin competition and Science Expert Briefing on Saturday. Ledyard had several close contests in round robin, and won a match in their first-ever national competition. They also made a fine showing in the Science Expert Briefing.

At the awards ceremony on Sunday, prizes were presented to all teams based on placement in the competition. The final award bestowed each year is the highly coveted Sportmanship Award. The award is given in honor of Admiral James D. Watkins who started the NOSB program in 1997, and it recognizes the team that demonstrates the best sportsmanship throughout the NOSB Finals competition. As the recipients of this prestigious honor, the team received a new buzzer system, the AMS textbook *Introduction to Oceanography* and gift certificates to Amazon.com (coach - $200, team members - $100).

Please join me in congratulating Coach Dave Bednarz and the entire Ledyard High School team on a great showing at Nationals!

Photo courtesy of Will Ramos/Ocean Leadership

From left to right is Coach David Bednarz, Qiuyin Ren, Lucy Zhang, Jenna Farquhar, Bryauna Phillips, team captain Ronnie Tardiff, Dr. Joan Cleveland from the Office of Naval Research, and Dr. Robert Gagosian, President and CEO of the Consortium for Ocean Leadership.
WINNERS OF SENEME SCIENCE FAIR AWARDS

This spring, SENEME presented awards to students at the Connecticut and Rhode Island State Science Fairs. There were two winners (individuals or teams) from each state with all four receiving a prize of $75, a SENEME T-shirt and a one-year SENEME membership. The Connecticut winners were Janine Kerr of Danbury High School who won the Senior Award for her exhibit, “The Biological Control of Zebra Mussels Using the Marine Natural Product Aaptamine” and Hadassah Sessel from Southern Connecticut Hebrew Academy who won the Junior Award for the project entitled, “Analysis of Local Watershed and River Contaminated Sediments and Effect on River and Long Island Sound Waters.” In Rhode Island, Morgan Fogleman of Curtis Corner Middle School in Wakefield won the Junior Award for the exhibit, “Salinity Savvy.”

(Editor’s Note: At press time, the information for the RI Senior Winner was unavailable. We hope to give credit in a future issue. Any winners are welcome to send in their pictures for publication in the Fall Issue.)

Congratulations to all the winners!!

HELP WANTED

SENEME Development Committee Chair:

- Recruits and maintains contact with committee members
- Reports activities of the committee to the SENEME Board
- Brainstorms, along with committee and SENEME Board, potential funding sources/in-kind solicitations for conferences, meetings, etc.
- Works with Auction Committee Chair to solicit donations for annual auction and silent auction
- Maintains a spreadsheet or database of previous sponsors contact info and donations
- Maintains template letter for solicitations – updates letter annually (as well as spreadsheet/database)
- Works with Treasurer to ensure transition of funds (if applicable) from sponsor to SENEME

If you are interested in the position of Development Committee Chair, please contact Andrea Gingras, agingras@gso.uri.edu.

ELECTION!! ELECTION!!

The SENEME Nominating Committee is currently accepting nominations for the offices of President-Elect (3-year term), Treasurer (2-year term), Chapter Representative (2-year term) and Recording Secretary (2-year term). More information on the responsibilities of these positions can be found on the SENEME website, www.seneme.org.

Nominations must be received no later than August 1, 2012 and can be sent to Trina Barrett at tbarrett@mysticaquarium.org.

Ballots will be sent out via email in early September, and those elected will be announced at the SENEME Fall Conference.
PLAINVILLE “SEAPERCH” DOMINATE ON HIGH SEAS OF HOME POOL!

By Lorrie Martin, Oceanography Teacher, Coginchaug Regional High School, Durham, CT

Connecticut Technology Education Association (CTEA) sponsored its very first competitive “SeaPerch” Challenge at Plainville High School on Wednesday, June 6th. Five schools brought 70 student “engineers” and their PVC ROV's “souped up” to tackle both a six ring Obstacle Course and a six bucket Salvage Operation.

SeaPerch is an innovative underwater robotics program that trains teachers to teach their students how to build an underwater Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV). Students build the ROV from a kit comprised of low cost, easily accessible parts following a curriculum that teaches basic engineering and science concepts.

