

LA Wetland Education Coalition Wetland News, #28, August 5, 2005

<http://www.lacoast.gov/education/lawec/>



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1. Welcome Back to LaWEC newsletters!

I hope you have had a great summer. As the new academic year starts, our LaWEC newsletters will resume. I anticipate sending out a newsletter at least once a month, as well as when time-sensitive opportunities need to get to our listserve participants.

Our newsletters are archived on the [LaCOAST.gov](http://www.lacoast.gov) website – so you can read back issues if the need arises. If you have information that you would like included in the newsletter, please send it to me.

Best wishes from a coastal education advocate,
Dr. Pam Blanchard
LSU Curriculum and Instruction
Editor (volunteer) of the LaWEC newsletter.
Email: PamB@lsu.edu

2. JASON Expedition – update on Disappearing Wetlands (Year 2) and the Mars Expeditions

WASHINGTON (July 19, 2005)—The National Geographic Society and the JASON Foundation for Education (JFE) today announced that they have completed a reorganization in which the Society has assumed full stewardship of the JASON Foundation for Education. Under the reorganization, the JFE becomes a nonprofit subsidiary of the National Geographic Society.

All JFE programs will proceed uninterrupted, including the "JASON Expedition: Mysteries of Earth and Mars" curriculum and as well as the online expedition with JFE founder and National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence Robert Ballard to the Lost City in the mid-Atlantic ridge, which will

explore a hydrothermal vent system. For students to follow along the Lost City Adventure during the school year, JASON is now developing a corresponding standards-based science curriculum, "JASON Adventure: Lost City Hydrothermal Vents," which will be available in September.

If you received training during Year 1 of **Disappearing Wetlands**, Team JASON Online access for 2005-06 (Year 2) is available at a cost of \$99. Additional information about all expeditions is available at the JASON website, <http://www.jason.org>. Contact Brenda Blackston, JASON Foundation for Education, <brenda@jason.org>.

3. Lake Pontchartrain is getting organized for Beach Sweep 2005

It's that time again!! The **Beach Sweep 2005** clean up event will be held on **Saturday, September 17** from 9am to 12 noon all around the Lake Pontchartrain area. During the course of the year you have indicated you were interested in helping so you are included in this email. Please reply to this email and spread the word! As in the past the beach sweep will be followed by a "**thank you**" picnic from 12 noon to 2pm with games, activities, and music.

This event is a wonderful volunteer program for school, community, and office groups. Reply to JoAnn Burke at joann@saveourlake.org if you are able to come out alone or as leader of a group. (3 or more caring people make a group in my book!!!!) If you can only participate as an individual indicate that and we can assign you to a group. Meanwhile, mark your calendar for the zone captain meeting

Wednesday, August 31, which will be held in Lakeway Building #1 at the foot of the Causeway Bridge, on the 2nd floor, Conference Rm A. Supplies and zones will be given out there to zone captains (all those heading up groups)

4. America's WETLAND campaign update

From June/July 2005 issue of America's WETLAND E-mail Newsletter

During June and July, temperatures weren't the only thing rising in the fight against coastal land loss. Hopes were rising as people focused their attention on the Louisiana Congressional delegation and their work on the House and Senate Energy Bills. Each held provisions regarding OCS revenues that would bring Louisiana a down payment on the estimated \$14 billion needed to address the emergency circumstance caused by the State's coastal land loss. As of the writing of this newsletter, both the Senate and the House of Representatives had passed a combined version of the two bills and only a veto of the bill by President Bush could prevent Louisiana's historic victory.

National awareness of **America's WETLAND**, its world ecological significance and the role it plays in the nation's economic and energy security was also on the rise. The Science Channel premiere of the documentary "Coastal Crisis," pro-coastal restoration editorials in newspapers across the country and coverage of the campaign's French Quarter dramatization for the opening of Atlantic Hurricane Season all combined to embed the issue of Louisiana's coastal land loss in the nation's collective consciousness.

For more information about the **America's WETLAND** Campaign events and activities or how you can get involved, visit <http://www.americaswetland.com>.

