

# *PERSpectives*

Newsletter of the Pacific Estuarine Research Society

August 2002

*PERSpectives* is published by the Pacific Estuarine Research Society. To obtain a copy of this newsletter, request information, or apply for membership visit our website at <http://www.ac.wvu.edu/~gilberj/pers.html>



## **PERS HISTORY LESSON 1: THE EARLY YEARS AND MEETING LOCATIONS**

*Paul Fishman, Fishman Environmental Services  
pfishman@fishenserv.com*

"The fourth meeting of the Pacific Estuarine Research Society (PERS) was held at Southwest Oregon Community College in North Bend, Oregon March 20-22. The program consisted of: 21 individual presentations, a five-member panel discussion, several guided tours of Coos Bay estuary sloughs, and slide presentations of three National Estuarine Sanctuaries. Members present represented the three coastal states, Canada, and Mexico. Social meetings were held at the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology (OIMB) and private motel rooms on Thursday and Friday evenings. An excellent 16mm educational film produced by the Canadian Government was shown during the Saturday coffee break and a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service habitat and mapping exhibit was displayed. The convenors, participants, and audience made the session a worth-while experience."

**excerpt from the PERS Newsletter, May 1980**

Twenty-two years later, and PERSians are still enjoying the "worth-while experience" of PERS annual meetings.

While moving our household in late May of this year, I found the box I had been so desperately seeking before the early May PERS meeting in Portland: the PERS history box! I inherited this box some years ago when I was PERS President - it has been passed down from PERS generation to PERS generation. I passed it on when my term ended, only to take it back a few years later. I vowed at the time to go through the box and write something about PERS history for our newsletter. So here we are - year 25 - what better time to keep this promise?

The first official PERS meeting was in Astoria, OR in 1978. Terry Durkin, now retired from the NMFS Hammond lab, was one of the early PERSians. I talked

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*PERS 2002 meeting organizers Paul and Sherri Fishman and Greg McMurray take a moment to relax at the banquet.*

## **PERS CELEBRATES SILVER ANNIVERSARY IN THE CITY OF ROSES!**

*Rick Reynolds and Brett Dumbauld*

The 25th annual meeting of PERS was held at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Portland May 2-4, 2002. Paul Fishman and Greg McMurray organized and pulled off a stellar meeting, to the great enjoyment of all. The meeting was very well-attended, with a final tally of 112 registered participants.

The theme of this year's conference was Urban Estuaries, and the scientific program of 65 contributed presentations included talks and posters covering a diverse array of topics from estuarine physics to general ecology, restoration, and management practices. Particularly pleasing, student representation was high and the quality of their presentations impressive. This meeting also marked the debut and presentation of the first Heinle award for the best graduate student presentation (see accompanying article by Jan Newton for details).

The business meeting was held Friday after the scientific program. Jan Newton gave her final report as PERS president, followed by the Secretary's report from Greg McMurray. Nominations and elections for new

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## 1<sup>ST</sup> HEINLE AWARD PRESENTED AT PERS '02

Jan Newton, PERS Past President  
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A truly valuable and important facet of PERS is the opportunity for interaction between students and professional scientists. PERS encourages student presentations, provides an atmosphere for networking, offers feedback for those students willing to have their presentations evaluated, and gives prizes to help further the professional careers of the top-ranked presenters.

This year's Silver Anniversary PERS was well attended by students: 6 undergraduates and 10 graduate students gave talks or posters. Schools represented were the University of Washington (11 total, from Fisheries, Oceanography, and Marine Affairs), The Evergreen State College (2), Oregon Institute of Marine Biology, University of Oregon (2), and Western Washington University (1). Some undergraduates were brave enough to present data they had collected about a month before. Other undergraduates presented work from senior research projects. Graduate students were from both Masters and Ph.D. levels.

