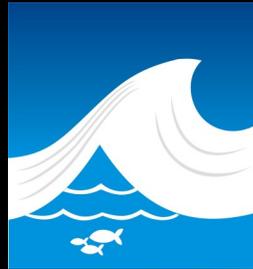


# SeaScripts



The Newsletter of the South Carolina Marine Educators Association

## In This Issue:

Captains Corner

NMEA 2017 Keynote  
Speaker Announce-  
ment

Linneaus' Quarters

NMEA membership  
reminder

Call for NMEA auc-  
tion

Breaking Down Plas-  
tics Summit

Upcoming Events  
and Opportunities



[www.scmarineed.org](http://www.scmarineed.org)



Like us on Facebook!

Summer 2016



# SCMEA

The South Carolina Marine Educators Association

## Captain's Corner

### *President's Letter*

My Dear SCMEA Friends,

I am elated to be your fearless leader and serve as the newest SCMEA President. I am thankful to Mark Madden, Beth Burkett, and Rachel Davis for initiating my relationship with this great organization four years ago. When I started working for the Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission, I heard many of my colleagues talk about SCMEA. I was eager to find what this group was all about, and wow, I am sure glad that I did!

As a board member during the last three years, I have witnessed great developments in SCMEA. The biggest was the decision to host the NMEA 2017 Conference in Charleston, SC for the first time in 18 years. At first, some of our members were hesitant about the timing. But with so many wanting to lend a hand and plenty of hard work, we have made great strides in conference planning. Now, we are four months away from making this conference the best one yet! Exciting!

Planning such a distinguished conference has required a sufficient amount of work and time. This meant not having a SCMEA Conference in 2016 and 2017. However, we were able to have two fantastic meet ups last spring and fall. The Bennett's Point trip last May was an adventure. Additionally, we had a great turn out for our SCMEA oyster roast at Fort Johnson last November. This year, we plan to meet at the NMEA 2017 Conference and to have another SCMEA meet up this fall. Stay tuned for developments!

Thank you to everyone for your contributions in order to make this conference successful. I sincerely appreciate any and everything you all have done. Serving as one of your conference co-chairs and watching how far we have come since we started is rewarding. Thanks to you all, I am confident that this conference will be fantastic. I cannot wait to see the fruit of our labor.

Your Friend Not Anemone,

**Lindsay Patterson**

SCMEA President

NMEA 2017 Conference Co-Chair



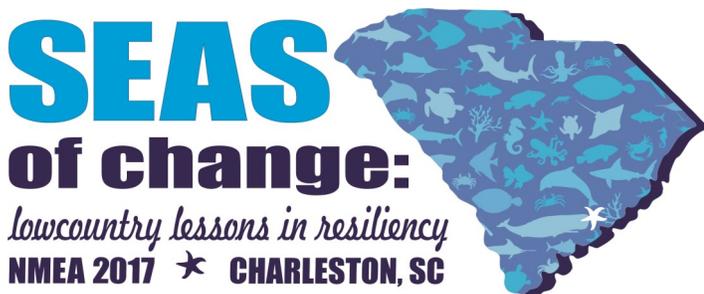
# Dr. Orrin Pilkey announced as 2017 NMEA Conference Keynote Speaker

Dr. Orrin Pilkey is James B. Duke Professor Emeritus of Geology, Division of Earth and Ocean Sciences, in the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke University, and Founder and Director Emeritus of the Program for the Study of Developed Shorelines (PSDS – <http://www.psds-wcu.org/>) which is currently based at Western Carolina University.

He received his B.S. degree in geology at Washington State College, his M.S. degree in geology at the University of Montana, and his Ph.D. degree in geology at Florida State University. Between 1962 and 1965, he was a research professor at the University of Georgia Marine Institute on Sapelo Island. He has been at Duke University since 1965, with one year breaks with the Department of Marine Science at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez, and with the U.S. Geological Survey in Woods Hole, Massachusetts.



Dr. Pilkey began his research career with the study of shoreline/continental shelf sedimentation, progressed to the deep sea with emphasis on abyssal plain sediments and back to the nearshore with emphasis on coastal management. His research centers on both basic and



applied coastal geology, focusing primarily on barrier island coasts. Dr. Pilkey has published more than 250 technical publications and has authored, coauthored or edited 39 books. His first task involved co-editing and co-writing a 22 volume Living with the Shore series of books, intended to inform the public about the hazards of beachfront living. Beautiful batik art by Mary Edna Fraser embellishes

Global Climate Change: A Primer. This popular 2011 volume was written with his son, Keith, and provides an excellent discussion of the subject, along with debunking climate change myths. Dr. Pilkey teamed up with another son, Charles who is a sculptor and former geologist, to publish a children's activity book titled Lessons from the Sand: Family-Friendly Science Activities you can do on a Carolina Beach in 2016. Further articles he has written can be found in the Coastal Care web pages (<http://coastalcare.org/>), a site that focuses on coastal and beach issues and education.