The Plainville meet, organized by Gregory Kane, Connecticut SeaPerch Coordinator, followed the design and rules of the 2012 National SeaPerch Challenge. Students were encouraged to think outside the box and change the shape and configuration of the basic SeaPerch ROV. Teams had a budget of $20 to purchase any upgrades they deemed necessary. However, teams were not allowed to add additional thrusters and were only allowed use of the motors that come with the SeaPerch kit. All other parts in the kit could be used at the team’s discretion while modifying their tethered craft to maneuver out and back through the rings of the Obstacle Course or to efficiently salvage weighted buckets off the bottom of the pool and return them to the surface at the pool’s edge. All teams were allotted 15 minutes to execute their assignment, and docked time penalties for SeaPerch “parts” that needed to be diver-rescued from the bottom of the pool. A triage area was located nearby with basic tools and parts provided to allow teams to make necessary repairs during the competition. Without a doubt, the friendly, supportive nature of the trials totally fostered a learning environment for all students, some as young as middle schoolers.

The SeaPerch Challenge results were posted as follows:

SALVAGE COMPETITION:

1st Place - Plainville High School, Team #3
2nd Place - Montville High School Team #2
3rd Place - Plainville High School Team #7

OBSTACLE COMPETITION:

1st Place - Plainville High School Team #3
2nd Place - Whisconier Middle School, Brookfield
3rd Place - Plainville High School Team #8

Trophies were won by all the above teams, but commendations certainly go out to all team members of all participating schools: East Catholic High School, Montville High School, Plainville High School, Pomfret Community School, and Windham Middle School. Judges were representatives of CTEA and the U.S. Navy as well as some parents and friends of Technology Education. According to coordinator Gregory Kane, “The potential of these underwater robotics is as creative as the teachers and students building and applying them to STEM applications.” Without a doubt, the thrill of competition combined with the encouragement and challenge to “build it better” will certainly yield more Connecticut meets next year and more Connecticut engineers for the future.

For information on how to establish your school SeaPerch Fleet, contact Gregory Kane, Connecticut SeaPerch Coordinator at Gkane@aol.com.
**NAUPIUS NOSTALGIA**

*This feature resurrects articles and pictures from the SENEME archives.*

*Compiled by Donna Dione, Editor*

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*Nauplius Nostalgia - Can you guess?*

The top picture was our mystery photo last issue.

It was taken in July 2002 at the National Marine Educators Conference hosted by SENEME. The location is in front of the Branford House at Avery Point. The photo includes the Conference Committee, many of whom are still very active in SENEME. And who still has their red shirt (or 2 or 3...)? Happy 10th Anniversary NMEA 2002!!

Do you know where and when the bottom picture was taken?

Clue: Someplace that requires the aid of a large vessel to get the people and bikes there.

Answer in the next issue of *The Nauplius*!

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*Bottom photo courtesy of Maryann Scholl*
**Bulletin Board**

**University of Rhode Island**

**Free Historic South Ferry Walking Tour**

Relive the history of a once-thriving village, which became a military outpost, on Narragansett Bay with family and friends, by taking a South Ferry Walking Tour. You are welcome to join the 90-minute interpretive walk on **Wednesday, July 25 or August 8, 2012**. The program will begin with a short slide presentation and lecture in the large conference room in the Coastal Institute Visitor Center on the URI Narragansett Bay Campus at 10:30 a.m. The walking tour will end at 12:00 p.m.

Our historians, Wayne and Bernice Durfee of Narragansett, will guide participants through the historic sites at South Ferry, including the old ferry landing, the WWI military bunkers, the campus of the URI Graduate School of Oceanography and the South Ferry Church.

In addition, participants can visit the Coastal Institute Bookstore, which will be open during the day of the walk. The South Ferry Walking Tour is open to the public. Pre-registration is not required. For information or directions, call the URI Office of Marine Programs at 401-874-6211, or visit our website at: [http://omp.gso.uri.edu](http://omp.gso.uri.edu).

**Free Family Beachcombing Program**

Join University of Rhode Island Marine Outreach Scientists on a summer day at low tide for a two-hour beach exploration experience. We will be exploring the shoreline of Fort Getty, one of Rhode Island's unique coastal beaches. This program gives young people a special chance to have their questions answered about the plants, animals, and minerals found on the beach.

