



THE LITTORAL DRIFT

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA MARINE SCIENCE EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

WINTER 2008

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Scholarships

are available to cover Annual Conference registration. Contact Kathy Russell at krussty1@aol.com for more details.

CAPTAIN'S LOG - Jim Wharton

As April begins to appear out of the gloom and I prepare to pass the baton to Howard Rutherford at this year's spring conference in Tampa, I find myself thinking about the future of FMSEA. Not to be too trite, but are we all that we can be? Should we be bigger? More influential? Better known? The answers to these questions may not be as obvious as they seem.

At the conference in April, we'll celebrate 40 years of FMSEA. And while anniversaries are wonderful opportunities to look back at where we've been, we'll also be asking the membership to cast their glance forward and imagine what FMSEA will look like in the *next* 40 years. The Board recently voted to begin a strategic planning effort intended to help kick start the modest pace of our organizational evolution. In the coming weeks you will receive an invitation (via snail or e-mail) to participate in a pre-conference survey. Your contributions will lay the groundwork for the strategic planning efforts at the conference, which will include a general session to gather further input from the membership, and a board retreat on Sunday to help hammer out a framework for our first draft.

As I tell our high school interns,

we will get exactly as much out of this process as we put into it. I've been involved with strategic planning efforts that were nothing more than Dilbert-ian exercises in bureaucratic futility. If we go into this expecting nothing more, we'll get nothing less. This feels different. There's a buzz of anticipation from the Board for what this could mean for FMSEA, where it could take us. This is the time to fully mobilize the FMSEA network and draw from the experiences we've each had with ours and other organizations, from the wants and needs of our professional lives, even the hopes and dreams of our students and patrons. This isn't something to leave for the Board. It needs to be representative of the membership at large, and of marine science education in the state of Florida. The *only* way to accomplish this, is with *your* help.

It's been an honor and a pleasure to serve the organization as President this year. It passes all too quickly. Of course, there's much I wish I could have accomplished, but I look forward, with great anticipation, to the achievements of the coming administration. I leave you in capable hands, and look forward to continued service to FMSEA as your Past-President and NMEA Chapter Representative.

FMSEA REGION REPORTS

Northeast

I want to thank all of you that made the inaugural **North-east FMSEA region event** a success. A special thanks goes out to Maia McGuire, Linda Harrison, and Cat Eastman who helped me prepare for & teach the workshop. Another special thanks goes out to Dr. Miller from the National Marine Fisheries Service, who drove all the way from Miami to educate us about coral reefs!

It was wonderful to see long time FMSEA members, newer members, and non-members who we hopefully convinced to become part of the FMSEA family! Event attendees participated in a variety of classroom and outdoor activities such as: a butterflyfish nomenclature lesson, building a coral reef cake, sand analysis at the beach, pulling a seine net, and learned about beach profiling. I hope everyone is having a fantastic spring so far, good luck with FCATS and I hope to see all of you at the upcoming April conference! - Angie Golubovich

Southeast

The spring Intra-Regional meeting was held in the Keys Feb. 9-10 and hosted by **Megan Mertsock** at the **Dolphin Research Center**, with presentations by **Cheryl Messinger** of **Dolphin Connection** and **Dave Makepeace**. Following our tour and day of fun at the DRC, we headed to the **Turtle Hospital** in Marathon for a tour of their facility and a peek at their turtle patients. We even got to feed the turtles! Sunday we met up with MaryLou Wright of Dolphins Plus for a fabulous tour and overview of the educational programs they offer, including they Keys only "natural swim" with dolphins. **Joe Cavanaugh** of the **Reef Environmental Education Foundation (REEF)** gave an instructional class on how to incorporate their Home Study Fish ID Class into the classroom for age groups 12 and up. Participants learned how to teach the basic fish identification course for Florida and Caribbean fishes. Curriculum and class materials are available to purchase at whole sale/educator rates for future instructional needs - contact joe@reef.org for more information.

Do you have regional news or ideas for locations or topics of future IR meetings? I'd love to hear from you. Please email me leslie@cccturtle.org. — Leslie Figg

West Central

Tampa Bay Watch is looking for schools in Manatee County that are interested in growing wetland plants and restoring the bay. Please refer to tampabaywatch.org for more information on Bay Grasses in Classes or email Martha Garcia at mgarcia@tampabaywatch.org.

Tampa Bay Watch is hosting a free open house on Saturday April 12th from 11am-3pm. Stop by with the family for a bite to eat, and learn about Tampa Bay with educational exhibits, games and fun activities for the entire family.

MarineQuest - Saturday, April 19, 2008 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m - is the annual open house at the **Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI)**. During this event the public is invited to visit the facility and experience first-hand the exciting research conducted in the field of marine science. There are activities for kids and adults alike. - Martha Garcia

Panhandle

On March 12, 2008 **Ocean's Day** was held in Tallahassee at the State Capitol Building. This annual event highlights several organizations, state agencies and groups working to educate and preserve the ocean environment.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FWC) **Division of Marine Fisheries Management (DMFM)** will host three Kids' Fishing Clinics. These educational events are held in coastal communities and focus on marine habitat conservation and ethical angling skills that promote resource stewardship. Participants also learn about knot tying, fishing tackle and casting before getting a chance to fish on site. Sites include: Pensacola on May 10th, Panacea on May 31st, and Panama City Beach on June 7th. For more information about these clinics visit the website www.myfwc.com/marine/fishingclinics/index.html or contact Gus Cancro at (850) 488-6058.

The **Wakulla Wildlife Festival** will be held April 3-5, 2008. This large scale event incorporates several groups, organizations and state and federal agencies to provide freshwater, terrestrial and marine opportunities for participants. Everything from bird banding and medicinal plants to gopher tortoises and marine field trips are available during this county-wide event. For more information visit the website www.wakullawildlifefestival.org/WWF_2008_Packet.pdf.

