



Letter from the President

Dear SENEME Members and Friends:

As autumn paints New England in brilliance and days begin to shorten, it is this time of year that seems to illustrate cycles and changes like no other, even surpassing the newness of life escorted in by springtime. 'Tis the season of contrast in the marsh and in the Sound. Saltwort and salt meadow hay blush spectrums of red, the storage of salts finally taking its toll on the plants. Sea lavender speckles the landscape in hues of purple, as goldenrod and sea rocket begin to fade. Adult summer flounder migrate back offshore to hunker down for the winter. Spawning along the way, their newly hatched larvae will drift back toward coastal areas, taking advantage of the high productivity. Plankton is abundant, temperatures are dropping, and oxygen levels begin to rise, bringing much needed relief to the Sound's bottom waters. Just as some elements seem to prepare for winter, die back, and hibernation, others are renewed, replenished, and/or preparing to awake.

Our chapter is also turning a new corner. NMEA 2015 is on the horizon, and for the first time since 2002, this special event will be hosted by SENEME. From June 29 - July 2, 2015, marine educators, informal and formal, from around the nation, and even the globe, will converge in Newport. I encourage all of you to become actively involved, whether to lend a much needed helping hand in the conference planning, become a presenter, or simply attend. We need to unite as a community and take full advantage of this opportunity to share our knowledge and showcase the richness of educational programs, efforts, and coalitions of the region to inspire, enlighten, and affirm our commitments to marine conservation. It is opportunities such as these that can even serve to reignite local efforts, and spawn new thought, ideas and partnerships.

This year also marks a new era for SENEME, with new Bylaws in place that welcome both a President and Vice President to jointly serve and support each other, a change that I believe will strengthen our chapter. Please join me in welcoming Andrea Gingras, URI Inner Space Center, as President and Kelly Matis, Sea Research Foundation, Inc. as Vice President. I look forward to the new opportunities this change presents.

It has been an honor to serve as President this past year, and I would like to thank the SENEME Board and members for their support. I look forward to continue receiving your comments and suggestions as I serve on the board as an at large member at aoneal@searesearch.org, and hope to see you all involved in NMEA 2015!

Sincerely,

Amy O'Neal
SENEME President



Long Island Sound Study's October Photo of the Month along the Eight Mile River, tributary to the CT River in Lyme:
<http://longislandsoundstudy.net/2014/10/fall-on-the-river/>

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SENEME Board of Directors & Committee Members 2014-2015

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Kelly Matis, Mystic Aquarium

Past President

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Donna Dione, Bauer Park; Children's Mus. of SECT

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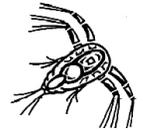
Nominating Committee

Amy O'Neal, Chair
Katrina Barrett

Scholarships & Awards Committee

Lauren Rader & Amy Ferland, Co-Chairs

Nauplius Notations



By Donna Dione, Editor

Well, it only took me 50 years to become popular in school. Actually, it probably first happened almost 25 years ago, when I started working at Mystic Aquarium. It's amazing how everyone wants to be your friend in the classroom, when you have an animal in your hands!

At the Children's Museum, I often walk around with a snake, gecko or bearded dragon on my arm, and I instantly become the Pied Piper with a trail of kids following me wherever I go. It's a great ego boost to be so popular, but I guess I should concede that it's not really me. However, I love that the magic of animals make for great teaching moments. An enthralled audience will hopefully retain the importance of protecting animals and their habitats, and in our case, that many of these animals should not be pets (all but one of our animals at the Museum are from homes and classrooms that no longer wanted to take care of them). Or if you do buy them for pets, make sure you are ready for them to grow and to potentially live a long time. Yes, that cute little python will someday be 5-6 feet long!

A last little plug before I go: Start thinking about what you can donate to the NMEA 2015 Auction!!!