Student speakers were evaluated by a large and diverse group of judges. This year's anonymous judging panel included ten judges with a diversity of scientific backgrounds, regional affiliations, and career perspectives. As a result of the judging, all students received 8-10 independent written evaluations of their presentation. The numerical judging results were used to rank the student presentations. The student presentations set a high standard this year; the average of the ten judges scores were sometimes differentiated by only hundredths on a scale from 1-5 !

For the undergraduates, first place was a tie! Jamie Grocock's (UW) talk on "The distribution of picophytoplankton in Puget Sound using size-fractionated chlorophyll" and Jessica Archer's (TESC) poster on "An investigation of heat shock proteins induced by oxygen stress in the jellyfish *Aurelia labiata*" were both judged as tops. Third place was also a tie, with Kathleen Schacht (UW) and Chris Goodman (UW) tying for the honor.

For the graduate students, first place and the very first Heinle Award, commemorating Don Heinle, went



Winners of the PERS 2002 best undergraduate student presentation awards were Christian Goodman, Jessica Archer, Kathleen Schacht, and Jaime Grocock.

## STUDENTS RELATE THEIR MEETING IMPRESSIONS

As a strongly student-oriented society, PERS is always interested in garnering feedback from our students. Two undergraduate presenters generously agreed to share some of their experiences from the PERS 2002 meeting in Portland. Jessica Archer is an undergraduate student at The Evergreen State College in Olympia, WA. Christian Goodman is an undergraduate student at the University of Washington in Seattle, WA.

Jessica Archer  
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Last May I attended my first PERS conference to present research investigating the molecular mechanisms of the survival of the jellyfish, *Aurelia labiata*, in low oxygen conditions. My fellow researchers and I made the trip from The Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington to the city of Portland for the conference.

I thought the conference was excellent, proving to be a wonderful forum where I could learn more about current estuarine research and meet with the diverse group of people working to create a better understanding of the health and processes of these important ecosystems. The range of presentations reminded me of just how difficult it is to study complex biological systems and assess their relative health through a single experiment or organism. It really is conferences such as this where the puzzle pieces are put together and an overall picture comes into focus. While most confer-

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## EELGRASS CONSERVATION EFFORTS UNDERWAY

*Cynthia Durance, Precision Identification  
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Recent concern over the historical losses and potential future losses of eelgrass habitat in the Strait of Georgia led to the formation of the Eelgrass Conservation Group (ECG) in the fall of 2001. Interest from community members along the West, Central, and North coasts of British Columbia led the group to expand their range to cover the entire coast of BC. Alliances with several groups in Puget Sound are developing and it is hoped that additional alliances will form over time. Members of the ECG include representatives from government agencies, First Nations, stewardship groups, universities, and local consultants.

The ECG initially identified three topics to address:

### ***Inventory (Mapping)***

The location of eelgrass habitat in B.C. is poorly documented. Several areas have been mapped by various groups using various methods. The majority of the mapping information was collected in the 1970s and 1980s and may not reflect current conditions. A map of current eelgrass habitat is required to assist with conservation efforts.

### ***Monitoring***

An eelgrass-monitoring program, designed to track nearshore health over time, could potentially detect habitat impairments requiring mitigation.

### ***Public Awareness & Education***

Anchoring, recreational shellfish harvesting, propeller scour, dock construction, water quality degradation, and trampling by people carrying kayaks at low tide have led to losses of eelgrass habitat in B.C. A public education campaign could help to reduce further losses.

Over the last four months we have begun to address these issues through the development of manuals and a series of workshops along coastal B.C.

A four-level mapping and monitoring protocol was developed to enable groups to contribute reliable and consistent information to a central database. Twelve stewardship groups, Bamfield Marine Station, Canadian

Wildlife Service, Parks Canada, and several graduate students at UBC and Simon Fraser University are currently collecting data using the protocol. The protocol is available from Cynthia Durance at [precid@shaw.ca](mailto:precid@shaw.ca).

