Dear MAMEA Members,

Happy September! I hope you all had excellent summers and are looking forward to the fall. Recently, I have been reminded of just how valuable membership in this organization is to me. I’m involved with a project to start a new marine biology course for a school in Charlotte, North Carolina, and when we hit a roadblock, I called on several MAMEA members whom I knew would be able to offer expert advice. With their help, we have kept the project on track and these students will have a better appreciation for the role the ocean plays in their lives. This is possible because of the support of fellow marine educators who were willing to take time out of their day and reply back to my request for help.

I’m also paired up with several MAMEA members in a pilot study for climate change communication training in our region. Because of relationships that we’ve already developed through MAMEA, the Mid-Atlantic team has hit the ground running, and is well on our way to offer these trainings in the spring (watch the MAMEA list serve for more information coming soon).

This organization continues to be such a valuable resource for me in my career, and I hope you all feel just as supported as I have these past few months. I’m looking forward to continuing to meet new educators and connect with old friends at our conference this November (more details on page 2). I hope to see you all there!

Andy Gould, MAMEA President

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2016 Mid-Atlantic Marine Education Association Annual Conference

November 4-6, 2016

WHERE: Hyatt Place Dewey Beach, Delaware
WHAT’S INCLUDED: Full registration includes Friday evening welcome reception, Saturday conference sessions (16 concurrent sessions and two plenary sessions), morning and afternoon snacks, lunch, Share-a-Thon, and banquet dinner with auctions. Guest tickets and Sunday field trips are available at an additional cost. And of course, tons of great networking!
COST: various

For more information, visit www.mamea.org/conf.html, or contact Conference Committee Chair Chris Petrone (petrone@udel.edu)
Voting electronically earlier this summer, MAMEA members selected new members for the half of MAMEA’s Board. These talented folks will take office November 5, during the 2016 MAMEA Conference. Next year’s election will fill the other Board member slots, including President-Elect, Secretary, Delaware, Maryland and North Carolina Representatives.

**President-Elect:** Lauren Albright  
*National Aquarium, Baltimore*

**Treasurer:** Jackie Takacs  
*University of Maryland Extension - Sea Grant Program*
Washington, DC Representative: Allie Toomey
EarthEcho International

VA State Representative: Kristen Sharpe
Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve in Virginia
Delaware Children in Nature Month
October 2016
This October, Delawareans statewide will be celebrating Children in Nature Month. The Delaware Children in Nature Coalition will be partnering with organizations across the state to bring you fun-filled family activities. Throughout the month, the CIN Coalition encourages you to get outdoors in school and at home via hiking, programming, events, festivals, field trips, or anything else you can think of to engage your entire family with the outdoors.
www.delawarecin.org

Maryland

National Aquarium’s Aquarium on Wheels Program
The National Aquarium is currently recruiting for our Aquarium on Wheels program, which is an afterschool, high school work-study program here at the National Aquarium. If you know any Baltimore City or County high school students interested, more information and the online application can be found at the following link: http://www.aqua.org/learn/student-programs/aquarium-on-wheels. This is due by September 28th! Once they apply, an email with a special link for their teacher is sent so the teacher can provide a recommendation. So, the students complete the application, the better!

General Student Requirements
• Must attend a Baltimore City or Baltimore County school.
• Must be in grades 9-12, at the time of participation.
• Must be available to work during afterschool sessions without other afterschool obligations greater than the equivalent of one school sport season.
• Must meet legal employment eligibility regulations, and be at least 14 years of age by the first day of work (tentatively set for November 2, 2016).
• Must have an email account and access to check emails regularly.
• Must have an email address for their parent/guardian and their current or last year’s science teacher.
• Must follow the complete online application process at http://www.aqua.org/learn/student-programs/aquarium-on-wheels

If you have any questions, please contact: AOW@aqua.org

Virginia

WHAT: Mad Lab Discovery Lab
WHERE: Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
WHEM: Tuesday October 18 6 - 8pm
Explore the wonders of dry ice, slime, and things that glow in the dark! This Halloween-themed lab will have hands-on activities to explore the creepy, yucky, and slimy parts of science. Trick-or-treat your way through the lab stations. Dress up and you may win prizes for the best marine-themed costume or most creative costume!