The dates for beachcombing are as follows: **Saturday July 21, 2012 from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. and Saturday, August 18, 2012 from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.** These beachcombing events are free and open to the public.

Pre-registration IS required. To register, please call the Office of Marine Programs at 401-874-6211. More information will be sent to registered participants via email. This program is for families, and all children MUST be accompanied by an adult.

**Mystic Aquarium**

**GET WET in Connecticut**

Monday, August 13th 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday, August 14th 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday, August 15th 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Cost: No Charge ($300 program supply or field trip stipend available upon completion of program)

This three day workshop funded by NOAA will give educators all the tools needed to design and implement Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences for your students that go beyond a onetime field trip. Through a combination of discussions, hands-on activities, and interactive programs at the beach; participants will leave this program comfortable with watershed and estuary science and have the resources to bring it into the classroom. Space is limited. For more information or to register for the program, please contact Mary Ellen at educationinfo@mysticaquarium.org.

**Free Aquarium Open House for Educators and their Families**

Thursday, October 4, 2012
6:15 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., please enter by 7:00 p.m.
Teachers and administrators are invited to bring their families for an evening of fun and information. Learn about the wide variety of educational opportunities that Mystic Aquarium has to offer this school year, see the exhibits, check out the traveling programs that come right to your school, and meet our enthusiastic educators to discuss what we can provide for you and your students. Enter to win exciting raffle prizes, including a free educational program! Free of charge for educators and their families. Reservations required - visit [www.mysticaquarium.org](http://www.mysticaquarium.org) for registration.
**Long Island Sound Mentor-Teacher Workshop**

**“Seine the Sound with CT Science Standards”**

Date/Time:  Friday, September 21, 2012   8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Location:  Meigs Point, Hammonasset Beach State Park, Madison, CT
Who should attend:  Grade 5-12 Teachers, Science Teachers & Informal Science Educators
Cost:  ONLY $15!!!!  Snacks provided.

You’ll take home amazing resources, including:  Teacher Curriculum Resource Guide with ready-to-go lesson plans, field-tested and aligned to CT Science Standards; seine net; field guides, including a $40 Field Guide to LIS; geology tools; and more!

YOU CAN - YOU WILL -Teach at the beach!  Apply science inquiry skills! Connect your students, wherever they live, to their coastal environment.  HAVE FUN organizing a field trip study site at Long Island Sound.  Apply science concepts to improve test scores.  Excite your students!  You’ll be excited too!

Please contact Donna Rand, drand@crec.org, to register or obtain more information.

**EXCITING SUMMER OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS!**

Know of any bright young minds that have a passion for the marine sciences and would jump at the chance of spending 2 weeks aboard a beautiful 63’ ft sailboat while exploring the marine ecosystems of the Salish Sea? Deep Green Wilderness has some open spots remaining on both our Dolphin and Porpoise Program and Orca Project Program this summer for students aged 14-18! Student participants develop and carry out their very own scientific research while on board, getting their feet wet and their hands dirty as they brave the seas in pursuit of these majestic marine mammals and the ecosystems in which they live.  In addition students are engaged with sailing and marine science lessons and activities, visits from science professionals doing exciting and relevant research in the Salish Sea, and hiking excursions into the many beautiful coastal lands that we encounter along the way.

Visit our website deepgreenwilderness.com for more information about these exciting programs:  Porpoises and Dolphins of the Salish Sea (July 9-22, 2012) & The Orca Project (August 4-18, 2012).  Or email us at info@deepgreenwilderness.com with any questions or concerns.

**NEW ESTUARIES 101 MIDDLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM**

Inspiring People to Learn about and Protect our Nation’s Estuaries.

Who? NOAA’s National Estuarine Research Reserves (NERR) and the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources are pleased to announce...

What? **Estuaries 101 Middle School Curriculum**, a new online multi-media science curriculum for grades 5-8

Why? This curriculum provides interactive learning tools to teach fundamental concepts in science and develop scientific thinking skills, while helping students discover and virtually explore the nation’s biologically rich estuaries.