Nikki Wright (SeaChange Marine Conservation Society) received funding through private donations and government grants to support twenty coastal community groups in B.C. in the inventory and stewardship of eelgrass beds. A manual for eelgrass stewardship has been developed for groups or individuals working on eelgrass conservation. Nikki may be contacted at [seachange@axion.net](mailto:seachange@axion.net).

Nikki and Cynthia visited four stewardship groups to provide guidance relating to eelgrass conservation through education and mapping. Workshops for an additional sixteen groups are scheduled for 2002/3.

The ECG is in the early stages of development and welcomes participation from everyone. If you would like to be added to the electronic mailing list, be advised of upcoming meetings, or give a presentation please contact Nikki Wright.

## THE ART OF SCIENCE

*Anne Sigleo, U.S. EPA  
sigleo.anne@epa.gov*

Corvallis, Oregon was host to the 14th Annual DaVinci Days July 20 and 21, 2002. PERS members participated both as artists and viewers. Oregon State's College of Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences (COAS) had a strong showing, along with several government agencies. In the spirit of Leonardo daVinci celebrating the connection between the arts and sciences, COAS faculty, staff and students demonstrated the work of artists who are scientists, or is it scientists who are artists? Artistic exhibits by COAS scientists included two bands, paintings, pastels and photographs from worldwide cruises from the Antarctic to Siberia.

The highlight of the show was a stunning parade of fantastic floats - all bicycle (or at least human) powered with 18 inch to over 6 foot diameter wheels. These engineering wonders included crocodiles, dinosaurs, dragons and carriages. But the piece de resistance was the bicycle-powered horse! Next year, we promise photos!



Overview showing a large patch of new eelgrass with the band of bare mud separating the eelgrass from *Spartina densiflora* marsh. The bright green algae is *Enteromorpha intestinalis*. Most of the *Z. marina* leaves visible are drift. (Photo by S. Gaydos, Humboldt Water Resources, used with permission).



Close-up of new eelgrass with small amount of *Zostera marina* in lower right corner. (photo by S. McBride).

## DETECTION OF AN UNKNOWN EELGRASS IN HUMBOLDT BAY, CA

Susan McBride, Marine Advisor, UC Sea Grant Program  
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On June 27, 2002, during seasonal *Zostera marina* surveys, numerous patches of an unknown eelgrass were found along a mid-intertidal stretch of Indian Island in Humboldt Bay, California, latitude 40° 46' N and longitude 124° 14' W. This eelgrass has been tentatively identified as *Zostera japonica* Aschers and Graebn. by two local botanists. Currently specimens have been sent to three *Z. japonica* researchers on the West Coast for positive identification. Most patches are located +0.5 to +0.7 m above the MLLW. One patch is adjacent to the *Spartina densiflora* and is located +1.0 m above MLLW. Patches are either dense accumulations of the new eelgrass or co-mingled with *Z. marina*. The patches were counted (n=27) along a 272 m stretch of silty/sand beach. Patches range in area from 0.21 to 15 m<sup>2</sup>. Larger patches tend to be near the center of the new eelgrass zone and smaller one towards the ends. This mid-intertidal band is seasonally inhabited by several algal species, *Ulva lactuca*, *Enteromorpha intestinalis*, *Gracilaria verrucosa*, and *Vaucheria longicaulis*, which are also found adjacent to or near the new eelgrass patches and at the ends of the new eelgrass area.

## SEAGRASS BIOLOGY WORKSHOP

Sandy Wyllie-Echeverria, University of Washington  
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The 5th International Seagrass Biology Workshop (ISBW-5) will be held in Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico from 7-11 October, 2002. The conference website is <http://eventos.cicese.mx/isbw5/> Four aspects of seagrass research will be discussed during the program:

- Ecophysiological processes
- Plant-animal interactions
- Genetics, taxonomy, and reproductive biology
- Changes in seagrass beds at local and global scales

There is also a special session to discuss the findings of an international working group focused on the subject of Traditional Seagrass Knowledge and Wisdom (TSKW). On 9 October, the World Seagrass Association (WSA), adopted at ISBW-4 in Corsica, France, will convene its first meeting. The fall newsletter will carry a brief summary of the scientific program and the WSA meeting.

