



OBFS *News*

The Newsletter of the Organization of Biological Field Stations • January 1997
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EDITOR'S NOTE

This marks the first edition of the OBFS Newsletter under my editorship. I am attempting to generally keep the same format as our previous editors Susan Lohr and Joe Merritt. Much of the physical production has been done by our Station/Center secretary/coordinator Cheryl Carr. If there are changes you would like to see, please let me know. The next edition probably will be published in late May 1977. It will contain registration information for the 1977

meeting to be held at Oregon Institute of Marine Biology. If you have contributions for the next edition (assuming that I am elected to continue as your Editor), you may send them to me via regular mail, email, or fax. These numbers are listed under the entry for the Hancock Biological Station. The deadline for materials for the May edition will be **MAY 15, 1997**. This edition of the Newsletter will appear on the OBFS home page sometime in late January 1977.

1996 ANNUAL MEETING

The 1996 OBFS meeting was held at the White Mountain Research Station, September 26 to 29. Most of the meeting was held at Crooked Creek with a pre-meeting excursion to the Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Laboratory (SNARL). The settings in eastern California are as spectacular as can be found anywhere in the United States. In addition to the regular business meetings, there were excursions UP to observe

the eclipse of the moon, the rings of Saturn and the moons of Jupiter, DOWN into the Cottonwood Basin, UP to the Bancroft site and further UP to the White Mountain Peak summit. Phil Pister (Desert Fishes Council) provided thoughtful insights into the nature and conservation issues of the region. Dan Dawson, program chair, and Dave Trydahl, local host, produced a very successful meeting.

MINUTES OF 1996 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING OF THE ORGANIZATION OF BIOLOGICAL FIELD STATIONS

Crooked Creek Laboratory, University of California White Mountain Research Station, Bishop, California, September 26-29, 1996

Part I.

Friday, September 27, 10:39 am - 12:20 pm

1. President Jack Stanford convened the meeting. Members of the Executive Committee had been introduced during welcoming remarks Thursday evening: Vice-President Dan Dawson, Editor Susan Lohr, Secretary-Treasurer Peter Connors, Past President Steve Havera, and Members-at-large Hal Klieforth and Dick Coles (absent).

2. OBFS-NAML Activities: Susan Lohr reported on subsequent activities related to the 1995 NSF-sponsored workshop and report "A New Horizon for Biological Field Stations and Marine Laboratories." Lohr participated in a workshop organized by the National Association of Marine Laboratories (NAML) in Sarasota, FL, October 1995, that produced a series of seven position papers published in the Biological Bulletin, April 1996, and reprinted under the title "Roles of Coastal Laboratories in the Implementation of the Nation's Emerging Priorities for Research and Monitoring in the Coastal Zone." This workshop was a large effort focused on research agendas, with discussions that included networking among stations. In view of the parallel focus on networking at this

OBFS meeting, Lohr, Stanford and Connors strongly urged a continuing OBFS-NAML partnership in future networking efforts.

Lohr also reported on plans to release a summary of the responses to the survey circulated before the 1995 OBFS-NAML Workshop. Stations responding to the survey request totaled 140. This product should be completed and mailed to stations before the end of November, 1996, and will be paid for from remaining NSF workshop funds (estimated cost \$1,000).

3. International OBFS: Lohr and Rick Wyman described a plan, already authorized by NSF with a one-year extension, to direct the rest of the money left from the NSF Workshop grant toward efforts at organization, linking, and exchange of information among stations that have expressed interest in an international version of OBFS. Wyman reported on progress in developing an international organization (IOBFS) since 1991. Current expressions of interest in joining IOBFS total 115, up from 48 last year. An IOBFS Newsletter and a 2-page survey questionnaire have been mailed to stations around the world. Funds available (approximately \$22,000) would be used to pay wages and expenses (computer, postage, telephone, etc.) to enter and process survey data, produce an IOBFS Directory, and produce and mail an IOBFS Newsletter. Additional goals to be explored include network linking of international stations with OBFS stations, and planning an IOBFS meeting.