I hope everyone has a great New Year teaching students and adults about the marine environment. If you need anything from me, please do not hesitate to contact me. - Rich Abrams

Editors Note: Apologies to the Regions and Region Reps not represented here. Technical difficulties prevented me from including these reports, so they will be reported in the next newsletter. - Laura Diederick

ANNUAL FMSEA AWARDS

Nominate a colleague or two for his or her contribution(s) towards marine science education! Annually, FMSEA recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions towards moving the field of marine science forward, who provide outstanding marine science education and who want to share their successes with other practitioners. Nominations are currently being accepted for the following awards:

FMSEA Service Award- The FMSEA Service Award is given each year to a member who has exhibited dedicated service to the organization. Nominees must be FMSEA members. Self-nominations are accepted. The nomination must address the following points. Please submit bullets instead of a long narrative:

- Professional experience and background
- Projects/programs related to FMSEA undertaken by nominee
- Number of years and in what capacities nominee has served in FMSEA

John Beakley Marine Science "Educator of the Year" Award- This Award is given to an educator who has demonstrated dedication to promoting and developing marine science in Florida. Nominees need not be members of FMSEA, but member nominations are encouraged. Self-nominations are accepted. Please ask the person you nominate to address the following categories - we encourage bullets of information as opposed to a narrative:

- Professional experience and background
- Special recognition already received relating to marine education
- Marine Science programs/projects developed by nominee
- Publications/workshops/presentations

FMSEA Teacher Trust Fund Award- Individual awards will be presented to FMSEA members to attend either an environmental professional development program or a professional conference. Awards may cover registration, travel or accommodation costs. Applicants are encouraged to secure matching funds from sources other than FMSEA. All award winners must agree to make acknowledgments of FMSEA support in all activities related to the funded program; file copies with FMSEA of all products generated by the program; write a short report for the program; file copies with FMSEA of all products generated by the program; write a short report for the [Littoral Drift](#) or present a session at the following Annual Conference after the completion of the project.

FMSEA Student Project Award- Enter a student project related to the marine environment. Three awards of \$300 each will be given to the selected project in three categories. The purpose of the Student Project Award is to encourage continuing education and study of the marine environment.

Please submit nominations to:

E. Howard Rutherford • Pier Aquarium, Inc. • 800 Second Ave. NE, Ste. 2001 • St. Petersburg, FL 33701-350

*** Nominations online at www.fmsea.org can be emailed to hrutherford@pieraquarium.org

In 1986, FMSEA began recognizing its members, as well as members of the Marine Science community in Florida, for the hard work and dedication that has helped to better the organization and the field of Marine Science.

SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

2007 - Laura Diederick
2006 - Ned Webster
2005 - BJ Viers
2004 - Kathy Russell
2003 - Rosalyn Kilcollins
2002 - Jean Knight
2001 - BJ Viers
2000 - Lynn Christensen
1999 - Karen Hamilton
1998 - Jackie Fletcher

JOHN BEAKLEY MARINE EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR RECIPIENTS

2007 - Mike Mullins
2006 - Angie Golubovich
2005 - Maia McGuire
2004 - Charlene Mauro
2003 - Any Guerin
2002 - John Hargis III
2001 - Kathy Russell
2000 - Alex Waters
1999 - Dave LaHart and George O. Dawson

LEGACY PROJECT FUNDED BY SWFWMD

- By Brad Tanner, Stephanie Dunda, and Jessica Timmons

A unique partnership among Mote Marine Laboratory, Phoenix Academy and Brookside Middle School has been made possible by a grant from the Manasota Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District. "How Safe Are Our Watersheds?" is a new legacy project that will enable approximately 160 seventh- and eighth-grade students to participate in citizen science by gathering data and communicating the importance of our watersheds to the public.

As part of the grant, in December 2007, Mote will conduct workshops about watersheds surrounding Sarasota Bay and the Myakka River to Phoenix Academy and Brookside Middle School students.

Project content will include estuarine water quality, macro and micro biodiversity of plants and animals, and human impact on the estuarine ecosystem. Students will also learn about the scientific method through lectures, interactions with Mote scientists and hands-on research. Science, social studies, reading, writing and math teachers will incorporate content into classroom lesson plans as part of this integrated project.

Through the "How Safe Are Our Watersheds?" projects, students will create public service announcements, write letters and participate in community service aimed at educating the general public about water quality in Sarasota County. Each student will visit a site surrounding Sarasota Bay and the Myakka River twice, for a total of four visits to a local watershed. While at these two sites, students will pull seine nets and use core samplers and dip nets to compare and contrast the abundance and diversity of nekton, benthic or bottom-

dwelling organisms. In addition to this, students will be testing water quality to determine if environmental factors, substances or chemicals are affecting their local watersheds.

The legacy project will provide students a unique opportunity to investigate their local watershed and to form individual opinions about what is affecting them.



Lido Beach, one of the sites students visit as part of this project.

About Mote Marine Laboratory

Founded in 1955, Mote Marine Laboratory is an independent, nonprofit marine research organization. It is dedicated to advancing the science of the sea through the study of marine and estuarine ecosystems, through the public Mote Aquarium and through an education division that provides unique programs for all ages.

About Phoenix Academy

The Phoenix Academy is a public school in Sarasota, FL, for 8th, 9th, and 10th grade. Teachers at the Phoenix Academy strive to elevate level 1 and 2 FCAT students to their grade level. In its fourth year, the Phoenix Academy strives to meet the needs of every student, every day, whatever it takes.

About Brookside Middle School

Brookside is a public middle school in Sarasota County that services 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. Brookside students are taught that through effort, they can achieve success. Jessica Timmons teaches science on the International Baccalaureate multi-grade team (7th & 8th grade combination).

