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OBFS NEWS

Volume 2003, No. 2.

The Newsletter of the Organization of Biological Field Stations

Issued December 2003,

Editor: *David S. White, Hancock Biological Station*

Executive Board (Term of office, E-mail address)

<i>President</i>	Eric Nagy (2002-2004 - eric.nagy@virginia.edu)
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<i>Past President</i>	Hilary Swain (hswain@archbold-station.org)
<i>Editor</i>	David White (2001-2003 - david.white@murraystate.edu)
<i>Network Coordinator</i>	Mark Stromberg (2001-2003 - stromber@socrates.berkeley.edu)

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<i>International</i>	Rick Wyman
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<i>Small Field Stations</i>	Beth Cline

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OBFS News is sent electronically as a PDF file to all members in good standing. Hard copies will be sent only to members who specifically request them. A reminder to specifically request hard copies will be e-mailed to all members in January 2004. The exception will be candidate biographies and the voting cards that will be sent out by hard copy each December. OBFS News also will be available at the OBFS Web Site as a PDF file.

OBFS Web Site Address
<http://www.OBFS.org/>

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PARTICIPANTS AT THE OBFS 2003 ANNUAL MEETING KANANASKIS FIELD STATION AT BARRIER LAKE

NAME	AFFILIATION	NAME	AFFILIATION
Billick, Ian	Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory	Miller, Michael	Columbia College: Baker Station
Bogdanowicz, Christine	Cornell University: Shoals Marine University	Mitchell, Randy	Bath Field Station
Bogdanowicz, Steven	Cornell University: Shoals Marine University	Morin, Peter	Washington University: Tyson Research Center
Bruns Stockrahm, Donna	Regional Science Centre	Munxayaphom, N	U of Mississippi
Clay, Keith	Indiana University, Research & Teaching Preserve	Muth, Allan	UC NRS Deep Canyon Desert
Cline, Beth	Woodlake Environmental Field Station	Nagy, Eric	Mountain Lake Biological Station
Cohen, Philippe	Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve: Stanford University	Nakayama, Violet	UC Natural Reserve System
Connors, Peter	University of California: Bodega Marine Lab	Natvig, Don	University of New Mexico Field Station
Consolatti, Nina	MSU Kellogg Biological Station	Poston, Muriel	National Science Foundation
DeGroote, David	St. Cloud State University	Quinby, Peter	U of Pittsburgh
Ebaugh, Janet	Katharine Natural Area	Rodriguez-Duran, Armando	Mata de Platano Field Station
Ehmann, William	Twin Valleys	Rothaus, Richard	St. Cloud State University
Fisher, Robert	Raystown Field Station	Savino, Jeff	University of Toledo Lake Erie Center
Flegel, Catherine	Pinellas County Enviro Lands	Schnake Greene, Janice	Bull Shoals Field Station
Franklin, Jerry	Wind River Field Station	Selzer, Gerald	National Science Foundation
Franklin, Phyllis	Wind River Field Station	Shapiro, Sedra	SDSU Field Station Programs
Gillespie, Sue	Flathead Lake Biological Station	Smith, Grant	Koffer Scientific Reserve at Jokers Hill
Goldman, Jeff	American Institute of Biological Sciences	Stander, Ryan	Ecology Research Center
Goodyear, Mike	Churchill Northern Studies Centre	Stanford, Jack	Flathead Lake Biological Station
Hardy, Mac	Ouachita Mountains Biological Station	Stein, Ellen	Mountain Studies Institute
Hardy, Marilyn	Ouachita Mountains Biological Station	Stromberg, Barbara	U.C. Hastings Reserve
Holmes, Richard	Quesnel River Research Centre	Stromberg, Mark	U.C. Hastings Reserve
Hufty, Mary	Hufty, Mary	Swain, Hilary	Archbold Biological Station
Johnson, Ed	Kananaskis Field Station	Weider, Lawrence	U of Oklahoma Biological Station
Johansson, Mich	University of Mississippi	Whipple, Amy	Merriam-Powell Research Station
Kavanagh, Trudy	U of Wisconsin Oshkosh	White, Marshall	LTERR Network Office
Kay, Isabelle	UC San Diego Reserves	Wilson, Dawn	Southwestern Research Station
Kim, John	SDSU Field Station Programs	Wolfe, Gordon	Eagle Lake Field Station
Kloeppel, Brian	Coweeta Hydrologic Lab	Wyatt, Robert	Highland Biological Station
Larson, David	Washington University: Tyson Research Center	Wyman, Marilyn	Huyck Preserve & Biological Field Station
Lohr, Susan	Lohr Associates Inc / consultant	Wyman, Rick	Huyck Preserve & Biological Field Station
Luke, Claudia	Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve	Yohn, Chuck	BSC Juniata College
McKee, Art	Flathead Lake Bio Station		
Michener, Bill	LTERR Network office		

OBFS FINANCIAL REPORT 2002-2003

I. Operating Funds	Actual	Budgeted
Previous Balance Aug 31, 2002:	\$27,089.01	
(\$26,991.79 in CDs; \$97.22 in checking account)		
Income:		
Membership dues	\$17,617.28	\$18,375.00
Reimbursements: Kellogg Annual Meeting	\$438.35	
Interest (CDs, checking)	\$597.63	\$1,000.00
Total Income:	\$18,653.26	\$19,375.00
Expenses:		
AIBS dues and public policy initiative	\$1,170.00	\$1,100.00
Missouri corporation registration	\$15.00	\$15.00
Travel OBFS committee	\$4,387.12	\$5,000.00
Special projects (OBFS-NAML Congressional Briefing)		\$4,000.00
Strategic planning	\$500.00	
Website administrative database	\$1,440.00	
OBFS historical newsletter reproduction	\$385.51	
OBFS traveling exhibit		
Shipping	\$180.93	\$600.00
Materials and labor	\$0.00	\$3,600.00
Field studies poster	\$2,758.80	\$4,500.00
Office and website		
Secretarial and database support	\$1,400.00	\$900.00
Supplies	\$235.66	\$900.00
Website hosting fees	\$35.00	
Website editing charges	\$720.00	\$1,000.00
IOBFS		
Office and website	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Newsletter	\$658.21	\$2,400.00
Total Expenses:	\$14,886.23	\$25,015.00
Transfer to Restricted Fund:	\$0.00	\$0.00
Balance August 31, 2003	\$30,856.04	

Fund Holdings

Investments - CDs:

211125 2.23% (2.25% yield), 12 mos. due 11/01/03	\$6,734.48	\$6,574.18
211242 2.23% (2.25% yield), 12 mos. due 1/28/04	\$3,924.15	\$3,837.85
211243 2.23% (2.25% yield), 12 mos. due 2/02/04	\$5,875.65	\$5,746.43
212240 2.48% (2.5% yield), 12 mos. due 9/15/03	\$5,971.84	\$5,808.25
213616 Closed 9/26/02		\$5,025.08
614444 1.49% (1.5% yield), 6 mos. due 9/25/03	\$4,115.40	\$4,100.00

Checking Account: \$4,234.52

II. Restricted Funds

Previous Restricted Fund Balance Aug 31, 2002: \$29,450.37

Contributions:

Transfer from Operating Funds	\$0.00
2002 Auction proceeds	\$4,973.00
Donations	\$100.00
Citizens mutual fund performance	\$3,672.75
Interest (checking)	\$23.35
Total Contributions:	\$8,769.10

Expenses: \$ \$0.00

Restricted Fund Balance Aug 31, 2003: \$38,219.47

Fund Holdings

Investments - Citizens Mutual Fund:	
Core Growth Fund (1271.310 shares @ \$17.38)	\$22,095.37
Emerging Growth Fund (859.009 shares @ \$12.12)	\$10,411.19
OBFS Checking Account:	\$5,712.91

**III. OBFS Proposed Operating Budget
Income**

Dues	\$18,000.00
Interest	\$1,000.00
Total Income	\$19,000.00

Expenses:

AIBS dues and public policy initiative	\$2,670.00
Missouri corporation registration	\$15.00
Travel OBFS committee	\$3,000.00
Congressional briefing (5 people)	\$6,000.00
OBFS traveling exhibit	
Shipping	\$500.00
Materials and labor	\$3,600.00
Field studies poster	\$3,000.00
Office and website	
Secretarial and database support	\$900.00
Supplies	\$900.00
Website editing charges	\$1,000.00
OBFS History	\$1,000.00
IOBFS	\$1,000.00
Newsletter	\$500.00
Total Expenses:	\$24,085.00

Transfer to Restricted Fund \$0.00

Surplus/(Deficit) (\$5,085.00)

MINUTES OF THE 2003 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING OF THE ORGANIZATION OF BIOLOGICAL FIELD STATIONS UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY, KANANASKIS FIELD STATIONS SEPTEMBER 11, 2003

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 7:45-8:00 PM

Welcome Address

President Eric Nagy called the meeting to order with the Tom Callahan Memorial Big-Assed Gavel. The following members of the Executive Board were present: Vice President Philippe Cohen, Secretary-Treasurer Claudia Luke, Members-at-Large Beth Cline and Nina Consolatti, Network Coordinator Mark Stromberg and Past-President Hilary Swain. Eric Nagy noted a number of exciting new initiatives: an OBFS strategic planning effort funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF); a variety of database and network initiatives; good communication and support from NSF; collaboration and work with AIBS (DC meetings) especially those regarding NEON.

Introduction to Kananaskis Field Stations – Ed Johnson, Director

University of Calgary has 4 field stations: Kulawana in the Yukon, Banfield Marine Station in British Columbia, and two stations at Kananaskis, the R.B. Miller Field Station in Sheep River Wildlife Sanctuary located 125 km south of Calgary (which boasts long-term population studies of bighorn sheep, mountain lions, ground squirrels as well as work on fish and birds) and Kananaskis Field Station which was established in 1967. Tours of the Kananaskis field station followed from 8:00 to 9:00 pm.

Executive Board Meeting

The Executive Board met from 9:00 pm to 10:30 pm. Editor David White was the only member not in attendance. Items discussed included annual meeting location for 2005, AIBS dues and congressional briefing activities, strategic planning initiative and committee structure, electronic voting, and LTER support for web development.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 8:00 – 9:00 AM

Introductions – Eric Nagy

All OBFS members introduced themselves.

NEON/IBRCS Update – Jeff Goldman, AIBS Public Policy Initiative Representative

AIBS has now completed a full year of shepherding NEON (National Ecological Observatory Network) in Washington D.C. NEON is a program for funding networks of distributed facilities that study regional and global processes. The initial stage of the program provides funding to develop infrastructure (facilities, communication, sensors, etc). Funds for this portion of the program come from the Major Research Equipment (MRE) account that was set up to provide one-time funds for large equipment projects (e.g.,

telescopes) that would otherwise be too great to be supported by other existing program funds.

The 2004 budget request for NEON funds passed through two House subcommittees and will be up for a vote in the House soon. The request was stranded in the Senate subcommittees due to general budget restrictions.

On-going activities at AIBS for the NEON initiative this year included participation from OBFS representatives including Bill Michener, Hilary Swain, Sedra Shapiro, Eric Nagy, and others:

1. NEON White Paper – A working group formed, met, and drafted a NEON white paper, “Rationale, Blueprint and Expectations for the National Ecological Observatory Network.”

2. Sensing the Environment Roundtable – A public roundtable sponsored by OBFS, AERC, ESA, and AIBS stressed the importance of NEON at an event in Washington D.C. Kent Holsinger, Jim Reichman, Cynthia Kolar, and John Aber spoke

3. Congressional and Administrative Briefings and Exhibits - In April, June and August, AIBS conducted a House Science Committee briefing, Congressional Visits Day, Coalition for National Science Funding Exhibit on Capitol Hill and Office of Science and Technology.

4. National Research Council Study on NEON - This council addressed a key set of basic questions regarding the potential value of the NEON program (e.g., “What are the important issues in ecology and environmental biology that can only be addressed on a regional or continental scale? Are any of these issues of national concern?”) The report is due to be released to the public on September 17th.

5. NEON Coordination and Implementation Conference – The first part of the conference included expert input on how to form manage and govern NEON. Key recommendations were in the areas of process (how to start implementing and coordinating steps), structure (key elements needed for the coordinating entity), funding (through the coordinating entity), and encouraging action (start now). The second part of the conference addressed community feedback and a draft report was circulated for public comment. There will be an open meeting later this year in Washington D.C.

OBFS Website Updates – Mark Stromberg

Mark Stromberg provided a review of the website (www.obfs.org) and updates. He encouraged members to continue to fill available databases with information from their field stations. Existing databases are: LTER Office Staff, courses offered at member field stations, field station personnel, data catalog (metadata), and site description.

An administrative database was developed this year to provide on-line membership database with restricted access that can be more easily updated and coordinated by the Secretary-Treasurer and Network Coordinator. Other updates to the website include an ArcView map of the North America showing the location of active members, and a search function for the site database. Discussion from the floor included a recommendation to continue to collect information on existing field stations even if they are not members. Potential future projects for website development includes: browser-based information entry, forums to post notes and replies, and a revised site description database.

Mark also reported that the field course database received approximately 250 hits that could be directly attributed to production of the field station poster this year. Hits on the course database from non-poster sources are around 300-400 per months. The greatest number of hits to the website are for job postings.