## STUDENT PERSPECTIVES

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ence sessions focused on a wide array of organisms, one on eelgrass was particularly focused. Before PERS, my knowledge of eelgrass was limited to something like "good aquatic plant." However, after an entire session devoted to the subject, I walked away feeling like I could write a dissertation on the plant! I have since gone to work for the nearshore group in the Aquatics division at the WADNR and fully immersed myself in the world of eelgrass.

I really enjoyed the informal and open nature of the event, as well as the large involvement of the students. The presenters were very approachable and excited to discuss their work, ideas, methods, tools, and general advice - the true purpose of a scientific meeting. This provided a wonderful networking opportunity for students such as myself. I was also pleased with the environmental and cultural awareness of the group. In particular, the Native American art (the ERF 2003 poster) reflected a conscious perspective of the deeply intertwined roots of Pacific Northwest native cultures and estuaries.

Overall, I was very pleased with the conference. The presentations and subsequent discussions with PERS members enhanced my interest and understanding of these valuable ecosystems. The conference had a really nice vibe, and I look forward to attending the September ERF conference in Seattle!

*Christian N. Goodman  
cng6@u.washington.edu*

My belief is that every senior fisheries and oceanography undergraduate should seriously consider participation in the annual Pacific Estuarine Research Society's (PERS) event for a couple of reasons. First, PERS offers the best look at, and experience of, scientific presentations for seniors looking for research ideas. The year before my senior research, attendance at PERS in Tacoma gave me the chance to experience firsthand different ideas for a senior project. And at this time I had a chance to talk with several people who would later become resources. Continual evaluation by these mentors allowed me to avoid a lot of trial and error and dead-ends in the planning and execution of my project.

Second, the PERS offers a chance for senior undergraduates to present their preliminary work to the scientific community. Feedback from scientists in the au-

dience gave me a serious look at my style and asked me to consider various methods of analysis. This was extremely important during the last few weeks before the UW undergraduate symposium. The chance to get up and speak makes most everyone nervous, but the support of everyone at PERS made the job a little less daunting and helped make it easier the next time.

Senior projects are serious business and everyone wants to do their very best working on topics that are relevant. Without question, each senior can do the necessary work to graduate. But, each senior also has the opportunity of PERS participation to gain from the scientific community and do their very best on their project. My thanks to the members at the 2002 PERS meeting in Portland who took time to make the seniors feel welcome. Your support is greatly appreciated and because of my attendance and participation, I felt better prepared for my senior symposium presentation. I also feel that because of my participation in PERS, my learning increased as I could ask questions and later act on the comments and suggestions offered to me.

## PERS OFFICERS

### President

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## HEINLE AWARD

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to Elisabeth Duffy (UW) for her talk on "Marine distribution and trophic demand of juvenile salmon in Puget Sound". Kathryn Sobocinski (UW) took second and we had another tie for third between Sean McDonald (UW) and Michele Koehler (UW).

Our student awards recognize and immortalize two very important individuals with an inspiring legacy in PERS and ERF. The 'Quammen Fund' was established at PERS in memory of Dr. Millicent Quammen, an estuarine scientist who studies on the ecology and function of wetlands were instrumental in guiding management and restoration design. Millicent tragically died of breast cancer at an early age. The Quammen Fund, established at PERS in 1990 at the request of her colleagues, is used to fund all of the annual PERS student awards. One of our student awards has been given a very special name: the first place graduate student presentation award was established this year as the 'Heinle Award', in memory of Dr. Don Heinle, an estuarine ecologist who was always so supportive of students. Probably anyone who went to PERS meetings in the past remembers Don listening intently to the student presentations and asking questions with good and supportive interest. It was highly appropriate that the very first presentation of the Heinle Award occurred at the 2002 Portland meeting that was organized and co-chaired by Paul Fishman, Don's long-time good friend. Paul presented the first Heinle Award to Elisabeth Duffy, along with a very touching introduction about Don's steadfast dedication to good science. We hope that all students will continue to be inspired by these two incredible estuarine scientists, who gave passionately to their science, as well as to their community and especially to students. Please watch for information and pictures of Millicent and Don on our PERS website soon.