For more information please contact mcguire@vims.edu

MAMEA Chapter Meeting at NMEA 2016 - Secretary’s Report

An impressive gathering of MAMEAns, thirty-five strong, attended our Chapter Meeting at the 2016 NMEA Conference in Orlando, Florida! The record gathering included lots of long-time members who welcomed and encouraged new members.

MAMEA President Andy Gould and Membership Chair Lisa Lawrence welcomed the crowd and conducted the meeting. Current Board Members re-introduced themselves and Lisa announced the results of the 2016/17 Board election. The new Board members will begin their terms of office at the Annual Member Business Meeting, to be held November 6, at the upcoming Conference hosted by President-Elect Chris Petrone in Dewey Beach, DE.

State Reps from DC, DE, MD, NC and VA reported upcoming professional development opportunities. So be sure to watch for those in this newsletter, on the MAMEA website or in e-mail announcements. Events offered by MAMEA State Reps are open to all MAMEA members, regardless of their state of residence. Attendees also received other reports from the MAMEA’s Committees, bringing them up-to-date on member opportunities, eligibility criteria and upcoming deadlines. President Elect Chris Petrone described plans for the MAMEA Fall Conference when we can all get together again!

MAMEA members were active at NMEA 2016!

They attended board and committee meetings, gave presentations, manned exhibits, helped with events, went on fieldtrips. On June 30, the Mid-Atlantic marine educators gathered for the MAMEA Chapter meeting.

Always learning! MAMEA members keep up with the latest initiatives by attending NMEA and other conferences that focus on STEM and marine science.

Communicating! MAMEA members were actively communicating at NMEA, sharing ideas and expertise through presentations, poster sessions and exhibits.

Photos by S. Richards, NMEA.
A review of the NMEA 2016 Conference, from our chapter president:

The Florida Marine Science Educators hosted a wonderful national conference in Orlando this summer! Highlights included an intriguing presentation from Dr. Richard Spinrad, Chief Scientist for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration which included a live broadcast from a research vessel and real-time footage from an ROV, several fantastic presentations from MAMEA members, and the presentation of the James Centorino Award for excellence in Informal Education to a most deserving candidate, Lisa Lawrence! One of our fellow MAMEAns took office as the NMEA President, congratulations Tami Lunsford! The conference concluded with one of the most inspirational and creative Stegner Lectures I have ever seen, presented by Megan Davenport and Gary Bremen from Biscayne National Park. The food and entertainment were first class, and all in all it was a great experience! I hope to see everyone at next year’s conference, being held in Charleston, South Carolina!

Sincerely, Andy Gould

Bidding! MAMEA members are always front and center for the NMEA auction!

Winning awards! MAMEA’s Lisa Ayers Lawrence received the James Centorino Award for her many contributions to informal education, including managing The Bridge website for close to 20 years. When it was founded in 1998, the Bridge was one of the first online resources of its kind.

Movin’ and shakin’! Of NMEA’s Present & Past Presidents pictured here, half are (or have been) MAMEA members! Want to get into the power circle? Participation on the MAMEA Board is a great training ground.

Photos by S. Richards.

Youthful! To inspire the next generation, MAMEA supports to NMEA’s youth conference initiatives and seeks to support young educators.
Interested in a 2017 Sand Calendar?

Lots of MAMEA members collect and teach with sand. Would you like to look at an entire calendar year of this size-specific sediment? Each year, colleagues produce an art calendar of sand photographs, featuring samples from all over the world. I'm gauging interest and may be willing to order extra copies to distribute to fellow MAMEAn psammophiles (at cost +shipping).

Let me know your interest by October 31, e-mail Carol Hopper Brill at chopper@vims.edu.
The Mid-Atlantic’s 2017 NOSB Regional Competitions

Need a way to enrich your teaching with more marine science and motivate your students? Try a little competition! The National Ocean Sciences Bowl (NOSB®) offers three competitions within our Mid-Atlantic region, the 2017 contests will be held on either February 4 or 18. The winning team from each regional competition is invited to compete in the National Finals, to be held in Corvallis, Oregon in April 2017.

Teachers act as coaches for NOSB competitions, preparing a team of 4-5 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. To prepare, students have to bolster their background in marine science content, from biology and chemistry to geology and physics, plus policy, maritime history and current science events. Plus, working as teams promotes leadership and collaboration skills.