OBFS Strategic Plan – Eric Nagy and Susan Lohr

This year, Eric Nagy, Susan Lohr, and Art McKee submitted and received funding for an unsolicited proposal to NSF to engage in strategic planning for OBFS that will guide priorities for the next 5+ years. A general survey that seeks input from members and outside institutions and individuals is the first step in the project. The survey is available on-line at the OBFS website and members are encouraged to distribute the survey to all persons who may be interested in providing input. To date 155 surveys have been submitted. The purpose of the survey is to gather a wide variety of ideas about what OBFS could be from members and non-members. Members requested that the survey form include a statement that the rankings requested need not be sequential (e.g., different options can have the same ranking). In addition to gathering input from the survey, plan information will be based on activities at this year's meeting and e-workshops for interested participants.

To begin generating ideas and feedback from OBFS members at the meeting, Susan posted an existing but informal mission statement of the society:

The mission of OBFS is to “promote the exchange of information and ideas among field station directors on such topics as management of field stations and reserves, promotion of biological field education and research, environmental monitoring, and funding opportunities.”

Discussion focused on broadening the mission to include advantages of the society to members and to others. Comments included defining the geographic scope of the organization, its intended support of biodiversity and conservation, broadening public awareness, increasing scientific literacy, enhancing function of people and facilities, providing stewardship and monitoring, developing a community of scholars, directing activities to supporting interactions and programs among fields stations, and providing training for field station staff. Directly following the discussion, the members broke into groups to brainstorm new ideas of what OBFS should be or do. These new ideas were then ranked by each group relative to their importance

for the organization. Susan collected all of the ideas to summarize for further work later in the meeting.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2003, 10:30-12:00 PM

Concurrent Committee Meetings

Education – Jeff Savino

Data Management/Networking – Mark Stromberg

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2003, 1:00 – 6:30 PM

Bus Tour of Natural History and Research Sites in the Kananaskis Valley

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER, 12, 2003, 7:30-8:30 PM

New Facilities Slide Show

The following persons provided slide shows of new field stations:

Trudy Kavanagh: Revelstoke Mountain Research Centre, University of Wisconsin Oshkosh

Ann Zimmerman: Koffler Scientific Reserve at Jokers Hill, University of Toronto

Ellen Stein: Mountain Studies Institute, Non-profit Independent

Keith Clay: Research and Teaching Preserves, Indiana University (Griffy Woods, Moore's Creek, Lilly-Dickey Woods)

Mark Stromberg (for Peter Steele): Heath and Marjorie Angelo North Coast Range Reserve, UC Natural Reserve System

OBFS Meeting Host in 2004

Christine Bogdanowicz, Program Manager, Shoals Marine Laboratory, Cornell University. Shoals Marine Lab is located off the coast of Maine on Appledore Island and is accessible from Boston, Portland, and Manchester airports. The field station was established 37 years ago and is open 3 months each year. Its primary mission is to educate undergraduates. The programs have always had a research component and it is an active REU site. Access to the island is via boat and is restricted. The facilities are off the grid and many are not heated since they were built in late 1800s. The site has a rich biota and human history, excellent panoramic views, a kitchen known for hearty cuisine, comfortable housing, varied venues for group sessions, and Internet access. Field trip options include whale watching, bird watching, historic New England sites, and White Mountain National Forest.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2003, 8:00-9:15 AM

Database Development and Training Update – Bill Michener, LTER Research Coordination Networking

The LTER program networking office deals with challenges of database management including scaling, phenomena measurements and instrumentation (including pervasive *in situ* sensing), data diversity (discovering existing data, different themes, methods, units, structure), data entropy (loss of data over time), and data accessibility (what users

really want). Marshall White is the new LTER database person and contact for OBFS regarding these databases

Many OBFS database and training projects are being leveraged off of the LTER Network projects. These projects include:

- Searchable Data Registry (currently 81 entries describing existing datasets; NCEAS is making changes to allow more user-friendly editing of entries)
- Thesaurus for field biology (key words used to identify datasets)
- Field Station and Site Characteristics Database (currently all OBFS members fill out this form when they become new members and it appears on the website; this database will be merging with data on LTER sites)
- Personnel Database (288 personnel at field stations are in the database; each field station needs to list all key personnel)
- Field Courses (276 courses are posted by members; the database is searchable)
- Standard Field Methods (1551 references are listed, the database is searchable) This database provides no evaluation of the methods.
- Bibliography of field station publications (database of field station QA/QC and standard methods)

Training – the following courses have been or will be offered through the LTER network:

- Wireless Sensor Networking Workshops April 29-May 1, 2002 and May 2-4, 2002 at Sevilleta (23 scientists and technicians from more than 40 biological field stations and LTER sites)
- RDIFS Informatics Training at Sevilleta Research Field Station October 20 – November 2, 2002 (addressed DBMS, metadata management, bibliographic management)
- Future training scheduled for next 3 years at Sevilleta and La Selva (Costa Rica). This year's training (October-Nov) will focus on ecoinformatics, web page design, database design, and integrating dynamic web databases during week 1, and ArcGIS, spatial data acquisition and integration, analysis and advanced concepts in week 2.

2004 Activities – the following upcoming activities are proposed:

- January – week-long workshop for new faculty members in ecoinformatics
- February/March – QA/QC workshop to identify best practices, software tools and algorithms, and needed research, statisticians, laboratory techs, informaticians and others.
- August – day-long workshop on ecoinformatics and 2-3 afternoon/evening sessions on metadata management at 2004 ESA meeting
- October/November – training (one 2-week or two 1-week modules) for other training workshop topics.
- Database enhancement to OBFS databases
- Prototype web implementation of operations manual
- Coupling of strategic plan with web design plan

- Institute “Ecoinformatics Conference” that provides a venue for students of training programs to continue to develop information and ideas (e.g., best practices, software tools, tutorials, roundtables, contributed talks)

User Database - Mark Stromberg, OBFS Network Coordinator

The University of California's Natural Reserve System has developed an administrative database for users called RAMS. This system allows prospective users to request use of the field station and allows reserve directors to summarize use and invoice users. The database was used last year by 5 NRS field sites and 1 OBFS site and is undergoing some final revisions (switching over to high-speed server and further web page interface design). To use the database, something a little better than a modem line (50K or better) is recommended but using a modem is possible. It will be available to other field stations in July 2004. Kevin Brown is the programmer and can be reached at Kevin@jamesreserve.edu.

Committee Reports

Education Committee – Jeff Savino

The Education Committee discussed public outreach and informal education programs. Home school groups are well suited to take advantage of field stations. They are able to travel to field sites and are often in search of science activities. Field station managers can locate these groups by searching the Internet. To develop desirable education programs in general, it is useful to model field station-sponsored programs to local curricula and get out the word that you exist. An ideal role for OBFS is to create a survey regarding education and outreach at field stations and share resources and ideas. The committee suggests that non-formal education be addressed during OBFS strategic planning.

Small Field Stations – Beth Cline

The committee provided input on sources of funding that they have (institutional, agency, foundation, user fees, equipment surplus, etc.) and began a discussion on indirect costs at their home institutions. The committee will continue to communicate during the year. Susan Lohr noted that TIAA-CREF has developed a booklet on Charitable Giving that would be very useful for all field stations called “Roadmap to Charitable Giving.”

FIRST Update – Hilary Swain

FIRST (Faculty Institute to Reform Science Teaching) was started as an OBFS effort to obtain NSF funding for faculty training. FIRST enhances faculty teaching for undergraduates by training faculty to incorporate a variety of teaching tools. Field stations are used in the program as an amenable atmosphere for meetings and workshops. The program was highly successful and Phase II has been funded to expand the number of participating universities to 10. As part of this program, an NSF workshop was held in February 2002 to address how field stations can enhance education for K through Gray and recruit underrepresented groups into the biological sciences.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2003, 9:30-10:00 AM

**Review of Available Programs that May Benefit Stations
- Muriel Poston, Program Director, Division of
Biological Infrastructure**

The following NSF funding information will be posted on the OBFS website:

- Field Station and Marine Lab (FSML) – The competition this year occurred in the spring but was moved to the 2004 budget so applicants won't know about the award until the beginning of October. Submissions were slightly down this year.
- Multi-User Biological Equipment and Instrumentation Resources (MBE) supports purchase of equipment from \$40K and larger and requires cost sharing.
- Major Research Instrumentation Program (MRI) improves conditions for science and engineering equipment and facilities (no buildings) for research at institutions. Cost \$100K to \$2M. Cost share at 30% of total eligible costs. Cost share waived for non-doctoral institutions. Must be accredited institutions.
- National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON) – NSF program officer Liz Blood can be reached through Division of Biological Infrastructure home page.
- Biological Research Collections supports rehousing, management of existing collections, curation, and collections management.
- Frontiers in Integrative Biological Research (FIBR) supports integrative research and addresses major questions in biology. Requires a preliminary proposal and planning grants are available.
- Biocomplexity in the Environment – <http://nsf.gov/geo/ere/ereweb/index.html> has four programs: Genome-Enable Environmental Sciences and Engineering, Dynamics of Coupled Natural and Human Systems, Instrumentation Development of Environmental Activities, and Coupled Biogeochemical Cycles
- Center for Synthesis and Biological Evaluation provides funds for synthetic collaborative research
- Research Coordination Networks in Biological Sciences fosters communication and promotes collaboration among scientists
- Informal Science Education – STEM learning outside of formal classroom through media exhibits and community-based programming, establishes links between formal and informal education
- Communicating Research to Public Audiences provides funds to explain research to broad audiences and can be used for any ISE activity. The funds are made available as a supplement to existing grants. One has been given as an FSML supplement. Up to \$75K.
- Course, Curriculum and Laboratory Instruction (CCLI) program has 2 tracks: educational material development, adaptation, and implementation.
- ADVANCE: Increasing the Participation and Advancement of Women in Academic Science and Engineering Careers: Institutional Transformation Awards, Leadership Awards, Advance Fellowships.
- Research Opportunity Award (ROA) provides supplements to active PI awards that allow faculty at undergraduate institutions or secondary school to participate in research activities
- Research Experience for Teachers (RET) – 1-year supplement to current NSF Awards
- Graduate Research Fellowships
- Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU)
- Undergraduate Mentoring in Environmental Biology (UMEB) gives students research experience in environmental biology throughout academic career. Do not need to have an active award to be considered.
- Research Assistantships for Minority High School Students

Criteria used to evaluate applications are (1) what is the intellectual merit? (i.e., what is the importance of the project for advancing knowledge, the qualification of PIs, new concepts and new knowledge), and (2) What are the broader impacts? (i.e., teaching and training, underrepresented groups, enhancing infrastructure, how broadly disseminated, benefits to society).

NSF Science Education Initiative - Gerald Selzer

NSF is considering a program that would fund teacher training for community college instructors. This program is being developed in response to new information showing that the majority of undergraduates begin their biology education at community colleges:

- 75% of undergraduate students are in predominantly undergraduate institutions
- 67% of all students start their college education at 2-year colleges.
- 46% of students with BA, MA, or S&EF degrees started in a community college
- 45.8% of students with biological science degrees started in a community college

The goals of the program would be to provide field biology research experiences for community college faculty. The program could strengthen links between field stations, museums, and community colleges and increase the role of field experiences in community college biology classes.

The program would be funded at about \$150,000 per year per site for 5 Community College faculty plus an instrument allowance of up to \$50,000 if justified. The Community College faculty would also receive a stipend of \$15,000 for 10 weeks (based on a 9 month salary of \$60,000), \$2,000 travel and lodging allowance, \$2,000 materials and supplies.

The only current NSF program that funds community colleges is the Advanced Technology Education program. This program has been high-tech oriented but will fund field biology. Art McKee has participated in this program.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2003, 10:20-12:00 PM

Field Stations and the Changing Climate of Science – Ed A. Johnson

Ed Johnson provided a summary of some research he has been doing on the history of field stations. For a summary of this information, see article in this newsletter.

Concurrent Committee Meetings

Public Relations Committee – Chuck Yohn
NSF Relations Committee – Art McKee
Nominations Committee – Peter Connors
Small Stations Committee – Beth Cline

OBFS Strategic Planning – Susan Lohr

Susan began with examples of solid strategic planning: Trinity College New Hampshire is a clear example and the plan is available on the OBFS site in the Operations Manual. A good strategic plan clearly states the mission, goals, and mechanisms of the field station. From the goals come clear statements of activities delineated on Gantt Charts with related costs. Susan then led the attending members through a second round of discussion to better define the mission and goals of OBFS.

Saturday, September 13, 2003, 3:30 – 5:00 pm

Historian Report - Robert Fisher

Robert Fisher is retiring from the historian position. Two people have volunteered to jointly serve as historian for the society: Dave Larson (for web page and summary) and Sedra Shapiro (for photo documentation). Bob will coordinate with Dave and Sedra to pass on the documents and photos that he has collected for OBFS. He has also made an appointment to talk to Lauren Hill who attended the first OBFS annual meeting at Cedar Creek.