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*
2012 *MaryEllen Mateleska*
2012 *David Bednarz*
2014 *Michael O'Connor*



Southeastern New England Marine Educators is proud to host the 2015 National Marine Educators Association Annual Conference

The National Marine Educators Association Annual Conference is attended by both formal and informal educators, students from public and private institutions, plus educators from aquariums, and for profit and nonprofit organizations including government agencies. This four-day event will be filled with an amazing amount of current marine science information, some of which is related to STEM education and Next Generation Science Standards. You can choose the day(s) you would like to attend to concentrate on the strand that interests you most or attend all four days to absorb the full impact of marine science education; from lectures and workshops to our vast array of experiential learning opportunities in the Newport Area.

Join us at the Newport Marriott, June 29 to July 2, 2015

More information can be found online at the NMEA site:

http://marine-ed.site-ym.com/general/custom.asp?page=NMEA_2015

or on our SENEME site: <http://seneme.org>.

Interested in helping with NMEA 2015? Planning meetings are currently scheduled for December 10, 2014, January 14, 2015 and February 11, 2015 and will continue on the second Wednesday of the month until May 2015. Contact Andrea Gingras at agingras@mail.uri.edu for details on meeting places and times.

FROM THE BOARD ROOM...

Help Wanted:

NMEA 2015

SENEME will be hosting the National Marine Educators Association Annual Conference the summer of 2015 in Newport, RI. The planning has started, and we need your help. Below are descriptions of each committee. If you are interested in joining a committee, please contact the person listed. Continue to look for more information about NMEA 2015 on the SENEME Facebook page, NMEA website, SENEME website and in future *Nautilus* issues.

Field trips: secure field trip locations, coordinate logistics of field trips (transportation, food, participants)
Maryann Scholl: mscholl@mail.uri.edu

Program: presenter selection, notification, and communication, supply content for program booklet, arrange audiovisual equipment, assist presenters
Andrea Gingras: agingras@mail.uri.edu

Transportation: how people get from one conference venue to another; may also assist with arrival and departure transportation
Maryann Scholl: mscholl@mail.uri.edu

Publicity/Marketing: craft messages for social media, work with fundraising committee on development and advertising
Maryann Scholl: mscholl@mail.uri.edu

Hospitality: coordinate logistics with conference venue, provide information to conference participants regarding local area
Andrea Gingras: agingras@mail.uri.edu

Special Events: arrange keynote speakers, other guests and VIPs, evening events, special performances
Diana Payne: diana.payne@uconn.edu

Fundraising/Development: solicit donations from sponsors of the conference, assist in securing auction items, work with Publicity/Marketing committee
Lauren Rader: lrader@oceanology.org

Exhibits: solicit organizations to exhibit during the conference and provide logistical support during conference
Diana Payne: diana.payne@uconn.edu

Auction: coordinate donation of items for silent and live auction, provide logistical support during auction event
Lauren Rader: lrader@oceanology.org

Evaluation: develop conference evaluation (questions and format) and process results
Diana Payne: diana.payne@uconn.edu

Volunteer Coordinator(s): organize volunteers for meeting (recruiting, scheduling)
Contact needed: Please email Andrea Gingras at agingras@mail.uri.edu, if interested.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2014
SENEME MARINE EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR
MICHAEL O'CONNOR!!**



The Marine Educator of the Year Award is given for effective and innovative teaching, and/or distinguished performance by either a classroom teacher or professionals who are not classroom teachers. Below is the speech given by Lauren Rader (above right) when presenting the award to Mike (above left):

This year's awardee is Mike O'Connor from Waterford High School. Mike has been teaching in the classroom for 22 years with a vast background in all things marine related. He has helped shepherd his students through the UCONN Marine Scholars Program and piloted the UCONN ECE Marine Science Program, which is now conducted in many other area schools. In addition, his involvement extends outside of the classroom such as serving as the Treasurer of the Delegate Assembly for Project Oceanology and as Coach of his school's Ocean Science Bowl team. He has been a worthy opponent coaching his students, and his team has always performed exceedingly well - placing in the top four the last several years.

Outside the classroom, Mike has participated in numerous research projects to increase his own knowledge and to enrich his students' experiences. These range from HAB monitoring, to passive chemical sampling to Atlantic salmon restoration. Mike's philosophy with teaching marine science has been to have his students take a research-based approach to their learning. His fervor for knowledge has been contagious, and his love of teaching the subject has been obvious.

