

NEW ENGLAND ESTUARINE RESEARCH SOCIETY

SPRING 2012 MEETING

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1:00 p.m. Thursday, April 12 to ~12 p.m. Saturday, April 14

[John Carver Inn](#)

Plymouth, Massachusetts

Post-meeting field trips will be offered Saturday afternoon.



Important Due Dates:

- 17 February 2012 - abstracts due
- 7 March 2012 - student travel award application due
- 13 March 2012 - last day for conference rate at the John Carver Inn
- 28 March 2012 - online meeting registration due
- 4 April 2012 - pre-registration payment due to Treasurer



Hosts

Sara Grady and John Brawley

NEERS heads to "America's Hometown", Plymouth, MA for our Spring Meeting. We're holding it earlier than usual and hoping for a warm (but not too warm) April so everyone can enjoy the Plymouth waterfront in between the always compelling talks . Plymouth has many interesting historical and natural sights to see, including (the somewhat diminutive) Plymouth Rock, the Mayflower, Plymouth Long Beach, and Brewster Gardens (along the restored Town Brook – the herring should be running!) Check out the many historic and natural sites of interest in the area (see below: "Meeting site").

Organizations are always welcome to be meeting sponsors and support is greatly appreciated. Please contact [NEERS treasurer, Cindy Delpapa](#), to learn about our sponsorship levels and how to support the NEERS meeting.



[Meeting Site](#) - meeting venue and local attractions

[Special Symposium](#) - The ecological, economic, and social benefits of shellfish aquaculture, restoration, and conservation in New England estuaries

[Call For Papers](#) - Abstract submission form (due February 17) and presentation guidelines.

[Students](#) - Presentation prizes and student travel awards.

[Registration](#) - The pre-registration deadline is March 28. After this date, please register on-site.

[Meals and Social Events](#)

Business Meeting - The NEERS Business Meeting will be held after the last presentation on Friday afternoon. All meeting participants are encouraged to attend and participate in the discussion.

[Field Trips](#)

[Accommodations](#) - Register by March 16 for the conference rate.

[Directions](#)

Program - .pdf of the current program *is not yet available*.

Abstracts - On-line access to abstracts for this *is not yet available*.



contacts

General Information - [Sara Grady](#) , (781-659-8168) -OR- [John Brawley](#) , (339-933-0731).

Abstracts or Other Program Concerns - [program chair - Hilary Neckles](#) , [phone number](#).

Registration, Student Travel Awards - [treasurer - Cindy Delpapa](#) , [phone number](#).

Website Issues - [webmaster - Jamie Vaudrey](#) , [phone number](#).

Having trouble accessing the email addresses? Download a .pdf of the [Team NEERS](#) contact information.



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MEETING VENUE

The Spring 2012 meeting of the New England Estuarine Research Society (NEERS) will be held at the [John Carver Inn](#), Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Located in the heart of Historic Plymouth, the John Carver Inn & Spa is just a short walk to all attractions, shopping and the breathtaking waterfront.

[John Carver Inn & Spa](#)

25 Summer Street

Plymouth, MA 02360

Phone: (800) 274-1620 | (508) 746-7100

[directions](#)

NIGHT LIFE

Many of Plymouth's restaurants feature evening entertainment, in particular The Cabby Shack and T Bones Roadhouse, which have nightly musical guests. See: [Local Food Options](#)

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

Gardens and Historical Sites

[Plymouth Rock](#)

[Mayflower II](#)

[Pilgrim Hall Museum](#)

[Plimoth Plantation](#)

Natural Sites and Nature Expeditions

[Plymouth Long Beach](#)

[Duxbury Beach Reservation](#)

[Eel River Preserve](#)

Brewster Gardens and Jenney Grist Mill (also historical)



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SPECIAL SYMPOSIUM

Thursday, April 12, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Symposium Title: The ecological, economic, and social benefits of shellfish aquaculture, restoration, and conservation in New England estuaries

Background and Goals:

Shellfish aquaculture is central to the immediate region (Duxbury, Wellfleet, the rest of Cape Cod, and soon to be very active in Plymouth) as well as northeastern estuaries at large. Talks will focus on shellfish aquaculture and restoration activities, including the social, cultural, and economic influences of these activities. Water quality, pathogens, disease, and other environmental conditions are central to this theme. Topics will include biology and natural history of shellfish, conservation and restoration, aquaculture, and potential impacts of these activities.

Symposium Speakers Will be Invited

Contact for more information:

[John Brawley](#) , (339-933-0731).

Location - main meeting venue

Invited Speakers

Joe Buttner, Salem State

Marta Gomez-Chiarri, University of Rhode Island

Mark Green, St. Joseph's College

Shore Gregory, Island Creek Oysters

Boze Hancock, The Nature Conservancy

Rick Karney, Martha's Vineyard Shellfish Group

Hauke Kite-Powell, WHOI

Dale Leavitt, Roger Williams University

Sandy Macfarlane, Coastal Resources Specialist



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Submission Form Is Inactive

The deadline for submitting abstracts has passed. Contact the [program chair](#) with questions.