OBFS Congressional Activities – Eric Nagy

Eric proposed a change to OBFS activities targeted to influence national policy and initiatives in Washington D.C. Three years ago, OBFS jointly funded and hosted a congressional briefing with the National Association of

Marine Labs (NAML). The event was successful but required a significant amount of effort to develop materials and organize the event. Last year and this year the effort was eventually abandoned due to various difficulties in coordinating the event with NAML. As an alternative this year, AIBS recommended that OBFS participate in a Congressional Visits Day. AIBS public policy initiative personnel provided training, recommendations for contacts and appointments, and “hand-holding” to 3 OBFS participants (Eric Nagy, Sedra Shapiro, and David Shaw) and provided them with venues to talk to science committees in the Senate and House and to local representatives for each of the field stations represented. The 3 participants urged representatives and senators to support NSF’s NEON program (the key national item on the agenda in Washington D.C. affecting field stations) and spent time discussing issues at their field stations. Participants said that the experience provided valuable political training, was efficiently and effectively coordinated by AIBS personnel, and allowed them to better understand how to work within political arenas to the benefit of their field stations. All logistic costs were assumed by AIBS and OBFS paid only for travel. Eric proposed that this effort be conducted every year OBFS and expanded to include 5 members: one member who had participated before to provide continuity, members who could effectively provide direct input on the federal issues that year, and members who may be interested in gaining experience on Capitol Hill. The membership approved of this recommendation and accepted a proposal for travel monies to support this effort.

Report of the Secretary/Treasurer – Claudia Luke

Meeting Minutes - MOTION: Motion made to accept the minutes from the last annual meeting was approved unanimously.

Membership – As of September 1, 2003, total membership was 194 members with 163 station members and 31 individual members. These numbers have been relatively constant over the last 4 years. The administrative database developed by Mark Stromberg is up and running and will provide better coordination for the Executive Committee in maintaining a common contact and field station location database. However, remember that the administrative database is not connected to the field station database since contact information is not always the same. Current membership lists with addresses, phone numbers and email addresses are included in this newsletter. Members discovering any mistakes in contact information are requested to send corrections to the Secretary (obfs@sciences.sdsu.edu). The membership list was also circulated at the meeting with a request for corrections. A list of meeting attendees is included in this newsletter.

History and Records – This year, the OBFS newsletter project was completed. All remaining copies of OBFS newsletters were compiled, photocopied, and sent to Bodega Marine Lab and Archbold Biological Station. The Secretary Treasurer retained one copy. Originals were sent to Mark Stromberg for eventual scanning onto the website. In addition, an origin date for the society was finalized. The first year that OBFS met as a society with published

Constitution and By Laws was 1968. This date is now listed on OBFS letterhead. This year, the Secretary/Treasurer will work with Bob Fisher, David Larson, and Sedra Shapiro to develop a spreadsheet of key information regarding OBFS history for posting on the website, including the location of annual meeting sites, OBFS officers, and attendees.

Finances - The Financial Report (August 31, 2003) for Operating and Restricted Funds follows these minutes.

- Operating Fund: The balance as of August 31, 2003 was \$30,856.04 up from \$27,089.01 on August 31, 2002. **ERRATA:** Please note the Operating Funds report published last year contained an error. The income line marked "Interest" should have read \$880.31 (instead of \$2.84) and "Total Income" should have read \$15,485.31 (instead of \$14,607.84). No other values were affected. This error occurred during transfer of the accepted Operating Fund report to the newsletter.
- Restricted Fund: This fund, established in 1998 is managed by the Investment Committee (Philippe Cohen - Chair, Peter Connors, and Hilary Swain) and is currently divided between two "green" funds (Citizens Index and Citizens Emerging Growth Funds). The Balance in the Restricted Fund as of August 31, 2003 was \$ 38,219.47, up from \$29,450.37 on August 31, 2002, after earnings and capital gain/losses, auction proceeds, and member donations. The auction produces significant amounts of money for the restricted fund each year. Many thanks to generous contributions of auction items and spirited bidding by members. Donations from members to the Restricted Fund may be made at any time with a check payable to OBFS.

MOTION: Motion made to accept the Operation and Restricted Budget Reports was approved unanimously.

Financial Audit Report – Philippe Cohen

Philippe reviewed all records for last year (except July and August) and found that all transactions were clearly recorded, appropriate, and justified. (*Note: the Secretary Treasurer will remedy this problem for next year by establishing an audit period of June 30-July 1. This will ensure that the Vice President has plenty of time to conduct the audit before the meeting and still a review a complete year of financial transactions.) MOTION: Motion made to accept the Auditor's Report was approved unanimously.

Investment Committee Report – Philippe Cohen

Citizen's Emerging Growth had a return on investment of 6.13% this past year. Citizen's Core Growth had a return on investment of 3.19% this past year. \$5,600 of restricted funds is still in the checking account and has yet to be invested, while \$1,680 was invested in the restricted funds. We have decided to raise the monthly restricted investment from \$420/month to \$800/month so that the \$5,600 in checking and a projected \$5,000 from the auction is invested in the coming year.

Committee Report for Public Outreach – Chuck Yohn
Chuck reported that the PR committee will focus this year on finishing up the revisions to the traveling display. The committee will provide a template so that individuals can make a panel for the display customized for their station and will a poster-sized display available for easier travel. Once again, they are seeking suitable photographs for the display.

Proposed Budget - The Proposed 2003-04 Budget follows these minutes. Project requests and recurring operating costs for the 2003 budget came to \$24,085. These proposed operating expenses were \$5,085 greater than the estimated income. The budget includes travel monies for 5 OBFS members to participate in the Congressional briefing, revisions to the OBFS traveling exhibit, and travel money for OBFS historians. MOTION: Motion made to accept the Proposed Budget was approved unanimously.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2003, 9:00 – 10:00 AM

Nominations Committee – Peter Connors

Peter reported that the following people were nominated to run for the positions of President, Vice President, and Member at Large:

President: Jan Hodder (pending acceptance),
Sedra Shapiro

Vice President: Rick Wyman, Robert Wyatt

Member at Large: Larry Wieder, Brian Kloeppel

MOTION: Motion to accept the Nominations Committee Report was unanimously accepted. No further nominations were made from the floor.

ADEC Satellite Internet Proposal – Eric Nagy

The American Distance Education Consortium (ADEC), a large consortium of programs and universities engaged in distance education of all kinds, currently hold an NSF grant to install high-speed satellite Internet links to engage in distance education programs. Each installation includes \$10,000 worth of hardware and monthly service fees for the length of the grant. A San Diego company called Tachyon that is partnering with ADEC provides the service. Thirty-four OBFS member stations responded that they are interested in the program. ADEC only received enough funding for a few stations. Jan Poley, President of ADEC, is going to NSF to try and get additional funding for rest of the stations. If other stations are interested in participating, now is the time to include additional stations in a proposal.

Committee Reports

Facilities – Philippe Cohen. The facilities committee discussed a new approach for funding the facilities needs for OBFS member stations. The idea is to develop collaboratively with other organizations an \$80-\$100 million per year grant that help OBFS member stations to remain viable. This grant could involve training faculty at field stations and would increase OBFS profile and collaborative opportunities. The committee also discussed two things field stations can do to survive difficult fiscal times, particularly for institutions with academic institutions: (1) get involved on budget committees, and (2) maintain high profile on campus especially during good times.

Small Field Stations – Beth Cline (met a second time). The committee began outlining issues that small field stations are facing and updated Internet contacts.

NSF Relations Committee - Art McKee. The committee discussed Gerald Selzer's proposed new grant program (RET). They focused on ways to solicit input from station members to boost the program and secure new monies rather than reallocate additional funds.

International Committee – Rick Wyman. Organization of International Biological Field Stations (OIBFS) began 12 years ago and has been focused on surveying international field stations. The committee published a directory and has a website: IOBFS.org. The next step for program is to increase communication and organization among members, and determine whether OBFS should subsume IOBFS in a more active manner. Now may not be a good time because the international fund at NSF has been severely cut and is not a viable funding source. To increase organization among members, regional organizations will need to be set up so that the field stations can begin working together. Some regional organizations already exist in China,

Australia, and elsewhere. A proposal that funds a one regional meeting per year over the next 5 years was discussed and a ½ time position over 5-6 years (300 to 400K). Goal is to set up regional organizations that begin working together. Please send Rick any information on field stations that you know of outside of U.S.

New Business – Rick Wyman

Rick expressed the growing concern that field classes in general are declining and that, in particular, education of lower income and middle-income students at field stations is severely reduced. Field stations have opportunity to help fill the void and identify why classes are declining (travel money is one problem). NSF may be willing to fund this kind of project.

President Nagy thanked the Kellogg Biological Station staff for hosting and closed the 2002 meeting at 9:35 am.

Submitted by

Claudia Luke
Secretary-Treasurer

OBFS DISPLAY & DATA MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP REPORTS

OBFS owns a portable, freestanding display booth with text and graphics explaining the importance of field stations. This display was initially created with NSF support in 1996, and is available for OBFS members to borrow for use at professional meetings, open houses, field days, fundraisers, etc. It is about 7'9" tall, 2' deep and 8' long, with its own internal lighting. Shipping costs for use of the display may be reimbursed by the OBFS. Anyone interested in borrowing the display should contact Nina Consolatti, Kellogg Biological Station, 3700 East Gull Lake Drive,

Hickory Corners, MI 49060. Phone: (269) 671-2228; E-mail: Nina.Consolatti@kbs.msu.edu.

Also available for the asking from Nina Consolatti are hard copies of "Data Management at Biological Field Stations and Coastal Marine Laboratories, January 1992, Report of an Invitational Workshop, April 22-26, 1990, W.K. Kellogg Biological Station, Michigan State University," (aka "the blue book").

IMPROVEMENTS IN FACILITIES, COMMUNICATIONS, AND EQUIPMENT FOR RESEARCH AT BIOLOGICAL FIELD STATIONS AND MARINE LABORATORIES (FSML)

Biological Field Stations and Marine Laboratories (FSMLs) are off-campus facilities for research and education conducted in the natural habitats of terrestrial, freshwater, and marine ecosystems. FSMLs support biological research and education by preserving access to study areas and organisms, by providing facilities and equipment in close proximity to those study areas, and by fostering an atmosphere of mutual scientific interest and collaboration in research and education. To fulfill these roles, FSMLs must offer modern laboratories and educational spaces, up-to-date equipment, appropriate personal accommodations for visiting scientists and students, and modern communications and data management systems for a broad array of users. In recognition of the importance of FSMLs in modern biology, NSF invites proposals that address these general goals of FSML improvement.

Dr. Muriel E. Poston, Program Director, Biological Field Stations and Marine Laboratories, Division of Biological Infrastructure, Room 615, telephone: (703) 292-8470, e-mail: mposton@nsf.gov.

Dr. Gerald B. Selzer, Program Director, Biological Field Stations and Marine Laboratories, Division of Biological Infrastructure, Room 615, telephone: (703) 292-8470, e-mail: gselzer@nsf.gov.

Deadline: First Friday in March Annually
Program Guidelines: [NSF 02-040](#)
Point of Contact: [DBI Program Officer](#)

"Ye Olde Official OBFS Ballotte", 2003

This year's ballot is for election of
President: **Sedra Shapiro**
Vice President: **Robert Wyatt, Rick Wyman**
Member at Large: **Brian Kloeppe, Larry Weider**

Ballotte cards were mailed to all station members in December. The biographies given below were designed to assist voters in making wise choices – separating Santa from the elves, so to speak.

Ballots should be returned by **January 23, 2004**.



PRESIDENT Sedra

Shapiro: I have always gravitated toward biological stations throughout my education and professional life. Field stations and marine labs are places that change lives; invigorate research and education programs and place academic expertise in a real world setting; and serve as a conduit of

knowledge for the universities to the public, students, other scientists, and decision-makers. I have lived and worked at field stations in Costa Rica, Ecuador, and the United States. As a result, I have experience in a broad range of challenges and issues associated with field stations in distinctly different circumstances. This has allowed me to both take a long view and broaden my own view about the role and significance of field stations. I currently serve as Executive Director of the San Diego State University

(SDSU) Field Station Programs (FSP). We currently have four field stations with four different ownership and management mixes (Santa Margarita – we own and manage, Sky Oaks we don't own but manage, Fortuna Mountain we own but don't manage, and the Tijuana National Estuarine Research Reserve auxiliary field station we don't own and don't manage (don't ask!). A range of activities and focus is also represented in the network; from large better funded more research intensive sites to mid-size multi-agency managed sites used more for outreach and public education, to smaller limited use field sites. My role is to guide the FSP vision and develop collaborative initiatives with a wide range of researchers, educators, government agencies, non-governmental organizations, foundations, and members of the San Diego community. I am active in conservation projects and land management efforts and am involved in emerging national and international programs and networks of scientific and environmental research and education. I also function at the very practical level of the development, administration, and management of the Field Station Programs.