Florida Marine Science Educators Association

2008 Conference

April 25-27, 2008 • Tampa Florida



REGISTRATION

Tentative Conference Schedule

Thursday, April 24

Afternoon
5:00 - 8:00 PM Conference Committee Meeting
Registration Open - *La Quinta Lobby*

Friday April 25

7:45 AM - 5:00 PM Registration Open - *La Quinta Lobby*
7:30 AM - 5:00 PM Field trips - *Vans leave from La Quinta*
4:00 - 10:00 PM Exhibitors set up - *MOSI*
5:45 PM Buses depart for The Florida Aquarium - *La Quinta*
6:30 - 9:30 PM Social & Conference Opening - *The Florida Aquarium*
7:00 PM Opening Speaker, Dr. Craig Watson - *The Florida Aquarium*
9:30 PM Last bus departs from The Florida Aquarium - *to La Quinta*

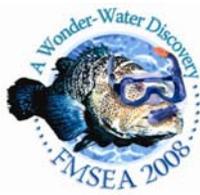
Saturday April 26

7:00 - 8:00 AM **All programs and sessions are at MOSI*
Exhibit area available for Exhibitor set-up
7:45 - 10:00 AM Registration Open - *MOSI*
8:00 AM - 6:00 PM Exhibits Hall Open
8:30 - 10:00 AM Opening Session & Keynote Speakers
Dr. David Niebuhr and Dr. Randall Wells
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Concurrent Sessions
12:00 - 1:30 PM Box Lunch and Regional Meetings
1:30 - 5:15 PM Concurrent Sessions
4:30 PM Deadline to submit election ballots
5:15 - 6:00 PM Break and Networking
6:00 PM Exhibit break down
6:00 - 7:00 PM Silent Auction and Social
7:00 - 10:00 PM Banquet, Installation of Officers, Awards

Sunday, April 27

8:00 - 9:30 AM Breakfast Buffet & Networking - *Embassy Suites*
8:30 - 9:30 AM FMSEA/FWC Collecting Certification Facilitators Meeting
9:45 - 11:00 AM Board Meeting

*** Please note that the conference hotel, La Quinta, is approximately 0.6 miles from MOSI (the Museum of Science and Industry). Conference participants are encouraged to walk to sessions and events on Saturday, as it is extremely close for your convenience! However, a van will be available Saturday morning and Saturday evening to provide shuttle service if that is preferred. It will shuttle between La Quinta and MOSI before the opening session and at the conclusion of dinner. Participants may also drive to/from MOSI and park at no cost.



Greetings, Fellow Educators!

As The Florida Marine Science Educators Association celebrates its 40th year anniversary, join fellow marine science enthusiasts to celebrate the wonder and imagination of science. Through inspiration and dedication, FMSEA educators strive to impact the next generation of scientists, activists, and caring citizens. Come share your ideas for igniting that spark! Do you have an activity that truly captivates students and makes them want to learn more? Do you manage a program that inspires others to get more involved in marine science? This conference is the perfect opportunity to highlight what you do to ignite the spark in students of all ages while learning about what your colleagues are doing as well!

Conference sites include The Florida Aquarium and the Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI), as well as a variety of exciting field trip sites and options. You are sure to reignite your own spark for science. We look forward to seeing you in Tampa this spring!

Friday is field trip day! You may have a hard time choosing between an inspirational canoe trip through lush mangroves or seeing some truly wild animals up close at the world-renowned Busch Gardens Tampa Bay. Or perhaps you prefer to dive into the Gulf to check out artificial reefs! Either way, our field trip day provides choices that range from a leisurely wetland walk to an eco-tour of Tampa Bay... we really have something for everyone! See pages 5-6 for descriptions and information.

Friday Evening Social...Join fellow marine education enthusiasts at The Florida Aquarium for heavy appetizers as you discover more than 20,000 aquatic plants and animals both native to Florida and from around the world. Along the way, see river otters, alligators, stingrays and sharks, and come face-to-face with a 200-pound Goliath Grouper! The diversity of Florida's aquatic life is displayed at this facility, which is not only an aquarium, but also an aviary and botanical garden.

The fun continues with a presentation by Craig Watson (University of Florida Tropical Aquaculture Laboratory and Board VP of Conservation and Research for The Florida Aquarium). You will not want to miss *Steamy Waters, The Fascinating World of Fish Sex (Rated PG13)*.

Saturday's Sessions at the Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI) begin with two fantastic Keynote Speakers from Mote Marine Laboratory. Dr. David Niebuhr will ask us critical questions about an ocean-literate nation as he presents *Inspiring Ocean Literacy: Are we REALLY willing to do what it takes to meet the goal?* Dr. Randy Wells will then share his continuing fascination for bottlenose dolphins after more than 37 years of research in *Will the Wonders Never Cease?* Concurrent Sessions throughout the day allow for you and your colleagues to highlight the best of the best! Presenters will share their experiences and ideas for inspiring students. It is not too late to submit a session proposal, so please complete the application in this registration packet!

La Quinta Inn and Suites USF

3701 East Fowler Avenue
Tampa, Florida 33612
(813)910-7500
www.lq.com

The Florida Aquarium

701 Channelside Drive
Tampa, Florida 33602
(813)273-4000
www.flaquarium.org

Museum of Science & Industry

4801 East Fowler Avenue
Tampa, Florida 33617
(813)987-6000
www.mosi.org

Saturday Evening begins with a Silent Auction, so join conference participants for a drink and good-natured competitive bidding for the must-have items of the night. Remember that proceeds from the auction support student and teacher awards and scholarships! We also hope that you will consider donating an item to this worthy cause. **Donations to FMSEA are tax deductible.** See page 13 or simply bring your donation(s) with you to the conference! Our evening will continue with a dinner among MOSI's exhibits, as well as our annual induction of the new FMSEA Board, awards, and more!

Sunday Morning, opt for a full breakfast at the Embassy Suites, just across the street from La Quinta. With eggs cooked to order and a buffet of traditional breakfast sides (sausage, bacon, fruit, etc.), it's a perfect way to wrap up a great conference, while providing an opportunity for more networking and sharing of ideas.

Registration begins January 28, 2008 – see enclosed forms.

Full registration includes FMSEA tee-shirt, special conference items, Friday Evening Social, all Saturday sessions, Saturday lunch, and evening dinner. Sunday breakfast is optional and can be added to your registration. Additional tickets for guests can also be purchased for both the Friday Social and Saturday dinner. See the registration form for costs and details.

LODGING OPTIONS

Conference Hotel La Quinta Inn & Suites USF
3701 East Fowler
Tampa, Florida 33612
(813)910-7500

Be sure to ask for the group rate code. Identify yourself as FMSEA, or provide the code: 977QRQJKS. This special reduced group rate is valid only through **April 10**, so be sure to book early!

Single/Double Room: \$75/night

All rooms have high-speed Internet, dataport phones, cable television, coffee-maker, hair-dryer, iron with ironing board, and an alarm clock. Expanded continental breakfast is included in the rate, and there is an outdoor pool and a fitness center on-site.

