



The Nauplius

www.seneme.org

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Letter from the President

Dear SENEME Members,

I sit and write this letter a few days after a snowy February weekend, and a quote from a popular TV show runs through my head, “Winter is coming.” The fact is, winter is already here, both seasonally and politically. As I type, harbor seals are waiting for fish scraps by the docks and sunning themselves on rocks, while funding for the sciences is quickly freezing over. Rather than lament, I encourage you to keep educating! This too shall pass, and we can still instill a love of our environment in our students to better prepare them to be our future decision makers.

I would like to take this opportunity to formally introduce myself to you as President of SENEME. I could tell you my name (Megan Strand), I could tell you where I work (New England Science & Sailing), and I could tell you my academic qualifications (Bachelors from UConn, Masters from Southern CT State), but I feel that you need to know me better than that.

I have been in the informal marine education field for over ten years, but the roots of my love for marine education go back much further. It started at Project Oceanology in 1992 where I was taken by boat to a gull rookery. I was attacked by gulls protecting their nest, getting pooped on, and often getting soaked on those chilly spring days; but it planted a love of the marine environment that would eventually lead to a career. This is not an unusual story. In fact, we all either have or have heard one similar. The question is, how can SENEME help stories like ours happen for your students?

In an effort to answer this question, we have a few exciting events coming up, including a joint program with Mystic Aquarium at Bluff Point, a marine life boat cruise at The Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk, and the annual Fall Conference! Please look through this newsletter for more details. All of these events have one goal: to provide you with resources and experiences to bring back to your classroom.

I would like to thank our past president, Andrea Gingras, and the SENEME Board members for welcoming me and encouraging me as SENEME President. SENEME has a long history, steeped in great events led by great people, and we continue to be a grassroots group of volunteers dedicated to education about the marine environment. Won't you join us?

Thank you,

Megan Strand
SENEME President

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 2006 Matt Schardt
 2010 Vicky Sawyer
 2011 Joseph Hage
 2012 MaryEllen Mateleska
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 2014 Michael O’Connor

 **Nauplius Notations**

By Donna Dione, Editor

Well, while I and a few SENEME old-timers secretly hoped this day might come, I wasn’t sure it ever really would. So, I am very happy to report that *The Nauplius* is back!! The SENEME Board is still working out the logistics of how often we will generate a newsletter going forward, but we do plan to return to a more consistent schedule of sharing information with our members. We are working towards keeping the format more condensed than the older versions of *The Nauplius*. However, with this “premiere” issue, there were so many exciting announcements to share with our members, we hope you will forgive us for the length and read to the end.

I look forward to once again being your editor and can’t wait to see you all at some of our upcoming SENEME events, listed on the next page.



Save the Dates!

Earth Day Party by the Coast!

Sunday, April 23, 10:00am - 2:00pm

Join SENEME and Mystic Aquarium as we celebrate with an Earth Day Party for the Planet at Bluff Point State Park in Groton, CT! Throughout this event, we'll explore the plants and animals that call Long Island Sound home, talk to marine biologists, and participate in a coastal cleanup as we celebrate our wonderful oceans. Teachers are also encouraged to bring their families and explore how you can use Geocaching in the classroom with your students!

Cost: No cost but registration is requested to ensure we have all the supplies needed for this event! Contact educationinfo@mysticaquarium.org to register today.

Marine Life Study Cruise

June 3, 2017, 10:00am - 3:00pm

Join the Maritime Aquarium in Norwalk, CT and SENEME for a marine life study cruise, lunch and behind the scenes tours of the aquarium.

Price and details to follow!

SENEME Annual Fall Conference

Saturday, September 30, 2017

Marine Science Magnet High School. Groton, CT

Keynote Speaker: Mark Zimmer: <http://www.conncoll.edu/ccacad/zimmer/MZ-8/MZ-8.html>

The conference will include: field trips, workshops and a silent auction!