VICE PRESIDENT

Robert Wyatt: I am a broadly trained population biologist with primary interests in the ecology and evolution of plant reproduction. My background, including an A.B. in Botany from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Ph.D. in Botany from Duke University, is unusual in combining training in systematics and evolutionary biology with both population genetics and population ecology. With my 25 or so M.S. and Ph.D. students, I have published more than 150 scientific papers dealing with a diverse range of plant taxa from mosses and lichens to ferns and flowering plants. My teaching experience is also diverse. I have taught large courses (150-300 students) in introductory biology, botany, ecology, and plant taxonomy. I have also taught small courses and seminars in population ecology, variation and evolution, plant reproductive ecology, and mountain biodiversity. My most rewarding teaching experiences have been at field stations, beginning with a course at Mountain Lake Biological Station in 1980. After spending 20 years on the faculty at the University of Georgia, where I remain an Adjunct Professor of Ecology, I moved in July of 1999 to become Executive Director of the Highlands Biological Station. HBS is an inter-institutional center of the 16-campus University of North Carolina, and



my faculty appointment is currently in the Biology Department at UNC-Chapel Hill. I have worked hard to improve the 77-year-old Station's facilities and infrastructure. In September of 2005, HBS will co-host the annual OBFS meeting with Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory, which is located about 16 miles down the mountain. Since becoming involved in OBFS four years ago, I have attended every annual meeting. I find our annual gatherings to be informative, stimulating, and fun. As Vice President, I promise to do my best to help organize the annual

meetings, including the program; to review the books of the Secretary-Treasurer; and to participate in lobbying efforts

on behalf of OBFS. But perhaps the strongest thing going for me is that I am the “not Rick Wyman” candidate!

Rick Wyman:

Rick Wyman is the Executive Director of the Edmund Niles Huyck Preserve and Biological Research Station in Rensselaerville, New York. The Station has been a member since the formation of the OBFS and Rick has been active in the

graduate degrees from Oklahoma and Illinois State Universities. He has conducted research in animal behavior and ecology in Sri Lanka and in many states in the US. Rick started the International Committee of the OBFS and manages the IOBFS web site. He has sat on panels at the NSF, USDA, and EPA. As Vice President he would like to continue the development of the IOBFS and help the OBFS finish its strategic plan. He looks forward to helping the OBFS continue activities in Washington, DC, to increase awareness of the importance of field stations. He would also like to see the OBFS become more active in the recruitment of organismal biologists to the discipline through training programs in taxonomy at field stations. As he has been heard to say “I am a lot nicer than I act.”



OBFS since 1986. He received undergraduate and

MEMBER AT LARGE

Brian Kloeppe: I am the Site Director for the Long-Term Ecological Research Program at Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory near Otto, North Carolina and Assistant Research Scientist in the Institute of Ecology at the University of Georgia. My undergraduate and graduate degree programs included projects at several different field stations that had a positive influence on me as an ecologist and person. The scientific training, the education and outreach to scientific and public audiences, and the research productivity complement each other well at biological field stations and foster enjoyable and highly productive work environments. My role as Coweeta LTER (Long Term Ecological Research) Site Director includes administrative and research responsibilities as well as education and outreach to a variety of visitors. In addition, for the last eight years we have been focusing on improvement and expansion of facilities at Coweeta. We have approached fund raising as a collaborative effort and have received facilities funding from the University of Georgia, USDA Forest Service, and the Field Station and Marine Laboratory Competition at NSF. These funds have been used to expand and renovate our Analytical Laboratory (completed in February 2002), to expand and renovate visiting investigator housing (completed in August 2003), and to construct a new conference and office facility

(construction in progress). These improved and expanded facilities will also provide a much more comfortable setting for future meetings including the September 2005 OBFS Meeting. If elected, my duties as a Member-at-Large would be to serve on the annual meeting program committee that is chaired by the Vice President, to lead special projects as set forth by the President or the Executive Board, and to work with other Executive Board Members to participate on regular and special projects, duties, and initiatives. I would happily fulfill these duties if elected. In addition, I am interested in further developing the interactions with Jeff Goldman at AIBS (American Institute of Biological Sciences) that Eric Nagy and others have developed over the past two years. These interactions will lead to further awareness of and hopefully increased funding for all of our biological stations.



Larry Weider: In January 2004, I will begin my sixth year as Director of the University of Oklahoma Biological Station (UOBS) on Lake Texoma, one of the founding member stations of OBFS. I am also an Associate Professor in the Department of Zoology here at OU, I

the use of molecular methods in ecology/evolution. Since arriving here at OU in January 1999, I have attended every OBFS meeting beginning with the Mt. Lake meeting (1999) and was honored to serve as host of the 2001 meeting. During the past five years, I have “grown” into the job of Director and a great deal of this “growth” has resulted from very productive interactions with other OBFS members, particularly at the annual meetings. Several examples of how these productive OBFS interactions have aided me in my job as Director of UOBS are: (1) we have now established a “Friends of UOBS” alumni group that has helped our station in securing private donations to assist with program development at UOBS; (2) establishment of the “Friends” group has led to securing additional internal funding from the university, as well as obtaining NSF-FSML funding to construct new guest researcher apartments

serve on the department’s (elected) Executive Committee, and teach courses in Conservation/Population Genetics and

(occupancy date is scheduled for spring 2004) to improve on our station's infrastructure; (3) UOBS has become actively involved in the LTER-OBFS funded database workshops that have been conducted in New Mexico over the past year or two. As exemplified by this year's meeting at Kananaskis, where efforts continued to be focused on developing a strategic plan for OBFS, if elected to the office of Member-at-Large, I would be engaged in the important discussions that the OBFS Executive Committee must deal

with, as we continue to define and refine OBFS's role in promoting education, research, and outreach in the field sciences. If elected, I would give it "my all" in making sure that the best interests of member stations are fully addressed and that OBFS continues to evolve as an important "voice" among professional scientific organizations. Thanks for your time and I look forward to my continued involvement in OBFS activities.

2004 ANNUAL MEETING

SHOALS MARINE LABORATORY



For more information:

Christine C. Bogdanowicz, Program Manager
SHOALS MARINE LABORATORY
G-14 STIMSON HALL
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
ITHACA, NY 14853 USA
607.255.3851
ccb5@cornell.edu
<http://www.sml.cornell.edu/>

The [Shoals Marine Laboratory](#) (SML) will be hosting the 2004 [Organization of Biological Field Stations](#) (OBFS) meeting SEPTEMBER 16 - 19, 2004 on Appledore Island, Gulf of Maine.

The Shoals Marine Laboratory (SML) is an educational and research marine field station operating under the auspices of two Land Grant Institutions: [Cornell University](#) and the [University of New Hampshire](#). SML offers unique, experiential opportunities for students in a diverse array of marine sciences. Located on 95-acre (38.44 hectare) Appledore Island, among the [Isles of Shoals](#) in the Gulf of Maine, this near-pristine environment allows students to study many aspects of coastal, intertidal, and sub-tidal marine habitats. The [laboratory facilities](#)

on Appledore Island are complemented by the ocean-going capabilities of SML's vessels, [John M. Kingsbury](#) [47'] and the new John B. Heiser [36']. Lying six miles offshore from the Maine/New Hampshire border, Appledore is secluded, yet accessible. Only a one-hour boat ride from Portsmouth, NH, Appledore is the "Learning Island;" a natural laboratory and classroom. Participants and faculty members can literally and figuratively immerse themselves in their explorations, free from the distractions commonly found on and around every mainland campus. The diverse rocky intertidal zone, seabird colonies, and the open sea are right outside the door providing participants with a direct route to the world of marine science.

ANNUAL MEETING

The 2004 OBFS Annual Meeting will officially begin after a reception and dinner on Thursday, September 16th. Participants should plan to arrive in Portsmouth, New Hampshire no later than 12:00 pm EST. All participants will be transported to the Shoals Marine Laboratory as a group aboard a chartered vessel. For all meeting details, registration forms and travel

arrangements, and a PowerPoint presentation please see:
http://www.sml.cornell.edu/visit_acad/pv-home.htm
The meeting will follow the traditional format--details to follow soon at:
http://www.obfs.org/Meet_Archv/announcements.html

ACCOMODATIONS

Participants will be housed in double or quadruple occupancy rooms in one of four modern dormitories. Every dorm has washroom facilities with running hot and cold water. The main island showers are centrally located in Kiggins Commons, the hub of the island campus. SML encourages island residents to conserve all resources, especially fresh water. Fresh

water on the island is limited! The kitchen is noted for its hearty cuisine, and can accommodate many dietary needs. A special lobster dinner is included in every program. All meals are served in the Kiggins Commons dining hall: 7:30 am/12:30 pm/6:00 pm on Monday - Saturday -OR- 10:00am (brunch)/5:00 pm on Sundays.

OPTIONAL FIELD TRIP

There will be one organized pre-meeting field trip on Wednesday, September 15, 2004. Space for the field trip will be limited to a total of 43 passengers, so please check the SML/OBFS web sites frequently for updates and registration information. Participants should plan to be in the Portsmouth, NH area by early morning of 9/15/04. All travel information will be

available on the SML web site once all the field trip arrangements have been made. Other options for travel and recreation in the area will be provided by SML.

While at the Shoals Marine Laboratory, ALL participants will be able to attend field trips on Appledore Island and to neighboring islands to visit harbor seal and seabird colonies!



Appledore Island

AIBS 2004 ANNUAL MEETING

16 - 18 March. Washington DC.

Topic: **INVASIVE SPECIES: THE SEARCH FOR SOLUTIONS**



Register online at <http://www.aibs.org/annual-meeting-2004/>; early registration closes 2 March 2004. Poster abstracts may also be submitted at the above URL; poster submissions close 16 February 2004.

Plenary speakers, panel sessions, and informal discussion groups at the 2004 AIBS Annual Meeting will approach the topic of "Invasive Species: The Search for Solutions" from the perspective of one or more of the meeting's cross-cutting themes, including: what makes a species "invasive"; research questions and tools; aquatic and terrestrial issues; economics; public policy; education; public health; prevention and remediation; international issues; and local initiatives. Each plenary speaker will couch his or her talk with reference to invasive species issues involving particular major taxonomic groups: plants, vertebrates, invertebrates, and microbes.

Attendees will hear distinguished plenary speakers and panelists present synthesizing lectures from the forefront of their fields, then will join those speakers and other equally notable scholars in panel sessions and informal discussion groups. Speakers include: Ann Bartuska, The Nature Conservancy, "Abating the Threat of Invasive Species: Linking Science and Policy"; Richard Mack, Washington State University, "Prevention and Remediation of Plant Invaders"; Stephen Morse, Columbia University, "Emerging Infections: Microbial Invaders Discover New Territory"; David Lodge, University of Notre Dame, "Bioeconomic

Risk Analysis of Invasive Vertebrates and Other Species"; Andrew Dobson, Princeton University "Zen, Parasites, and the Art of Alien Invasion"; Daniel Simberloff, University of Tennessee, "Invasion Biology." Additional speakers include: Cynthia Kolar, U.S. Geological Survey; David Pimentel, Cornell University; Fred C. Dobbs, Old Dominion University.

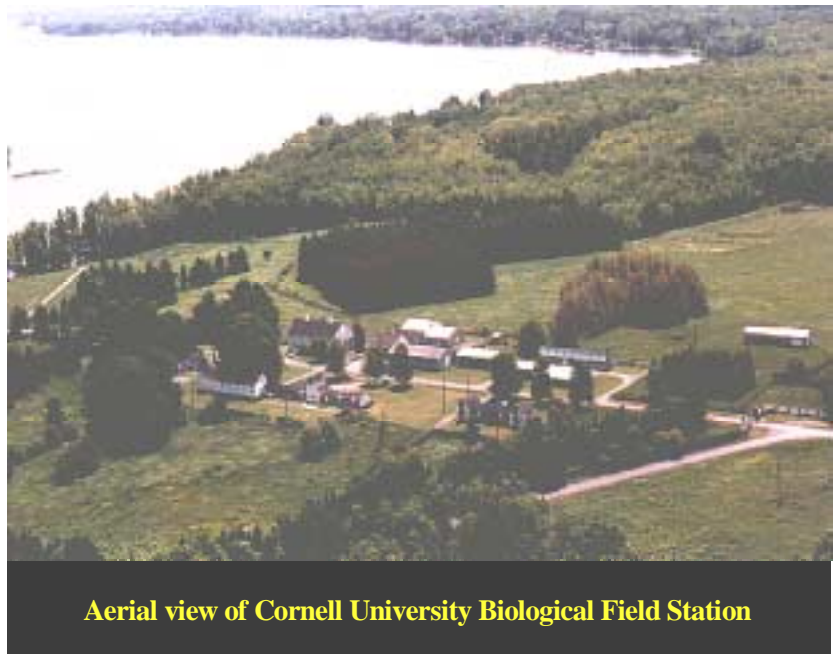
All sessions take place in the Westin Grand Hotel, 2350 M St. NW, Washington DC, 20037 (three blocks north from the Foggy Bottom Metro Station, on the edge of Georgetown). Early registration prices for the 3-day meeting are \$200 for individual members of AIBS; \$250 for non-members (includes automatic one-year AIBS membership); \$160 for government employees; \$150 for educators; \$130 for students. Early registration closes 2 March 2004. Attendance is limited--register early! For more information, contact rogrady@aibs.org

Donna Royston
Communications Representative
American Institute of Biological Sciences
1444 I (Eye) St., NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 628-1500, ext. 261
(202) 628-1509 (fax)
www.aibs.org

STATION NEWS

Cornell University Biological Field Station

A new aquatic research facility funded by the National Science Foundation's FSML program, the New York State Statutory Building Fund, and Cornell University is now complete and operating at the Cornell University Biological Field Station (CUBFS) located on the south shore of Oneida Lake, New York. The new facility includes three wet laboratories (1,584 sq. ft. each) and walk-in environmental chambers outfitted with controls for temperature, light, and photoperiod. Researchers will use this facility to address environmental problems associated with freshwater lakes including Oneida Lake and the Great Lakes. The



Aerial view of Cornell University Biological Field Station

facility has access to Oneida Lake water, groundwater, and municipal water and will enable researchers to address a wide range of questions that could include aquatic plants, groundwater, fish, and exotic organisms. CUBFS is currently an endowed research and teaching facility of Cornell University and is managed and staffed through Cornell's Department of Natural Resources and the New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. The field station's principal mission is to provide a center for long-term ecological research and to support the University's educational programs, with special emphasis on freshwater systems. The research

has traditionally focused on aquatic ecosystems, especially Oneida Lake, and includes both basic, applied, and human elements. Concepts and empirical findings are applied to real-world contemporary problems in natural resource management. For additional information about CUBFS, check our web site at www.dnr.cornell.edu/fieldst/cbfs.htm.