Nearby Hotels

Embassy Suites Tampa (across the street)
3705 Spectrum Blvd.
Tampa, Florida 33612
(813)977-7066

Wingate by Wyndham (next door)
3751 E. Fowler Ave (McKinley & Fowler)
Tampa, FL 33612
(813) 979-2828

Look for more information at www.fmsea.org.

FMSEA Conference, April 25 - 27, 2008

Field Trips Friday April 25

Field trips are on Friday, April 25, 2008. All trips (except for *Adventure at The Florida Aquarium*) include a box lunch and beverage, as well as transportation to and from La Quinta. Note that *Adventure at The Florida Aquarium* participants will remain at the Aquarium for the evening event. Times indicate departure and return times to/from the La Quinta.

Indicate the Letter for your first and second choice(s) on the registration form – confirmation and trip details will be sent after your registration is received. You will only be registered for your second choice if your first choice is already filled to capacity. If you do not wish to be registered for another trip should your first choice trip be filled, please do not list a second choice. Please note that the only trip combination possible is A and F. All other trips have overlapping times.

A. 8:45 AM - 12:30 PM Wetlands Walk along the Hillsborough River, Lettuce Lake Park

Difficulty: Moderate

Fee: \$35 - includes transportation and lunch

Lettuce Lake is a floodwater overflow for the Hillsborough River. The park is also home to a spectacular freshwater wetlands complex loaded with a large variety of wading birds, gators, turtles and other wildlife. Our trip consists of a short video overview of the types of wetlands and a hike along a boardwalk to observe organisms. Binoculars will be furnished. Time permitting, we may do some collecting of freshwater fish and invertebrates. Bring your camera!

B. 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM Gulf of Mexico Dive Trip

Difficulty: Easy to moderate - SCUBA certification required

Fee: \$135 - includes transportation, lunch, snacks and two air fills

Dive Veteran's Artificial Reef and Rube Allyn Reef and the natural ledges in the surrounding area. Both structures are well established and are home to many species. Rube Allyn is a good location to spot kingfish. Price includes two air tanks, transportation, snacks, and lunch. If you need to rent equipment please call field trip coordinator Lauren Tyler for information at (813) 367-4017.

C. 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM A Day for Tampa Bay!

Difficulty: Easy

Fee: \$40 - includes transportation and lunch

Join Tampa Bay Watch Scientists and Educators for a guided tour of a restoration project completed at Cockroach Bay. Then hop in a van and head across the bay to see Tampa Bay Watch's new education facility. Learn about field programs that they conduct with students and get a bit wet as you pull a seine net in Tampa Bay off the coast of their beautiful property! Closed-toed shoes and clothes that can get wet are a must!

D. 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM What's New at the Zoo?

Difficulty: Easy to moderate,

Fee: \$50 - includes transportation and lunch

Yes, we are marine educators, but the whole world is interconnected! Join Educators at Busch Gardens Africa on a behind-the-scenes look at one of the largest zoos in the country! Learn about opportunities for educators and students, meet some critters up close, and learn how the zoo cares for animals and supports research all over the world! Then, enjoy some free time in the park. The tour includes a lot of walking, so please wear comfortable clothes and walking shoes! *If you are an informal educator working for a government agency, please contact the field trip coordinator Lauren Tyler at (813) 367-4017 to see if you can participate in this program.*

E. 11:30 AM - 5:00 PM Paddle in the Mangroves at Weedon Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Fee: \$40 - includes transportation and lunch

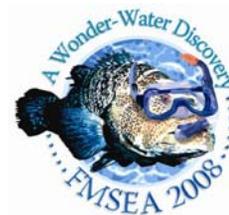
Head to Weedon Island Preserve in St. Petersburg and take a leisurely guided canoe trip through the mangroves! The trail meanders through the mangrove forests and sea grass flats. See a wide variety of wading birds and fish, including spoonbills, egrets, mullet, snook, and maybe a shark!

F. 2:00 - 6:30 PM Adventure at The Florida Aquarium

Difficulty: Easy

Fee: \$40 - includes transportation but does not include lunch

Take a journey through the Florida water story. Stroll past misty cypress trees and tangled mangroves in the Wetlands. Explore shallow depths of bay habitats and listen to the sounds of the surf at the beach in the Bays and Beaches Gallery, and delight in the brilliant colors of the Coral Reef Gallery. Then take an eco-tour of Tampa Bay on the Bay Spirit, a 64 foot catamaran. While on board, look for soaring sea birds and frolicking dolphins. After your boat tour, meet an Aquarium instructor for a behind-the-scenes tour of the Aquarium. **The group will stay at the Aquarium for the evening event.**



Florida Marine Science Educators Association 2008 Conference
A Wonder-Water Discovery
April 25 - 27, 2008 Tampa, Florida

REGISTRATION FORM

Last name: _____ First name: _____

Home Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip: _____ County: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Work Phone: (____) _____

Email address to confirm registration: _____

Affiliation/School: _____

Check all that apply:

_____ I am a new FMSEA member and/or am attending my first FMSEA conference

_____ I agree to have my contact information included in a FMSEA Member Directory

_____ I do not wish to have my contact information included in a FMSEA Member Directory

PAYMENT INFORMATION: **Make checks payable to FMSEA** (FEID ## 02-0638324)

Early Bird Rate: \$145 (postmarked by April 2) Life members pay \$130

Late Registration: \$170 (Mail-in deadline is April 14) Life members pay \$155

On-site Registration: \$190

Conference Package: Includes Friday evening social at The Florida Aquarium, Saturday lunch, Saturday banquet at Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI), conference t-shirt, special conference items, all concurrent sessions and Keynote Sessions.

NOTE: Lodging and Field Trips are **not included** in registration. Refer to enclosed information.

Check if vegetarian meals are requested: _____

Registration \$ _____

Field Trips

Please indicate the letter(s) of your choice(s). See page 9-10 for descriptions and prices. Enter the cost of your FIRST choice on the line provided. If you are placed in your second choice, we will collect or refund the difference at Registration. PLEASE NOTE: You will only be registered for a second choice field trip if your first choice is full. If you do not wish to be registered for a second choice should your first choice be unavailable, do not list a second choice.

