



Greetings Mid-Atlantic SWS Chapter Members,

We say farewell to 2009 under a blue moon, the first blue moon on New Year's Eve in 20 years. Welcome 2010! The chapter officers continue to work towards developing training programs, field trips, and workshops which are of interest to the membership. For 2010 we hope to offer several opportunities for you to participate in chapter functions. The chapter is your local connection to fellow wetland professionals and to SWS International. Participating in the chapter committees and events is a good way to expand your professional network, keep up to date on wetland issues, and to take full advantage of your membership in SWS. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to become more involved in Chapter activities or if you have suggestions or recommendations for future activities.

Sharon

syates@admarble.com

Please visit the chapter website for updates on chapter activities:

<http://www.sws.org/regional/midatlantic/>

Chapter Officers: Sharon Yates, President; Joe Berg, Vice-President; Ron Prann, Treasurer; Amy Deller Jacobs, Past President

Website: <http://www.sws.org/regional/midatlantic/>

Membership: SWS members from Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and District of Columbia

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR SWS DIVERSITY PROGRAM UNDERGRADUATE MENTORING AWARDS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING IN SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH (JUNE 27 - JULY 2, 2010)

The Society of Wetland Scientists (SWS) announces the availability of undergraduate student diversity awards for travel to attend the annual SWS meeting - June 27 - July 2, 2010 in Salt Lake City, Utah. SWS is committed to increasing diversity in its membership and is offering full travel awards and mentoring at the meeting for undergraduate students from underrepresented groups (see application form for eligible groups). These awards are supported by the National Science Foundation and several SWS Chapters (Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, South Central, North Central, Western, and Pacific Northwest). The areas of interest of past student participants ranged from freshwater to marine and involved a wide variety of organism types. Undergraduate participants must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States or its possessions. An undergraduate student is a student who is enrolled in a degree program (part-time or full-time) leading to a baccalaureate or associates degree. Students who are transferring from one institution to another and are enrolled at neither institution during the intervening summer may participate. Spring 2010 graduates are eligible as well. Application materials and additional information are available from Dr. Frank P. Day, Old Dominion University (fday@odu.edu) and on the program's web page (<http://www.sws.org/mentoring.mgi>). Application deadline is January 30, 2010.

National Wetland Plant List

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Wetland Regulatory Program introduces its new web site for updating the National Wetland Plant List (NWPL), a key component of the Corps' national wetland program <https://rsgis.crrel.usace.army.mil/apex/f?p=703>.. The new web site will allow experts and other interested parties to submit information and participate in the process of updating the NWPL. The site has a wealth of information on nearly 10,000 U.S. plants, including distribution maps and photographs. Search capabilities for geographic, habitat, and other attributes allow users to follow their interests locally, regionally, or nationally for information on plant families, genera, and species. This is the first time that such a range of detailed botanical information has been gathered and made easily available to the public. The NWPL is a cooperative effort of the Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service. The list is comprised of the wetland ratings for plant species found throughout the U.S. and is used extensively in determining wetland boundaries, restoring wetlands, and conducting ecological research.

The address is: <https://rsgis.crrel.usace.army.mil/apex/f?p=703>. (Non-Corps users may need to accept a web certificate the first time they visit the site.) While the NWPL is being updated, only registered participants will have access to background information used in developing current wetland ratings. Later, when the site is published in the Federal Register as part of the updating process, all visitors will be able to obtain an automated password allowing them to view this information.

SWS Research Briefs Now Available

The Society of Wetland Scientists has launched a new publication: The SWS Research Brief. These non-technical documents summarize papers published in WETLANDS plus group briefs on special topics and provide them free for downloading from the SWS Website. The purpose is to provide scientific information about wetlands to managers, students, media, policy-makers, and the general public in a format that is understandable, accessible, and identifiable as an SWS publication. You can read and download the current research briefs at <http://www.sws.org/ResearchBrief/index.mgi>

SWS Mid Atlantic Chapter Business Meetings

Mid Year Meeting October 2009

The chapter trip to Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary on October 3 was attended by seven members and two naturalists from the sanctuary. We had perfect weather and enjoyed the fall colors as we paddled the Patuxent River, watching for wildlife, identifying plants and talking about ongoing wetland monitoring programs and water quality issues.



We took a quick break from paddling to stop at Mount Calvert historical and Archaeological Park and learn about some local history. After the tour we had dinner and discussed ideas for future events for the chapter, including more tours and field trips.



The next Mid Atlantic Chapter meeting will be held during the SWS International meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, scheduled for June 27 - July 2, 2010. Look for the schedule of chapter meetings on the agenda as you make plans to attend the annual conference.

Other Upcoming Events in Our Region

NY State Wetland Forum Wetland Mitigation Banking Workshop, January 6, 2010

In response to numerous requests from Forum members and the general public, the NYS Wetland Forum is bringing together Federal and State wetland regulators, conservation organizations, consultants, and business representatives to discuss the implementation of the Federal wetland mitigation bank guidelines in the State of New York to facilitate discussion and understanding of the issues across regulatory and agency jurisdictions and to develop a consensus approach to implementing wetland mitigation banks in New York.

Location: NYSDEC Central Office, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4500

Cost: \$10 per person, includes lunch

Registration: *Send check or money, payable to NYS Wetlands Forum, to:*
Stephanie Wojtowicz
Coastal Resources Specialist, NYS Department of State
99 Washington Avenue, Suite 1010, Albany, NY 12231

Program Inquiries: Kevin Bliss, Chairman, New York State Wetlands Forum, Tel. 315 426 7444

2010 Delaware Wetlands Conference, January 20, 2010

The goal of this conference is to bring together managers, scientists, and decision makers to share ideas and formulate pathways for restoring and protecting wetland resources in Delaware through integration of existing programs, development and implementation of conservation strategies, and focused education and outreach efforts. Concurrent sessions will include 20 minute presentations and open discussion. Registration deadline is January 4, 2010. Conference program and registration information are available at:

<http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/Admin/DelawareWetlands/Pages/DelawareWetlandsConference2010.aspx>

Society for Ecological Restoration Mid Atlantic Chapter Conference, February 19, 2010

ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION: WHY BOTHER? The effects of climate change and advancing urbanization are challenging some of the fundamental assumptions and objectives of our work in Ecological Restoration. Our conference this year will reconsider our purposes in this unprecedented context, look at the restoration practices that are proving successful and those that aren't, and attempt to direct ourselves toward what will be most useful for the future.

The conference will be held at Rutgers University, Cook Campus Center, New Brunswick, NJ. For more information or to register go to www.ser.org/midatl

Mid Atlantic Chapter of the Ecological Society of America, Annual Conference April 17, 2010

ESA Mid Atlantic will hold its 2010 annual meeting on Saturday April 17 at University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, VA. The conference will be followed by field trips on April 18. Abstract for presentations and posters are due March 8, 2010. For more information go to www.esa.org/midatlantic.

NY State Wetlands Forum Annual Conference, April 28 & 29, 2010

The 16th annual spring conference and business meeting will be held in Buffalo, NY. The theme for the conference is "Wetlands/Waters of New York's Great Lakes and Adjacent Lake Plain". Abstracts are being accepted until January 27. For more information go to www.wetlandsforum.org.