Dr. Pilkey has received numerous awards, among them the Francis Shepard medal for excellence in marine geology (1987). Most recently, Duke University honored him with a newly constructed building called the Orrin Pilkey Laboratory at the Duke Marine Lab in Beaufort, NC in honor of his contributions to Duke University, his highest standards of research, and his superb mentorship of young scientists.

# We need your help to make the NMEA 2017 conference the best yet!

## Consider contributing to the conference Auction



Do some spring cleaning in your nest and donate to the NMEA conference auction!

Some of the best items to give include:

- Things handmade by you! Jewelry, artwork, stationery, and more.
- Items that can be easily transported home.
- Rare books or educational items.

To contribute contact  
Beth Burkett at  
[bburkett@scmarineed.org](mailto:bburkett@scmarineed.org)

Photo credit: Keith McCullough

# Linneaus' Quarters



## A light distraction for the taxonomically preoccupied

For a change of pace this installment, let's make a leap from the kingdom Animalia to kingdom Plantae, taking a closer look at one of our salt marsh habitat creators. Over the past few months, those with a keen eye have watched as the ubiquitous *Spartina alterniflora* went from the verdant green of summer, to laden with golden amber seed heads in October, ultimately to its winter repose of decay.

*Spartina alterniflora* is a member of the broad family of grasses in the family *Poaceae*, Latin for "resembling grasses". The almost literal translation may fit the bill, but it certainly 'leaves' creativity for another day, a trend we will see as we wind down the taxonomic hierarchy. The genus *Spartina* is a short leap from the Greek *sparine*, meaning "cord" or "rope", and similar again to the Latin *spartium*, a grass that was used for cord, nets and mats. Certainly the common name of smooth cordgrass doesn't stray far from the classics. The genus *alterniflora* is derived from a combination of the Latin terms *alternus* for "alternating" and *floris* for "flower", alluding to the alternating pattern of the seed heads along the stems.

For those on the coast, be sure to look out for this year's new stems bursting out from those rhizome networks hidden safely in the pluff mud!



# SEAS of change:

*lowcountry lessons in resiliency*  
**NMEA 2017 ★ CHARLESTON, SC**



The **South Carolina Marine Educators Association** invites you to join us for NMEA

★ **June 25-29, 2017** ★

Drink some tea, eat a peach, and shag your way to  
*Charleston, SC!*

For more information

Visit **NMEA2017.org**



Contact **info@nmea2017.org**



# BREAKING DOWN PLASTIC

South Carolina Aquarium 2017 Plastic Pollution Summit & International Youth Summit

**THE CHARLESTON GAILLARD CENTER**  
Live streamed from Charleston, South Carolina  
Thursday, March 30, 10:20 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

[SCAQURIUM.ORG/PLASTIC](http://SCAQURIUM.ORG/PLASTIC)

## INSPIRE THE NEXT GENERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS

A global opportunity for middle and high school students considering their place in the world to connect and learn how they can take small steps to improve it.



### WHY SHOULD I PARTICIPATE IN THE YOUTH SUMMIT?

Spark thoughtful discussion about plastic pollution and environmental stewardship in your classroom. Join the South Carolina Aquarium via international live stream to engage your students in the **Breaking Down Plastic International Youth Summit**. Connect your classroom with the co-founder of a global nonprofit, a plastic-free mermaid, a company that makes “nets into decks,” and a breakout social media star to share positive outlooks and ideas that will inspire the next generation of progressive citizens and next-level innovators.



**DR. MARCUS ERIKSEN**  
Co-Founder & Director of Research, 5 Gyres Institute



**KEYLA CORREIA**  
Co-Founder, Plastic Free Mermaids



**DAVID STOVER**  
Co-Founder, Bureo Inc.



**DANNI WASHINGTON**  
Co-Founder, The Big Blue & You

### INTERNATIONAL YOUTH SUMMIT SCHEDULE, MARCH 30:

10:20 a.m. EST	Log in
10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. EST	Dr. Marcus Eriksen
10:45 a.m. - 10:55 a.m. EST	Keyla Correia
10:55 a.m. - 11:05 a.m. EST	David Stover
11:05 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. EST	Danni Washington

The **Breaking Down Plastic International Youth Summit** is part of a larger single-day event hosted in Charleston, South Carolina, designed to bring together thought leaders, plastics experts, innovative entrepreneurs, scientific researchers, and public policy advisors to generate long-term solutions to plastic pollution. A post-event toolkit and recordings of the summit will be available online after March 30.

To join the **Breaking Down Plastic International Youth Summit** via live stream, please contact Beth Demas at [bdemas@scaquarium.org](mailto:bdemas@scaquarium.org).

## NMEA AUCTION NEWS



Is your nest feeling crowded?

Let us help!



Photo credit: Keith McCullough

We are currently accepting donations for the NMEA 2017 conference auction.

Donations may be tax deductible and will generate good karma!