Field Trip Letter: First Choice _____ Second Choice _____

If your first choice is A (Wetlands Walk), check here if you would also like to participate in field trip F (Adventure at The Florida Aquarium) _____

Please circle your lunch preference: Vegetarian Ham Turkey

*** Note that field trip F (Adventure at The Florida Aquarium) does not include lunch.

Total Field Trip Cost \$ _____

Conference T-shirts

Each participant will receive ONE conference t-shirt FREE with registration.

Please indicate size (S - XL) _____

Sunday Breakfast Option at Embassy Suites (not included in full conference registration)

Embassy Suites is located directly across the street from the conference hotel and does not require transportation from La Quinta.

Sunday Breakfast \$8.00 X _____ (number of tickets) =

Total Breakfast Cost \$ _____

Additional Guest Tickets

Friday Night Social \$40.00 X _____ (number of tickets) = \$ _____

Saturday Banquet \$45.00 X _____ (number of tickets) = \$ _____

Total Ticket Cost \$ _____

Total Payment Enclosed \$ _____

Please mail by **April 2** for Early Bird Rates
or by **April 14** for Late Registration, along **with payment**
made payable to **FMSEA** to:

[Jeremy Lake](mailto:Jeremy.Lake@earthforce.org)
9214 Knights Branch Street
Temple Terrace, FL 33637

For questions about *registration*, please contact:

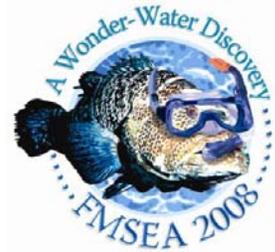
Jeremy Lake (813)494-7619 • JLake@earthforce.org

For *general conference* questions, please contact:

Debbi Stone (813)367-4085 • dstone@flaquarium.org



Florida Marine Science Educators Association
2008 Annual Conference - April 25-27, 2008
Tampa, Florida



A Wonder-Water Discovery

EXHIBITOR INFORMATION

Showcase your products, programs and/or services to the largest annual gathering of marine science educational professionals in Florida! The exhibits will be on display at the Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI) in Tampa from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM Saturday, April 26 while conference attendees are moving between and participating in concurrent sessions. Please refer to the tentative schedule below. If you wish to attend any of the conference sessions or events other than the exhibits hall, conference registration is required. Please refer to the registration information included in this newsletter.

The Exhibitor Fee is \$35. Please make check or money order payable to **FMSEA**. Tables will be provided. Please bring any necessary equipment such as projectors, extension cords, DVD players, laptops, etc.

Exhibit Set Up:	Friday, April 25	4:00 - 10:00 PM
	Saturday, April 26	7:00 - 8:00 AM
Exhibit Viewing:	Saturday, April 26	8:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Exhibit Breakdown:	Saturday, April 26	6:00 PM

SUBMIT NOW - DEADLINE is March 28, 2008. To sign up as an exhibitor, complete the exhibitor form on the following page and **mail with payment by March 28 to:**

Tim Oldread
Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium
1600 Ken Thompson Parkway
Sarasota, FL 34236

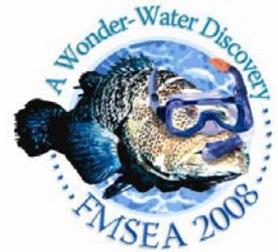
Or email to:

Tim.Oldread@mote.org

You will be sent confirmation when your form and payment are received. For questions about the conference Exhibit Hall, contact Tim Oldread at (941)388-4441 x369 or by email at Tim.Oldread@mote.org.



Florida Marine Science Educators Association
 2008 Annual Conference - April 25-27, 2008
 Tampa, Florida



A Wonder-Water Discovery

EXHIBITOR APPLICATION

SUBMIT NOW - DEADLINE IS MARCH 28, 2008

Confirmation will be sent upon receipt

Name of Company/Organization: _____

Name(s) of Representative(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Work Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

FAX: _____ Email: _____

Exhibit spaces are 8' feet wide and include one 6' table and two chairs. **If your space requirement is larger than 8' feet wide, you must reserve and pay for TWO spaces.** Exhibitor Fee: \$35 per space.

Set-up Requirements: *(please check all that apply)*

- space with table
- open floor space (without table) for standing exhibit - please specify space needed ___' x ___'
- access to electricity
- I will be selling items, including:

Please list any other special needs:

- Number of spaces X \$35 \$ _____
- I will NOT be registering for the conference but would like to become a member of FMSEA - Number of FMSEA memberships x \$20 \$ _____
- I will be registering for the conference. (FMSEA membership is included in conference registration fee. Please send registration forms and payment separately to registration address.)
- I will donate item(s) to the silent auction (please provide a brief description)

Total enclosed \$ _____

Make check or money order payable to **FMSEA**. Federal ID # 02-0638324; FL Vendor # F593129045001.

NOTE: If you wish to attend any of the conference sessions or events other than the exhibits hall, conference registration is required. Please refer to the enclosed registration information.

MAIL BY MARCH 28 to:

Tim Oldread • Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium • 1600 Ken Thompson Pkwy • Sarasota, FL 34236 or email to Tim.Oldread@mote.org. Questions? Call Tim at (941)388-4111 x 369.

Florida Marine Science Educators Association (FMSEA)

April 25 - 27, 2008 · Annual Conference

Tampa, Florida

Call for Presenters

Presentation Proposal Form

FMSEA invites you to propose a session at our **A Wonder-Water Discovery** annual conference. Topics on marine and ocean conservation, new and innovative marine science content, research, activities and curriculum are encouraged. We encourage sessions that emphasize what you do to ignite the spark in students, with a focus on inspiration and enthusiasm for science. All concurrent sessions will be Saturday, April 26 at the Museum of Science and Industry.