***All members are welcome to participate in SENEME Board meetings. The next board meeting is March 14, 2017 at the Marine Science Magnet High School in Groton, CT from 4:30-6pm.**

SOUND NOTES FROM THE WATER COLUMN

By Joseph Hage, Bacon Academy

It was not the best day to be on the water. However, we had little choice: Prepaid reservations were made months ago, for a mooring in Edgartown Harbor starting that day. This was our big family reunion, and we were converging from as far as Hawaii and California. There was not enough room in the house, and we needed the boat for sleeping quarters. Spots in the crowded harbor were hotly contested, and if that weren't enough, the weather for the next several days was steadily eroding. The window of opportunity was closing. Two fronts with opposing weather patterns were converging across Long Island Sound up through Block Island and Buzzards Bay. One from the North, the other from the South. The storms had not quite reached our region, but the skies were ominous, winds were beginning to build, and the local waters looked like (to quote Dave B.): "an old man carrying soup." Water spouts were reported to be erupting up in the western sound off Branford and working their way east. Steady 25 mph winds were blowing from the southwest, heavy rain bands were beginning to careen off the northern shores, and it was only getting worse.

Timing was everything.

Weirdly, the song by the Ramones echoed on the radio: "should I stay or should I go now?" If I waited, most likely conditions would become infinitely worse and take several days to calm. Not going would cause us to miss a huge opportunity. We had to go.

My wife succumbs to sea sickness easily. My son not so much while my daughter has a rock-solid constitution -- she could read upside down in the bilge of a boat in 10ft swells. Both my children were raised to love the water, immersed in, on, and around everything marine. My son's work schedule notwithstanding, my nineteen-year-old daughter was first choice to be my first mate. I was confident she could handle the seas, skipper the boat, and follow my directives to the letter without question.

The boat was fueled, packed, our floating hotel was fully stocked for the trip and our stay...should I stay or should I go NOW?

My first mate said go. We loosened the lines, and we were off.

We charted a course north of Fishers Island because of the quarter it offered from the southwest winds. The stretch from Ledge Light past the Dumplings is notoriously rough, and today was no exception. We began to venture beyond Wicopisset Rocks and pounded past Watch Hill passage. The winds began to howl. Rounding the North side of Block Island and into Buzzards Bay, the wind worsened. Blue water continually crashed over the bow rail and smashed against the windshield with such volume that seaweed was left behind on the deck and glass. I was cautiously optimistic, albeit nervous. My daughter was unwavering in her attention to the waters ahead, calling out the pounding waves and the high flier buoys of offshore lobstermen. We switched off the wheel and she took the helm, charting the course with confidence and fortitude.

I had a daddy moment. There was my little girl, ponytail sticking out from behind her hat, sporting her nautical sweatshirt and boat shoes while hanging on to the wheel. She worked the helm, calling off markers on the chart, avoided cresting waves and stayed cool the whole time...I almost cried with pride. She stayed at the helm across Buzzards Bay until Cuttyhunk loomed into view through the sheets of rain and surf. We were finally in the lee of Martha's Vineyard, with Cuttyhunk to our port and the Vineyard to our starboard, enjoying a respite of calm in the midst of the maelstrom. I was able to reflect upon the natural affinity of the sea my daughter and son have embraced.

She loves to fish, sight-casting into schools of marauding bluefish or blitzing stripers off the bow of the boat drifting through the Fishers Island Race. We all love to coax clams to the surface with our feet by toe tickling for them in the mudflats of Chappaquiddick, then grilling them with butter and cocktail sauce. We love crabbing the mud flats of Katama Beach, driving for miles across the sand. Collecting hermit crabs in Alewife Cove of Ocean Beach and walking the boardwalk to get soft serve ice cream at the Gam Building was a rite of passage every summer. My children's immersion in water since birth seemed to have paid off. Years of carting piles of stuff to the beach with kids in tow, dragging life jackets, juice boxes and animal crackers everywhere we went, pulling splinters out of young tender feet, and washing sand out of...oh God, everywhere... seemed to melt away with the pride of the moment. All that other parenting stuff seemed a distant memory. The moment was now, and we were in the moment.

She was driving the boat through a storm, and loving every minute.



