

Scripts



The Newsletter of the South Carolina Marine Educators Association



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Summer 2014



SCMEA

The South Carolina Marine Educators Association

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President's Letter

Happy summer SCMEA-ites!

Now that the weather is turning into summer, I hope everyone is finding a COOL place to swim or hide in the shade! And as you begin to dream about cooler weather, I hope you also start to wonder what the annual fall SCMEA conference will bring! Our Conference Chair (and President-Elect), Meika Samuel, and the rest of the SCMEA Board are very happy to announce that the conference this year will be held October 3rd – 5th at the Penn Center in Beaufort County. The Penn Center holds a special place in the heart of many SCMEA members already and I, for one, am looking forward to my first trip there! For those of you who are not familiar with the Penn Center, it is a National Historic Landmark on St. Helena Island, one of the most beautiful and historically significant Sea Islands in the state. The Penn Center sits on 50 acres of the historical campus of Penn School. You can read more about the fascinating history of this important place at www.penncenter.com.

Some of the details are still in the works, but we do know a few fun plans already, starting with a conference welcome celebration at the Beaufort Shrimp Festival! We'll have the opportunity to enjoy the music and local flavors of the Lowcountry to kick off the conference. Other highlights include a keynote speaker, concurrent sessions, and of course the annual auction (be thinking of items for donation!).

Online registration for the conference is already open and we are trying something new this year – an EARLY BIRD rate! If you like saving money, you should definitely take advantage of this opportunity. For current members who register by August 1st, the fee is \$150 which INCLUDES meals, lodging for two nights, as well as conference activities and social events. That's quite a deal! After August 1st, the member rate will increase to \$175 so go ahead and visit the SCMEA webpage www.scmarineed.org "Conference" section to register! We'll keep the website updated with new conference information as we have it.

I hope everyone has a fantastic summer enjoying the ocean, estuaries, and all of our amazing marine life!

-Blair Keppler
SCMEA President



Get ready to dive into:
SCMEA CONFERENCE 2014

When: October 3rd – 5th 2014

Where: Beautiful, historic PENN CENTER in Beaufort, SC

What: An all-inclusive weekend of marine-filled fun and learning for teachers, college students, and marine education enthusiasts
Details to come at www.scmarineed.org

Immerse yourself in an unique cultural and educational exploration of marine education in South Carolina. Nestled in the historic Sea Islands, Penn Center serves as the ideal location for an all-inclusive weekend of marine-filled fun and learning.

FULL Registration Includes:

- Meals
- Lodging for two nights (Friday and Saturday)
- Conference activities
- Social events



Register today at :
www.scmarineed.org

Registration Fee	Early Bird (until Aug. 1)	Regular (Aug. 1-Sept. 16)
Members	\$150	\$175
Nonmembers	\$175	\$200

SCMEA Awards!!



SCMEA Marine Educator of the Year

This award recognizes the most outstanding marine educator in South Carolina. The recipient of this award will receive a \$250 check, a five year membership in SCMEA, and an engraved plaque. To nominate an individual for this award, fill out the form found on the SCMEA website and send it to the scholarship committee chair by August 20. The recipient of this award will be acknowledged at the annual conference.

Renkas Marine Education Grants

This award provides funding assistance for individuals implementing educational projects or programs and is named in honor of Cindy Renkas and her children, Brock and Jenna. Cindy was the first SCMEA marine educator of the year, a NMEA educator of the year, and along with her children, has played a very active role in SCMEA. Each year SCMEA gives up to six \$250 grants. To apply for an education grant, fill out the application found on the SCMEA website and submit it to the scholarship committee chair by August 20.

*Individuals cannot receive this award two years in a row. Current officers and board members are eligible to receive a grant.

Fred James SCMEA Travel Award

This award provides funding to cover expenses associated with attending the annual SCMEA conference. Each year SCMEA gives up to three \$200 awards. To apply for a SCMEA travel award, fill out the application form found on the SCMEA website and submit it to the scholarship chair by August 20.

*Current SCMEA officers and board members are eligible to receive a travel award. Previous recipients cannot reapply.



Go to www.semarineed.org to apply. Deadline August 20!

NMEA Conference 2014

Sailing into Marine Education from the Ocean to the Bay

July 21-25, 2014

Annapolis, MD

Register now through July 14!

www.nmea2014.com



Congrats to Callie Van Koughnett and Kevin Kurtz on winning the 2014 Jacques Cousteau Memorial NMEA Conference Travel Awards!!



