Dear MAMEA members,

Welcome back to school! MAMEA had a big summer as we hosted the National Marine Educators Association conference back in July. It was an amazing week of networking, inspiring speakers, innovative concurrent sessions, and a lot of fun! Another big congratulations to Tami Lunsford and David Christopher for putting on such an awesome conference.

MAMEA’s next big event is coming up in October, as we will host several events at the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) regional conference in Richmond, VA. Look for more information in the Masthead, and I hope you can attend! We will announce our new officers, and have the official trading of the crab over to the new President. It has been an honor and a privilege to represent MAMEA for the past year, and I look forward to seeing you all again soon!

Best,
Sarah Nuss
MAMEA President
2014 MAMEA Informal Educator Award

MAMEA was honored Lisa Ayers Lawrence of the Virginia Institute of Marine Science with the 2014 Informal Educator Award. The presentation was announced at the National Marine Educators Association (NMEA) Conference on July 24, 2014.

Lisa grew up in Ohio, but had an interest in marine science from a young age. She attended summer camp at Wallops Island Marine Science Consortium on the Eastern Shore of Virginia as a secondary school student, and chose to attend the University of Miami to pursue marine science for her undergraduate degree. Following that, Lisa attended the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, where she studied mummichogs (an estuarine fish) and worked with the National Estuarine Research Reserve program. She received her Masters of Science in Marine Science in 1996. Lisa has been staff at Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) since 1998, first as a Marine Education Specialist, and since December 2012, as the Marine Education Program Leader for VIMS Marine Advisory Services.

As VIMS extension staff, affiliated with Virginia Sea Grant, Lawrence has been vital to the management of The Bridge, a nationally recognized, award-winning
It’s hard to believe that NMEA 2014 is over! Tami and I are coming out of our post conference haze and along with Jackie Takacs have been settling up all the bills and accounts. We probably won’t be able to tell for a few more months the final financials of the conference. However, regardless of what we made this summer, we feel confident that we can call the 2014 NMEA conference a HUGE success. Here are just a sample of the highlights:

- Over 340 participants from 32 states and eight countries (Australia, Bermuda, Canada, Mexico, Peru, South Africa, Sweden, and the United States)
- Over 110 concurrent sessions (featuring engaging presentations on the Next Generation Science Standards, arts and culture, current scientific research, and education evaluation)
- Special events at the National Aquarium, United States Naval Academy, and the Port Annapolis Marina
- Keynote address from Dr. Edith Widder, Deep-Sea Explorer and Conservationist; CEO, Senior Scientist, and Co-Founder of the Ocean Research and Conservation Association
- Plenary session by Dr. Michael Wysession, Associate Professor of Earth & Planetary Sciences at Washington University and Next Generation Science Standards Earth and Space Sciences Writing Team Leader
- Plenary session by Dr. Rita Colwell, Professor Emerita and Distinguished University Professor at University of Maryland College Park and Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health, and Former Director of the National Science Foundation
- Performance by Billy B., The Natural Science Song and Dance Man
- Special presentation by Rear Admiral Timothy Gallaudet, Commander Naval Meteorology and Oceanography
- Special presentation by Congressman John Sarbanes

Also, there are so many people to thank for making this conference a success. First and foremost we want to thank MAMEA. From the very beginning, MAMEA supported this conference by providing the very first seed money to get the planning started. MAMEA was also generous in sponsoring discounts and scholarships for members to attend. There are many other organizations that also provided financial and in-kind support including the National Aquarium, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, SeaWorld Parks and Entertainment, Khaled bin Sultan Living Oceans Foundation, From the Bow Seat, the Consortium for Ocean Leadership, Maryland Sea Grant, Virginia Sea Grant, North Carolina Sea Grant, Delaware Sea Grant, Bridgewater Education Consulting LLC, Pennsylvania Sea Grant, The Shape of Life, and the Institute Of Marine and Environmental Technology.

We would also like to thank our Conference Committee. The Committee spent over three years planning this special event!