Opportunity for Classroom Teachers in Southwestern CT

The Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk received a grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), totaling \$484,955 that will teach students from 10 nearby towns impacted by severe weather about environmental hazards and community resilience. The grant is the largest federal award in the Aquarium's history, and it will fund a three-year initiative called "Sound Resilience- Get on Board!" The three-part education programs will occur in school classrooms and also aboard the Aquarium's hybrid-electric research vessel, *R/V Spirit of the Sound*. Additionally, more than 150 teachers from those communities are expected to participate in professional-development workshops.

If you would like to learn more about having this program for your class, please contact Sarah Nahabedian, snahabedian@maritimeaquarium.org.

Introduction to Underwater Robotics for Educators: Design and Build an Angelfish ROV

Educators, please join us for this professional development course to design, build and drive an Angelfish ROV. Each team of educators will receive a ROV chassis to keep (electronics not included). In this course, participants will:

- Learn the basics of ROV (Remotely Operated Vehicle) construction techniques
- Learn the basics of DC electronics and build a control box for your ROV
- Design and build a chassis for your ROV using PVC and connectors
- Learn the basics of buoyancy and create a vehicle that is neutrally buoyant
- Use the engineering and design process to uniquely construct A SeaMATE Angelfish ROV to perform specific tasks
- Test your ROV in the pool at CCSU and then modify it for the final competition

This course is appropriate for educators in upper elementary, middle schools or beginning high school programs. All educators will receive electronic diagrams, manuals and pamphlets from MATE (Marine Advanced Technology Education) to enhance STEM Activities at their school.

Coordinated by Excursions in Learning Youth Programs in partnership with CCSU, CGA and MATE. This course will take place on the CCSU campus.

\$15 materials fee per team, made payable to the instructor at the start of class

Saturday, March 25, 2017, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

CCSU Campus Tuition Fee: \$50/person or \$80/2 people (from the same school)

Instructors: Ed Argenta and Andy Goshorn (US Coast Guard Academy, MATE)

Space is limited!

TO REGISTER: Contact Carleigh Schultz at 860-512-2804 or cschultz@manchestercc.edu. Questions about the course content, email Ed Argenta EdandPat74@comcast.net. For more details and a registration form, visit <https://www.manchestercc.edu/continuing-education/excursions-in-learning/catalogs/>.





Upcoming NGSS Opportunities 2017
 Visit www.jason.org/ct to register today

New! JASON Basics – One Hour Live Webinar for Connecticut 3:30 – 4:30p.m.
Thursday, March 16, 2017

Are you unsure of how to take full advantage of the free resources provided by JASON Learning? We understand the challenges of learning and implementing new lessons, especially when time is a limiting factor. Come join us for a one hour *live* webinar, customized for educators and administrators in Connecticut to walk-through the “basics” of the JASON site navigation, key teacher tools, and tips on how to find what you’re looking for to support instruction. This includes a 10-15-minute Q & A so educators can get the help they need to get started or continue using these resources. Register at www.jason.org/ct.

New! Deconstructing Performance Expectations for an NGSS Classroom
(all grade levels)

Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at EASTCONN

9:00am – 3:30pm

Participants will explore the Next Generation Science Standards in more depth and participate in discussions and break-down of performance expectations to inform instructional design and implementation. Participants will be introduced to new lesson planning tools and strategies to begin embracing NGSS pedagogy, whether it’s with existing lessons or with new materials and resources. Using activities from JASON’s Climate: Seas of Change, participants will unpack a middle school performance expectation (MS-ESS2-6), specifically looking at how climate is created, climate modifiers, and the relationship between wind patterns and ocean circulation. While using JASON resources to explore what 3-dimensional learning looks like, this experience is intended to empower educators to apply and adapt these tools and strategies to meet the needs of their school’s curricula and classroom settings.

Open Access to JASON Programs for Public School Educators & Students in Connecticut Through 2018!