Callie Van Koughnett is a teacher at Wando High School in Mt. Pleasant. She teaches Marine Science and sponsors the National Ocean Bowl Team and the Wando Marine Science Club.

She hopes to enhance her curriculum with authentic environmental scenarios, STEM applications and modern data collection techniques while at the NMEA conference. She plans to share the content with her curriculum team, neighboring science instructors and of course her students.

Kevin Kurtz is a children's author and educator. His books are 'A Day in the Salt Marsh', 'A Day in the Deep' and 'Uncovering Earth's Secrets'. He also regularly goes to K-5 schools to talk about his books and expand upon the learning they provide. Recently he has also been doing freelance work for the Consortium for Ocean Leadership developing education materials and programs about the scientific research vessel the JOIDES Resolution.

While at the conference, he hopes to strengthen and grow his connections in the marine education community. He also plans to promote the JOIDES Resolution through his presentation and continue making sure educators are aware of his marine related children's books.





Who we are

Based out of the Sewee Center, the Friends of Coastal SC (aka Sewee Association) is the nonprofit group associated with our coastal National Wildlife Refuges and Forest. We help educate students of all ages about the awesome ecosystems of the lowcountry!

Contact us to schedule a **FREE**, standards-based field trip to the Sewee & Waccamaw Centers or ACE Basin!

For more information or to schedule a program contact Allie Kreutzer at:
sewee.educator@earthlink.net
 Phone: (843) 928-3368
www.seweeassociation.org

What we do

- ◆ We utilize the plethora of natural resources provided by our local National Wildlife Refuges and Forest to engage elementary, middle, and high school students in standards-based, outdoor explorations and science investigations, giving real world connections to math, science (including STEM), and critical thinking skills that students learn in the classroom.
- ◆ Our programs are offered free of charge and are available to all public, private, and home school groups.

Investigate, learn, and discover!

We get kids outside and active!



Program topics include (but are never limited to...):

- ◆ **Carnivorous Plants of the Carolina Bays** – dissect some of our local plants to see what they've been munching on
- ◆ **Conservation and Recycling**
- ◆ **Ecosystems** – Explore our hands-on exhibit hall to learn more about the ecosystems all around you
- ◆ **Forest Scavenger Hunt** – Learn to Identify common local trees with this "choose-you-own-adventure-style" key
- ◆ **Field Studies at Ion Swamp or Shell Ring Trail**– explore the river, marshes, or hiking trails near the Sewee Center
- ◆ **Nature Art** (creative writing, fish prints, crafts, etc.)
- ◆ **Orienteering** -Compasses and Maps 101 (Great for Scouts!)
- ◆ **Oysters** – learn about one of the most valuable habitats around as you dissect a chunk of local reef and discover who's living inside
- ◆ **Freshwater Ecology** (with dip -netting)
- ◆ **Endangered Species** - including the local red cockaded woodpecker
- ◆ **Red Wolves** – learn the tail of one of the most endangered species on the planet then go see 4 of the beautiful animals that live behind the Sewee Center
- ◆ **Reptiles and Amphibians** (with live animals!)
- ◆ **Service learning** – help give back to the ecosystems you're enjoying with habitat enhancement programs, litter pick-ups, or other fun and engaging stewardship projects.
- ◆ **Shorebird Studies** – learn how wildlife biologists take surveys of the bird species that inhabit our refuge
- ◆ **Tracks**

South Carolina Aquarium®



Apply to win a FREE Standards-based Structured School Program (SSP) at the South Carolina Aquarium. Applications are online now through September 5, 2014!!

<http://www.scaquarium.org/teachers/>



Winners receive free admission and free programs for their students. Apply as a class or grade level today!

Contact Jaime Thom at jthom@scaquarium.org with questions.

iNaturalist

Here's a great website where you can record what you see in nature, meet other nature lovers, and learn about the natural world

www.inaturalist.org



Explore!

Your World!



Learn!

About Life!



Record!

Add Observations!



This new webinar series provides ocean acidification communication tools to formal & informal educators, and stakeholders across the country. One of its primary goals, is to promote a more integrated and effective ocean acidification education community by sharing ocean acidification education and communication activities virtually. With awareness of and access to these resources, the ocean acidification education and communication community will be able to utilize and continue to create cutting edge communication tools that incorporate

This series is jointly sponsored by the NOAA National Marine Sanctuaries and Ocean Acidification Program.