Abstract submissions for contributed oral and poster presentations are invited on any subject related to estuaries or coastal environments. Reports of work in progress as well as work in advanced stages and reviews of relevant topics are encouraged. Contributed oral and poster presentations will be scheduled for Friday morning and afternoon and Saturday morning, April 13 - 14.

Oral presentations will be limited to 15 minutes with an additional 5 minutes for discussion. Poster presentations will be displayed throughout the meeting, and highlighted during a poster session. Students can compete for the Ketchum and Rankin Prizes for oral presentations or the Dean and Warren Prizes for posters ([prize information](#)).

Abstracts must be submitted online (link above) by February 17, 2012.

All presenters must be or become a NEERS member. Information on becoming a member is included on the pre-registration form, or at [JOIN NEERS](#).

Instructions for Preparing Abstracts

All abstracts have a 1750-character limit (about 250 words) including spaces. The character limit applies to the body of the abstract only, the authors and titles are excluded from the limit. All words in the title should be CAPITALIZED. Author(s), address(es), and presentation title must appear in the proper format. Use footnotes to minimize the space for addresses when multiple authors are from more than one institution. Include full name, e-mail address, and telephone number of presenting author. Even if you would prefer an oral presentation, please consider checking the "oral preferred but poster okay" option if you are willing to present a poster instead. This greatly facilitates final scheduling.

Please indicate on the web submission form if you are submitting your abstract for presentation in the special symposium. Symposium speakers will be invited, see the [Special Symposium](#) page for more details.

A confirmation page will be printed immediately upon successful submission of your abstract to the NEERS website. If you do not receive this confirmation page please resubmit your abstract. Contact the web master, [Jamie Vaudrey](#), with recurring problems. Following the deadline for submitting abstracts, all submissions will be confirmed by the program chair and the lead author will be notified of his/her scheduled time. Contact the [program chair](#) with questions.

PowerPoint Presentations

The conference computer (PC) will use PowerPoint 2007. Please be sure to check your presentation for compatibility with this version.

We will load all PowerPoint presentations onto an IBM-compatible laptop well before each session. Please bring your PowerPoint presentation on a USB thumb drive to the projection desk at the NEERS meeting. We will load your presentations the evening before your talk. Please make sure your file can be read by another computer before you hand it in. Speakers should not plan to use their own computers for their presentations.

For presentations that include graphics or media other than standard PowerPoint slides (e.g., complicated animations or embedded video clips; photographic slides or overheads), authors will need to make additional arrangements. Please contact the webmaster, [Jamie Vaudrey](#), for more information.

Poster Guidelines

Presenters are expected to be present during the dedicated poster viewing session on Friday.

The maximum poster size is 48" x 72". Easels will be provided for posters. Tape or tacks will be provided.



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STUDENTS AWARDS

Travel Awards

Three \$100 travel-awards will be awarded by NEERS, plus additional awards have been donated by our sponsors. Graduate and undergraduate students who are giving presentations at this meeting and are members of NEERS (by the meeting date) may apply. Selection will be made by lottery and will not affect eligibility for student presentation prizes.

To apply for a travel award, send an email with your abstract attached to NEERS treasurer [Cindy Delpapa](#) by **March 7**. Provide your name, address, college or university, email, and telephone number. In addition, please have your faculty advisor send the treasurer an email certifying that you are a student in good standing.

As always, NEERS greatly appreciates donations to the Bill Niering Student Travel Endowment fund (student endowment contributions can be made when you pre-register). Travel awards may be offered to non-presenting students if sufficient funds are available; students are welcome to contact the NEERS Treasurer about availability of such support for general student travel.

Presentation Prizes

Prizes will be awarded to students chosen by the judging panel in four categories: graduate student oral presentation (Buck Ketchum Prize, \$100), undergraduate student oral presentations (Stubby Rankin Prize, \$100), graduate student poster presentation (David Dean Prize, \$100) and undergraduate student poster presentation (Scott Warren Prize, \$100). All eligible students will be automatically entered into the appropriate presentation prize competition.

Papers and posters are judged by a committee in terms of overall effectiveness, scientific content, and quality of the presentation. Students are strongly encouraged to review the [scoring criteria](#) in advance.

Students who have won an award are not eligible for that award again, but can compete for a different award. NEERS appreciates contributions towards the endowment fund for these prizes, so give generously when you pre-register. One free Banquet ticket is provided for the lead author of each student presentation.



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Registration

Pre-registration opens on Monday, March 12, 2012.
 Pre-registration closes on Wednesday, March 28, 2012.

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Pre-registration Form Is Inactive

Pre-registration has not yet opened.

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Have you already registered but forgot to use the PayPal button? Click [here](#) for help...

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Payment accepted by check, money order, PayPal, or credit card (via PayPal).

Registration Fee Schedule - Spring 2012

	pre-registration rate	walk-in rate
student	\$25.00	\$40.00
member	\$60.00	\$75.00
non-member	\$80.00	\$95.00
one-day student	\$15.00	\$25.00
one-day member	\$25.00	\$30.00
one-day non-member	\$35.00	\$40.00

Registration includes the NEERS social on Thursday evening and all coffee breaks.
 No other meals are included.