Please complete and submit the *Call for Presenters* form by:

5:00 p.m. Monday, March 14, 2008

E-MAIL TO:

JimWharton@mote.org

MAIL TO:

Jim Wharton

Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium

1600 Ken Thompson Pkwy

Sarasota, Florida 34236

Presentation Title: (Not to exceed 15 words) _____

Primary Presenter Name & Title _____

Additional Presenter(s) Name & Title: _____

School/Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____ Work Phone: (_____) _____

FAX: (_____) _____ Email: _____

Preferred Length *Please check one (sessions will be on Saturday):*

Single (50 min)

Double (110 min – number of double sessions may be limited based on availability of space)

Type of session Please check one:

Demonstration Hands-on activity Make & Take
 Discussion/Panel Other: _____
 Field Experience

Please Check topic(s) most closely related to the session you are proposing:

Marine Technology Marine Ecology General - Marine Science
 Deep Sea Science Marine Science Careers Sunshine State Standards
 Global Issues Scientific Research Teaching Methods
 Professional Development Opportunities Marine/Ocean Conservation

Intended Audience(s):

General Non-Formal Elementary
 Middle School High school Post Secondary

Preferred Audience Size: 10-20 20-30 30-50

*** Please prepare sufficient handouts as copies cannot be made at this site

Please check all standard A/V equipment needed (provided at conference site)

slide projector (35mm) overhead projector screen
 VCR &TV Monitor flip chart easel

Presenters must supply specialized equipment, including Multimedia Projectors and computers - please specify what equipment you will bring so we can assign rooms to accommodate your needs: _____

Special Space or Room Requirements: _____

Please attach a write-up that includes the following points:

- ◆ **Presentation Description for the Conference Program** Max. 75 words.
 - major presentation points
 - materials you plan to hand-out
 - Additional information that would encourage participation in your session
 - Any Sunshine State Standards that correlate to your presentation if applicable
- ◆ **Short Biography** Max. 50 words.
 - Please include your most recent experiences relevant to the presentation you wish to give.

Please complete and submit the *Call for Presenters* form by:

5:00 p.m. Monday, March 14 , 2008

E-MAIL TO:

JimWharton@mote.org

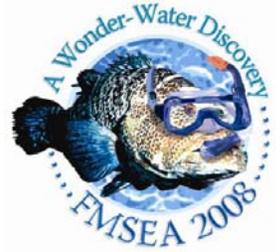
MAIL TO:

Jim Wharton
Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium
1600 Ken Thompson Pkwy
Sarasota, Florida 34236

For more information call Jim at (941)388-4441 ext. 474



2008 FMSEA CONFERENCE Silent Auction DONATION FORM



Thank you so much for your donation to the silent auction, which will take place during the 2008 annual FMSEA Conference, *A Wonder-Water Discovery*. The auction will be held on Saturday, April 26th at 6:00pm. FMSEA is a non-profit organization, and your donation is tax deductible (FEIN # 02-063824).

All proceeds from the auction will be used for need-based scholarships to attend future conferences.

Today's Date _____

The item(s) I have donated is (are) as follows:

Retail Value:

The total retail value of the item(s) is: _____

Donated by _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____ County _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Auction Co-Chairs

E. Howard Rutherford, The Pier Aquarium
hrutherford@pieraquarium.org
(727)895-7437 x 202

Leslie Sprague, Caribbean Conservation Corp
leslie@ccturtle.org
(561)596-1847



FMSEA thanks its generous supporters:

- 🐟 Central Gulf of Mexico COSEE
- 🐟 The Florida Aquarium
- 🐟 Museum of Science and Industry
- 🐟 www.kstonedesign.com



Conference Committee

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Exhibits:	Tim Oldread • (941)388-4441 x 369 • tim.oldread@mote.org
Evening Events:	Debbi Stone • (813)367-4085 • dstone@flaquarium.org
Publications & Signage:	Laura Diederick • (772)465-3271 • diederick@si.edu

2008 FMSEA Mail-in Ballot: Voter Information

Greetings FMSEA! We are once again distributing a mail-in ballot to supplement the voting that goes on at our Annual Conference in April. Below you'll find information on each of the nominees. **Please vote for all Executive Board candidates and your appropriate Region's Director** (see the map on page 22). If you plan to join us in Naples you can vote then, but please only vote once.

Executive Board Nominees (EVERYONE votes for these positions)

President-Elect

Leslie Sprague

Leslie works for the Caribbean Conservation Corporation (CCC) as the Manager of Education and Volunteers at the Barrier Island Center in Melbourne Beach. She obtained her Bachelor of Science in Field Biology from the University of Northern Colorado and has completed graduate coursework in Early Childhood Education. Leslie feels her current position with the CCC provides her a unique opportunity to impact the quality of marine science education students in Florida receive. She has served as FMSEA's Southeast Regional Director for the past 2 years. Leslie's goals as President-elect include: expanding the network of formal and informal educators involved in FMSEA; identifying ways in which informal educators can assist classroom teachers through informal learning opportunities; expanding FMSEA's influence to include more of our local communities, thereby spreading the message of marine conservation.

Secretary

Jeremy Lake

Jeremy is the Program Coordinator for Suncoast Earth Force Team, a nonprofit environmental education and service learning group based in the Tampa Bay area. He has spent over nine years working in informal science education institutions in West Central Florida, including Lowry Park Zoo, the Museum of Science and Industry and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Fish and Wildlife Research Institute. Throughout his career, he has worked very closely with teachers throughout the region as well as nationally. Jeremy has a Bachelors degree from Eckerd College in Environmental Studies and is currently working on his Masters in Science Education at the University of South Florida. He has been the Secretary of the FMSEA since being elected in 2005 and sees himself as a diligent, hard worker willing to go the extra mile for environmental, especially marine and aquatic, education in Florida.

Sara Hamilton

Sara has been the Marine Education Coordinator at Island Dolphin Care in Key Largo since 2001, where she is responsible for curriculum development and implementation, as well as marketing all education programs. She holds a Joint Master's Degrees in Marine Biology and Coastal Zone Management from Nova Southeastern University. Sara is entering her 4th year of membership with FMSEA and is very active in the Upper Keys community, including serving on the Board of Directors of Rotary Club of Key Largo.