MAMEA is proud to offer awards to first-time and winning coaches of all three Mid-Atlantic regional competitions.

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.

• Chesapeake Bay Bowl draws schools from Delaware, Maryland, the DC metropolitan area, as well as selected cities in nearby Pennsylvania and Northern Virginia. This northernmost of our Mid-Atlantic bowls takes place on February 4 (snow date is February 18) at the University of Delaware’s Lewes Campus. For more information or to register a team, contact Regional Coordinator Christopher Petrone at petrone@udel.edu or phone 302-645-4308. Updates will be become available at www.chesapeakebaybowl.org.

• Virginia’s Blue Crab Bowl is coordinated by Old Dominion and the Virginia Institute of Marine Science. 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 2. This year’s contest will be held February 18 at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Gloucester Point, VA. Visit the Blue Crab Bowl website at www.vims.edu/bcb or contact Host Site Coordinator Carol Hopper Brill at chopper@vims.edu, phone 804-684-7735.

• The Blue Heron Bowl in North Carolina rotates between institutions. In 2017, it will be held in Wilmington, NC. For other details, contact the NC Regional Coordinator Dr. Janelle Fleming at janelle.fleming@gmail.com; phone 252-726-6823. Or, visit the Blue Heron Bowl website at: https://sites.google.com/site/blueheronbowl/
The National Marine Educators Association (NMEA) honored Lisa Lawrence, educator at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science in Gloucester Point, Virginia, with its 2015 James Centorino Award for excellence in Informal Education. The presentation took place on June 30, 2016, before a crowd of roughly 380 educators at the Association’s annual conference, held in Orlando, Florida. Lawrence, who has been a MAMEA member since 1998, joins a prestigious list of our chapter members who have attained national recognition from NMEA – some 27 since 1987.

When Lisa was awarded the MAMEA Informal Educator Award in 2014, we celebrated her contributions as a regional educator, noting the many top-flight teacher professional development workshops and field courses she has facilitated, the web communication tools she has designed for educators and resource managers, and her consistent service to the MAMEA Board and membership since 1998, among others. See the MAMEA Awards website page, www.mamea.org/docs/awards/Lawrence.pdf, and Masthead article, Fall 2014, Vol. 34 (3), on the website at www.mamea.org/masthead/fall2014.pdf.

But, it was time for Lisa’s well-earned national recognition from NMEA. She has been a NMEA member since 1998 and she has been instrumental in managing some of NMEA’s most visible and popular projects.

• The Bridge was conceived in 1997, the National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP) funded a novel concept in ocean science education – an online clearinghouse for ocean science education resources called the Bridge. This project brought together the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (developers of the website), the Sea Grant Educators Network (national network of educators to assist with resource identification), and the National Marine Educators Association (URL host and disseminators of project information) in a formidable and long-lasting partnership that would provide easy access to ocean education resources to classroom teachers everywhere. Shortly after the funding award was announced, Lisa Ayers Lawrence was hired to bring the concept to life. Lisa spent months scouring the internet for resources, working with scientists and educators to review resources for accuracy and usability, and programming the html code to create the website framework. The Bridge opened for business at the 1998 National Marine Educators Association’s annual conference. Since its launch, the Bridge has provided immediate access to a comprehensive collection of ocean science information and resources for coastal and non-coastal educators around the globe. The Bridge serves more than 200,000 visitors annually from nearly 200 different countries. It was awarded the NOPP Excellence in Partnering Award in 2001 and the NMEA President’s Award in 2004 and has served as a model upon which many other online ocean education resources have been designed. From its infancy as a static website to its current status as the nation’s go-to database-driven ocean education resource center, Lisa has been responsible for the growth and development of every aspect of the site over its 17 year history.
• **Scuttlebutt:** The Bridge also serves as a communications hub for the ocean science education community through its international listserv, “Scuttlebutt.” With more than 3,200 subscribers from around the world and an average of 1,800 postings annually, Scuttlebutt fosters discussion and announcements about ocean science topics, ocean education issues and professional development opportunities. Lisa moderates each and every message that is distributed via Scuttlebutt to ensure that only legitimate messages of interest to the ocean education community are posted – no spam allowed!