If you would like to contribute contact Beth Burkett at [bburkett@scmarineed.com](mailto:bburkett@scmarineed.com) or 843-762-9917.

## MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

Don't miss out on all the SCMEA fun, to renew your membership visit [scmarineed.org](http://scmarineed.org)



When you renew your SCMEA membership, you can receive a discount to apply to your NMEA membership at [marine-ed.org](http://marine-ed.org), just ask one of the friendly SCMEA board members today!



## SCMEA Contacts

### President:

**Rachel Davis**  
Clemson Extension  
[herold@clemson.edu](mailto:herold@clemson.edu)

### President-Elect:

**Lindsay Patterson**  
Charleston County Parks and  
Recreation Commission  
[lpatterson@ccprc.com](mailto:lpatterson@ccprc.com)

### Past President:

**Meika Samuel**  
Girl Scouts Midlands to Mountains  
[gssc-mm.org](http://gssc-mm.org)

### Treasurer:

**Austin Brown**  
South Carolina Aquarium  
[abrown@scaquarium.org](mailto:abrown@scaquarium.org)

### Secretary:

**Michelle Ashley**  
South Carolina Aquarium  
[mjashley@live.com](mailto:mjashley@live.com)

### Membership Coordinator:

**Allie Kreutzer**  
Cape Romain Environmental  
Education Charter School  
[allie.kreutzer@gmail.com](mailto:allie.kreutzer@gmail.com)

### NMEA Representative:

**Jaime Thom**  
South Carolina Aquarium  
[jthom@scaquarium.org](mailto:jthom@scaquarium.org)

### SeaScripts Newsletter Editor:

**Nick Wallover**  
SC DNR/ ACE Basin NERR  
[wallover@dnr.sc.gov](mailto:wallover@dnr.sc.gov)

### Media Coordinator:

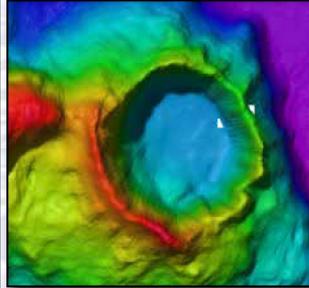
**Jessica Tipton**  
SC DNR/ACE Basin NERR  
[tiptonj@dnr.sc.gov](mailto:tiptonj@dnr.sc.gov)

### Scholarship/Awards:

**Kendyll Collins**  
South Carolina Aquarium  
[kcollins@scaquarium.org](mailto:kcollins@scaquarium.org)

### Board Member:

**Callie Van Koughnett**  
Wando High School  
[callie\\_vankoughnett@charleston.k12.sc.us](mailto:callie_vankoughnett@charleston.k12.sc.us)



Top to bottom: The NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer*, America's Ship for Ocean Exploration; Bathymetric image of a crater located on the eastern ridge off Maro Reef, the Control Room aboard the *Okeanos Explorer*; a jellyfish, genus *Crossota*, seen in the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument at a depth of around 3,700 meters; NOAA OER's new ROV, *Deep Discoverer*. All images courtesy NOAA.



## Exploring the Deep Ocean with NOAA

### Professional Development

for Educators of Grades 6-12

**Saturday, April 22, 2017**

**8:00 am - 4:00 pm**

In Partnership with 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...*

An essential component of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) Office of Ocean Exploration and Research (OER) mission is to enhance ocean science literacy and enhance understanding why it is important to explore our little-known ocean world. To help fulfill this mission, the NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer* Education Materials Collection was developed to encourage educators and their students to become engaged with expeditions and discoveries made by the NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer*—America's first Federal ship dedicated to ocean exploration.

Educators are invited to join NOAA OER facilitators to learn *Why We Explore (Volume 1)* and *How We Explore (Volume 2)* the deep ocean. Participants will learn about the importance of ocean exploration and the advanced technological capabilities of the NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer* used to explore the deep ocean. This 7-hour professional development will introduce standards-based, hands-on activities and online resources that guide classroom teaching and learning. Ocean health, sophisticated underwater mapping technologies, unique deep-sea ecosystems, remotely operated vehicles and telepresence are just a few of the topics covered.

Registration is required and space is limited. Educators will receive the NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer* Education Materials Collection *Volume 1: Why Do We Explore?* and *Volume 2: How Do We Explore?*, additional resources and a NOAA Ocean Exploration Certificate of Participation. Continental breakfast, lunch and a \$75 stipend will be provided.

*If you have previously participated in a Why Do We Explore? or How Do We Explore? Professional Development, this offering will be redundant.*

**Registration Deadline is March 31, 2017**

Contact Jaime Thom for information:  
[jthom@scaquarium.org](mailto:jthom@scaquarium.org) or (843) 579-8562

[oceanexplorer.noaa.gov](http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov)

**SeaScripts Spring 2016 Cover Photo** courtesy of SeaScripts editor and SC DNR Biologist Nick Wallover, taken in the late afternoon on the Combahee River.

**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, wallover@dnr.sc.gov](mailto:NickWallover@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**