The PERS 2002 award session concluded with recognition and thanks given to all of the mentors, advisors, and supporters of the students. There are countless and often "unsung heroes" who are really making a difference, to students and to the future of good estuarine science.

To those of you reading this piece, if you are a student, we hope that you will continue to find value in the PERS experience. Please tell us what you like, what you don't like, or what your ideas are for our meetings.



*Past-President Jan Newton (far left) and current President Brett Dumbauld (far right) congratulate three of the award-winners for graduate student presentations at PERS 2002; Elisabeth Duffy, Kathryn Sobocinski, and Michelle Koehler. The other award-winner missing from this photo is Sean McDonald. Elisabeth's talk, "Marine Distribution and Trophic Demand of Juvenile Salmon in Puget Sound" co-authored with D. Beauchamp and R. Buckley, was the recipient of the first annual Heinle award for best graduate student presentation.*

If you are a mentor, please advertise PERS meetings to your students and protégés. If you are someone who appreciates what we are doing with this effort, please consider a donation to the Quammen Fund to help perpetuate PERS's ability to award the Heinle Award and to foster the intellectual growth of our students. It is a tremendous tradition to be part of.

## PERStificates AWARDED

*Jan Newton, PERS Past President  
newton@ocean.washington.edu*

This year PERS began a new tradition: PERStificates!! Handsomely printed PERStificates were bestowed to the student top honors awardees. In addition, "PERStificates of Appreciation" were sent to Greg McMurray, for his solid, enthusiastic, and extended service to PERS as Secretary/Treasurer and to Jeannie Gilbert, for starting and administering our new PERS website. Greg served two terms in his post, one of the more time-consuming and glamourless services to the Society. Jeannie showed initiative and creativity to navigate us in a new direction that PERS had not yet accomplished... our own, independent presence on the web. We would like to recognize exceptional service to PERS with these PERStificates. Both Greg and Jeannie have given that to us. We are indebted to them and hope these PERStificates remind them (hopefully with a bit of a smile) that we acknowledge and appreciate their special efforts!

# HISTORY OF PERS

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with Terry on the phone in April (he now lives in Wisconsin). He remembers that Bob Holton had an estuarine group that met occasionally at OSU, and a small group decided to contact the Estuarine Research Federation (ERF) to charter a west-coast affiliate. Bob Holton was the first PERS President, and Terry was the first President-Elect. Terry remembered a few names from the original group: Jay Watson, Bob McConnell, Ted Blahm, Colin Levings, Sandy Lipovsky, Si Simenstad, and Paul Rudy.

## HISTORY OF PERS MEETINGS

Year	Location
1978	Astoria, OR
1979	Port Angeles, WA; Santa Cruz, CA
1980	North Bend, OR; Arcata, CA
1981	Vancouver, BC; Salishan, OR (ERF)
1982	Port Angeles, WA; San Francisco, CA
1983	Bellingham, WA
1984	Seattle, WA
1985	Monterey, CA
1986	Aberdeen, WA
1987	Mt. Vernon, WA
1988	Sidney, BC
1989	Astoria, OR
1990	Anacortes, WA
1991	Charleston, OR
1992	Vancouver, BC
1993	Willapa Bay, WA
1994	Newport, OR
1995	Seattle, WA
1996	Olympia, WA
1997	Tillamook, OR
1998	Whidbey Island, WA
1999	Newport, OR
2000	Sidney, BC
2001	Tacoma, WA
2002	Portland, OR

PERS had two meetings per year for four years after the initial meeting (see above table). Members were active in British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, California and Mexico. According to an early newsletter, they even considered a meeting in Ensenada, Mexico, that never materialized. There was also discussion in the early days about having a California ERS and even

an Oregon ERS; that debate has finally been resolved this year with the official formation of a California ERF affiliate.