- Lauren Albright: Exhibits
- Beth Day-Miller: Hospitality
- Adam Frederick: Fundraising
- Kathy Fuller: Field trips
- Ruth Gourley and Dia Hitt: Concurrent sessions
- Lisa Lawrence: Website and app
- Maria Madero: Youth Ocean Conservation Summit
- Chris Petrone: Advertising and promotion
- Cathy Roberts and Dawn Sherwood: Auction
- Jackie Takacs: Finance, printed materials, running NMEA central, and a whole lot more
- Allie Toomey and Andrew Wilson: Special events

Also, Sharon Cooper, Taalibah Hassen, Trish Mace, Jennifer Collins, and Amy Heemsworth for their diverse set of skills!

Lastly, a special thank you to David Wehunt who was not an official member of the committee but helped with NMEA central throughout the entire conference! And finally, thank you to everyone who lent help throughout the week, those who moderated sessions, those who donated auction items, and most importantly thank you to everyone who attended to the conference.

This is most likely the final update for the 2014 conference. It has truly been a great pleasure working on it for the past three years. We hope to see you all at next year’s conference in Newport, RI! (http://www.marine-ed.org/?NMEA_2015).

David Christopher and Tami Lunsford
2014 NMEA Conference Co-Chair
2014 MAMEA Informal Educator Award

online ocean science education resource center. Providing teacher-reviewed resources in marine science, the site reached nearly a quarter-million users from 195 countries in 2013 alone. Lisa also manages the highly valued Scuttlebutt educator listserv which has 2,800 subscribers and 1,600 postings per year. Additionally, she supports the National Working Waterfront Network’s web-based tool and portal, organizes the Accessing Coastal Virginia online resource center, participates in the Center for Ocean Sciences Education Excellence Network, and more. She provides conference website and proposal submission assistance for many organizations such as MAMEA, NMEA, and the Working Waterways & Waterfronts group. She also co-teaches the VIMS Virginia Coastal Ecosystem Teacher Field Course, and is a guest instructor for the VIMS GK-12 program and the American Meteorological Society’s DataStreme program.

Ms. Lawrence’s work has earned her other recognition and awards. Her prior recognitions include the Mid-Atlantic Sea Grant Marine Extension Network Outstanding Achievement Award, in 2003, for her achievements in marine education. In 2004, she received the NMEA President’s Award for her work on The Bridge. Lawrence received recognition for her work with Accessing the Virginia Coast, receiving the BoatU.S. Recreational Boating Access Award in 2010. For her work with the Blue Crab Bowl and National Ocean Sciences Bowl, she was awarded the position of Head Rules Judge for over 10 years.

Lawrence has been actively involved with the Mid-Atlantic Marine Education Association since 1998. Currently, Lisa serves as the chair of two committees, she is Membership Committee Chair and the MAMEA Webkeeper. These committees keep her very active in the running of the organization, and she participates regularly in conference calls and emails to keep the Association running smoothly. Through her role as Webkeeper, Lisa is active in assisting with the organization of state mini-conferences and registration for Chapter annual conference. She has mentored new MAMEA Presidents as well, following her three-year service in the MAMEA President track (President-Elect, President, and Past-President) from 2010-2012.

MAMEA honored Lisa Ayers Lawrence its 2014 Informal Educator Award during the National Marine Educators Association Conference in Annapolis, MD on July 24th. Current MAMEA President Sarah McGuire Nuss presented the award and described Lawrence’s many contributions to marine education in Virginia, the Mid-Atlantic Region and nationwide.

A contributor to the Blue Crab Bowl -- Virginia’s regional competition of the National Ocean Sciences Bowl -- since its inception in 1998, Lisa serves as officials trainer and Head Rules Judge. She also held Head Rules Judge honors for the National Ocean Sciences Bowl Finals competition for several years.
Lisa Lawrence has been central in the design and operation of the Bridge web portal. Housed at VIMS and supported by National Sea Grant and NMEA, the Bridge provides teacher-reviewed web resources, a marine educator listserv with 2,800 national and international subscribers, plus DATA Activities - educator/scientist authored lessons using authentic research data. In 2013, the site had nearly a quarter-million users from 195 countries.