Where? It is available free on the estuaries.noaa.gov site in easy to access teacher downloads.

When? Available NOW!

Don’t miss an opportunity to use this curriculum that engages students in real NERR research and monitoring through interactive classroom activities and user-friendly real time water quality and weather data exercises. Videos, simulations, teacher activity downloads, and interactive maps are all available to further help students visualize the inner workings of an estuary.
TITANIC EVENT – APRIL 2012

SEME Members enjoyed an exclusive tour of the new Titanic Exhibit at Mystic Aquarium!
Photos courtesy of Andrea Gingras
Don’t miss what is “shaping up” as a truly exciting and memorable Conference! The Northwest Aquatic Marine Educators (NAME) and COSEE Alaska are hosting this year’s Conference in Anchorage, or “Tikatnu,” the “big ocean river” homeland of the Dena’ina Athabascan Indians, on Cook Inlet. Pre-Conference workshops will begin on Sunday, June 24 followed by 120 presentations on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday morning, in the strands of Science and Art, Science and Culture, Science and Technology, and large Marine Ecosystem Education. The Conference co-chairs are Marilyn Sigman, Robin Dublin and the late Bill Hastie. A poster session will highlight other marine and aquatic education programs and education research. The Conference will be “keynoted by” Fran Ulmer, former Lieutenant Governor of Alaska and current chair of the Arctic Research Commission. Plenary presenters will include Yup’ik storyteller, Jack Alton; Inupiaq educator, Jana Harcharek; and scientists Francis Wiese, Science Director of the North Pacific Research Board; Julia Parrish, seabird biologist and director of the Coastal Observation and Seabird Survey Team (COASST) citizen science program; and Reid Brewer, octopus researcher, and co-author of Sea Life of the Aleutians: An Underwater Exploration. Several films will be presented, including a preview of new National Geographic IMAX film, To the Arctic. The Stegner Lecture will be delivered by Ray Troll, award-winning artist, who illustrates fish and other marine life with accuracy and humor. A variety of field-trips are available and special events will be conducted at the Anchorage Museum, home of a rich and diverse exhibit about Alaska’s past and living native cultures, on permanent loan from the Smithsonian Institution and at a park along Anchorage’s spectacular coastal trail, where Alaska’s world-class seafood will be served at a barbecue. Post-conference field-trips will begin Thursday afternoon, June 28, to Homer, and Friday morning, June 29, to Cordova, two uniquely Alaskan coastal communities, and will return to Anchorage Sunday, July 1. For more information, to register, and to reserve university dorm housing, visit: http://www.pacname.org/conf.shtml.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

July 26, 2012 - Marsh Madness! Narragansett, RI, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

July 26, 2012 - SENEME Board Retreat, Narragansett, RI 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

October 13, 2012 - SENEME Fall Conference & Annual Meeting, Project Oceanology, Groton, CT

November 1-2, 2012 - NEOSEC Conference, URI Narrangansett Bay Campus, Narragansett, RI

July 22 - 26, 2013 - NMEA Conference, Spring Hill College, Mobile, AL

Summer 2015 - NMEA Conference hosted by SENEME, Rhode Island
SENAME MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _______________________________________________________________________________

Affiliation: __________________________________________________________________________

School/Business Address: ________________________________________________________________
Street
City, State, Zip Code

Home Address: _________________________________________________________________
Street
City, State, Zip Code

Send SENEME mailings to: (Please Check One): _____ Home Address _____ Work Address

Home Phone: __________________________ Work Phone: _________________________________

E-mail Address: _________________________________________________________________

**Please note that all SENEME communications and newsletters are via electronic mail so it is necessary for us to have your e-mail address.

Membership Category (Please Check One):

_____ Active Member (1 Year $15)
_____ Active Member (2 Years $25)
_____ Active Member (3 Years $35)
_____ Organizational Memberships (Non-Profits Only $100)
_____ Corporate Membership (1 Year $250)

Total Enclosed: ____________
Please return form with checks payable to SENEME.

Mail to: SENEME, c/o Julie P. Ainsworth, 31 Green Springs Dr., Madison, CT 06443