My first exposure to PERS was the 1981 ERF meeting at Salishan Lodge on the Oregon coast. I presented a paper about the work I was doing in SE Alaska fjords. I have attended every PERS meeting since, with the exception of 2000 and 2001. I can honestly say that PERS has retained the informal, friendly and fun-loving character that attracted me to its ranks over 20 years ago!

**Next time: a listing of PERS officers since the beginning.**

## PERS 2002 MEETING

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officers were held, with Ted DeWitt (US EPA) selected as the President-Elect and Amy Sewell (Washington State DNR) as the new Secretary/Treasurer. New PERS president Brett Dumbauld then assumed office and several new business items were discussed. Sites for next year's PERS annual conference were suggested, including consideration of linking our meeting with the Georgia Basin/Puget Sound Research Conference scheduled for Spring '03 in Vancouver, BC. (*editor's note: a decision has recently been made, see announcement on page 9!*)

Social events were another highlight of the conference, all taking place either within or only a short walk from the hotel. The meeting kicked off with a traditional Thursday evening mixer in the Arcadien Gardens room that was still going strong when the bar closed! Following Friday's program, a banquet was held at the Great China Restaurant. While grazing on a seemingly endless all-you-can-eat buffet of Chinese dishes (student heaven!), PERSians mingled and cavorted with their colleagues. We were particularly fortunate to have Joy Bartholomew, executive director of ERF, as our guest at this meeting. Following the meal, Joy gave a short talk about the story behind the ERF '03 artwork by Marvin Oliver, and wrapped up with some inspiring words to students (and others!). The evening ended with an award ceremony, in which a selection of beers (chosen by well-known brew connoisseur Greg McMurray) were awarded to individuals deemed most fitting of the labels (some of which we can't print here!).

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## PERS 2002 MEETING

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Check out the PERS website for more photos from the meeting.

The meeting wrapped up Saturday afternoon, with positive comments from all participants. Once again, kudos to Paul Fishman and Greg McMurray for their hard work in putting together a great meeting! Looking forward to seeing everybody again next year...



*Beer-award winners "mug" for the camera at the Friday night banquet. Seated (left to right) are Edward Anderson, Paul Fishman, Joy Bartholomew, and Greg McMurray. Standing are Gary Williams, Ron Thom, Brett Dumbauld, Jacques White, Jan Newton, Steve Rumrull, Si Simenstad, Antonia Wijte, and Cynthia Durance.*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Brett Dumbauld, PERS President  
dumbabrd@willapabay.org*

Just a quick message from your new president as this summer edition goes to press. I would like to thank all of you who attended the wonderful silver anniversary meeting of PERS in Portland and once again thank Paul and Sherri Fishman as well as Greg McMurray for their efforts which resulted in such a great show! We all enjoyed immensely!! If you missed the meeting check out the short review in this issue or on our website (with pictures)! As your incoming president I would also like to thank Jan Newton for her efforts during her tenure! Her work to strengthen student participation, work with others to add features like the website to our PERS repertoire and build the west coast and PERS reputation on the national scene were clearly evident! You served us well, and fortunately for us all, past-



*ERF executive director Joy Bartholomew shared her thoughts and award-winning smile as a special guest speaker at this year's meeting.*

presidents aren't really gone anyway! Along those lines also please join me in welcoming Ted DeWitt (U.S. EPA, Coastal Ecology Branch, Newport, OR) as our incoming president-elect and Amy Sewell (Washington State Dept. Natural Resources) as our new secretary-treasurer (more thanks to Greg for his years of service in the latter position!).

