



# SWS South Atlantic Chapter *Newsletter*

July 2004

Greetings South Atlantic Chapter members! The Executive Committee, Steve Miller (Chair), Greg Noe (Vice-Chair), William Conner (Secretary-Treasurer), and Ann Jennings (Past Chair), would like to inform you of the Chapter's activities in the recent months.

## In this issue:

### ▶ From the Chair's Desk

### ▶ Announcements

- ▶ 2004-2005 Executive Officers Announced
- ▶ 2004 Annual Business Meeting

- ▶ 2004 ASB Student Travel Award

- ▶ 2004 Fall Workshop
- ▶ 2005 SWS Meeting

- ▶ Report From the Chapter's Meetings
- ▶ Other News: Workshops, Conferences

## From the Chair Desk:

Colleagues,

As I write this I'm looking forward to the upcoming meeting in Seattle and hope that many of you will be able to attend. The Society forum on Wednesday afternoon should be of special interest because the Strategic Planning Committee chaired by Frank Day will be presenting their report for review and comment. I know the committee has put a lot of time and sweat into this effort as they are attempting to finalize a strategic plan that will guide the SWS into the future. I believe the committee has suggested several changes to the board recommended mission, vision, and goals so I strongly encourage all to attend and make their opinions heard.

Also I'd like to encourage any students in the Chapter who would like to be more involved with the Society to consider throwing their name in the hat for a new executive committee seat that was approved at the mid-year meeting. This new seat will be the voice of student affairs and will get travel furnished to the mid-year and annual meetings. The appointment will be for at least two years so anyone who is interested contact me and I'll get you more details as they become available. This is an excellent opportunity to network, travel, and contribute to the SWS.

On the local front, I'd like to thank Greg Noe and William Conner for continuing to serve in the Executive Committee positions. These guys do an outstanding job for our Chapter and it's a pleasure to get to work with both of them. Also I'd like to thank Cliff Hupp for all his work with the awards committee and welcome his replacement in that position, Mary—Davis, to the team.

Our fall workshop planning is well underway thanks to our esteemed colleagues in the South Central Chapter and the Gulf Estuarine Society. This year's conference is set for October 6-9, 2004 at the Hampton Inn Conference Center in Pensacola Beach Florida. The theme for the symposium is "Communication and

Collaboration: Coastal Systems of the Gulf of Mexico and Southeastern United States. More information can be found at [www.sws.org/regional/southcentral/2004PcolaBch.htm](http://www.sws.org/regional/southcentral/2004PcolaBch.htm). Also, you can visit the Chapter website.

I'm also interested in the Chapter co-sponsoring more local symposia and workshops throughout our region. Given our geographic spread it's sometimes hard for members to attend a single workshop if a long distance from their home, so I'm interested in helping sponsor two or three more each year that are spread out across the region. If anyone has any suggestions, or knows of conference organizers who would be interested in having a co-sponsor, please let me know.

Finally the Annual Meeting in Charleston is only a year away. William has done an outstanding job so contact him if you want to get involved.

I hope to see all of you in Seattle and if you see me, make sure you introduce yourself!



Steve Miller  
Chapter Chair

## Announcements:

### 2004-2005 Executive Officers Announced

The South Atlantic Chapter Executive Committee is pleased to report that both Greg Noe and William Conner have agreed to continue in their positions as Vice Chair and Secretary/Treasurer, respectively. The Chapter owes a great deal of gratitude to Greg and William for their continued support of the Chapter.

We also owe enormous thanks to Cliff Hupp, who for many years has organized the Chapter's student travel award to the annual Association of Southeastern Biologists conference. In addition to establishing a standard process and timeline for the travel award to ASB, Cliff also recently implemented a similar student travel award for the annual international SWS conference. Cliff has recently moved on to co-chair the Program Committee for the 2005 SWS conference, which the Chapter is organizing. We are pleased to announce that Dr. Mary Davis, an aquatic ecologist with The Nature Conservancy in Atlanta Georgia, will take over as Chair of the Awards Committee and oversee the two student travel award programs.

We will undertake in early 2005 a search for Chapter Chair. This two-year position is responsible for presiding at the business meeting of the Chapter, authorizing expenditures of Chapter funds, and promoting the interests of the Chapter. The Chair also represents the Chapter on the Board of Directors of the SWS and appoints standing or special committees as required to promote the interest of the Chapter. The Chair also serves as the Program Chair to plan and arrange Chapter programs and activities. If you are interested in learning more about the duties of the Chair or wish to be considered by the Nominations Committee, please contact Ann Jennings at [ajennings@cbf.org](mailto:ajennings@cbf.org) or (804) 780-1392.

