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Upcoming Events and Opportunities

NOAA online seminars

www.scmarineed.org  Like us on Facebook!  Spring 2016
Hello from the upstate!

My time is currently consumed by annual reporting. While paperwork is not usually anyone’s favorite task, I always find it beneficial to reflect on past successes and find room to improve. It’s also motivating to add up the number of lives I have touched in a year. I wonder how many people SC marine educators inspire over a lifetime? We can make such a huge difference in others’ lives and in the health of our environment. It’s a good thing we manage to have so much fun while taking our jobs seriously! Here are two upcoming events to keep on your radar:

Save the date for an exciting professional development opportunity at Bennett’s Point in the ACE Basin on May 21. The day will include an outing on the E/V Discovery and the chance to network with your marine educator peers. You must be a current SCMEA member to participate, so renew your membership today! More details will be available soon.

The 2016 NMEA conference is quickly approaching. It is being held June 25-July 1 in sunny Orlando. If you are attending, be on the lookout for several of your SCMEA board members and help them to promote next year’s conference in Charleston!

Yours in watershed and marine education,

Rachel Davis
SCMEA President
Water Resources Agent
Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service

Rachel (far right) with Clemson Extension coworkers
Teachers on the Estuary: Salt Marsh STEAM

(Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, & Math)

North Inlet-Winyah Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

July 25-29, 2016  Georgetown, SC

Get your students’ creative juices flowing while learning valuable STEM skills in the salt marsh. Renowned batik artist Mary Edna Fraser will kick off the week with a presentation demonstrating how her art has been used for communicating science! Kevin Kurtz, children’s book author of A Day in the Salt Marsh, joins nature photographer Karen Beshers, visual arts teacher Marie Nichols, and educators and researchers from SC Sea Grant Consortium, North Inlet-Winyah Bay NERR, and ACE Basin NERR for a workshop designed to capture the science of the salt marsh through art and literature.

Applications Due: April 29, 2016


Registration is $100 (non-refundable) and includes:

- All supplies, lesson plans, lodging, food and transportation!
- *Open to all 5th-12th grade teachers and non-formal educators.
  *Renewal/Continuing Education credits available.

Activities:

- Exploring coastal habitats
- Field investigations including water quality & monitoring
- Photography, sketching & watercolor
- Creative writing techniques
- Standards-based classroom tech tools using local & national data

Requirements:

- Commitment to a 5 day workshop, plus pre and post webinars
- MUST be able to tolerate physical activity outdoors (summer temperatures, insects)
- Upon completion of the workshop, teachers must develop a lesson plan to share with all participants

Questions? Contact Beth Thomas at: beth@belle.baruch.sc.edu
Teachers On The Estuary Workshop
standards based climate curriculum

Want to learn about climate change impacts on our coastal resources?

Ace Basin CLiIMATE Exploration
June 21-23, 2016

Need fresh, new curriculum based on state standards and current research?
- Explore coastal habitats and conduct field investigations.
- Interact with local scientists and experienced coastal educators.
- Bring local and national data into your classroom.
- Leave with standards based climate curriculum and tools for your classroom.

APPLY BY April 29!

Limited space available. APPLY NOW HERE www.dnr.sc.gov/ccd/

ACE Basin
National Estuarine Research Reserve
Climate Education Workshop: *Rising Tides and Changing Times*, Charleston, SC

**Dates & Times:** Wed and Thu, August 3\(^{rd}\) and 4\(^{th}\), 2016 from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

South Carolina Aquarium
100 Aquarium Wharf
Charleston, SC 29401

Register at: [https://goo.gl/46z8xF](https://goo.gl/46z8xF)

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**Featured Presentations**
- Weather and Climate 101
- The Rising Tide: Impacts of Sea Level Rise in Charleston
- A Historical Perspective: Fort Sumter and Rising Sea Level
- Coastal Resilience: Adapting to Change
- From Sea Turtles to Red Knots: Biological Impacts of Climate Change (Panel)

**Featured Activities**
- Climate Icebreaker (NOAA)
- Climate Change 20 Questions (COSEE SE/Sea Grant Activity)
- Climate Resiliency (NOAA)
- Climate Cart (SC Aquarium)
- Red Knot Activity (SC Aquarium)
- Sea Turtles and Climate Change (COSEE SE/Sea Grant Activity)
- Carbon: The World Traveler (COSEE SE/SC Sea Grant Activity)
- The Effects of Sea Level Rise on Salt Marshes
- Climate Change Sleuthing: Using Technology to Investigate Charleston

**Notes - Workshop Costs, Food & Lodging:**
There is no cost to attend this workshop.
Participants must make their own travel and overnight arrangements; please contact EV Bell for suggested location: ev.bell@scseagrant.org
Meals will not be provided; participants are welcome to bring their own lunch to the workshop or select from restaurants nearby. A list of suggested restaurants will be provided.
Come be part of a great effort! Join the SC Aquarium this Summer in a Beach Sweep at Folly Beach. Do your part to keep Folly beautiful!

Dates:
- Tuesday, May 31st at 6:00pm: Day after Memorial Day
- Tuesday, July 5th at 6:00pm: Day after July 4th
- Tuesday, September 6th at 6:00pm: Day after Labor Day

Details:
- Where: 6th Street West, Folly Beach (The S.C. Aquarium’s adopted section of Folly Beach)
- Why: To do our part in the community by cleaning up the environment.
- Parking is on your own, on the street (just make sure your wheels are off of the pavement)
- Bring gloves if you have them, but all of the materials will be provided!
Linneaus’ Quarters

A light distraction for the taxonomically preoccupied

With waters warming and days lengthening, many SeaSripts readers on the coast are likely to encounter our resident horseshoe crab (*Limulus polyphemus*) while strolling on the beach in the morning or evening, or while fishing along marsh edges. The first impression of one of these crabs may send the uninitiated back to the car, but to witness a moonlight spawning event of these animals on a South Carolina beach is an incredible sight to behold. Universally referred to as ‘crabs’, they are within the same phylum Arthropoda (meaning those with ‘jointed feet’) as the familiar Blue and Stone crabs, but they are only distantly related, being in the subphylum Chelicerata rather than the much more familiar subphylum Crustacea (crabs, shrimps, lobsters, etc). The Chelicerata (roughly ‘those with claws, horns’) include all 4 of the living horseshoe crab species, as well as mites, ticks, spiders, and scorpions.

Their taxonomic name *Limulus Polyphemus* is most likely derived from Greek *limus* meaning askew or oblique, referring to their tail movement, and the mythological Greek character Polyphemus, the one-eyed cyclops son of Poseidon, god of the sea. This likely is a reference to the median eyes that form the prominent knob at the front of the crab. Older texts refer to the genus as Xiphosura, derived from Greek *Xiphos* meaning sword, and *Uros*, meaning tail. Inspired no doubt by the telson (or tail), which is used to right the crab in the event of being turned over. Contrary to popular belief, the tail is not a defense mechanism, and is most certainly not a handle, as this may permanently render the telson useless!
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SeaScripts Spring 2016 Cover Photo courtesy of SC DNR Wading Bird Biologist Christy Hand, taken while on a census flight along the North Edisto River in Charleston County.

SeaScripts is published and distributed on a quarterly basis. Articles and announcements from SCMEA members are greatly appreciated. Please send them to the editor, Nick Wallover, wallovern@dnr.sc.gov. To ensure that your submission is included in the proper issue, please observe the following deadlines:

Spring Issue: February 15th
Summer Issue: May 15th
Fall Issue: August 15th
Winter Issue: November 15th