His integration of the curricula, the importance of becoming involved in student learning, instilling a desire for knowledge and his creative teaching and management style have been and still are exemplary models for others.

Personally, I have known Mike for over 15 years through Project Oceanology and when we were opposing girls' soccer coaches. So, it is with great pleasure that I present the SENEME Marine Educator of the Year Award for 2014 to Mike O'Connor.

SOUND NOTES FROM THE WATER COLUMN

By Joseph Hage, Bacon Academy

The November day was perfect; cool, clear cobalt skies and water to match. I anchored the boat to drift twenty yards away from Latimer Light. The tide was beginning to flood, and the water of Block Island Sound was already rushing past Wicopesset Passage and swirling around Latimer rocks. All our free-diving gear was strewn across the deck, and the three of us checked and rechecked in preparation for skewering some blackfish. The hoods of our wet suits were slid over and snapped down on our heads; masks, fins and snorkels were gathered and donned. We made a last scan of the boat before we plunged into the eddying waters with the hopes of fish. Pete, a national spearfish competitor, was always first in the water; he slipped in over the side without a splash, stretched out his hand for the loaded speargun and prepared to dive.

I began free diving very young, around 12 years old. Watching Lloyd Bridges in “Sea Hunt” and “The Undersea World” with Jacques Cousteau, forever etched an indelible mark in my world view. Using my babysitting and lawn cutting money, I purchased, from Benny’s, my first mask. It was black rubber with a circular stainless steel rim. I also purchased a four-inch trident that was sold as a frog spear tip. Using an old broomstick, I nailed the frog spear tip onto one end and drilled a hole in the other to tie a length of rubber tubing. The final step was to carve my name in the shaft of the spear for texture in the otherwise smooth handle. This style of fish spear was called a Hawaiian sling. I would loop the rubber tubing around my thumb and draw the shaft of the broom stick spear through my hand and grip the handle, then I would dive down, and when I saw a fish, I let loose the spear hoping for the best. My favorite spot was Sarah’s Ledge, off Waterford Beach and Ocean Beach. It was a barren rock pile that jutted up from the 20-foot depths to 20 feet above the high tide mark. It was a quarter mile or so off the shore, a perfect swim. My mom gave me an old onion sack to use as a ditty-bag for the speared fish. The first fish I speared was a big old blackfish. I was thrilled until it flailed and shook itself free. The frog spear was not designed to hold fish. I learned that if I speared the fish and swam quickly enough, I could pin the skewered wriggler to the bottom, or the rocks, until I encircled it into the onion sack. I spent hours in the water; I had giant lungs, legs like trees, and skin like pruney leather, and a smile you couldn’t surgically remove.

I had no idea there was a “season” for fish, nor size limits, and I certainly did not know what a creel was, or its limit. I was 12. I was catching fish with a homemade spear, swimming for hours in the ocean. I was Lloyd Bridges and Jacques Cousteau in my head, the National Geographic theme song was the sound track of my life. I bet if you are my age you are hearing it now, Sunday nights on the couch with the family waiting for the next episode...

My original spear and Benny’s mask still hang on the wall of my barn, along with the more modern iterations of technology past and present. All of those hours of my youth led me to today on a gorgeous November morning; my spear gun was still wood; \$300 worth of A.B.Biller engineering, wetsuits, weight belts, a boat, and a ton of accessories. The little 12-year-old boy thrill was still there, buried under all of the latest technology along with a better understanding of fish management policies, regulations, and what a creel is.

I aired up, held my breath, and I slipped into the water...

NAUPLIUS NOSTALGIA

THIS FEATURE RESURRECTS ARTICLES AND/OR PICTURES FROM THE SENEME ARCHIVES.

COMPILED BY DONNA DIONE, EDITOR



Nauplius Nostalgia - Can you guess?

In honor of SENEME hosting NMEA 2015, all the Nauplius Nostalgia Mystery Photos, starting with the last issue, will be from when SENEME hosted NMEA 2002.

So, do you know who is in the photo at left, what was happening, and what is that creature?!

Look for the answer in the Winter issue of *The Nauplius*!