Lawrence also collaborates with VIMS faculty and education staff to offer field experiences for teachers. Field courses offer background on topics of concern to the Chesapeake region and practice with scientific observation and data collection methods that teachers can then use with their students.

Conducting workshops for educators, Lisa explains how to use authentic research data to teach concepts, scientific process and data analysis skills.
Gloucester County Teacher Sherry Rollins Wins National Science Education Award

NMEA honored Sherry Rollins of Peasley Middle School in Gloucester, VA, with its 2014 Outstanding Teacher Award. The presentation took place on July 24, 2014, before a crowd of over 300 educators at the Association’s annual conference.

Building a Career and Collaborations

Rollins, a teacher for 26 years, received her undergraduate degree in biology from the College of William and Mary in 1992. A lifelong learner, she continued her education, taking graduate science courses at VIMS, Christopher Newport University and Virginia Commonwealth University. In 2006, Sherry earned a Masters in Integrating Technology in the Curriculum from Walden University. Keeping current, she continues to seek out professional development opportunities that offer content, skills and teaching resources she can apply in her classroom.

For the past 19 years, Rollins has been a middle school science teacher in Gloucester County, Virginia. She has a long and productive track record of providing students with opportunities for hands-on, feet-wet science. Sherry has maximized her impact and output by collaborating with teaching colleagues within her school, and by partnering with regional institutions and programs. Among her productive collaborations:

Twelve Year Partnership with Oyster Reef Keepers of VA: 2002 to present

This oyster restoration project is part of a statewide effort to restore the native Chesapeake Bay oyster reefs. Using her training as a Master Oyster Gardener, Rollins brings oyster biology, aquaculture, experimentation, data collection and analysis to the classroom. She ferries oyster spat from their cages in a river off the Bay to school for measurement. Late in the school year, she guides her students as they plant the oysters on a sanctuary reef during a class field trip. One of the Goals of this project is to model environmental responsibility.

Seven-Year partnership with Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (CBNERR) in Virginia at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science 2005-2012

Sherry Rollins has also partnered with educators from the Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve in Virginia (CBNERR-VA) located on the VIMS Campus. This field-based program addressed 7th grade Life Science SOLs and introduced the students to their local estuarine environments. Through this project, Sherry was able to expand efforts to provide her middle school students with a meaningful outdoor experience that addressed the science curriculum and helped students gain a deep awareness of the Chesapeake Bay and its inhabitants. During field studies trips, students conducted field science including water quality testing and seining. This partnership also helped Sherry establish the use of estuarine aquarium tanks in the classroom so that students could continue marine science investigations. With additional training from a MWEE Capacity Building workshop offered by CBNERR and Virginia Marine Advisory Program, Sherry and her partner teacher developed and tested a model field experience program for their middle school students during 2012.

Six-Year Participation in Chesapeake Bay Foundation’s Teachers on the Bay Program: 2008 to present

Rollins has also been able to implement an amazing field studies experience through her participation in the Chesapeake Bay Foundation’s (CBF) “Teachers on the Bay” program. After taking an extensive teacher training on Fox Island, she knew this was an immersive experience that she wanted to offer her students. Securing grants each year since 2009, she and her teaching partners have been able to take a select group of students on a memorable three-day field study in Bay science, culture and environmental awareness.

Five-Year Participation in the VIMS GK-12 PERFECT Partnership: 2009-2014

The goals of the VIMS GK-12 program are to enhance the science communication skills of VIMS marine science graduate students while enriching classroom STEM education. From the beginning of this five-year program in 2009, Sherry Rollins served as a Partner Teacher at Page, then Peasley, Middle Schools. Sherry jumped whole-heartedly into this demanding program: working with VIMS graduate students during the sum-
mer; then hosting between one and three Fellows as classroom “scientists in residence;” and guiding them in the development of lesson plans and activities that enrich the 7th grade Life Science curriculum with authentic research topics and methods. Sherry says that with scientists in her classroom, her students have gained invaluable exposure to the vocabulary and application of scientific method, to real world examples of scientific research and experimental design. And, the additional hands-on lab activities have made an impact on student understanding of science and the work of scientists.