Register at www.jason.org/ct using your school email address for free access to JASON’s award-winning curriculum. JASON offers hands-on labs, digital simulations and games, articles, videos, interdisciplinary connections, and powerful classroom management tools for teachers. Explore earth science, forces & motion, energy, climate, recycling, ecology, environmental science, oceanography, weather, wetlands and more.

Contact Amy O’Neal at amy@jason.org or 860-885-4688 with questions.

2017 Ocean Awareness Student Contest

Bow Seat’s annual Ocean Awareness Student Contest is now open! Middle and high school students from around the world are invited to create works of art, poetry, prose, or film that speak to this year’s theme - *Ocean Pollution: Challenges & Solutions*.

Students need an adult sponsor (that could be you!) to submit to the Contest, and the Contest is completely free to enter. Students can earn awards up to \$1,500 in each category, and Bow Seat also grants Sponsor Recognition awards of \$750 for outstanding teachers, parents, and mentors who help a student submit to the Contest. The deadline to submit is June 19, 2017. **For more information on the Contest, and to view past winners, please visit our website: <http://fromthebowseat.org/contest.php>.**

NESS Spring 2017 Professional Development

Join a NESS Educator on a Professional Development Ocean Science Adventure! **New this year: choose between weekday evenings or weekend days.** Register for five or more days to receive a 10% discount on a 2016-2017 NESS academic program! Can't do five days? Receive a 5% discount for participating in at least two days!

Adventure Field Science: Weekend Professional Development; Sundays 9:00-12:00 \$60.00/Session
Would you like to learn how to connect your students to the local marine environment in an innovative and adventurous way? Or how to expand the learning experience beyond the boundaries of the classroom and into the natural environment? Then come and venture out into the field and learn how New England Science & Sailing Foundation (NESS) has been teaching engaging STEM-education in an adventurous way and creating ocean stewards for the last 10 years. Each day will focus on how to successfully guide a group of students through hands-on learning, which is connected and relevant to the NGSS and Ocean Literacy Standards. Participants will meet at each location except on boat days where the meeting location is NESS. **Boat day is limited to 6 participants.**

Date	Location	Topic
5/7/2017	Barn Island, Stonington, CT	Marsh Exploration and Forest Dynamics
6/4/2017	BOAT DAY - Sandy Point	Bird Population Studies and Snorkeling

Break Out of the Classroom: Weekday Professional Development; Mondays 5:00-7:00 \$40.00/Session
Have you always wanted to do a NESS school program but aren't sure if it meets your class's academic goals? This is the program for you! Join a NESS Educator to learn how to expand some of our most popular water based programs into your classroom to engage pre-learning content or continue the learning long after your NESS adventure!

Date	NESS Program	Take-Away
4/17/2017	Kayak Adventures	Density Dynamics and Boat Building Activities

NESS Fest

Saturday, June 24, 2017, 11:00am - 3:00pm

New England Science & Sailing Foundation, 70 Water St, Stonington, CT 06378

New England Science & Sailing (NESS) Foundation will be holding their fifth annual NESS Fest on Saturday, June 24, from 11am-3pm, at 70 Water Street in Stonington. This festive event features fun activities including sailing, kayaking, and stand up paddle boarding. NESS Fest participants are welcome to enjoy ocean adventure activities and giveaways, tour the facilities, meet the staff, and learn more about NESS's summer programs. No prior experience in water sports is necessary and participants will be supervised by trained and experienced NESS staff members.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 860-535-9362 or visit www.nessf.org.



Climate Science & Education Professional Development Workshop:
Resilience: It's Not Just Surviving the Zombie Apocalypse

University of Connecticut Avery Point Campus, Groton, Connecticut
Tuesday, July 11 through Thursday, July 13, 2017

[Click here to register for the workshop](#)

NOAA's Climate Stewards Education Project (CSEP) and Connecticut Sea Grant are collaborating with Federal, State and NGO partners to convene a climate science and education workshop for formal and informal educators. Participants will learn from and interact with climate science, education and communication experts. The workshop will focus on topics of climate science and resilience strategies for the northeast region of the United States, with a goal of connecting educators and their students and/or audiences to the best available science-based information and pedagogic resources.