Upcoming Webinars

Please check here for registration info <http://oceanacidification.noaa.gov/AreasofFocus/EducationOutreach/SOARCEWebinarSeries.aspx>

Ocean Acidification Data Visualizations: How to access and use IOOS data

Presenters: **Jan Newton** and **Amy Sprenger**, Northwest Association of Networked Ocean Observing Systems ([NANOOS](#))

Primary Audience: Informal educators

Date/Time: Tuesday, June 24th 12pm PT (3pm ET)

Ocean Acidification: A Washington State High School Curricular Framework

Presenters: **Meg Chadsey & Paul Williams**, Washington State Sea Grant

Primary Audience: Teachers, formal educators

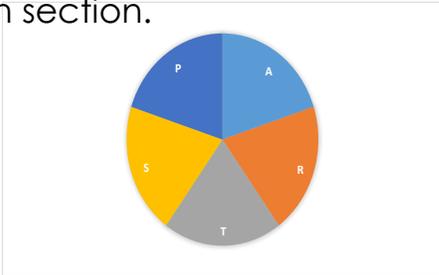
Date/time: Wednesday, Oct. 14th 3pm PT (6pm ET)

3 Easy Beach Activities

Try these next time you visit the beach!

“Parts” of the Beach

- 1) Have people in your group take about 5-10 minutes to select 5 items from the beach (for example: shells, horseshoe crab molt, piece of trash,...)
- 2) Have everyone meet up at a designated area where you have used your foot to create a large circle in the sand that is separated into 5 sections (see diagram) labelling a P.A.R.T.S. in each section.



- 3) Everyone should place each of their items in the corresponding section in the circle.

P—plants

A—animals

R—rocks

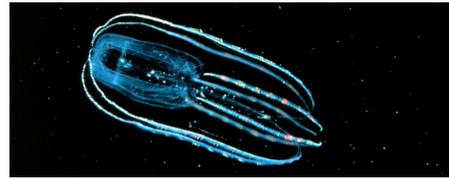
T—trash

S—shells

- 4) Go around the circle talking about each category and the items that were found.
- 5) Be sure to include a conservation message whenever possible!

Bioluminescence

- 1) Visit the beach at night.
- 2) Go to the waters edge.
- 3) Watch as the waves roll in. When a wave is receding, use your hand or foot to disturb the sand.
- 4) You'll see tiny flashes of lights!
- 5) These are tiny bioluminescent organisms. As you rub the sand, you will ignite the reaction that causes the light to flash within the organism.



Cricket Temperature

- 1) This activities can be done anywhere outside, not just the beach.
- 2) Stand outside quietly and very carefully count how many times a cricket chirps in **14 seconds**.
- 3) Use the following calculation to determine the temperature.

$$\text{Temp } (^{\circ}\text{F}) = \text{number of chirps} + 40$$

- 5) Male crickets chirp to attract a female. The rate at which they chirp is dependent on the temperature.



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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
Office of Ocean Exploration and Research

oceanexplorer.noaa.gov

NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer* Education Materials Collection

Why Do We Explore?

Professional Development - Part One

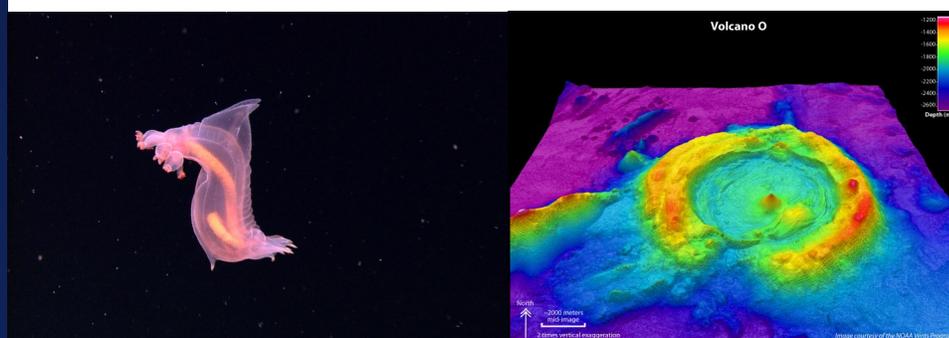
for Educators of Grades 5-12

Saturday, November 8, 2014

8:00 am - 4:00 pm

In Partnership and hosted by
South Carolina Aquarium
Charleston, South Carolina

All life on Earth relies on the ocean— yet, the ocean is 95 percent unexplored, unknown and unseen by human eyes...



SeaScripts is published and distributed on a quarterly basis. The submission of articles and announcements to the editor, **Kate Brown, at kbrown@scaquarium.org**, is greatly appreciated and encouraged. 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