Community Contribution and Recognition
Like many teachers of her caliber, Sherry has accumulated a long list of contributions made to teaching colleagues, schools, and the greater educational community. A sampling of her activities include: ten years coaching Great Computer Challenge Teams; eight years coaching All Girl Robotics Teams; and three years as Science Fair Mentor at the County level.

Sherry has been active in MAMEA, sharing her experiences with fellow educators at annual MAMEA Conferences. She and her teaching partner Judy Gwartney-Green have delivered sessions on Incorporating the Local Environment into Your Classroom and on the implementation of Experiential Field Studies Trips. She is gracious and generous in helping any teacher who seeks advice about incorporating more field experiences in their science classes.

With all that Sherry has done for her school, county and region, it is no surprise that she has received some kudos in the past. In 2010, she made a clean sweep of local honors, recognized as Page Middle School Teacher of the Year, Gloucester County Middle School Teacher of the Year, and Gloucester County Teacher of the Year 2010. In 2012, MAMEA singled out Sherry for its regional Classroom Teacher Award.

A Team Builder and Team Player
Despite some hefty challenges thrown her way – like the destruction of her school (Page Middle School) in 2011 – Sherry has continued to enrich her sciences classes with unique experiences including: growing oysters; creating video and photography projects; and exploring the Bay on marine science field trips. She has invested her personal time after school and on weekends to take students on boat and canoe trips. And, she has made this all bigger than herself by investing in the team approach with other teachers at her school, and by partnering with regional institutions whose programs and projects can benefit her teaching team and all their students. In her own words, Sherry truly believes in providing her students with “not just a shot of science, but a steady diet of it.” For her dedication to students, determination to offer authentic science experiences, and her spirit of collaboration and teamwork, the National Marine Educators Association is pleased to honor Sherry Rollins as the NMEA 2014 Outstanding Teacher!
MAMEA Members Actively Share Their Best Ideas at Conferences

MAMEA members are great at sharing their ideas with fellow educators. So, take advantage of the MAMEA network to learn about new projects, lessons, resources! See the lists below for an idea of how generously our community shares ideas.

Are there other conferences and professional development institutes at which MAMEAns are presenting? Please let us know, join the MAMEA Discussion List and send out a message. Go to http://www.mamea.org/list.html for instructions.

NMEA 2014, Annapolis, MD – July 2014
MAMEA not only took the reins to coordinate and host this year's NMEA conference, members contributed significantly to its content through 16 concurrent session presentations. If you missed one of these sessions, you can connect with fellow MAMEA members to learn more about their presentation, project or resource.

Climate Education for a Changing Bay - Jaclyn Beck and Sarah Nuss
http://www2.vims.edu/bridge/nmea2014/concurrent_classroom.cfm

The distance learning spectrum for marine educators - Allison Besch
http://www2.vims.edu/bridge/nmea2014/concurrent_informal.cfm

Sand diagnosis: Investigations into biological & geological stories of sand - Carol Hopper Brill
http://www2.vims.edu/bridge/nmea2014/concurrent_science.cfm

Zooplankton identification, ecology & changes over time - Valerie Chase
http://www2.vims.edu/bridge/nmea2014/concurrent_informal.cfm

Would you like fries with that?: Considering Career Choices in Marine Education - Terry Kirby Hathaway
http://www2.vims.edu/bridge/nmea2014/concurrent_informal.cfm

Best practices in program & project evaluations: A Panel Discussion - Beth Day-Miller
http://www2.vims.edu/bridge/nmea2014/concurrent_edres.cfm