4. Field Stations and Marine Labs Poster: Mark Stromberg reported on the poster display and accompanying leaflet, present at the meeting, advertising the importance of field stations and marine laboratories. This poster display was paid for with funds from the NSF Field Stations and Marine Labs Program. Nina Consolatti will keep the display at Kellogg Biological Station for 1996-97, to be shipped to members who will accompany it to national scientific society meetings. It will also be on display for a period at NSF. Connors proposed that OBFS reimburse KBS for all shipping costs to appropriate venues for display. Tom Callahan (NSF) proposed that

we should set aside some of the remaining NSF workshop funds for repair of the poster, which was damaged during shipment to the meeting. Callahan also noted that the display will need to be updated periodically. Hilary Swain suggested that when it is revised, we should strive to select broad geographic balance in the choice of photographs. Lohr suggested sending the display to undergraduate and minority science student meetings. Stanford and the membership thanked Stromberg for his significant contribution in producing the poster display.

5. Nominations: President Stanford announced the Nominating Committee: Havera (Chair), Jan Hodder and Art McKee. Positions to be filled for a 1997-98 term are Editor (replacing Lohr) and Executive Committee Member-at-large (replacing Klieforth). Lohr has resigned her station directorship, and therefore resigns her position as OBFS Editor, effective Sept. 30, 1996. The Executive Committee has appointed David White as interim Newsletter Editor to fulfill the remaining 2 months of Lohr's term.

6. Appreciation: Havera read and displayed a plaque signed by members of the Executive Committee in appreciation of twenty years of outstanding contributions by Dick Coles as Secretary-Treasurer of OBFS.

7. Appreciation: President Stanford expressed the appreciation of OBFS for the many and exemplary contributions of Susan Lohr to OBFS, that have included her leadership as President, Vice-President, and Editor of OBFS, her production of the annual Field Course Poster for many years, and her remarkable leadership in obtaining the NSF funds for the OBFS-NAML workshop, in organizing the workshop, and in producing the "New Horizon..." publication. Callahan then amplified those appreciative remarks with his equally laudatory view of Susan's contributions on behalf of OBFS in her service as an NSF Panelist, reviewer, and representative of OBFS. The membership warmly seconded these appreciations with applause.

8. Minutes: The Minutes of the 1995 OBFS Business Meeting were approved as circulated to members after the 1995 meeting.

9. Report of the Secretary-Treasurer:

A. Membership: All membership and other records were transferred during the year from Tyson Research Center to Bodega Marine Lab, and membership records have been placed in a database program to facilitate processing. Membership at September 15, 1996 stands at 173 active (dues paid for 1996) members (138 station and 35 individual), down from 181 active 1995 members (138 station and 43 individual, revised numbers). Including members paid in 1995 but not in 1996 this raises the total membership to 190 (146 station and 44 individual). During the year (to Sept. 15, 1996), OBFS acquired 14 new members (5 station and 9 individual), while 4 members changed membership class from individual to station, and 5 members resigned or closed. Members discovering any mistakes in these data are requested to send corrections to the Secretary (obfs@ucdavis.edu.)

B. Finances: The Financial Report is Appended (page 8). Balance as of September 15, 1996 was \$13,346.19, up from \$10,254.55 on August 31, 1995. Total income during the period was \$11,855.82, exceeding expenses of \$8,764.18 and producing an addition to the Reserve of \$3,091.64. This Reserve is available for future projects such as revision of the OBFS Directory, special meeting expenses of Executive Board members, initiatives such as discussed below, etc. The Treasurer's Report was approved by the membership. A Proposed Budget for 1997 was also approved (page 8).

10. Report of the Editor of the Summer Course Poster: Sonda Eastlack, succeeding Lohr, will send out annual solicitations for inclusion on the poster. Cost for station listing will remain at \$60 for the 1997 poster, separate from and additional to OBFS dues. Eastlack has requested that OBFS consider assigning responsibility for the Poster to another member for 1998, requiring a

decision before the 1997 meeting. Chuck Yohn has volunteered to consider this role.

11. Future Meeting Sites: The 1997 OBFS meeting will be at Oregon Institute of Marine Biology, Charleston, Oregon. Jan Hodder showed slides and described the facilities, habitats, and potential field trips available at the station. The meeting dates are September 18-21, 1997, with a pre-meeting field trip, a hiking transect through coastal dune habitats, for members who arrive September 17. Details of the meeting will be sent to members along with registration materials in early summer 1997.

The 1998 meeting will be held at Archbold Biological Station, Lake Placid, Florida. Offers to host meetings in 1999 and beyond are solicited and should be addressed to members of the Executive Committee, with an indication of any limitations on meeting size or timing.