Regional Director Nominees (please vote for candidates in YOUR REGION ONLY)

Panhandle

Richard Abrams

Rich is an Environmental Specialist II with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Division of Marine Fisheries Management Outreach and Education Department. Rich earned a Bachelor's Degree in Biology and Marine Science including several graduate courses. During his professional career, he has worked as a member of research teams and conducted educational and outreach programs around the country. Rich began working in Outreach and Education about ten years ago and has always done as much as possible for marine educators across Florida either by providing education materials and supplies or conducting classroom/field programs. Over the past two years, he has been working with several of the educational facilities in the Panhandle region with the goal of providing gatherings for regional educators. In the past year, Rich has been working with the Aquatic Species Collection Workshops to improve their quality, increase the number of facilitators and streamline the certificate process. Rich always attends the annual conference and does what he can to make it a success for everyone who attends it.

West Central

Martha Garcia

Martha received her Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies-Policy from Eckerd College in 2002. She is the coordinator for the Bay Grasses in Classes Program, educational program geared to involve middle and high school students to grow salt marsh grasses for habitat restoration efforts throughout Tampa Bay. Martha also heads up coastal clean-ups and community salt marsh restoration projects. Prior to Tampa Bay Watch, Martha was an elementary school educator in Largo, FL. She was also involved with FMSEA during 2007 as the interim West Central Regional Director.

Dana Lawson

Dana graduated Cum Laude with a double major in Environmental Studies and Biology from Middlebury College in Vermont in 1995 and obtained her Masters Degree in Marine Biology from Nova Southeastern University in Florida. Since then, Dana has devoted her knowledge and experience to teaching children and adults the importance of environmental conservation throughout the United States and as far as the Galapagos Islands and Australia. Dana lived in the Florida Keys for over a decade, where she quickly advanced in position from Field Instructor to Director of Education at the Marine Resources Development Foundation, and also owned and operated a snorkel and SCUBA dive business. Dana moved to Tampa, Florida, after accepting the position of Director of Group and Outreach Programs at the Museum of Science and Industry. Currently she is the President and Education Director of Nature's Academy. Dana is also a member of the Florida Marine Science Educators Association, Florida Association of Science Teachers, the National Science Teachers Association and the National Marine Educators Association.

Lauren Tyler

Lauren is the Senior Education Manager at The Florida Aquarium and has worked at zoos and aquariums for 15 years teaching and administering informal science programs. Her passion for marine science stems from her childhood growing up on the Jersey shore and as a certified elementary school teacher she is interested in creating connections that benefit both teachers and students. As the director for the West Central Region she would work to bring teachers, scientists and informal educators together in a network that would enhance learning for all.

Ali Houdon

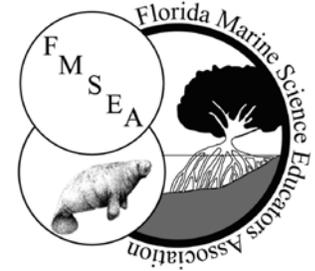
Ali is the Education and Outreach Coordinator for the Ocean Monitoring and Prediction Lab in the USF College of Marine Science, where she conducts formal and informal education programs and develops outreach resources for the lab's activities in coordination with state and regional partners. Ali is also the Education and Outreach Coordinator for the Gulf Coast Partner of the Alliance for Coastal Technologies and, in this capacity, serves on the Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System Education and Outreach Council and the IOOS Key Themes and Messages Committee. Previously, she worked as the Southeast Region Education and Outreach Coordinator for the National Marine Fisheries Service Protected Resources Division and as a School Programs/Summer Camp Instructor for The Florida Aquarium and The Pier Aquarium. Ali has her B.A. in Environmental Policy with a minor in Biology/Marine Science from Eckerd College and is currently enrolled in the Master's of Science Education program in the USF College of Education.

North

Hugh Adkins

Hugh is the Director of the Marine Science Station in Crystal River, a Citrus County School System environmental education program, where he is responsible for scheduling day trips and week-long residential programs. Hugh also acts as boat captain and teacher, designing lessons and taking the students out into the Gulf to learn about the unique, local habitats. Hugh started his teaching career in 1980 at Crystal River High School as a Vocational Agriculture teacher. He worked very closely with what was then the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission and taught a class titled Conservation of Natural Resources. This piqued an interest and he soon switched positions and began to teach Biology, Ecology and Environmental Science. It was during this period that Hugh discovered and joined FMSEA. A few years later, Hugh helped develop the Health Academy program, serving as director and later as Assistant Principal. In 2001, long time FMSEA member Pat Purcell called Hugh to say that he was retiring from the Directorship of the Marine Science Station and that he would like Hugh to apply for the position.

2008 FMSEA Mail-in Ballot



Name: _____ Region: _____

President-Elect (all members vote for ONE)

_____ Leslie Sprague, Manager of Education & Volunteers, Barrier Island Center/Caribbean Conservation Corporation

_____ Write-in: _____

Secretary (all members vote for ONE)

_____ Jeremy Lake, Public Outreach Coordinator, FWCC

_____ Sara Hamilton, Marine Education Coordinator, Island Dolphin Care

_____ Write-in: _____

Regional Directors (vote for ONE candidate in YOUR REGION ONLY)

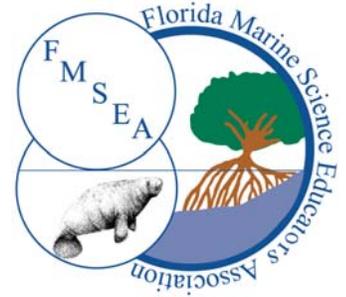
<p>Panhandle</p> <p>_____ Rich Abrams, Public Outreach Coordinator, Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission</p> <p>_____ Write-in: _____</p>	<p>West Central</p> <p>_____ Martha Garcia, Environmental Scientist, Tampa Bay Watch</p> <p>_____ Dana Lawson, President/Education Director, Nature's Academy</p> <p>_____ Lauren Tyler, Senior Education Manager, The Florida Aquarium</p> <p>_____ Ali Houdon, Education & Outreach Coordinator, Ocean Monitoring & Prediction Lab (USF)</p> <p>_____ Write-in: _____</p>
<p>North</p> <p>_____ Hugh Adkins, Station Director, Crystal River Marine Station/Citrus County School District</p> <p>_____ Write-in: _____</p>	

Snail Mail:
 Howard Rutherford
 Pier Aquarium
 800 2nd Ave, NE
 St. Petersburg, FL 33701