OBFS Directory – 2003



STATION MEMBERS

Adirondack Ecological Center
Dr William Porter
Huntington Wildlife Forest
6312 State Route 28N
Newcomb, NY 12852

Archbold Biological Station
Dr Hilary Swain
PO Box 2057
Lake Placid, FL 33862

Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies
Dr David C Mahan
7526 Sunset Trail NE
Mancelona, MI 49659

Bamfield Marine Sciences Center
Dr Andy N Spencer
General Delivery
Bamfield, BC
VOR 1BO CANADA

wfporter@esf.edu; Station: aechwf@esf.edu
Station: (518) 582-4551; Fax: (518) 582-2181
Home: (315) 636-8386
Campus: (315) 470-6798
www.esf.edu/aec

hswain@archbold-station.org
Station: (863) 465-2571
Fax: (863) 699-1927
www.archbold-station.org

dcmahan@aol.com
Station: (231) 587-8686
Fax: (231) 587-5353
www.ausable.org

aspencer@bms.bc.ca
Station: (604) 728-3301
Campus: (as above)
Fax: (604) 728-3452
bms.bc.ca/

Bard College Field Station
William Maple
Annandale, NY 12504

maple@bard.edu
Campus: (914) 758-8273
www.bard.edu/campus/maps_facilities/fieldstat/

Bath Field Station
Randall J. Mitchell & Stephen C. Weeks
Dept of Biology
University of Akron
Akron, OH 44325-3908

rjm2@uakron.edu
Phone: (330) 972-5122
Fax: (330) 972-8445
www.uakron.edu/biology/bath

Bath Nature Preserve
Dr. Stephen C. Weeks
Dept of Biology
University of Akron
Akron, OH 44325-3908

scw@uakron.edu
Phone: (330) 972-7156
Fax: (330) 972-8445
www.uakron.edu/biology/bathpres.html

Belle Baruch Institute for Marine Biology
Dr Madilyn Fletcher
Univ of South Carolina
Columbia, SC 29208

fletcher@biol.sc.edu
Station: (803) 777-5288
Fax: (803) 777-3935
inlet.geol.sc.edu/

Bermuda Biological Station for Research, Inc
Dr Anthony Knap
Ferry Reach 1-15
BERMUDA

knap@bbsr.edu
Station: (441) 297-1880
www.bbsr.edu

Black Rock Forest
Dr William Schuster
129 Continental Road
Cornwall, NY 12518

blackroc@ldeo.columbia.edu
Campus: (845) 534-4517
Station: (845) 534-4517
Fax: (845) 534-6975
www.blackrockforest.org

Blackwater Ecologic Preserve
Lytton John Musselman
Department of Biological Sciences
Old Dominion University
Norfolk, VA 23529-0266

lmusselm@odu.edu
Office 757-683-3610
Fax: 757-683-5283
web.odu.edu/webroot/instr/sci/plant.nsf/pag

Blakely Island Field Station
Dr Bruce D Congdon
T B Crowley Laboratory
Seattle Pacific University
Seattle, WA 98119

bcongdon@spu.edu
Campus: (206) 281-2899
Station: (206) 375-6721
Fax: (206) 281-2882
www.spu.edu/depts/biology/blakehome.html

Blandy Experimental Farm
Dr Michael A Bowers
Univ of Virginia
400 Blandy Farm Lane
Boyce, VA 22620

mab3g@virginia.edu
Station: (540) 837-1758
Home: (304) 728-6799
www.virginia.edu/blandy

Blodgett Forest Research Station
Bob Heald
Center for Forestry, University of California
Berkeley, CA 94720

bheald@nature.berkeley.edu
Phone: 530-333-4475
www.cnr.berkeley.edu/forestry/blodgett.html

Bodega Marine Laboratory and Reserve
Dr Peter G Connors
University of California, Natural Reserve System
PO Box 247
Bodega Bay, CA 94923

pgconnors@ucdavis.edu
Station: (707) 875-2020
Fax: (707) 875-2009
www-bml.ucdavis.edu

Bowdoin Scientific Station
Dr Nathaniel T Wheelwright
Biology: Bowdoin College
6500 College Station
Brunswick, ME 04011-8465

bss@bowdoin.edu
Station: (207) 725-3583
www.bowdoin.edu/dept/Kent_Island.htm

Boyd Deep Canyon Desert Research Center
Dr Allan Muth
University of California, Natural Reserve System
PO Box 1738
Palm Desert, CA 92261

deepcanyon@mindspring.com
Station: (760) 341-3655
Fax: (760) 779-8076
nrs.ucop.edu/reserves/boyd.html

Brackenridge Field Laboratory
Dr Lawrence Gilbert
Integrative Biology, University Station, C0930
University of Texas
Austin, TX 78712

lgilbert@mail.utexas.edu
Campus: (512) 471-7131
Station: (512) 472-2783
Fax: (512) 471-9651

Brooker Creek Preserve
Dr. Cathy Flegel
Pinellas County Environmental Management
1001 Lora Lane
Tarpon Spring, FL 34689

cflegel@co.pinellas.fl.us
Phone: 727-943-4663
Fax: 727-943-4659

Bull Shoals Field Station
Dr. Janice Greene
Biology Dept
Southwest Missouri State University
Springfield, MO 65804-0095

jsg326f@smsu.edu
Campus: (417) 836-5306
Fax: (417) 836-4204
www.biology.smsu.edu/bullshoals

CMU Biological Station
Dr James C Gillingham
Dept of Biology
Central Michigan University
Mt Pleasant, MI 48859

gilli1jc@cmich.edu
Campus: (517) 774-3173
Station: (616) 448-2325
Home: (517) 866-2501
www.cst.cmich.edu/centers/cmubs/

Catamount Institute
Howard Drossman
1575 Sutherland Creek Rd
Manitou Springs, CO 80829

hdrossman@coloradocollege.edu
Phone/Fax 719-685-1181
www.catamountinstitute.org

Cedar Mountain Science Center
Harold Ornes
Southern Utah University, SB 310A
351 West Center Street
Cedar City, UT 84720

ornes@suu.edu
Phone: 435-586-7920
Fax: 435-865-8550
www.suu.edu/sci/center

Cedar Point Biological Station
Richard D. Alward
348 Manter Hall - Biology
University of Nebraska
Lincoln, NE 68588-0118

cpbs2@unl.edu
Campus: 402-472-5977
Station: (308) 284-6501
Fax: (402) 472-2083
www.unl.edu/cedarpt

Chapala Ecology Station
Laura Davalos-Lind
Baylor Univ - Biology
PO Box 97388
Waco, TX 76798

Laura_Davalos-Lind@baylor.edu
Campus: (254) 710-2911
Fax: (254) 710-2969
www.baylor.edu/~ces/

Churchill Northern Studies Centre
Michael Goodyear
Box 610
Churchill, Manitoba
R0B 0E0 CANADA

cnscc@churchillmb.net
Phone: (204) 675-2307
Fax: (204) 675-2139
www.churchillmb.net/~cnscc

Cloquet Forestry Center
Robert A Stine
Univ of Minnesota
175 University Road
Cloquet, MN 55720-9594

rstine@umn.edu
Station: (218) 879-0850
Campus: (612) 624-1234
Home: (612) 384-3716
Fax: (218) 879-0855
www.cnr.umn.edu/cfc

Conard (Henry S.) Environmental Research Area
Vince Eckhart
Grinnell College
Dept. of Biology
Grinnell, IA 50112

eckhart@grinnell.edu
Phone: (641) 269-4354
Fax: (641) 269-4285
Station: (641) 236-2892
www.grinnell.edu/academic/biology/cera.html

Cornell Biological Field Station
Edward L. Mills
900 Shackelton Point Road
Bridgeport, NY 13030

elm5@cornell.edu
Phone: (315) 633-9243
Fax: (315) 633-2358
www.dnr.cornell.edu/fieldst/cbfs.htm

Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory
Brian D. Kloeppel
Institute of Ecology, University of Georgia
3160 Coweeta Lab Road
Otto, NC 28763-9218

kloeppel@sparc.ecology.uga.edu
Phone: (828) 524-2128 ext 127
Fax: (828) 369-6768
coweeta.ecology.uga.edu

Cranberry Lake Biological Station
Stephen Teale
SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry
Syracuse, NY 13210

sateale@syr.edu
Campus: (315) 470-6758
Station: (315) 848-3444
www.esf.edu/CLBS

Delta Marsh Field Station
Dr Gordon Goldsborough
University of Manitoba
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3T 2N2 CANADA

ggoldsb@cc.umanitoba.ca
Campus: (204) 474-9297
Fax: (204) 474-7650
Station: (204) 857-8637
Fax: (204) 857-4683
www.umanitoba.ca/faculties/science/delta_marsh

Desert Research Institute
Dr Harold Klieforth
2215 Raggio Pkwy
Reno, NV 89512-1095

c/o jawrcc@dri.edu
Campus: (775) 674-7010
Station: (775) 873-5160
Home: (775) 747-3482
Fax: (775) 674-7016
www.dri.edu

Desert Station
Dr Robert L Smith
Univ of Arizona
Forbes Bldg - Rm 410
Tucson, AZ 85721

Email:
Campus: (520) 621-1151
ag.arizona.edu/ENTO/entohome.html

Desert Studies Center
Dr William Presch
California St Univ - Biology
PO Box 6850
Fullerton, CA 92834-6850

wpresch@fullerton.edu
Station: (760) 733-4266
Fax: (760) 733-4266
Campus: (714) 278-2428; Fax: (714) 278-4289
biology.fullerton.edu/facilities/zzyzx.html/

Disney Wilderness Preserve
Monica Folk
The Nature Conservancy
2700 Scrub Jay Trail
Kissimmee, FL 34759

mfolk@tnc.org
Phone: 407-935-0002
Fax: 407-935-0005
nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/Florida

EJ Meeman Biological Station
Dr Jack Grubaugh
Dept. of Biology
The University of Memphis
Memphis, TN 38152

grubaugh@memphis.edu
Station: (901) 678-2597
Fax: (901) 678-4746
cas.memphis.edu/geography/twask/biology/

Eagle Lake Biological Field Station
Raymond J Bogiatto, Director
Dept of Biological Sciences
California State Univ - Chico
Chico, CA 95929-0515

rbogiatto@csuchico.edu
Office: (530) 898-4490
Home: (530) 343-4370
www.csuchico.edu/biol/eaglelake/eaglelake.html

Ecology Research Center
Ryan Stander
Dept. of Zoology
Miami University
Oxford, OH 45056-1400

standerf@muohio.edu
Phone: (513) 529-5634
Fax: (513) 529-6900
www.muohio.edu/ERC

El Verde Field Station
Dr. Alonso Ramirez
HC-01 Box 8974
Rio Grande, PR 00745-9601

aramirez@sunites.upr.clu.edu
Station: (787) 380-3220
Office: (787) 767-0000 x 7781
Fax: (787) 772-1481
sunceer.upr.clu.edu

Emporia State University Natural Areas
Gregory Smith
Department of Biological Sciences, Emporia State Univ.
Campus Box 4050
Emporia, KS 66801-5087

smithgre@emporia.edu
phone: 620-341-5339
fax: 620-341-5607

FT Stone Laboratory
Dr Jeffrey M Reutter
Research Center: Ohio State University
1314 Kinnear Rd
Columbus, OH 43212

reutter.1@osu.edu
Campus: (614) 292-8949
Station: (614) 247-6500
Campus fax: (614) 292-4364
Station fax: (614) 247-6578
www.sg.ohio-state.edu/

Fernow Experimental Forest
Mary Beth Adams
USDA Forest Service
P.O. Box 404
Parsons, WV 26287

mbadams@fs.fed.us
(304) 478-2000 x 130
fax: (304) 478-8692
www.fs.fed.us/ne/parsons

Field Station and Environmental Center
Dr. Kemuel Badger
Ball State University
Muncie, IN 47306-0440

kbadger@bsu.edu
(765) 285-8828
fax: (765) 285-8804
web.bsu.edu/FSEEC/environment/