12. Report of the Historian: Bob Fisher continues work on a written history of OBFS. Some gaps remain in the history of the earliest meetings, before 1971; Fisher will contact members for information. As always, the Historian presented a wonderful collection of photographs of the previous year's meeting, continuing his excellent photodocumentation efforts.

13. Report of the AIBS Representative: Havera submitted a written report (page 6) and further described the organizational changes taking place at AIBS. He is unable to attend the AIBS meetings this year but is willing to remain as Representative. Any member wishing to attend the meeting in his place should contact him.

Part II.

Saturday, September 28, 8:00 am - 10:40 am

14. OBFS Directory: Connors reported that approximately 340 copies of the 1992 "Guide to Biological Field Stations 1992" remain. This version, while still useful, would benefit from an update reflecting new members and revised data. Lohr proposed decreasing the price on remaining

copies from \$10.00 to \$5.00. Wyman requested 115 copies to send out to international stations expressing interest in IOBFS. Postage for these mailings will be provided from the NSF workshop funding redirected to IOBFS efforts. Stromberg reported on a proposal formulated with Mike Hamilton and Chuck Yohn to update the Directory information to be placed on the WWW OBFS Home Page (<http://jasper.stanford.edu/OBFS/>). They will send an inquiry form, on diskette in MS Word format, to all station members. Responses returned on the diskette can be easily combined in a single format listing for placement on the Web page as a searchable database and also for eventual printing as an updated, but smaller, version of the Directory, with a single page per entry. Cost to print this Directory is estimated at \$3.00 to \$4.00 per copy.

15. ESA Initiative for Undergraduate Ecology Instructors: Mike Mappin presented a proposal from the Ecological Society of America to develop a proposal to NSF to fund a series of regional field workshops for an undergraduate ecological faculty enhancement program. ESA has requested that OBFS be a partner in this program, with field stations as the main regional workshop sites. The program would also develop a report on instructional strategies for teaching ecology and natural history. ESA requested an indication from OBFS of degree of interest, with names of OBFS project co-director and regional site leaders. More than half of members present indicated interest in the program, with several volunteers for both roles. OBFS elected a committee to work with ESA: Hodder (Chair), Philippe Cohen, and Dave Mahan. OBFS agreed to fund travel to a meeting with ESA representatives, if required.

16. Proposal for Data Management Workshop at 1997 ESA Meeting: McKee presented a prospectus for a workshop to present an overview of data management concepts, options, protocols for field stations, sponsored by the Long-Term Studies Section of ESA. The workshop would coincide with the 1997 ESA meetings in Albuquerque, NM, August 10-11,

1997. OBFS is asked to help set the agenda, and to gauge potential interest, attendance, and costs, with a possibility that ESA will apply for NSF funding. McKee is a member of the workshop organizing committee, and will act as OBFS representative. He notes that the Long-Term Studies Section knows the value of many databases at field stations, and wants to help insure that these resources are properly cared for. Members discussed the desirability of this workshop compared with a more intensive version that might be proposed for the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (next item); there was general agreement that the two workshops would have different agendas and are both needed.

17. Proposal to the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis for OBFS Network Development: President Stanford led a discussion of how best to develop a network of field stations, focusing on the question of a proposal to NCEAS to fund and host a several-day workshop in Santa Barbara, CA. This prospect emerged as a preferred approach from a program session on networking held earlier in the OBFS meeting. In that session Stanford stressed the conclusion of the "New Horizon" report that Field Stations and Marine Labs are nodes of a grid where environmental status can be gauged. The objective of a FSML network is to provide coordinated access to consistent sets of data that meet national environmental needs. Bob Parmenter compared this potential with the approach of the NSF Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) Program, and offered help from the LTER Network Office in providing information and expertise to OBFS sites. Callahan and Parmenter proposed that NCEAS be approached to provide assistance in developing an OBFS database network. Cohen suggested that such a workshop should include researchers in fields such as climate change to address issues of content in data collection. Wyman pointed out that this is such a complex issue that development might take more than one year. Lohr cautioned that we should proceed deliberately, trying to bring along the greatest number of stations. McKee countered that there

are inevitable disparities in interests and potential between the largest and smallest stations. Mahan agreed, and asked that OBFS proceed with this initiative but continue to promote programs that also benefit small, educational stations. With general support, Stanford suggested using a core of people who had served as the working group organizing the NSF "New Horizon" workshop: Cohen, Dawson, McKee, Lohr, Connors, Stanford (Chair), plus Parmenter and Shorty Boucher. Stanford will take the lead in writing a proposal to NCEAS.