The Mystery Photo from the Spring/Summer issue has some of our youngest “members” at NMEA 2002: Sarah Tewksbury and Donnie & Dakota Dione. Sarah is currently a senior at UCONN and Donnie & Dakota are 17-year-old, high school seniors.

(Photos taken by Donna Dione)

MaTTS

MARINE TECHNOLOGY FOR
TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Marine Technology for Teachers and Students (MaTTS) Project

The MaTTS Project, based at the University of Rhode Island's Inner Space Center and the University of Connecticut's Avery Point campus, will be accepting Connecticut and Rhode Island high school teachers for a year-long professional development opportunity. The project focuses on providing opportunities for teachers and students to experience new technologies related to exploring the global ocean and discover pathways to marine careers using these new tools. Participating teachers will engage colleagues and students at their school, receive training, and gain experience in marine and ocean science technologies.

For more information and application details, visit www.mattsproject.org or email mattsproject@etal.uri.edu.



University of Rhode Island Inner Space Center

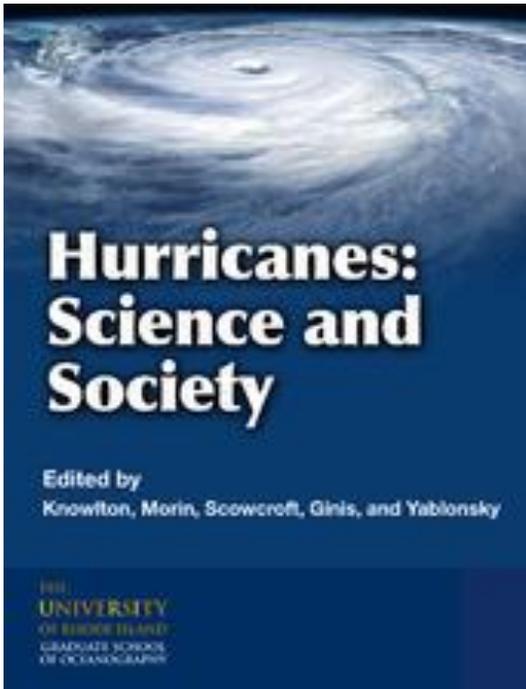
The Inner Space Center (ISC) is an international hub for ocean science exploration and education. Through its advanced facilities, the ISC expands the number of scientists engaged in live expeditions and inspires the next generation of ocean explorers.

ISC now offers educational programs intended for school/youth groups. A variety of themes are available including Hurricanes, the Unknown Ocean, and Discovery of Sound in the Sea.

The program includes a 45-minute classroom educational program, with choice of theme at the Inner Space Center. Groups can add an additional 45-minute tour of the Inner Space Center. All programs can also be conducted virtually. Please call (401) 874-6119 or e-mail romy@mail.uri.edu for details and dates. For more information about the Inner Space Center, visit www.innerspacecenter.org.



From The Bow Seat has announced its 2015 Ocean Awareness Student Contest, which now includes middle schools as well as high schools. This year's theme "Our Oceans, Our Plastic" allows students to explore and interpret the connections among the ocean, plastic pollution, society, and themselves. Students can submit work in one of four categories: Art, Poetry, Prose, and Film. Cash prizes range from \$250 - \$1,500 and can be awarded to students, teachers, and schools. Registration began September 15. For more information, go to www.fromthebowseat.org.



The University of Rhode Island is pleased to announce the publication of a new digital book, *Hurricanes: Science and Society*. The book is suitable for grades 4-16 formal and informal science instruction. It can be used as a classroom textbook or as a general classroom resource. The graphics, animations, and information are designed for tablet reading and also for projecting on a large screen.

Hurricanes: Science and Society contains a wealth of content, including the foundational science needed to understand hurricanes and information to assist readers in making good decisions prior to and during a hurricane emergency. It covers the full hurricane life cycle and how these potentially disastrous storms can affect communities. Topics include how hurricanes form, are tracked, and are forecast, as well as hurricane threats during landfall. There is also an overview of selected historical hurricanes. This highly interactive book is filled with compelling imagery and video. For educators, interactive quizzes are included at the end of each chapter, along with references. The book also has a comprehensive glossary, with more than 400 entries, linked from the text. It is designed to be accessible to

diverse audiences.