Flathead Lake Biological Station
Dr Jack A Stanford
The University of Montana
311 Bio Station Lane
Polson, MT 59860-9659

flbs@selway.umt.edu
Station: (406) 982-3301
Fax: (406) 982-3201
www.umt.edu/biology/flbs/

Forfar Field Station
Dr Walter B Bohl
International Field Studies
P.O. Box 428, 30 Public Square
Nelsonville, OH 45764

office@intlfieldstudies.com
Station: (242) 368-6129
1-800-962-3805
Fax (740) 753-5100
Campus: (740) 753-9231
www.intlfieldstudies.com

Friedman Field Station
Carl Merrill
RR 1 Box 102
Edmunds, ME 04628

Email:
617-573-8246

Gault Nature Reserve
Martin Lechowicz
422, chemin des Moulins
Mont-Saint-Hilaire, Quebec
J3G 4S6 CANADA

martin.lechowicz@mcgill.ca
Phone: 514-398-6456
Fax: 514-398-5069
www.mcgill.ca/gault

Gerace Research Center
Vincent J. Voegeli
c/o Twin Air
1100 Lee Wagener Blvd: Suite 113
Ft Lauderdale, FL 33315

grcss@juno.com
Station: (242) 331-2520
Home: Same
Fax: (242) 331-2524

Glen Helen Ecology Institute
Robert Whyte
405 Corry Street
Yello Springs, OH 45387

rwhyte@antioch-college.edu
937-767-7376
fax: 937-767-6659
www.glenhelen.org

Green Wing Environmental Laboratory
Dr Bohdan Dziadyk
Augustana College
639 38th Street
Rock Island, IL 61201

bidziadyk@augustana.edu
Station: (309) 794-3436
Fax: (309) 794-7722
Home: (309) 798-5456

Hancock Biological Station
David S White
561 Emma Drive
Murray, KY 42071

david.white@murraystate.edu
Station: (270) 474-2272
Fax: (270) 474-0120
www.mursuky.edu/qacd/cos/hbs/hbs.htm

Hastings Natural History Reservation
Dr Mark R Stromberg
University of California, Natural Reserve System
38601 E Carmel Valley Rd
Carmel Valley, CA 93924

stromber@socrates.berkeley.edu
Station: (831) 659-2664
Fax: (831) 659-0148
www.hastingsreserve.org

Hatfield Marine Science Center
Dr George W Boehlert
Oregon State University
2030 S Marine Science Drive
Newport, OR 97365

george.boehlert@oregonstate.edu
Station: (541) 867-0211
Fax: (541) 867-0138
www.hmsc.oregonstate.edu

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary
Dr Keith Bildstein
Acopian Center for Conservation Learning
410 Summery Valley Road
Orwigsburg, PA 17961

bildstein@hawkmountain.org
Station: (570) 943-3411 ext 108
Fax: (570) 943-2284
www.hawkmountain.org

Highlands Biological Station
Dr Robert Wyatt
P O Box 580
Highlands, NC 28741

wyatt@email.wcu.edu
Station: (828) 526-2602
Fax: (828) 526-2797
www.wcu.edu/hbs/

Hopkins Marine Station
Stanford University
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

fh.hms@forsythe.stanford.edu
Station: (831) 655-6200
www-marine.stanford.edu

Hopkins Memorial Forest
Andrew Jones
Williams College
P.O. Box 632
Williamstown, MA 01267

Andrew.T.Jones@williams.edu
Phone: 413-597-4353
www.williams.edu/

Hubbard Brook Research Foundation
Geoff Wilson
Pleasant View Farm
25 Dobson Hill Road
Thornton, NH 03223

gandj@ncia.net
Office: 603-726-8911
Fax: 603-726-4451
www.hubbardbrook.org

Huntsman Marine Science Centre
Exec. Director
1 Lower Campus Road
St Andrews, NB
E5B 2L7 CANADA

huntsman@huntsmanmarine.ca
Station: (506) 529-1200
Fax: (506)529-1212
www.huntsmanmarine.ca

Huyck Preserve and Biological Research Station
Dr Richard L Wyman
P O Box 189
Rensselaerville, NY 12147

rlwyman@capital.net
Station: (518) 797-3440
Home: (518) 797-3694
Fax: (518) 797-3440
International OBFS: iobfs.org
www.huyckpreserve.org

Illinois Natural History Survey Biological Stations
Dr Stephen P Havera
Forbes Biological Station
PO Box 590
Havana, IL 62644

shavera@mail.inhs.uiuc.edu
Campus: (217) 333-6870
Fax: (217) 333-4949
Station: (309) 543-3950; Fax: (309) 543-4999
Home: (309) 547-2757
www.inhs.uiuc.edu

Indiana University Research & Teaching Preserve
Keith Clay
Department of Biology
Indiana University
Bloomington, IN 47405

clay@indiana.edu
phone: 812-855-8158
fax: 812-855-6705
www.indiana.edu/~preserve

Indio Mountains Research Station
Dr Jerry D Johnson
Biological Sciences
University of Texas at El Paso
El Paso, TX 79968

jjohnson@utep.edu
Phone: 915-747-6984
Fax: 915-747-5808

Institute for Tropical Ecology and Conservation
Peter N Lahanas
1023 SW 2nd Ave
Gainesville, FL 32601

itec@itec-edu.org
Phone: (352) 367-9128
Fax: 352-367-0160
www.itec-edu.org

Institute of Ecosystem Studies
Dr Alan R Berkowitz
Box R
Millbrook, NY 12545

berkowitza@ecostudies.org
Office: (845) 677-7600 X311
Fax: (845) 677-6455
www.ecostudies.org

Intercultural Center for Study of Deserts and Oceans
Richard E Boyer
PO Box 44208
Tucson, AZ 85733-4208

info@cedointercultural.org
Mexico Phone/Fax: 011-52-638-38-20113
U.S. Phone/Fax: 520-320-5473
www.cedointercultural.org

Iowa Lakeside Laboratory
Arnold van der Valk
131 Bessey Hall
Iowa State University
Ames, IA 50011-1020

lakeside@iowaone.net or lakeside@iastate.edu
Station: (712) 337-3669
Fax: (712) 337-0361
Campus: (515)-294-2488; Fax: (515) 294-9777
www.lakesidelab.org

Iracambi Rainforest Research Centre
Robin Le Breton
Fazenda Iracambi
Rosario da Limeira
36887-000 Minas Gerais, BRASIL

iracambi@iracambi.com
Phone: (+55) 32-3721-1436
Fax: (+55) 32-3722-4909
www.iracambi.com

JH Barrow Field Station
Dr. Samuel D. Marshall
Biology Department
Hiram College
Hiram, OH 44234

marshallsd@hiram.edu
Station: (330) 527-2141
www.hiram.edu/academic/envstu

Jaguar Creek
Karen E. McReynolds
PO Box 446
Belmopan, Belize
Central America

jagcreek@btl.net
Phone: 011-501-81-2034

Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve
Dr Philippe S Cohen
Stanford University
Stanford, CA 94305-5020

philippe.cohen@stanford.edu
Office: (650) 851-6814
Fax: (650) 851-7334
jasper1.stanford.edu/

Kananaskis Field Stations
Dr E A Johnson, Biosciences 186
Univ of Calgary - 2500 University Drive NW
Calgary, Alberta
T2N 1N4 CANADA

jmbuchan@ucalgary.ca
Station: (403) 220-5355
Station: (403) 673-3662
Fax: (403) 673-3671
www.ucalgary.ca/UofC/research/KFS

Katharine Ordway Natural History Study Area
Janet Ebaugh
1600 Grand Avenue
Macalester College
Saint Paul, MN 55105-1899

ebaugh@macalester.edu
Phone: 651-455-6204
Fax: 651-696-6443
www.macalester.edu/biology/ordway

Katharine Ordway Preserve-Swisher Memorial Sanctuary
Mel Sunquist and Stephen Coates
Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
P.O. Box 110430
Gainesville, FL 32611-0643

Ordway@wec.ufl.edu
Phone: (352) 846-0576
Fax: (352) 475-2848
www.ordway.ufl.edu

Kemp Natural Resources Station
Thomas W. Steele
8031 Kemp Woods Road
Woodruff, WI 54568-9643

kemp@calshp.cals.wisc.edu
Phone: 715-356-9070, 358-5667
Fax: 715-356-3669
www.cals.wisc.edu/research/stations/research_stati

Kibbe Life Sciences Field Station
Dr Sean E Jenkins
Dept of Biological Sciences
Western Illinois University
Macomb, IL 61455

SE-Jenkins@wiu.edu
Station: (217) 256-4519
Office: (309) 298-2045
Department: (309) 298-1546
Fax: (309) 298-2270
www.wiu.edu

Kino Bay Center for Cultural & Ecological Studies
Dr Ed Boyer; Lorayne Meltzer
Prescott College
301 Grove Avenue
Prescott, AZ 86301

eboyer@prescott.edu; lmeltzer@prescott.edu
Station Phone/Fax: 011-52-662-242-0024
Campus: (928) 778-2090 ext 2209/2236
Fax: (928) 776-5104
Home: (928) 541-1484
www.prescott.edu/highlights/res_kino.html

Kioloa Coastal Campus - Edith & Joy London Foundation
Eugene Wallensky
Australian National University, Building 48A
Canberra, ACT 0200
AUSTRALIA

Eugene.Wallensky@anu.edu.au
Phone: 61-(02)-6125-9753
Fax: 61-(02)-6125-3770
kioloa.anu.edu.au/index.html

Koffler Scientific Reserve at Jokers Hill
Ann Zimmerman
Room 2005, Sidney Smith Hall
100 St. George Street
Toronto, ON M5S 3G3
CANADA

ann.zimmerman@utoronto.ca
reserve phone: 905-727-8730
reserve fax: 905-727-2406
campus phone: 416-946-3918
campus fax: 416-978-3887
www.zoo.utoronto.ca/jokershill

Konza Prairie Biological Station
Kansas State University
Division of Biology - Ackert Hall
Manhattan, KS 66506-4901

dchart@ksu.edu
Station: (785) 587-0441
Campus: (785) 532-5925
Fax: (785) 532-6653
Home: (785) 776-9597
www.ksu.edu/konza

LUMCON Marine Center
Jessica Kastler
Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium
8124 Highway 56
Chauvin, LA 70344-2110

jkastler@lumcon.edu, ncrochet@lumcon.edu
Station: (985) 851-2848; 851-2845
Fax: (985) 851-2874
www.lumcon.edu

Lacawac Sanctuary
Janice Poppich
RR #1
Box 1683
Lake Ariel, PA 18436

poppich@cs.com
Station: (570) 689-9494
Home: (570) 689-9494

www.Lacawac.org

Lake Erie Center
Jeffrey Savino, Asst. Director
6200 Bayshore Road
Oregon, OH 43618

jeffrey.savino@utoledo.edu
Station: (419) 530-8361
Fax: (419) 530-8399
www.lakeeriecenter.com

Lake Louise Field Station
c/o D Bechler
Valdosta State University
1500 North Patterson St
Valdosta, GA 31698

dbechler@valdosta.edu

Landels-Hill Big Creek Reserve
Dr John Smiley
University of California, Natural Reserve System
Coast Route
Big Sur, CA 93920

jsmiley@ucsc.edu
Station: (831) 667-2543
Home: same as station
www.redshift.com/~bigcreek

Long Marine Laboratory
Stephen L Davenport
Univ of California
100 Shaffer Rd
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

sldaven@cats.ucsc.edu
Station: (408) 459-4771
Fax: (408) 459-3383
natsci.ucsc.edu/ims/

Louis Calder Center - Biological Station
Dr John D Wehr
Fordham University
PO Box 887
Armonk, NY 10504

Wehr@fordham.edu
Station: (914) 273-3078 Fax: (914) 273-2167
www.fordham.edu/calder_center

MSUM Regional Science Center
George R Davis
Minnesota State U Moorhead
1104 7th Ave South
Moorhead, MN 56563

davisg@mnstate.edu
www.MNstate.edu/regsci

Malheur Field Station
Duncan Evered, Lyla Messick
34848 Sodhouse Lane
Princeton, OR 97721

mfs@burnsnet.com
Station: (541)493-2629
Fax: (541)493-2629
www.malheurfieldstation.org

Marine Science Institute
Dr Wayne S. Gardner
University of Texas at Austin
750 Channelview Drive
Port Aransas, TX 78373-5015

gardner@utmsi.zo.utexas.edu
Office: (361) 749-6730
Fax: (361) 749-6777
www.utmsi.zo.utexas.edu

Mata de Platano Field Station
Dr. Armando Rodriguez-Duran
Inter American University - Bayamon Campus
Road 830 No. 500
Bayamon, PR 00957

arodriguez@bc.inter.edu
Phone: 787-279-1912 ext. 2067
Fax: 787-279-2205
bc.inter.edu