18. OBFS Endowment Proposal: Wyman suggested that OBFS establish an endowment fund to generate income for future needs. Swain pointed out the advantages in calling this a "Restricted Fund" rather than the more restrictive term "Endowment". Lohr and several others spoke in favor of this idea. John Wehr commented that the existence of such a fund might attract additional donations. The membership endorsed the proposal to begin such a fund with a transfer of \$1,000 from the OBFS treasury reserve, with an investment committee composed of Connors (Chair), Wyman, and

Sedra Shapiro. Wyman pledged a gift of \$100 to start the fund, with identical pledges coming immediately from Lohr, Shapiro, Boucher, Yohn, and Fisher.

19. Restructuring Executive Committee: Wyman proposed separating the functions of Secretary and Treasurer to reduce the burden on a single individual. President Stanford proposed studying this idea, to be discussed at the 1997 meeting. Wyman and the membership agreed.

20. Nominating Committee Report: Havera read a list of proposed candidates: Editor, David White; Executive Committee Member-at-large, Ron Lawrenz, Mark Stromberg, Hilary Swain, Rick Wyman. The membership approved closing the nominations.

21. Adjournment: With expressions of praise and appreciation for the excellent hospitality, organization, and setting provided by our hosts at the Crooked Creek Laboratory of the White Mountain Research Station, President Stanford solicited and received a motion of adjournment.

REPORT OF THE AIBS REPRESENTATIVE

The American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS) Council meeting convened 3 December 1995 in Washington, DC. The AIBS is a non-profit national scientific organization whose mission is to address important public policy issues in the life sciences, including environmental, medical and agricultural issues. Founded in 1947 as an operating component of the National Academy of Sciences, AIBS is now an independent federation of 45 scientific life science societies representing more than 80,000 biologists, students, and others concerned with the biological sciences. There are about 4,500 individual members of AIBS.

In addition to the typical council meeting topics that are discussed each year, including BioScience, Special Science Programs, and Meeting and Membership, some time was

devoted to discussion of the role AIBS should play as an umbrella for biological societies and what AIBS can do to get affiliated societies more engaged in public policy. The majority of the meeting, however, focused on the discussion of an AIBS restructuring plan and how it relates to interactions with affiliated societies and organizations.

In a letter dated 8 November 1995 to AIBS Council representatives, Executive Director Cliff Gabriel and President W. Hardy Eshbaugh stated "Significant changes are occurring at AIBS that will help the Institute be more responsible to the needs of the biological sciences community. Over the next few months, AIBS will restructure its operations to strengthen member services and public policy as detailed in the Institute's strategic plan. The need for these changes is

driven largely by a failed real estate partnership the Institute entered into in 1987 and a steady erosion of federal contract activity that provided overhead revenue to support the Institute's basic infrastructure. These changes are necessary to ensure the future of the organization by providing for a sustainable funding base. Over the next few months, AIBS will restructure its operations using a variety of cost-saving mechanisms such as out-sourcing and rent reduction. Even though this organizational transition away from dependency on federal contracts will be difficult at first, it will be beneficial in the long run. The Board believes a streamlined Institute will be better able to address the needs of its members and its affiliated societies and organizations." Thus, AIBS will be undergoing significant changes in 1996.

As the OBFS representative to AIBS, I requested that AIBS consider endorsing the Freshwater Imperative and the Fish and Wildlife Diversity Funding Initiative. I also provided information for OBFS of examples that demonstrated how research in biology has addressed major societal problems from our report "A New Horizon for Biological Field Stations and Marine Laboratories." This information was requested by AIBS so that a compendium of examples can be developed to counteract the current widespread congressional attack on research funding.

Respectfully submitted by
Stephen P. Havera, 1995.

NSF BIOLOGICAL FIELD STATIONS AND MARINE LABORATORIES (FSML) PROGRAM

Proposals for the National Science Foundation's *Improvements in facilities, communications, and equipment at biological field stations and marine laboratories (FSML)* program are due the first Friday in April (April 4) 1997. Program guidelines can be found at <http://www.nsf.gov:80/bio/pubs/> or by contacting Dr. James T. Callahan, Program Director. Phone: 703/306-1469; Email: jcallaha@nsf.gov.