5. LSU – LA Sea Grant's OCEAN COMMOTION set for October 27, 2005

Louisiana Sea Grant College Program invites you to participate in **OCEAN COMMOTION 2005**, a one-day exhibit

celebrating our precious coastal and marine resources. Especially designed for K-8 students and teachers, OCEAN COMMOTION hosts *interactive exhibits* that



give students the chance to learn about and touch the products of the sea--the aquatic animals, plants, and minerals--upon which Louisiana's citizens are so dependent. During each of the past seven years, OCEAN COMMOTION has brought more than 55 exhibitors, 2000 registered students, 180 teachers, and 300 parents to LSU to view exhibits on the sea and our coastal resources. Video clips and additional information are available about the event at <http://lamer.lsu.edu>.

If you'd like to get involved, contact Dianne Lindstedt [dlindst@lsu.edu], LA Sea Grant's Education Coordinator, to get details on registering your exhibit for the event. There is no charge to exhibit; two lunches and t-shirt are provided for each exhibit.

NOTE TO TEACHERS: Are you interested in registering your students so they can attend Ocean Commotion 2005? If so, contact Dianne Lindstedt to get the registration information. Registration is limited and on a first-come, first-served basis. Open to all K-8 students in public, private and home schools.

6. LRCE's *Experience It All!* set for October 29, 2005

Save time on the morning of October 29, 2005, to participate in *Experience It All!*, a professional development opportunity presented by the Louisiana Resource Center for Educators. Program organizers are in need of presenters for all sessions: math, science, social studies, reading, and English-language arts. They are also interested in participants in their shar-a-thons (elementary and secondary) - all you do during this presentation is to display your favorite activity in your field. This is a great opportunity to share coastal and ocean related activities! As a presenter you will get free registration and will be paid for your presentation.

For a presenters registration form, contact either Lee Meyer or Tracy Bell directly at LRCE (225)924-7600.

7. *Marsh Mission: Capturing the Vanishing Wetlands* book to be released in September 2005!

Louisiana is in a desperate battle to save what remains of its coastal wetlands, which are disappearing at the rate of a football field-sized area every 38 minutes. Most people are unaware of

the devastating transformation of this remote region, though the effects are detrimental for the entire country economically, culturally, and environmentally. Hoping that art will inspire concern where statistics have not, and focusing on the marshlands' beauty rather than their destruction, nature photographer C.C. Lockwood and painter Rhea Gary have joined together in Marsh Mission to show that a picture is worth at least a thousand words. You are invited to reserve your autographed copy of *Marsh Mission: Capturing the Vanishing Wetlands*, a 120 page book of beautiful art and breathtaking photography that imparts an experience that explains better than any map or scientific data the irreplaceable treasure being lost.

Contact the Lockwood Gallery to reserve your copy at 225/ 925-0777. Cost: \$39.95 plus tax and shipping.

8. UNEP Atlas of Our Environment available
 This new title from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) provides a comparative picture of our environment 30 years ago with the present day. "One Planet, Many People: Atlas of Our Changing Environment" provides a comprehensive, visual presentation contains photographs, satellite images, maps and narratives that provide insights into the many ways people around the world have changed, and continue to change, the environment. Visit <http://www.earthprint.com/show.htm> for additional details.

9. LAWEC-L LISTSERVE INFORMATION

- **Description of this listserve:** A listserve serving educators interested in LA wetlands.
- **To send a message of your own to the listserv:** email LAWEC-L@LISTSERV.LSU.EDU and type your message into the body of the email. The message will be distributed to ALL PARTICIPANTS subscribing to the listserve. As a participant, you are welcome to send messages to educators subscribing to the LA Wetland Education Coalition listserve. We ask that participants focus their emails on educational opportunities and materials *directly related to wetland education*.
- **To UNSUBSCRIBE from this listserve:** email LAWEC-L@LISTSERV.LSU.EDU and enclose the following single line in the body of the email
 unsubscribe LAWEC-L
- **To SUBSCRIBE to this listserv:** email LISTSERV@LISTSERV.LSU.EDU, with only the following line listed in the body of the email:
 subscribe lawec-l YourFirstName YourLastName
 For example: subscribe lawec-l John Doe
 NOTE: You should not put anything in the subject line and should remove any automatic signatures from the email, otherwise the signup process will not work. You will get a return message indicating that you have been subscribed to the listserve along with information on other listserve operations you can perform (such as unsubscribe, etc.). If you have trouble, email Dr. Pam Blanchard at <pamb@lsu.edu>.

Please do not reply to the entire list unless you want everyone to read your message!