MeadWestvaco Wildlife and Ecosystem Research Forest
Dr. Patrick D. Keyser
P.O. box 577
Rupert, WV 25984

pdk2@meadwestvaco.com
304-392-1606
fax: 304-392-1609
www.mwerf.org

Merriam-Powel Center for Environmental Research
Dr. Amy Whipple
PO Box 5765
Northern Arizona University
Flagstaff, AZ 86011-5765

amy.whipple@nau.edu
928-523-8727
fax 928-523-8223
www.mpcer.nau.edu

Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory
Dr. Patricia Hand
PO Box 35
Salisbury Cove, ME 04672

phand@mdibl.org
Station: (207) 288-3605
www.mdibl.org

Mountain Lake Biological Station
Dr Eric S. Nagy
University of Virginia
PO Box 400327
Charlottesville, VA 22904-4327

enagy@virginia.edu
Campus: (434) 982-5486; Fax: (434) 982-5626
Station: (540) 626-5227
Home: (434) 977-3121
www.mlbs.org

Mountain Research Station
Dr William Bowman
University of Colorado
CB 450
Boulder, CO 80309

MRS@colorado.edu
Station: (303) 492-8841
Campus: (303) 492-2557
www.colorado.edu/mrs

Mountain Studies Institute
Ellen Stein
P.O. Box 426
1315 Snowden Street
Silverton, CO 81433

estern@mountainstudies.org
970-387-5161
fax: 970-387-5226
www.mountainstudies.org

Northern Arizona Univ Centennial Forest
Michael R. Wagner
School of Forestry
PO Box 15018
Flagstaff, AZ 86011

michael.wagner@nau.edu
Phone: 928-523-6646
Fax: 928-523-1080
www.for.nau.edu/centennialforest

Notre Dame Environmental Research Center
Gary E. Belovsky
Dept of Bio Sciences, Univ of Notre Dame
PO Box 369
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0369

biology.underc.1@nd.edu
Station: (715) 547-6297
Campus: (574) 631-7186
www.nd.edu/~underc/underc1.htm

Oak Lake Field Station
Dr Nels Troelstrup
Box 2207B
South Dakota State University
Brookings, SD 57007

nels_troelstrup@sdstate.edu
Station: (605) 688-5503
Home: (605) 629-4621
Fax: (605) 688-6677
www.abs.sdstate.edu/bio/Oaklake/index.htm

Oregon Institute of Marine Biology
Dr. Jan Hodder
Univ of Oregon
PO Box 5389
Charleston, OR 97420

jhodder@oimb.uoregon.edu
Station: (541) 888-2581
Fax: (541) 888-3250
www.uoregon.edu/~oimb

Ouachita Mountains Biological Station
Laurence M. Hardy
Museum of Life Sciences, LSU in Shreveport
One University Place
Shreveport, LA 71115-2399

lsusmus@prysm.net
Station: (479) 394-3956
Office: (318) 797-5338
www.prysm.net/~lsusmus/ombs/

Palomarin Field Station
Thomas Gardali
Point Reyes Bird Observatory
4990 Shoreline Highway
Stinson Beach, CA 94970-9701

tgardali@prbo.org
Phone: 415-868-0655
Fax: 415-868-1946
www.prbo.org/prbo

Pan American Coastal Studies Laboratory
Don Hockaday
The University of Texas
100 Marine Lab Drive
South Padre Island, TX 78697

hockaday@panam.edu
Phone: (956) 761-2644
Fax: (956) 761-2913
panam.edu/dept/csl/csl.html

Pierce Cedar Creek Institute
Michelle Skedgell
701 W Colverdale Road
Hastings, MI 49058

skedgellm@cedarcreekinstitute.org
269-721-4470
fax: 269-721-4474
www.cedarcreekinstitute.org

Pinelands Field Research Station
Dr John Dighton
Rutgers University
PO Box 206, 501 Four Mile Rd
New Lisbon, NJ 08064

dighton@camden.rutgers.edu
Station: (609) 894-8849
Campus: (856) 225-6145
celebes.rutgers.edu/index.htm

Pymatuning Laboratory of Ecology
P. Quinby
Univ of Pittsburgh
13142 Hartstown Road
Linesville, PA 16424

pquinby@pitt.edu, ple@toolcity.net
Station: (814) 683-5813
Fax: (814) 683-2302
www.pitt.edu/~biology/pymatuning.htm

Quesnel River Research Center
Rick Holmes
P.O. Box 28
Likely, BC
CANADA VOL 1N0

unbcqrrc@laketown.net
phone: 250-790-2031
www.unbc.ca/qrrc

Quetzal Education Research Center
Dr Leo Finkenbinder
Southern Nazarene University
6729 NW 39th Expwy
Bethany, OK 73008

lfinkenb@snu.edu
Campus: (405) 491-6640
Fax: (405) 491-6689
Station phone: (506) 740-1010 (Costa Rica)
Station Fax: (506) 740-1022 (Costa Rica)
www.snu.edu/qerc

Raystown Field Station
Chuck Yohn
Juniata College
Huntingdon, PA 16652

yohn@juniata.edu
Office: (814) 641-3572
Station: (814) 658-3060
Home: (814) 643-6846
Fax: (814) 641-3685
www.juniata.edu/station/

Reelfoot Lake Research and Teaching Center
W A Sliger
Dept of Biological Sciences
Univ of Tennessee - Martin
Martin, TN 38238-5014

asliger@utm.edu
Campus: (731) 587-7171
Fax: (731) 587-7187
Home: (731) 587-7184

Reis Biological Station
Dr Nevin Aspinwall
St Louis University: Biology Dept
3507 Laclede Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63103-2010

aspinwall@slu.edu
Station: (573) 786-8313
Office: (314) 977-3902
Home: (314) 822-3972
rbs.slu.edu

Rice Creek Field Station
Dr Andrew P Nelson
SUNY Oswego
Oswego, NY 13126

anelson@oswego.edu
Station: (315) 312-7961
Home: (315) 343-9277
Fax: (315) 312-7347
www.oswego.edu/other_campus/rcreek

Richard B Gump South Pacific Research Station
George Roderick
Environmental Science Policy & Mgmt, MC 3112
Univ of California
Berkeley, CA 94720-3112

ndavies@moorea.berkeley.edu
Office: (510) 217-2421
Fax: (510) 217-2421
moorea.berkeley.edu

Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory
Dr. Ian Billick
PO Box 519
Crested Butte, CO 81224

ibillick@rmbll.org
Station: (970) 349-7231
Fax: (970) 349-7231
www.rmbll.org

Sagehen Creek Field Station
Jeff Brown
P.O. Box 939
11616 Sagehen Rd
Truckee, CA 96160

sagehen@starband.net
phone: 530-587-4830
fax: 530-582-4031
research.chyance.berkeley.edu/sagehen

Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation Marine Lab
Dr. Stephen Bortone
900A Tarpon Bay Rd
Sanibel, FL 33957

sbortone@sccf.org
phone: 239-395-4617
239-395-4616
www.sccf.org/Marine%20Lab/marinelab.htm

Santa Cruz Island Reserve
Dr Lyndal Laughrin
University of California, Natural Reserve System
Marine Science Institute
Santa Barbara, CA 93106

laughrin@lifesci.ucsb.edu
Station: (805) 967-2224
Campus: (805) 893-4127; Fax: 893-8062
nrs.ucop.edu

Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve
Dr. Claudia Luke
San Diego State University
2648 N. Stagecoach Lane
Fallbrook, CA 92028

cluke@sciences.sdsu.edu
Phone: 760-728-9446
Fax: 760-451-0769
www.sci.sdsu.edu/BFS

Savannah River Environmental Sciences Field Station
Dr. Ambrose O. Anoruo
South Carolina State University
300 Orange Street, PO Box 7411
Orangeburg, SC 29117

aoanoruo@scsu.edu
Office: (803) 536-8174
Fax: (803) 533-3994
www.cnrt.scsu.edu/fieldstation

Seahorse Key Marine Laboratory
Dr. Harvey B Lillywhite
PO Box 118525
Dept of Zoology, U of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611-8525

hbl@zoo.ufl.edu
Phone: 352-392-1101
Fax: 352-392-3704
www.zoo.ufl.edu/shkml/

Sedgwick Reserve
Michael Williams
University of California, Natural Reserve System
PO Box 848
Santa Ynez, CA 93460-0848

m_willia@lifesci.ucsb.edu
Station: (805) 686-1941
Fax: (805) 686-0751
Campus: (805) 893-4127; Fax: (805) 893-8062
nrs.ucop.edu

Sevilleta Field Station
Dr Donald Natrig
Dept of Biology
Univ of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131

dnatvig@unm.edu
Campus: (505) 277-5977
Station: (505) 277-9370
Fax: (505) 277-0304
sevilleta.unm.edu

Shannon Point Marine Center
Dr Stephen D Sulkin
Western Washington University
1900 Shannon Point Rd
Anacortes, WA 98221

sulkin@cc.wvu.edu
Station: (360) 650-7400
Fax: (360) 293-1083
www.wvu.edu/~sPMC

Shoals Marine Laboratory
Christine C. Bogdanowicz
G-14 Stimson Hall
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853

ccb5@cornell.edu
Campus: (607) 255-3717
Station: (607) 255-3717
Fax: (607) 255-0742
www.sml.cornell.edu

Shortgrass Steppe LTER Site
Sallie G. Sprague
Dept of Soil and Crop Sciences
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1170

sallie.sprague@colostate.edu
Phone: (970) 491-2366
Fax: (970) 491-2156
sgs.cnr.colostate.edu/sgshome.html

Sierra Ancha Station
Rachael Keithley
Dept of Biology, Arizona State Univ
Box 871501
Tempe, AZ 85287-1501

sierra.ancha@asu.edu
Phone: 480-727-7387
Fax: 480-965-2519
ls.la.asu.edu/sierraancha

Sierra Nevada Field Campus
Jim Steele
323 Thornton Hall, 1600 Holloway
San Francisco State University
San Francisco, CA 94132

jsteele@sfsu.edu
Phone/Fax: (650) 738-1814
Station, Jun-Aug: (530) 862-1230
thecity.sfsu.edu/snfc

Sky Oaks Field Station
Sedra Shapiro
San Diego State University
College of Sciences, 5500 Campanile Dr
San Diego, CA 92182-4614

sshapiro@sciences.sdsu.edu
Campus: (619) 594-5386
Fax: (619) 594-0714
Sky Oaks Station (909)-767-9505
www.sci.sdsu.edu/BFS/

Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute
Oris Acevedo
BCI - Unit 0948
APO AA 34002-0948, USA
(Republic of Panama)

acevedo@bci.si.edu
Phone: (507) 212-8901
Fax: (507) 212-3065
www.stri.org

Sonoran Arthropod Studies Institute
Steven J Prchal
PO Box 5624
Tucson, AZ 85703

sasi@sasionline.org
Station: (520) 883-3945
Fax: (520) 883-2578
www.sasionline.org

Southwestern Research Station
Dr Dawn Wilson
American Museum of Natural History
PO Box 16553
Portal, AZ 85632

swrs@amnh.org; dwilson@amnh.org
Station: (520) 558-2396
Fax: (520) 558-2396
research.amnh.org/swrs

St Catherine Island
Royce Hayes
PO Box 528
Midway, GA 31320

rhhayes@clds.net
Station: (912) 884-5002

St Croix Watershed Research Station
Daniel R. Engstrom
Science Museum of Minnesota
16910 152nd Street N
Marine on St Croix, MN 55047

dengstrom@smm.org
Station: (651) 433-5953
Home: (651) 653-1035
Fax: (651) 433-5924
www.smm.org/scwrs

Starr Ranch Sanctuary
Sandy DeSimone
National Audubon Society
100 Bell Canyon Road
Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679

sdesimone@audubon.org
Phone: (949) 858-0309
www.starranch.org

Stroud Water Research Center
Bernard Sweeney
970 Spencer Road
Avondale, PA 19311

sweeney@stroudcenter.org
Phone: (610) 268-2153
Fax: (610) 268-0490
www.stroudcenter.org

Stunt Ranch Santa Monica Mountains Reserve
Carol Felixson
University of California, Natural Reserve System
900 Veteran Avenue Warren Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90024

cfelixso@ucla.edu
Phone: (310) 206-3887
Fax: (310) 825-9433
nrs.ucop.edu/reserves/stunt.html

Taiga Biological Station
Dr. W. O. Pruitt
Dept of Zoology, University of Manitoba
Winnipeg, Manitoba
CANADA R3T 2N2

pruittjr@cc.umanitoba.ca
Phone: 204-474-9245
Fax: 204-474-7588
www.wilds.mb.ca/taiga

Tall Timbers Research Station
Ronald E. Masters
13093 Henry Beadel Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32312

rmasters@ttrs.org
Station: (850) 893-4153 ext. 229
Fax: (850) 668-7781
www.talltimbers.org

Taylor Ranch Wilderness Field Station
Holly and Jim Akenson
University of Idaho
Box 8070
Cascade, ID 83611-8070

tayranch@uidaho.edu
Phone: (888) 842-7547
www.uidaho.edu/cnr

Teakettle Experimental Forest
Jim Innes
Sierra Nevada Research Center
2121 2nd St, A-101
Davis, CA 95616

jinnes@fs.fed.us
Office: (530) 759-1711
FAX: (530) 747 0241

The Massachusetts Audubon Society
Taber Allison
208 South Great Road
Lincoln, MA 01773

tallison@massaudubon.org
781-259-2145
781-259-1040
www.massaudubon.org

Toolik Field Station
Michael A. Abels, Brian M. Barnes
Institute of Arctic Biology, University of Alaska Fairbanks
PO Box 7000
Fairbanks, AK 99775-7000

fnmaa@uaf.edu, ffmb@uaf.edu
Phone: (907) 474-5063 Abels
Phone: (907) 474-6067 Barnes
Fax: (907) 474-5513
www.uaf.edu/toolik