Hurricanes: Science and Society is available on iBooks. iBooks allows for browsing the book and downloading it directly to a Mac computer, iPad, iPhone, or iPod touch.

Hurricanes: Science and Society is based on published, scientific research and has undergone peer review by a panel of scientific experts. Additional information is available on the www.hurricanescience.org website. This book was developed by the University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Oceanography.



During the summer of 2015, the Huntsman Marine Science Centre, in St. Andrews-by-the-Sea, New Brunswick is offering two exciting, hands-on **Marine Biology Summer Institutes**.

July 6-10, Introduction to Marine Biology - a hands-on experience in field biology for **students** 15-18 years old.

July 20-24, All Things Marine - a hands-on marine experience for **teachers**, families and friends.

Both institutes include multiple field excursions to the shore, a cruise on our research vessel, time in the lab to learn about the marine creatures collected, and a visit to the Huntsman Fundy Discovery Aquarium!

Participants get up close and personal with live crabs, sea stars, marine worms, microscopic plankton and much, much more! There is no better maritime outdoor classroom than the Bay of Fundy!

For more information, visit www.huntsmanmarine.ca.

OCEAN EXPLORATION TRUST



The Ocean Exploration Trust has a variety of opportunities available for students and educators to become involved in our 2015 Expedition in the Gulf of Mexico and eastern Pacific Ocean aboard Exploration Vessel *Nautilus*! We are currently accepting applications for the following all-expenses-paid programs.

Please visit our website for additional details and to apply: www.oceanexplorationtrust.org.

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION FELLOWSHIP

- Formal and informal educators (of all levels and disciplines) are eligible to apply.
- The Fellowship includes a Science Communication training workshop held at the University of Rhode Island's Graduate School of Oceanography in March 2015 and 2-4 weeks aboard *E/V Nautilus* during the 2015 field season.
- Application deadline is December 19, 2014.

SCIENCE & ENGINEERING INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

- Undergraduate students, graduate students, and recent graduates are eligible to apply.
- Internships are available in 1) Ocean Science & Seafloor Mapping, 2) ROV Engineering, and 3) Video Engineering. Interns spend 2-5 weeks aboard *E/V Nautilus* fully immersed in professional sea-going teams.
- Application deadline is January 16, 2015.

HONORS RESEARCH PROGRAM

- Rising high school seniors (completing grade 11 in spring of 2015) are eligible to apply.
- The Honors Research Programs brings a small group of students to the University of Rhode Island for the month of July to learn about the interdisciplinary nature of oceanography. The program culminates with a ~7-day expedition aboard *E/V Nautilus*.
- Application deadline is January 30, 2015.

2015 NAUTILUS PATCH DESIGN CONTEST

- Students ages 6-14 are eligible to participate.
- The selected winning design will become the official patch and sticker of our 2015 Expedition.
- Contest deadline is January 30, 2015.



SENEME MEMBERS AT NMEA 2014!

New, Free Ocean Film Available for Educators

The second installment of the award-winning *Ocean Frontiers* film series, *Ocean Frontiers II: A New England Story for Sustaining the Sea*, is available for educational use free of charge. In a pioneering trial of far-sighted planning—pushed by blueprints for offshore wind energy—old residents and new are coming together to keep their ocean and livelihoods alive. You can view *Ocean Frontiers II* online at <http://ocean-frontiers.org/of2>. To request DVDs, go to <http://ocean-frontiers.org/host-a-screening> and fill out the online form.

***Ocean Frontiers* Available in Three Lengths**

The first film in the series, *Ocean Frontiers: The Dawn of a New Era in Ocean Stewardship*, is available for free to educators in three different lengths: 20-min, 60-min, and 80-min. An inspiring voyage to coral reefs, seaports and watersheds across the country, where unlikely allies—farmers, shippers, scientists, fishermen and conservationists—are working together to sustain the sea and our ocean economies. This film is divided into four chapters, showcasing activities in four different regions of the US. Teachers often use the full-length version and cover one chapter at a time with their students.