• **Bridge Data Analysis Teaching Activities (DATA) Series.** Lisa has been a groundbreaker in the development of online ocean education materials. In addition to providing access to more than 1,200 peer-reviewed resources through a pedagogically-friendly navigation system, the Bridge staff also created a collection of data-based classroom lesson plans called the Bridge Data Analysis Teaching Activity (DATA) Series. This series was developed in 1999 in response to requests from teachers for real scientific data they could use in the classroom. At first, the “Data Tips” provided a link to a user-friendly set of data with suggested topics they could explore using the dataset. It was not long before Bridge staff realized that teachers needed more guidance in mining and analyzing the data. The Data Tips quickly evolved into full-fledged classroom activities providing the classroom teacher with background information on the topic (with links to more supporting information), detailed instructions on how to access, download and even graph the data, and discussion questions to guide the teacher as they help students to analyze the data and discuss the importance of these data. More than 60 DATA activities geared for the middle and high school level have been developed since 1999. Lisa has authored more than one-third of these activities and overseen development of the rest. The DATA Series has been the model for other data-based classroom activities including some developed for the Jacques Cousteau National Estuarine Research Reserve and the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute. They have been incorporated into school curricula, and published resource sets such as the COSEE Great Lakes *Fresh & Salt* curriculum and COSEE Networked Ocean World’s *Ocean Gazing* website and DVDs.

• **Service to NMEA and MAMEA:** Lisa is a 17-year member of both NMEA and MAMEA. Since starting her career as a Marine Education Specialist with VIMS, Lisa has regularly attended the annual conferences for both organizations, frequently conducting presentations and exhibits. She has been central in making marine science resources, as well as NMEA and MAMEA communications and benefits, accessible to members of both organizations.

**NMEA**
- **Technology Committee Chair** (2010-2013); **Committee Member** (2013-present) – Served as the first Chair for the Technology Committee for three years, continue to serve as committee member. Implemented online voting for NMEA elections in 2013 and continue to manage online voting.
- **NMEA Co-webmaster** (2009-2013) – Developed database-driven sections of the website including Chapter Rep reporting section, award nomination form, and conference presentation submission forms.
- **Conference Planning Committee Member** (NMEA 2003, NMEA 2014) – Served on the concurrent session planning team for NMEA 2003. Created and ran the website and conference app for NMEA 2014.

**MAMEA**
- **Membership Chair** (2012-present) – Created and manages Access database to manage the membership records. Created an online membership enrollment/renewal form and associated
Paypal account.

- **Webmaster** (2005-present) – Maintains the organizations website with enhancements such as custom-built sections for annual and state conferences including information and online registration.
- **Listserv Manager** (2000-present) – Manages listserve subscriptions. Reviews and approves/discards all message postings.
- **Past President and Mentoring Committee Chair** (2012-2013) – Provided guidance to new President, President elect and State Representatives
- **President** (2011-2012) – Oversaw MAMEA operations and presided over official board and member meetings.
- **President-Elect** (2010-2011) – As President-Elect of MAMEA, hosted the highly successful joint MAMEA/VA Environmental Educators annual conference in Williamsburg, VA.
- **Nominating Committee Chair** (2002-2004, 2013) – Solicited candidates for nominations, prepared the slate of candidates, and conducted elections. Implemented online voting for 2010 MAMEA elections and has conducted the online elections since.
- **Virginia State Representative** (2000-2004) – Served two back-to-back terms as the Virginia State Representative for MAMEA. In this role, she created the successful Species of Special Concern workshop series. This series, held annually from 2002-2007, provided teachers with a one-day teacher workshop focused on a Chesapeake Bay related species or topic offering scientific presentations, field and hands-on activities and educational resources.

This spoof - by a VIMS colleague - is a fun reminder of the many wide-reaching contributions that Lisa has made to marine education.

Lisa’s not just an excellent marine educator; she’s also a wiz at steaming clams and crabs! Here she is with the feast she prepared for teachers at the VIMS Coastal Ecosystems Field Course this summer. Photo by C.Hopper Brill.

*Please, join us in congratulating Lisa for this prestigious award and thank her for years of dedication in working – often behind the scenes – to help make NMEA and MAMEA the organizations they are today.*