A look back at Project PERFECT: NSF graduate fellows in marine science - Beth Day-Miller, Vicki Clark & Carol Hopper Brill
http://www2.vims.edu/bridge/nmea2014/concurrent_edres.cfm

Researching for picture books - Adam Frederick
http://www2.vims.edu/bridge/nmea2014/concurrent_art.cfm

Case of the Hungry Heron: PBL unit on ecosystems & experimental design - Kevin Goff
http://www2.vims.edu/bridge/nmea2014/concurrent_classroom.cfm

Dive underwater and explore your national estuaries - Sarah Nuss and Jaclyn Beck
http://www2.vims.edu/bridge/nmea2014/concurrent_classroom.cfm

Let’s get Qrius about the Ocean Portal - Trish Mace
http://www2.vims.edu/bridge/nmea2014/concurrent_science.cfm

Diving Deeper into Scientific Practice & Cross Cutting Concepts with NOAA - Bart Merrick
http://www2.vims.edu/bridge/nmea2014/concurrent_ngss.cfm

Oysters as Teachers: An NGSS Story - Bart Merrick
http://www2.vims.edu/bridge/nmea2014/concurrent_ngss.cfm

Catching the wind: the tale of a successful formal/informal partnership - Chris Petrone
http://www2.vims.edu/bridge/nmea2014/concurrent_informal.cfm

No soup for you: Hands-on shark fin DNA gel electrophoresis lab - Christina Romano
EarthEcho Expeditions: Protecting Our Water Planet - Allie Toomey
http://www2.vims.edu/bridge/nmea2014/concurrent_classroom.cfm

NSTA Area Conference, Richmond – October 2014
There are some MAMEAns presenting at NSTA-Richmond. Did we get everyone? If we failed to include you in this list, our apologies and please, let us know you are presenting! All presentations are 1 hour long; check the NSTA session search function for the room and an abstract at: http://www.nsta.org/conferences/schedule2.aspx?id=2014ric.

Additionally, MAMEA is co-sponsoring an ice cream and coffee social with the VA Office of Environmental Education during the Share-A-Thon exhibit time. It should be a great opportunity to pick up ideas and network with colleagues representing a wide range of science and environmental education disciplines. Plus, ice cream – what could be better?

Thursday, October 16:
8:00 am: The Classroom “without” Walls - Darrell Walker
2:00 pm: Climate Education for a Changing Bay - Sarah Nuss and Jaclyn Beck
5:00 pm: A PERFECT Interpretation-Grad Students Design Activities to Convey Cutting-edge Science - Carol Hopper Brill

Friday, October 17:
8:00 am: Dive Underwater and Explore Your Nation’s Estuaries - Sarah Nuss and Jaclyn Beck
9:30 am: Working the NGSS into Your Curriculum Through Ocean Exploration - Beth Day-Miller
11:00 am: Sea Turtles and STEM! - Megan Ennes
3:30 pm: Case of the Hungry Heron: A PBL Unit on Ecosystems & Experimental Design - Kevin Goff

Saturday, October 18:
12:30 pm: Planning Field Science Experiments: Lessons Learned from MWEES - Sarah Nuss and Carol Hopper Brill
12:30 pm: Bay to Bay: A Multidisciplinary Watershed Investigation for Teachers - Chris Petrone

Virginia Association of Science Teachers, Roanoke – November 2014
While Roanoke is far from the coast, we know all waters run down to the sea. Virginia-based MAMEAns are attending from Thursday, November 20 - Saturday, November 22. Here’s a partial list of the presentations we know have been accepted. No schedule is available yet. But watch the VAST website at http://www.vast.org/annual-pdi.html.

Alice Scheele, Patrick Henry High School
Problem Based Discovery of Scientific Research Biology/Life Science (Grades 9 - 12)
Actively engage students in an inquiry based research project based on da Vinci’s Vitruvian Man!