Susan Lohr and Jan Hodder, among others, have served on the FSML panel and offer the following words of wisdom to those of us who are submitting proposals:

1. Follow the directions in the program announcement and **DO NOT DEVIATE**.
2. Write as well as you can. Eliminate redundancy. Spell correctly. Eliminate computer-generated mistakes, such as incomplete deletions, etc.
3. Talk with Tom Callahan ahead of time, if you have any questions at all about the appropriateness of your request or your offered match.
4. Do not assume any prior knowledge of your field station on the part of the reviewers.
5. Make your arguments cohesive and compelling.
6. Be honest.

OBFS DISPLAY

The OBFS display has now been repaired and is available for meetings. It is a very good way to advertise the activities of OBFS and the importance of field stations in research and teaching. The display may be reserved by contacting Nina Consolatti, Facilities Coordinator, Kellogg Biological Station,

Michigan State University, 3700 East Gull Lake Drive, Hickory Corners, Michigan 49060.
Phone: 616/671-2228;
Email: Consolatti@kbs.msu.edu.
Contact Nina also for special information on shipping and handling the display.

OBFS FINANCIAL REPORT
September 15, 1996

Balance in checking account, August 31, 1995 \$10,254.55

Income:

Dues	\$11,090.04
Directory sales	545.00
Interest (includes only interest paid to date)	211.78
Miscellaneous (net collected vs. expenses at annual meeting, 1995)	<u>9.00</u>
Total:	\$11,855.82

Expenses:

Office expense:

Wages: secretarial and database development	
Tyson Research Center	\$840.00
Bodega Marine Laboratory	4,079.09
Supplies	143.25
Phone, copying, postage	419.53
Letterhead printing	87.99
Check printing	8.40
Missouri corporation registration fee	20.00
AIBS dues	100.00
AIBS meeting expenses	392.32
Newsletter expenses	2,173.60
International Committee	<u>500.00</u>
Total:	\$8,764.18

Addition to OBFS Reserve \$ 3,091.64

Balance in checking account, September 15, 1996* \$13,346.19

*(\$1,346.19 in checking account, plus \$12,000.00 in 6-month CD)

OBFS APPROVED BUDGET FOR 1996-97

Income:

Dues	\$11,000.00
Interest	700.00
Directory Sales	<u>300.00</u>
Total:	<u>\$12,000.00</u>

Expenses:

Office Expense	\$6,000.00
AIBS dues and meeting expense	600.00
Newsletter	3,200.00
Travel to ESA Ecology	
Instruction meeting	1,800.00
Addition to Reserve for special projects	<u>400.00</u>
Total:	<u>\$12,000.00</u>

"Ye Olde Official OBFS Ballotte", 1997-98

Two positions are open for the two-year term beginning January 1997, Editor for the Newsletter and Executive Committee Member at Large. Biographical sketches for each of the candidates follow the ballot. You may elect to enter a write in candidate's name.

Voting is open only to Station Members of OBFS. Members may vote in either of two ways:

EITHER, mail a copy of this ballot, voting for one candidate for each position, to Organization of Biological field Stations, PO Box 247, Bodega Bay, CA 94923. Please include a return address on the envelope to allow checking of membership voting status. If voting privacy is desired, place ballot within an inner envelope, and the ballot will be tallied by an independent observer.

OR, If absolute privacy is not required, you may indicate your vote by e-mail, with your station name included, to obfs@ucdavis.edu.

EDITOR:

_____ David White

_____ (write in)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER-AT-LARGE:

(Vote for one only)

_____ Ron Lawrenz

_____ Mark Stromberg

_____ Hilary Swain

_____ Rick Wyman

_____ (write in)

CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER AT LARGE

RON LAWRENZ

My first experiences with field stations came as an undergraduate student in Limnology at Michigan State University and a graduate student in biology at Central Michigan University where I visited and worked at the Kellogg Biological Station and the Central Michigan Biological Field Station on Beaver Island, respectively. As a graduate student, I was fortunate enough to help develop and then direct another small field facility for CMU at Elk Lake. In 1976 I accepted a research position as an Aquatic Biologist with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources at the Carlos Avery Field Research Lab in Forest Lake and in