Additional Fees - Spring 2012

NEERS membership - student*	\$5.00
NEERS membership - regular*	\$20.00
Banquet Ticket**	\$42.00
Saturday Box Lunch	\$15.00
field trip	free

* The registration form includes the option to join NEERS ([membership details](#)). Loyal members, annual dues are collected at the spring meeting.

** Students who are lead presenters receive a complimentary banquet ticket. For everyone, pre-registration is highly recommended, tickets are usually not available for walk-in registrations.



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MEALS AND SOCIAL EVENTS

NEERS Welcoming Social - Thursday, 5 p.m.

Location: John Carver Inn

Time: 5 p.m. - until we head out to dinner

The Welcoming Social will be held immediately following the Symposium, and will provide an opportunity to check out the posters before the official poster session on Friday. There will be light refreshments served (including complimentary beer and wine) and a chance to mingle and chat about topics of estuarine and coastal significance with the astute and erudite NEERSians gathered for this special meeting.

Awards Banquet - Friday, 6:00 p.m.

Location: John Carver Inn

Time: bar and appetizers open at 6 p.m., dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Members and friends are invited to sign up for the banquet when they register. The Friday evening festivities will begin with a social in the hotel restaurant (Hearth n' Kettle). Drinks will be available from the bar (cash bar). The Awards banquet will be a buffet that features New England clam chowder; a baby spinach salad with blue cheese, pecans, and craisins; a choice of three entrees (baked haddock with sherry crumbs; baked chicken Florentine stuffed with spinach, onion, and fontina cheese; and wild mushroom ravioli with mushroom and cured tomato ragu). Dinner will be followed by a cranberry-apple crisp with whipped cream. The student awards for best oral and poster presentations will be awarded at the close of the banquet.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE BANQUET, only those that pre-register for the banquet can be guaranteed a meal due to space limitations. Please indicate whether you will attend on the meeting registration form. The caterers are aware of dietary restrictions – just make sure to include them in your registration. If you don't find what you need on the registration form, contact [Sara Grady](#).

Students delivering an oral or poster presentation (as lead presenter) attend for free.

After dinner we will walk down the hill to a local venue, most likely [T Bones Roadhouse](#). Their calendar says Friday's entertainment is "Minute to Win It" and is

described as "Play games, dance the night away" and you can get your bar tab paid for if you win. Will they allow an entire organization to win? Will the locals be upset by how talented NEERSians tend to be? We will see. As always we will be on the lookout for the next Stickleback Award winner, so dance late and make sure you're physically (if not mentally) present at the first talk the next morning.

Other Meals

Thursday lunch and dinner and Friday lunch are on your own. Water Street and Main/Court Street in Plymouth have myriad dining options within a reasonable walking distance. A few options are listed below.

Meeting registration includes the welcoming social and mid-morning and afternoon breaks. Meals are not included.

A Saturday box-lunch (for field trips or travelers) is available for \$15.00. Please pre-register for a box-lunch when completing the registration form.

Breakfast will be available at the hotel each morning at your own cost, or can be found at many of the local food options.

Quick coffee/snacks

Dunkin' Donuts

Kiskadee Coffee Company (www.kiskadeecoffee.com/) - coffee, pastries, bagels, etc

Breakfast/Lunch

Persy's Place (www.persysplace.com) – large menu, "New England" food

Water Street Café (waterstreetcafeplymouth.com/Home.html) – small diner-like café with basic breakfast/sandwiches

Lunch/Dinner

T Bones Roadhouse (www.tbonesroadhouse.com) - BBQ/Southern

Cabbyshack Restaurant and Pub (www.cabbyshack.com) – seafood/"Caribbean"

The Lobster Hut (www.lobsterhutplymouth.com) – fried seafood

Sam Diegos (plymouth.samdiegos.com) - Mexican

Upper Crust Pizzeria (<http://theuppercrustpizzeria.com>) – pizza

Bangkok Cuisine - Thai



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FIELD TRIPS

Saturday afternoon

We are still working on the field trips – oyster grants of Duxbury Bay, birdwatching at Duxbury Beach, and a tour of recent Plymouth restoration projects are all potentials. Regardless, they will provide great opportunities to get out and see some of the natural beauty that the South Shore has to offer.

Please indicate your interest in a field trip on the pre-registration form, for scheduling purposes. This is nonbinding, but a general head count is helpful to the field trip leaders.



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ACCOMMODATIONS

[John Carver Inn & Spa](#)

25 Summer Street
 Plymouth, MA 02360
 reserve at the website or by calling:
 Phone: (800) 274-1620 | (508) 746-7100

NEERS rooms are reserved until March 16, 2012 (rates are same after deadline but room availability *not* guaranteed after this date).

Please identify yourself as registering for the NEERS conference rate. Check in time is 3 p.m. but you can request early check in for Thursday.

single or double occupancy per night= \$115.00 + 11.7% taxes
 parking is free

Note: If you need a little bit of rejuvenation, there will be discounted services for meeting attendees at the hotel spa. The pool and hot tub (plus the Mayflower water slide!) will also be available for our use.

Other Options

<http://www.visit-plymouth.com/lodging.htm>



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