Registration for the workshop is on a first come first serve basis and the number of participants is very limited! When enrollment has reached capacity, online registration will be closed. Registration is \$40 per person. It includes daily lunch, snacks, field trips, and a plethora of resources! Attendees are responsible for arranging their own transportation and lodging.

To register for the workshop, you must fully complete the online form **and** send a check or purchase order to: Connecticut Sea Grant - Climate Workshop, 1080 Shennecossett Rd, Groton, CT 06340.

You will receive an email confirming your participation in the workshop only when your registration fee has been processed. A detailed workshop itinerary, lodging and dining recommendations, and additional information will be sent to all confirmed registrants well in advance of the workshop.

All attendees will receive a certificate acknowledging their participation in the workshop as well as the number of professional development hours earned.

For more info regarding the overall workshop, contact Diana Payne at: diana.payne@uconn.edu, phone: 860.405.9248.

Questions regarding your registration fee? Contact Andrea Kelly at: andrea.kelly@uconn.edu, phone: 860.405.9128.

Workshop Overview:***Resilience: It's Not Just Surviving the Zombie Apocalypse***

University of Connecticut Avery Point Campus, 1080 Shennecossett Rd, Groton, CT 06340

Tuesday, July 11 through Thursday, July 13, 2017

A professional development workshop for formal and informal educators who wish to:

- Increase their knowledge of climate science, and resilience strategies;
- Learn about climate impacts and adaptations in the northeastern US; and
- Translate climate science and resilience to the classroom and/or informal education settings.

Times: 8:30am - 5:00pm daily.

Place: Marine Sciences Building, Room 103, The University of Connecticut - Avery Point, 1080 Shennecossett Road, Groton, CT 06340

Primary Contacts:

- Diana Payne: diana.payne@uconn.edu
- Molly Harrison: Molly.Harrison@noaa.gov
- Bruce Moravchik: Bruce.Moravchik@noaa.gov
- Peg Steffen: Peg.Steffen@noaa.gov

Featured Activities:

- Presentations by scientists and educators on climate science and resilience.
- Activities to increase participant climate science knowledge.
- Activities and demonstrations on teaching climate, engaging in resilience activities and related topics.
- Connections to the Next Generation Science Standards.

Notes on Food & Lodging:

- Lunch and snacks will be provided during the workshop.
- Participants must make their own travel and overnight arrangements. Lodging and dining recommendations and additional information, will be sent to all confirmed registrants well in advance of the workshop.

NEW! 2017 Bow Seat Marine Debris Creative Advocacy Competition

This NEW Competition challenges middle and high school students from the United States to implement real-world advocacy projects in their schools and communities, with the goals of educating the public about marine debris, inspiring people to change their behavior, and engaging them in activities that reduce or prevent marine debris.

Students need an adult sponsor to participate in the Competition, and the Competition is free to enter. The deadline to submit is June 19, 2017. Students can earn awards up to \$5,000!

This Competition is made possible by a Prevention through Education and Outreach grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Marine Debris Program. For more information on the Competition, please visit our website: <http://fromthebowseat.org/advocacy-competition.php>.

PLEASE RENEW YOUR SENEME MEMBERSHIP!!

If you recently received a letter that your SENEME membership has expired, we hope you will consider renewing soon. Remember as a SENEME member you receive the following benefits:

- * Reduced SENEME conference and special event rates
- * Reduced National Marine Educators Association (NMEA) membership rate,
<http://www.marine-ed.org/>
- * Scholarship opportunities to attend the NMEA conferences
- * Opportunities to receive awards and mini grants.
- * Receive the online SENEME newsletter, which contains information on events, classroom ideas and articles on marine-related subjects.
- * Invitations to attend special events. Past events have included:
 - Lectures, book signings
 - Seal watch, horseshoe crab hunt, family beachcombing
 - Discounted entry at area attractions
 - Professional development opportunities

You can conveniently renew your membership on the SENEME website, <http://www.seneme.org/>

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



**MYSTIC
AQUARIUM**



North American Marine Environment Protection Association®



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