Jaclyn Beck and Sarah Nuss, VIMS/CBNERR
Climate Education for a Changing Bay Environmental Science (Grades 9 - 12)
Improve climate literacy within your high school! Participants address climate change topics using locally relevant environmental data and information, while constructing a mock marsh transect.

Kevin Goff, VIMS
Case of the Hungry Heron: PBL on Ecology & Experiment Design Environmental Science (Grades 9 - 16)
In this classroom-tested, problem-based learning unit, students drive the learning and decision-making process as they tackle an environmental mystery, discovering ecosystem complexity while learning to design sophisticated experiments through authentic inquiry. Workshop offers an overview of the module, provides materials, and engages teachers in one hands-on slice of the PBL process.

Carol Hopper Brill, Sara Beam, and Judy Gwartney-Green, VIMS
Using Marine Science Research to Design Hands-on Classroom Activities Exhibit Booth (Grades 7-12)
VIMS graduate students took their cutting-edge research into secondary classrooms during the course of a 5-year program. Using board games, scavenger hunts and research reenactments, they highlighted real world applications of science. This exhibit shares some of the best of their classroom-tested activities.
2015 NOSB Regional Competitions: Spark Your Students with a Marine Science Challenge

Energize and challenge your students through competition! The National Ocean Sciences Bowl (NOSB®) has three competitions within the Mid-Atlantic region. This national program tests knowledge and critical thinking skills in marine-related science, policy and other subjects. NOSB inspires educators, too, giving you rationale for incorporating more marine and aquatic science into your curricula, as well as chances to demonstrate the highly integrated nature of these fields. Want a teacher’s perspective? See the great article written by long-time coach and MAMEA member Bill Dunn: pages 15-17 in the Fall 2014 edition of The Earth Scientist (a publication of NESTA, the National Earth Science Teachers Association) at http://www.nestanet.org/cms/sites/default/files/journal/currentjournal.pdf.

For NOSB competitions, teachers act as coaches, preparing a team of approximately four students to go head to head in an academic quiz-bowl competition. Students are tested on their knowledge of scientific and technical disciplines through rapid-answer buzzer responses as well as more complex written analytical questions.

The 2015 regional bowls will be held on either February 7 or 28. MAMEA offers awards to first-time and winning coaches of all three Mid-Atlantic regional competitions. The winning team from each regional competition is invited to compete in the National Finals, to be held in Ocean Spring, MS, April 23-26.

For more information about the NOSB Competition in your area, check out the Regional Competition profiles below and visit the NOSB website at http://www.nosb.org/competitions-2/regional-competition-map/.

Deadlines for registering your team are different for each Bowl, so check with the Regional Coordinator to sign up.

This year, the Chesapeake Bay Bowl, will take place at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA. This contest draws schools from Delaware, Maryland, the DC metropolitan area, as well as selected cities in nearby Pennsylvania and Northern Virginia. For Bowl dates and more information, contact this year’s Regional Coordinator Richard Friesner at rfriesner@gmu.edu or phone 703-993-5417.

Virginia’s Blue Crab Bowl is coordinated by the Virginia Institute of Marine Science and Old Dominion University’s Department of Ocean, Earth & Atmosphere. Teams are drawn from Virginia, with the exception of Northern Virginia’s DC Beltway region. Deadline for submitting a statement of intent to compete is November 3. This year’s contest will be held February 7 at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science in Gloucester Point, VA. Visit the Blue Crab Bowl website at www.vims.edu/bcb or contact Regional Coordinator Carol Hopper Brill at chopper@vims.edu, phone 804-684-7735.

The Blue Heron Bowl in North Carolina rotates between institutions. In 2015, the competition is hosted by North Carolina State University, in Raleigh, NC, and the competition is slated for February 28. For more details, contact the NC Regional Coordinator Dr. Janelle Fleming at janelle.fleming@gmail.com or phone 252-726-6823.

Acknowledgements

This issue of the Masthead would not have been possible without contributions submitted by Sarah Nuss, Carrie Bateman, Allison Besch, David Christopher, Andy Gould, Carol Hopper Brill, Trish Mace, Maria Madero, and Chris Petrone.