E-mail:
 Scan form and send as an attachment to:
hrutherford@pieraquarium.org

Fax:
 ATTN: Howard Rutherford
 (727)894-1212

FMSEA Officers



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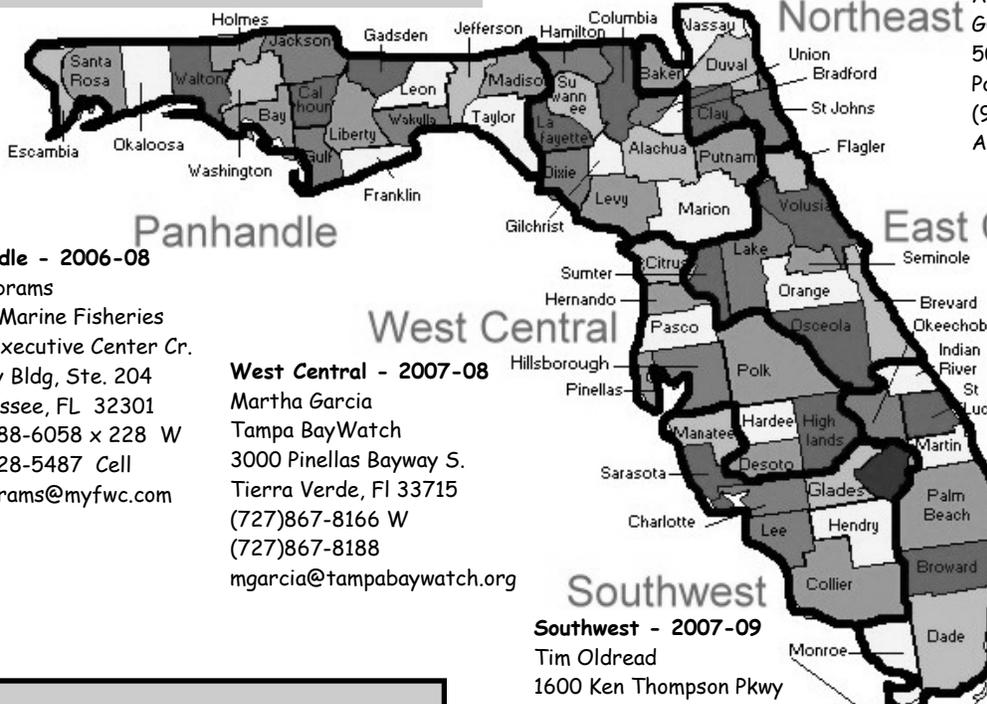
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North - 2007-08

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FMSEA Regional Directors



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Panhandle - 2006-08

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West Central - 2007-08

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Southwest - 2007-09

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Southwest - 2007-09

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(561)596-1847 Cell
leslie@cccturtle.org

Visit the FMSEA website at
www.fmsea.org



Florida Marine Science Educators Association Membership Application

Date: _____

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ County: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Contacts: (Home) _____ (Work) _____

(Cell) _____ (Fax) _____

*E-mail: _____

In a joint effort to stay connected and support FMSEA's ecological ideals, **all new and renewing members will be automatically added to the FMSEA Listserv and moved to "electronic-only" distribution for the Newsletter.** Please indicate below if: 1) you do NOT want to be added to the FMSEA Listserv, and/or 2) you would like to receive a hardcopy of the FMSEA Newsletter, *The Littoral Drift*, via U.S. Mail.

- Do **NOT** sign me up for FMSEA Listserv.
- I **would rather** receive a hardcopy of the Newsletter via U.S. Mail.

School/Institution: _____

Please check one (1) box that **best** describes your involvement in marine science education:

K-12	University	Nonformal	Government	Student	Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Elem. <input type="checkbox"/> Public Middle <input type="checkbox"/> Public High <input type="checkbox"/> Private Elem. <input type="checkbox"/> Private Middle <input type="checkbox"/> Private High <input type="checkbox"/> Home school <input type="checkbox"/> Administrator <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Professor <input type="checkbox"/> Instructor <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Aquarium <input type="checkbox"/> Zoo <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Sci. Center <input type="checkbox"/> Field educator <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Parks <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> High School Year: <input type="checkbox"/> College Year: <input type="checkbox"/> Grad. School Program: <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:

May 1 to April 30 (full year)	\$20
October 1 to April 30 (half year)	\$10
1 st Year Teacher (full or half year)	FREE
NMEA Dues (Affiliation Special)	+\$35
Life Membership	\$140

Amount Enclosed:

New member: _____ Renewing: _____

Enclose with payment and mail to:
B.J. Viers, 1042 Big Pine Key, Atlantic Beach, FL 32233

What is FMSEA?

The Florida Marine Science Educators Association is a nonprofit organization whose members are dedicated to making the public more aware of Florida's fragile coastline through education.

The major role of FMSEA is to provide a medium for the exchange of ideas, information and resources among Florida's marine educators.

FMSEA is a chapter of the National Marine Educators Association (NMEA).

NMEA NEWS - Jim Wharton

NMEA 2008 in Savannah, Georgia is shaping up to be an incredible experience. Savannah is a great town and the initial details about the Conference activities look really enticing. The Call for Presenters has passed, but registration is open—still plenty of time to be an early bird. Check out the Conference website at: <http://www.nmeaweb.org/savannah2008/>.

Speaking of websites, NMEA's home page has a slick new professional look. If you haven't been there lately, visit: <http://www.marine-ed.org>. You can learn more about NMEA's Ocean Literacy efforts, access The Bridge, get information on scholarship opportunities, and more.

Most significantly from the NMEA

Board meetings was the acceptance of NMEA's new strategic plan. If you did not see a copy as it made the rounds to members (or *gasp* you're not a member), contact me by e-mail and I will forward you the latest draft.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Submissions are always welcome! Please email pictures, articles, lesson plans and other items of interest to Laura at diederick@si.edu.



Florida Marine Science Educators Association
Newsletter Editor, Laura Diederick
Smithsonian Marine Station
701 Seaway Drive
Fort Pierce, FL 34949

**2008 Conference Registration
Pack Enclosed, including:**

- Registration Form
- Lodging Information
- Exhibitor Form
- Presenter Form