1984 I accepted the position Research Scientist in charge of the state Acid Rain Research Program. I was promoted to Supervisor for the Field Surveys and Review Unit of the DNR in 1987. In 1989 I became the first Director of the St. Croix Watershed Research Station, a new field research facility of the Science Museum of Minnesota, a private non-profit institution. Since 1995, I have also served as Head of the Museum's Research and Collections Division. My tenure as the SCWRS Director has been extremely rewarding, having planned and witnessed the development of new research facilities, dormitories, a core research staff, and now a thriving research program with an endowment that will provide a new source of research funding in perpetuity. Our association with the Museum affords us incredible opportunities to interface field research and informal education, something that we have already taken great advantage of with the development of new exhibits. Probably the best move I have made during my twenty-six years of association with field stations was to join the OBFS as SCWRS Director in 1989. I can directly attribute much of our success in developing our new facilities and program to the "nuts and bolts" experiences that OBFS members have shared during the intervening years. I would like to give a little back by serving as a Member-at-Large.

MARK STROMBERG

I grew up in New Mexico, attended college at Colorado State University (Ft. Collins), worked with the Colorado Division of Wildlife (Research) and did my graduate work at the Zoology Department, University of Wisconsin, Madison. My doctorate is in Zoology (1979) with a minor in botany. My research is wide ranging, but generally involves grasslands and small mammals which can have a strong influence on grassland plant communities. I was the Coordinator and Zoologist for the Wyoming Heritage Program (TNC) for several years and later the Rocky Mountain Land Steward (TNC) for Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico preserves. I moved on as the resident manager for National Audubon's Research Ranch Sanctuary on the north side of the Huachuca mountains in southeastern Arizona. Since 1989, I work as the resident director of the Hastings Natural History Reservation, a field station of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley. I continue to conduct research, having authored or co-authored some 25 research papers, and I co-authored a book on the Mammals in Wyoming. I was the president in 1995-1996 of the California Native Grass Association and serve on the boards of several local conservation organizations in Carmel Valley, California.

HILARY SWAIN

Hilary Swain is the Executive Director of Archbold Biological Station, an independent facility dedicated to long-term ecological research on the organisms and environments of the unique scrub habitats of the Lake Wales Ridge, Florida. She oversees research activities, land management of Archbold's own 5,000-acre scrub preserve, the K-12 education program, and the conservation role of the Station in protecting regional scrub habitats. Hilary also provides oversight and direction for the MacArthur Agro-ecology Research Center, a major division of Archbold Biological Station. The Center is a 10,300-acre full-scale commercial cattle ranch which conducts research on the relationships among cattle ranching, citrus production and Florida's native biodiversity. Her personal research interests are in the application of the scientific principles of conservation biology, and computer geographical information systems for reserve design, land management and planning for endangered species. Hilary serves on the Board of the Florida Chapter of The Nature Conservancy and she has just completed her three year term as Secretary for the Society for Conservation Biology.

She would wish to serve OBFS by helping the organization strengthen internal communication and cooperation, and promote external liaison with other research, teaching and conservation institutions and organizations.

RICHARD WYMAN

I received my BS in biology at Panhandle State University in Goodwell, Oklahoma, and earned a MS (1970) and Ph.D. (1973) at Illinois State University. My graduate studies were in ecology and animal behavior. I conducted my dissertation research in Sri Lanka. Since then I have worked for an engineering and environmental consulting firm, and taught at six colleges and universities in New York State. I came to Huyck Preserve in 1986 and I am currently an Adjunct Associate Professor at SUNY-Albany. I have published 48 scientific papers and am the editor of the book *Global Climate Change and Life on Earth* (Chapman and Hall). I have served as the Huyck Preserve's institutional representative to the OBFS since 1986, and have chaired the International Committee since its inception. I have also served on the NSF Panel for Facilities Improvement at Field Stations and Marine Laboratories in 1993 and 1994.

I believe that as biologists we have a great responsibility to try and save as much of the Earth's biological diversity as we can. The OBFS is an organization that can make a difference in this endeavor. The OBFS must define a set of objectives that will allow us to better achieve that goal. We must do everything we can to increase the training of future field biologists and to help organismal biologists, ecologists and others continue to conduct important research, no doubt increasingly focused on conservation biology and biodiversity studies. We should seek out associations with other professional organizations that will help in these endeavors. I believe that the OBFS must become a more mature and vigorous organization through increase in membership both nationally and internationally, and through the development of ongoing activities and projects that run throughout the year. Many field stations outside of the US desperately need our help.