Treehaven Field Station
Dr Corky McReynolds
W2540 Pickerel Creek Ave
Tomahawk, WI 54487

Email:
Phone: (715) 453-4106
Fax: (715) 453-1811

Trinity College Field Station at Church Farm
Scott Smedley
Dept of Biology
Trinity College
Hartford, CT 06106-3100

scott.smedley@mail.trincoll.edu
Phone: 860-297-2229
Fax: 860-297-2538
www.trincoll.edu/prog/churchfarm/fieldstation

Trout Lake Station
Tim Kratz
10810 County Hwy N
Boulder Junction, WI 54512-9733

tkkratz@facstaff.wisc.edu
Station: (715) 356-9494
Fax: (715) 356-6866
limnology.wisc.edu/tls/troutlake.html

Twin Valleys Outdoor Education Center
William J Ehmann
Plattsburgh State University
102 Broad Street
Plattsburgh, NY 12901

bill.ehmann@plattsburgh.edu
518-564-5294
fax 518-564-5293
faculty.plattsburgh.edu/william.ehmann/obfs.htm

Tyson Research Center
David A. Larson, Field Station Manager
Washington University
PO Box 258
Eureka, MO 63025

dlarson@biology.wustl.edu
tyson@biology.wustl.edu
Station: (314)935-8430
Fax: (314)935-8433
www.biology.wustl.edu/tyson

U Michigan Biological Station at Douglas Lake
Knut Nadelhoffer & Karie Slavik
725 Dennison Bldg
501 E University Ave
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1090

umbs@umich.edu
Station: (231) 539-8408
Campus: (734) 763-4461
Fax: (231) 539-8785
www.umich.edu/~umbs

UC Davis Reserves
Shorty Boucher
University of California, Natural Reserve System
DESP
Davis, CA 95616

vlboucher@ucdavis.edu
Phone: 530-752-6949

UC San Diego Reserves
Isabelle Kay
UC San Diego, Natural Reserve System
Division of Biology, 9500 Gilman Drive, APM Annex #2802
La Jolla, CA 92093-0116

ikay@ucsd.edu
phone: 858-534-2077
fax: 858-822-0696
nrs.ucop.edu/reserves.html

Univ of Mississippi Field Station
Dr. Marjorie M Holland
Dept. of Biology
15 Road 2078
Abbeville, MS 38601

mholland@olemiss.edu or umfs@olemiss.edu
Station: (662) 915-5479
M. Holland: (662) 915-5874
Fax: (662) 915-5144
www.baysprings.olemiss.edu

Univ of Oklahoma Biological Station
Lawrence J Weider
University of Oklahoma
HC 71, Box 205
Kingston, OK 73439

ljweider@ou.edu
Campus: 405-325-4766
Station: 405-325-7438
www.ou.edu/uobs

Univ of Wisconsin Field Station
Jim Reinartz
3095 Blue Goose Road
Saukville, WI 53080

fieldstn@uwm.edu
Campus: (262) 675-6844
Home: (262) 675-6318
Fax: (262) 675-0337
www.uwm.edu/Dept/fieldstation/

University of California, Natural Reserve System
Alexander N. Glazer
Univ of California
1111 Franklin St, 6th Floor
Oakland, CA 94607-5200

Alexander.Glazer@ucop.edu
Office: (510) 987-0150
Fax: (510) 763-2971
nrs.ucop.edu

University Kansas Field Station and Ecological Reserves
W. Dean Kettle; Edward A Martinko
Kansas Biological Survey
2041 Constant Avenue
Lawrence, KS 66047

kettle@ku.edu
Phone: (785) 864-7725
Fax: (785) 864-5093
www.ksr.ku.edu

Valentine Eastern Sierra Reserve
Daniel R Dawson
University of California, Natural Reserve System
HCR 79, Box 198
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

dawson@icess.ucsb.edu; donnam@msi.ucsb.edu
Station: (760) 935-4334
Fax: (760) 935-4867
Campus: (805) 893-4127; Fax: 893-8062
nrs.ucop.edu/reserves/snarl.html

Vermilion Sea Field Station
Lane McDonald, Director
(Bahia de Los Angeles, Baja California)
1319 Lake Drive
Encinitas, CA 92024

lane@vsfs.org
Phone: (760) 753-2134
www.vsfs.org

W.K. Kellogg Biological Station
Dr. Mike Klug
Michigan State University
3700 East Gull Lake Drive
Hickory Corners, MI 49060

Klug@KBS.msu.edu
Station: (269) 671-2341
Home: (269) 629-4037
Fax: (269) 671-2351
kbs.msu.edu

Walnut Creek Center for Education and Research
Josh Keith
1100 E. Sheldon Street
Prescott, AZ 86301

josh_keith@msn.com
928-925-7698

Wheaton College Science Station
Dr Stephen O. Moshier
Geology and Environmental Science Dept
Wheaton College
Wheaton, IL 60187

stephen.o.moshier@wheaton.edu
Office: (630) 752-5856
Fax: (630) 752-5996
Station: (605) 342-6634
www.wheaton.edu/BlackHills

White Mountain Research Station
Frank L Powell, Director
University of California, San Diego
3000 E. Line St
Bishop, CA 93514

fpowell@ucsd.edu
Phone: (760) 873-4344
Fax: 760-873-7830
www.wmrs.edu/

Whittell Forest & Wildlife Area
Dr Steve Vander Wall
University of Nevada
Biology Dept, MS314
Reno, NV 89557

sv@scs.unr.edu
Office: (775) 784-6583
Fax: (775) 784-1302

Wind River Canopy Crane Research Facility, UW
David Shaw
1262 Hemlock Road
Carson, WA 98610

dshaw@u.washington.edu
Station: (509) 427-7028
Fax: (509) 427-7037
depts.washington.edu/wrccrf

Woodlake Environmental Field Station
Elizabeth Whippo Cline
Center for Env. Sci., Tech. and Policy
Cleveland State U, 2121 Euclid Ave., MC 219
Cleveland, OH 44115

csucestp@csuohio.edu; e.w.cline@csuohio.edu
Phone: (216) 687-4860
Fax: (216) 687-5393
www.csuohio.edu/cestp/woodlake/woodlake.html

Wrigley Marine Science Center
Anthony Michaels
1 big Fisherman Cove
Avalon, CA 90704

toney@usc.edu
310-510-4016
fax: 310-510-1364

Wyoming National Park Service
Dr Henry J Harlow
University Station
PO Box 3166
Laramie, WY 82071

hharlow@uwyo.edu
Station: (307) 543-2463
Campus: (307) 766-4227

2003 OBFS INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Chris Bedel
Edge of Appalachia Preserve
19 Abner Hollow Road
Lynx, OH 45650

eoabright@bright.net
Office: (937) 544-2880
Fax: (937) 544-2188
www.cincymuseum.org

Laura S Carter
66 McKenna Rd
Norwich, VT 05055

laura.carter@dartmouth.edu
Office: (603) 653-0771
Home: (802) 649-3149
Fax: (603) 653-0775
rwcoles@artsci.wustl.edu

Dr Richard W Coles
Hoene Springs
220 Hickory Lane
Eureka, MO 63025-3137

Home: (636) 938-5271

Nina Consolatti
Kellogg Biological Station
3700 East Gull Lake Drive
Hickory Corners, MI 49060

nina.consolatti@kbs.msu.edu
Office: (269) 671-2228
Home: (269) 657-3658
Fax: (269) 671-2104

Dr Robert C Dalglish
10601-F Tierrasanta Blvd., #110
San Diego, CA 92124-2692

rcdalglish@san.rr.com
Phone: 858-505-0526

Prof. David DeGroot
Department of Biology, St. Cloud State University
720 Fourth Avenue South
St. Cloud, MN 56301-4498

degroote@stcloudstate.edu

Dr Robert L Fisher
3728 Cold Springs Rd.
Huntingdon, PA 16652

fisherr@juniata.edu
Campus: (814) 641-3575
Fax: (814) 641-3685
Home: (814) 644-6542
Web page:

Dr Willard N Harman
SUNY at Oneonta, Biological Field Station
5853 State Highway 80
Cooperstown, NY 13326

harmanwn@oneonta.edu
Campus: (607) 431-3703
Station: (607) 547-8778
Home: (607) 547-5262
www.netheaven.com/~bitteker/BFS/index.html

Dr George Lauff
WK Kellogg Biological Station
3700 East Gull Lake Dr
Hickory Corners, MI 49060

lauff@kbs.msu.edu
Home: (269) 349-3324

Susan Lohr
Lohr Associates
1141 3800 Lane
Paonia, CO 81428

slohr@frontier.net
Office: (970)527-3056

Tom Manley
Middlebury College
Geology Department
Middlebury, VT 05753

tmanley@middlebury.edu
Phone: 802-443-3114
Fax: 802-443-2072
www.middlebury.edu/~lcrc

Arthur McKee
Flathead Biological Station
300 Bio Station Lane
Polson, MT 59860

AMcKee@selway.umt.edu
phone: 405-982-3301 x 226

Alan P. Romsper
605 N. Pomona Ave.
Fullerton, CA 92832

aromsper@fullerton.edu
Phone: 714-870-0946

Dr. Jon Ross
Lake Itasca Biological Station
HC 05, Box 7
Lake Itasca, MN 56470

rossx008@tc.umn.edu
Phone: (218) 266-3345
Fax: (218) 266-3345

Office of Sponsored Programs
720 Fourth Avenue South
St Cloud, MN 56301-4498

Prof. Richard Rothaus
rrothaus@stcloudstate.edu
phone: 320-255-4932
fax: 320-654-5292

Dr Jerome Rozen Jr
American Museum of Natural History, Entomology Dept
Central Park West at 79th Street
New York, NY 10024

rozen@amnh.org
Office: (212) 769-5466
Home: (201) 768-9590

Dr Mary K Seely
Desert Research Foundation of Namibia
PO Box 20232, Gobabeb Training and Research Centre
Windhoek
NAMIBIA

drfn@drfn.org.na
Station: +264-64-694198
Office: +264-61-229855
Fax: +264-61-230172
www.drfn.org

Owen J. Sexton
Tyson Research Center
PO Box 258
Eureka, MO 63025

sexton@biology.wustl.edu
Office: 314-935-8441
Home: 314-434-5297

Marget Shea
IW Bernheim Foundation
Hwy 245, General Delivery
Clermont, KY 40110

mshea@bernheim.org
Phone: 502-955-8512

Dr. Merle Shepard
Clemson University, Archbold Tropical Ctr
2865 Savannah Highway
Charleston, SC 29414

MSHPRD@Clemson.edu
Phone 843-766-3761
Fax 843-571-4654

Richard K. Speairs, Jr
PO Box 52963
Shreveport, LA 71135-2963

rspeairs@pilot.lsus.edu
Phone: 318-861-6059

Dr Michael C Swift
826 Goodrich Ave
St. Paul, MN 55105

swift@stolaf.edu
Home: (651) 222-3857

John Taylor
Ball State University
Muncie, IN 47306-0440

jetaylor@bsu.edu
(765) 285-2641
fax: (765) 285-8804

Dr. Pamela L. Williams
PO Box 1236
5442 Isabel
Weldon, CA 93283

pwilliams@lightspeed.net
Phone: (760) 378-4116

Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch
Bill Branran
HCI Box 44
Elgin, AZ 85611

rsearchranch@audubon.org
Station: (520) 455-5522
www.audubonresearchranch.org

Canadian Organization for Tropical Education
Fran Mason
Box 335
Pickering, Ontario
L1V 2R6 CANADA

coterc@interhop.net
Phone: 905-831-8809
Fax: 905-831-4203
www.coterc.org

Cascade Head Experimental Forest
Sarah E Greene
Forestry Sciences Laboratory
3200 Jefferson Way
Corvallis, OR 97331

sgreene@fs.fed.us
Station: (541) 994-5386
Campus: (541) 750-7360
Fax: (541) 750-7329

ES George Reserve
Dr Ronald A Nussbaum
Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1079

nuss@umich.edu
Campus: (734) 764-2201

Hofstra University Marine Laboratory
Dr. John Morrissey
Dept of Biology
Hofstra University Marine Laboratory
Hempstead, NY 11549

biojfm@hofstra.edu
http://people.hofstra.edu/faculty/John_F_Morrissey

Howard T. Greene Field Station
Dr. Susan E. Lewis
Carroll College
100 North East Ave
Waukesha, WI 53186

lewiss@cc.edu
Phone: 262-524-7279

Selman Living Laboratory
William Caire
Biology Dept, 100 N. University Drive
University of Central Oklahoma
Edmond, OK 73034

wcaire@ucok.edu
Phone: 405-974-5480
Fax: 405-974-3824