View clips from each chapter: <http://ocean-frontiers.org/the-films/ocean-frontiers>

Educator Guides: <http://ocean-frontiers.org/discussion-guides>

Request DVDs: <http://ocean-frontiers.org/host-a-screening>

British Columbia Ocean Film Coming Soon

A new ocean documentary is now in production and will be available in early 2015. This film offers an introduction to British Columbia's ocean planning efforts. The MaPP initiative is a partnership between the Province of British Columbia and 18 member First Nations that is planning for marine uses and long-term ocean health on B.C.'s North Pacific Coast.

Trailer: <http://ocean-frontiers.org/mapping-bcs-ocean-future>

To be notified when this film becomes available for educational use, sign up for *Ocean Frontiers* email news at <http://ocean-frontiers.org> (right sidebar).

 *SENEME FALL MEETING 2014* 



Keynote Speaker Laurie Macha presents on African Penguins (above left). Lauren Rader presents the Marine Educator of the Year Award to Michael O'Connor (above right). Some of the meeting attendees with Speaker, Laurie Macha (below).



Unless noted otherwise, photos throughout this newsletter are courtesy of Maryann Scholl, Amy O'Neal & Andrea Gingras

THANK YOU TO OUR SENEME ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT!!



DATES TO REMEMBER

December 10, 2014 - NMEA 2015 Planning Meeting, Place & Time TBD

January 14, 2015 - NMEA 2015 Planning Meeting, Place & Time TBD

February 11, 2015 - NMEA 2015 Planning Meeting, Place & Time TBD

June 28 - July 2, 2015 - NMEA 2015 hosted by SENEME, Newport, RI

**Please contact SENEME President, Andrea Gingras at agingras@mail.uri.edu to confirm meeting information.



The Nauplius is the newsletter of the Southeastern New England Marine Educators Association Inc. (SENEME) and is published three times per year for members of SENEME. Submissions including (but not limited to) articles, activities to share, student projects, pictures of SENEME members in action, recipes, other organization's announcements and Bulletin Board items are welcome for all issues. The opinions expressed by authors published in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of SENEME and all its Board members. SENEME is not responsible for any typographical errors that may occur within this publication. Permission is granted by SENEME for readers to make copies of newsletter items for their own, non-commercial use.

Please send submissions and suggestions to Donna Dione, 146 Essex Street, Deep River, CT 06417; Email: dmrddione@quixnet.net. Please type articles in a Word format. If mailing media, all disks and pictures will be returned.

Submission Deadline for the Winter Issue is January 25, 2015.



Southeastern New England Marine Educators (SENEME)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

New Renewal (check one)

Name: _____

my information has not changed

Today's Date: _____

School/Business Address: _____
Street

City, State, Zip Code

Home Address: _____
Street

City, State, Zip Code

Work Phone: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work E-mail Address: _____

Home E-mail Address: _____

Position (check all that apply)

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher | <input type="checkbox"/> Retired | <input type="checkbox"/> Scientist | <input type="checkbox"/> Consultant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Principal | <input type="checkbox"/> Professor | <input type="checkbox"/> Dept. Head/Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student | <input type="checkbox"/> Superv./Coord. | <input type="checkbox"/> Administrator | |

Disciplines (check all that apply)

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biology | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental | <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Science | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Physics | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <input type="checkbox"/> General Science | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chemistry | <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Science | <input type="checkbox"/> Tech Education | |

Which grades do you teach? (check all that apply)

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> K – 5 th Grade | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 th – 8 th Grade | <input type="checkbox"/> 9 th – 12 th Grade | <input type="checkbox"/> College |
|--|--|---|----------------------------------|

Send SENEME e-mailings to (check one):

- Home E-mail Address Work E-mail Address

Please consider joining one or more of our 5 standing committees (more information can be found on our website).

- Membership Nomination Publicity/Publication Conference/Special Events Financial Advisory

SENEME is considering sponsoring the NMEA conference in 2015. Would you be interested in helping? _____

Membership Category (check one):

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

Please note: regardless of which membership option you choose, your membership will begin immediately and expire on December 31st.

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Please return this form with check payable to SENEME.

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