Feedback

Please feel free to email comments, questions, or concerns about this issue of the Masthead to info@beachchairscientist.com. After all, this newsletter is for YOU, the members of MAMEA! The most recent edition can be found online at http://www.mameamasthead.wordpress.com.
**State Chapter Updates**

**District of Columbia**

*Anthropocene: Life in the Age of Humans*

Join the conversation through a series of programs at the National Museum of Natural History, September – January.

**Anthropocene:**

1. the period during which human activity has been a major influence on global climate and environments;
2. a proposed new geological epoch that may have begun in your lifetime.

Join us as we share perspectives on a variety of topics relevant to how we live on earth. Understanding the Anthropocene requires taking the long view, learning about complex interconnections among earth systems, and thinking critically about the benefits and costs of our actions. *Anthropocene: Life in the Age of Humans* is a series of discussions exploring human impact on the environment with scholars, artists, and others in an intimate conversational setting. For more information, please visit [https://support.si.edu/site/SPageServer;jsessionid=77A293E078E5D8655530A62FA3B27C28.app338a?pagename=life_in_anthropocene&s_src=nmnh_er_anth_em_ev091714](https://support.si.edu/site/SPageServer;jsessionid=77A293E078E5D8655530A62FA3B27C28.app338a?pagename=life_in_anthropocene&s_src=nmnh_er_anth_em_ev091714).

**Maryland**

MAMEA had a great time with formal and non-formal educators that attended the Maryland Regional Mini-Conference on Saturday, June 21st at Patuxent River Parks Jug Bay Natural Area. The program began with a presentation on the fish hawk, or osprey with staff naturalist/biologist Greg Kearns of Patuxent River Park. Then Greg took us out on the water for approximately two hours. The boat stopped at several osprey nests where adorable 6-8 week-old chicks were collected, banded, and released back to their nest. Each banded chick was weighed and its band number recorded for research purposes. We ended the program with a nice picnic style lunch that was provided by Miloff’s Catering. A great time was had by all! Thank you so much to all that attended and made this such a fun program!

**Virginia**

On September 13, 2014 15 MAMEA members met in Richmond to participate in a SCUTES program in conjunction with VCU Rice Center, James River Association, NOAA and Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. It was an exciting experience watching scientists tag and release sturgeon as well as learning more about this pre-historic fish.

*Mad Lab*

The Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (CBNERR), located at VIMS, invites you to attend the Mad Lab on Wednesday, October 22, 2014. Explore the wonders of dry ice, slime, and things that glow in the dark! This Halloween-themed lab will have many hands-on activities to help you explore the creepy, yucky, and slimy parts of science. We encourage you to dress up for this event as your trick-or-treat your way around the lab. Brave the dark and you may win prizes for the best marine-themed costume or most creative costume. There will be no speaker for this lab. The lab takes place from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Registration is required. Register at [http://www.vims.edu/cbnerr/education/public_programs/index.php](http://www.vims.edu/cbnerr/education/public_programs/index.php).

*Maury Project Workshop*

Join Lee Teevan, a teacher at Booker T. Washington High School, and CBNERR educators, as they share activities and resources from the AMS Maury Project. The Maury Project is a teacher enhancement program of the American Meteorological Society (AMS) based on studies of the physical foundations of oceanography. Through the Maury Project, scientifically accurate and pedagogically sound instructional resource materials for teachers are created. Teachers will receive two of the AMS Maury Project hands-on modules as well as all associated materials to complete lessons in their classrooms. The education staff of CBNERR will provide additional activities and resources to connect these modules more closely with the Chesapeake Bay, including water quality data and resources. A certificate with three credit hours will be given to all teachers that complete the workshop. The workshop is free, will take place from 8:30 am - noon on November 1, 2014, and is located at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science in Gloucester Point, VA. To sign up, please send your name, school, grade level, and email address to Sarah Nuss at mcguire@vims.edu.