## 2004 Annual Business Meeting

The Chapter's annual business meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 21<sup>st</sup> (5:00-6:00 PM), at the SWS Annual Conference in Seattle, Washington, July 18-23, 2004. Check your conference program for the location of the meeting. We'll discuss the events of the last year and the future of the chapter. We look forward to seeing you there!

## 2004 Fall Workshop

### SWS SOUTH ATLANTIC CHAPTER PRELIMINARY FALL WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT!

#### *Communication and Collaboration:*

Coastal Systems of the Gulf of Mexico and Southeastern United States  
A Gathering of Wetland and Estuary Scientists from the  
U.S. Gulf Coast and Southeastern Atlantic

Sponsored by the South Central and South Atlantic Chapters of SWS  
and the Gulf Estuarine Research Society of ERF

Hampton Inn and Conference Center, Pensacola Beach, Florida.  
*6-9 October 2004*

This first ever, multi-organizational meeting will provide a unique opportunity for coastal scientists and environmental resource managers to acquire current information regarding the response of coastal ecosystems to anthropogenic pressures. The objective is to provide a forum that encourages a mutual exchange of recent scientific findings, ideas and concepts and development of new (or enhancement of existing) professional relationships within our unique ecoregion. This event will provide many wetland and estuary scientists with the opportunity to develop technical exchange and collaborations among the research, regulatory, and conservation programs representing the Southeastern Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico regions. Graduate student members of each represented society will compete for student travel awards for attendance at future international meetings.

## 2005 SWS meeting

The Chapter is working on putting together the committees necessary to hosting the 2005 Society meeting in Charleston, South Carolina. Committees include Program, Silent Auction, Sponsors, Exhibitors, Field Trip, Publicity, Events, Children's Program, Judges, and Education. Thanks to Cliff Hupp and Frank Reilly who have agreed to serve as co-chairs of the Program committee, William Conner as chair of the Field Trip committee, Morgan McClure as chair of the Sponsor committee, Shanin Speas who is chair of the Publicity Committee and Webmaster, Carl Trettin who is chair of the Events Committee, Lili Martin who is chair of the Education Committee, and Dan Tufford as chair of the Silent Auction committee. We are still looking for volunteers to assist in these efforts. To hold a successful meeting will require a commitment by many individuals to help with the numerous details that come with planning. We ask that you please consider helping and contact William Conner at [wconner@clemsun.edu](mailto:wconner@clemsun.edu) and he will put you in touch with the right person.

## Reports from the Chapter's Meetings:

### 2004 ASB luncheon

The Chapter held its annual luncheon at the 2004 Association of Southeastern Biologists conference in Memphis, TN. The SWS South Atlantic Chapter meeting at Memphis in April was poorly attended. Only 4 people showed up (even though 9 registered and paid for the luncheon) plus the 2 students there for travel awards. Student Travel Awards went to Colleen M. Iversen, University of Tennessee and Sherry Holmes, University of Alabama. Congratulations to them and let's do more to promote these to our students next year. We give away up to 5 awards, but can only do that if students apply. The members present were given an update on the SWS Board of Directors Mid-Year Meeting; the current status of plans for the 2005 SWS Annual Meeting to be held in Charleston, South Carolina; the status of the Student Travel Award for the SWS Annual Meeting in Seattle; call for nominations for the May Election of Vice Chair and Secretary/Treasurer; and finally a reminder of the upcoming Fall, 2004 Chapter Workshop which is a joint meeting between the South Atlantic Chapter, the South Central Chapter, and the Gulf Estuarine Research Society.



*Pictured: Colleen Iversen (left) and Sherry Holmes (right), winners of the 2004 ASB Student Travel Awards, and Cliff Hupp (center), Chair of the Student Travel Awards Committee*

## Other News: Workshops, Conferences

*If you know of a workshop or conference that you would like to have posted in the next newsletter, please contact Greg Noe ([noeg@fiu.edu](mailto:noeg@fiu.edu)).*

The SWS and Chapter web sites have listings of upcoming meetings:

[www.sws.org/meetings/](http://www.sws.org/meetings/)

[www.sws.org/regional/southatlantic/happenings.html](http://www.sws.org/regional/southatlantic/happenings.html)

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