To accomplish these goals we may eventually need to have paid staff. I believe we need to establish and help grow an endowment whose purpose would be to support the activities of the OBFS membership. We should develop a "friends of the OBFS Committee" composed of influential and well-off people who will take on the task of funding the endowment. In addition a small portion, say 5%, of the recent dues increase should be set aside in an endowment fund. This is a long-term goal (perhaps 10 years), but once an endowment is established, income from the fund could help in a number of ways e.g. funding travel for third world representatives to attend OBFS meetings, funding special projects at competitively selected field stations, pay for publications, and support a permanent staff.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

DAVID WHITE

Even as a graduate student, I had no knowledge of biological field stations. My first position, however, was as research biologist at the University of Oklahoma Biological Station where I learned first hand the tremendous value of field stations in teaching and research. Following three years at Oklahoma, I was on the faculty of the University of Michigan Biological Station at Douglas Lake for ten years, taught one summer at Camp Filbert Roth, and have served as Director of the Hancock Biological Station on Kentucky Lake and Coordinator for the Center for Reservoir Research (Murray State University) since 1988. I have missed only one summer at a field station in the past 20 years. I have been an associate editor for the *Southwestern Naturalist* and the *Journal of Freshwater Ecology* and am a past Chair of the North American

Benthological Society Editorial Committee. The Station/Center has a full-time staff of five and all the hardware and software needed to produce the Newsletter. We operate primarily on IBM PCs with full scanning and Corel capabilities. We also have the services of a full-time editor/illustrator who assists in the production and publication of bulletins, flyers, newsletters and posters. We produce an annual bulletin and poster that are distributed nationally, and the station has had its own home page since 1995. Newsletter duties are a way to repay part of what OBFS has given me over the past 8 years.

THE 1997 ORGANIZATION OF BIOLOGICAL FIELD STATIONS MEETING - OREGON INSTITUTE OF MARINE BIOLOGY (OIMB)

The 1997 OBFS meeting will be held at the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology (OIMB) from Thursday Sept. 18 - Sunday Sept. 21, 1997. OIMB is located on the southern Oregon coast in Charleston, at the mouth of Coos Bay. Part of the University of Oregon, the Institute has offered courses and research opportunities for the past 70 years.

Plans for the meeting include an optional all day field trip to the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area on Thurs. September 18th. The OBFS meeting will officially begin on Friday Sept. 19th and will include a low tide intertidal visit to the rocky shores of Cape Arago, seal and sea lion watching, and a field trip to the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve to examine their education program, saltmarsh and upland restoration projects, and hike the trails. The meeting will end on Sunday Sept. 21st.

OIMB can house approximately 50 people and can provide meals for 100. Housing is in variable units, mostly bunk dorm rooms for 8 -18 people, although some individual rooms will be available. Captain John's motel is just across the street.

Travel options to OIMB are numerous. Horizon Airlines, a partner with Alaska and Northwest flies to North Bend, 15 minutes from OIMB. Eugene is two and a half hours from OIMB, and Portland is five hours away. San Francisco is an eleven hour drive along Hwy. 101, one of the most scenic highways in the US.

Further details of the meeting will be included in the spring newsletter. Should you have questions please contact Jan Hodder at OIMB.

ESA SPECIAL SESSION

There will be a special one-day session added to the 1997 Ecological Society of America meeting focusing on long-term research. The special session will be jointly sponsored by the US LTER program and the Long-term Studies Section (LTSS) of ESA. The session will be coordinated so as not to overlap with the information management workshop Bill Michener et al. are putting together. Contact John H. Porter, jhpte@amazon.eusc.virginia.edu.

BAHAMIAN FIELD STATION POSITION AVAILABLE

Executive Director for the Bahamian Field Station, a not-for-profit Bahamian corporation on the remote island of San Salvador, Bahamas. Ph.D. in the Natural Sciences, with good communication, mechanical and business skills required. As head administrator, responsibilities would include overall organization and management of the Field Station to include the physical plant, designing of programs, grantsmanship, coordinating of research, planning and management of supply and travel logistics, and overall supervision of the Bahamian staff. Send request for detailed information by January 15, 1997, to:

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