Hope you are all as immersed as I am in the summer field season in your nearest estuary and collecting some cool stuff to present at both PERS 2003 and ERF 2003! The latter is only 13 months away now and we hope to make a great Pacific Northwest splash! We recently learned that this meeting will be held at the trade and convention center in downtown Seattle, and not at the University of Washington as previously planned. We're still working with PSAT to combine efforts and have a joint spring PERS meeting with the Georgia Basin Puget Sound Research Conference in Vancouver, B.C. More to come but thanks to Jan Newton and Cynthia Durance for assisting with this!

Finally, I thank you for the opportunity to serve and request that you let me or the other officers know how we can better serve you (i.e. web page comments, newsletter comments, meeting reviews etc.)! We'll try and make it better and I promise to keep you informed about ERF too, because serving on the national board is one of the really great things the president gets to do!

## EDITOR'S PERSPECTIVE

*Rick Reynolds, Newsletter Editor  
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Welcome to another PERS newsletter. Thanks to everyone who took time from their busy summer to contribute news and articles. I'm pleased that there are lots of interesting tidbits in this issue, and I hope that you'll enjoy reading these as much as I have!

One bit of newsletter-related news; we now have four associate editors to assist in drumming up interesting contributions and content. Please welcome them aboard and join me in acknowledging their efforts.

Andrea Copping (acopping@u.washington.edu)  
Anne Sigleo (sigleo.anne@epa.gov)  
Cynthia Durance (precid@shaw.ca)  
SandyWyllie-Echeverria (zmseed@u.washington.edu)

If you have anything to contribute, please contact one of us! Also, we are eager to increase the representation of student views and news in the newsletter, so if any students out there would like to volunteer as an associate editor or columnist please let me know.

Finally, a reminder from our webmaster Jeannie Gilbert (gilberj@cc.wwu.edu) that we are continually on the lookout for additional material, links, and informational items for the PERS website. Contact Jeannie if you have any ideas.

Hope you all are enjoying the summer!

## LATE-BREAKING NEWS REGARDING PERS 2003 AND ERF 2003!

Mark your calendars! We've just learned that Vancouver, BC has been chosen as the site of the 2003 PERS annual meeting. Cynthia Durance and Michele Jones have generously agreed to serve as meeting coordinators.

The meeting will be held in conjunction with the Georgia Basin/Puget Sound Research Conference, which is scheduled for March 31 — April 3, 2003 (Monday through Thursday). One idea under consideration is to have coordinated sessions between GBPSRC and PERS on Thursday (4/3), with the PERS meeting continuing on Friday (4/4). Watch for more information in the near future.

We have also recently learned that the location of the upcoming ERF 2003 meeting (September 14 — 18) will be held at the Trade and Convention Center in downtown Seattle, as opposed to the University of Washington campus. Conference planning is actively underway and it promises to be a scientifically exciting as well as a fun and enjoyable meeting! Keep abreast of developments through the ERF website.

# Membership Form

## Pacific Estuarine Research Society



The Pacific Estuarine Research Society (PERS) is a non-profit organization formed to bring together, for educational purposes, persons interested in estuarine and coastal issues of the North Pacific. Serving scientists in the U.S., Canada, and Japan, PERS conducts annual meetings where estuarine and coastal researchers, managers, policy makers, students and others share their work and ideas. As the need arises, PERS also sponsors meetings of special interest. The PERS Newsletter is published regularly and can be accessed, along with other information about the Society, through our website at <http://www.ac.wvu.edu/~gilberj/pers.html>. PERS is one of several regional affiliate organizations of the Estuarine Research Foundation (ERF). ERF conducts biennial meetings that draw attendees throughout the world. The journal *Estuaries* and a quarterly newsletter are published by ERF. More information about ERF can be obtained from their website at <http://www.erf.org/>.

**Annual dues are \$10(US), \$15(CA); please make checks payable to PERS.**

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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