

NASAC RAMBLINGS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

OCTOBER 2007

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Communication is critical to the success of any business or organization and Debra and I are making a concentrated effort to improve the communication channels within NASAC. One obvious way to do that was to create a website and I am very pleased that has now been done. Thanks to the efforts of our very own Scott Leach, we have a good looking website with lots of great information. If you haven't looked at it yet, take time now. It is easy to find at www.nasac.net. We plan to expand it and look forward to your comments on what information should be included.

While there is the need to ask what we can do better, I think we also need to take time to celebrate what NASAC is doing well. There are several of our coordinators who are doing an outstanding job fostering information exchange. Sen. Dan Swecker gathers articles and updates them daily on the Washington Fish Grower's Association website www.wfga.net. Then there are at least two list-serves: Gary Jensen distributes items through the USDA "aquacontacts" list and Laura Tiu manages the "aqua-ohio" group. I would encourage you to sign up for news from all three. Finally, Debra Sloan has put in many hours developing a list that has aquaculture contacts for each state. I really appreciate her commitment to the project. There is more information from her about it in this newsletter.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service has developed FishWatch, www.fishwatch.noaa.gov, to help consumers make informed choices. I wish it included more aquacultured species but I still appreciate their focus on reaching out in the same way the Aquaculture Scientific Advisory Panel did <http://aquanic.org/asap/asap.htm>. Hopefully, this fact-based information will counter some of the misinformation and hype that surrounds seafood consumption.

Now I guess it is my turn to practice good communication and let you know the NASAC annual meeting will be Tuesday, April 29 – Friday, May 2, 2008 in Springfield, Missouri. Please mark your calendars now and plan to be there. The hotel is easy to reach from the airport or the interstate. Also, I've really worked to keep the cost down so don't think it should be an issue. I'm really looking forward to seeing you here and will get you more details later.

Please let me know how NASAC can better serve you.

Bart
573-526-6666
bart.hawcroft@mda.mo.gov

LYNNE CANTER, Editor
lmcanter@comcast.net
PHONE: 301-464-5790

AQUACULTURE NEWS

Angela Caporelli
Aquaculture Coordinator and Marketing Specialist
Frankfort KY, 40601
angela.caporelli@ky.gov
502-564-4983 ext. 259 cell: 502-330-5808 fax: 502-564-0303

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!!!

Friday October 19th, 2007

KAA Annual meeting

**Kentucky State University Aquaculture Research Center
Frankfort, KY**

Make every attempt to attend! Topics include:

Largemouth Bass Workshop

Info on Species of:

Koi, Catfish, Paddlefish, Trout, Freshwater prawn, Marine shrimp and Tilapia
There will be a panel discussion with chefs and distributors to network and talk with.

Please contact Angela Caporelli 502-564-4983 or Sheila McCord at 859-744-4860
\$20 for KAA Members/\$30 for non-members. Includes full day of information and lunch.

Debra Sloan
NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
debrasloan@earthlink.net
phone & fax: 828-524-1264 cell : 828-421-9664

NASAC Update: NASAC-APHIS Aquatic Animal Health State Contacts Directory

Thank you for providing the Aquatic Animal Health (AAH) contact information for your states, NASAC certainly could not have compiled this plethora of information without your support. The Directory will be finalized soon, you will receive a copy and NASAC encourages each of you to use the Directory as a resource and then give us feedback.

The objective of the Directory is two-fold:

1. To identify the competent authority and the primary AAH contact in each state.
2. To provide state contact information so that lines of active dialogues can be conducted more easily.

The second factor is the most important to me since while gathering the information for this project I was able to talk with many people across the country and discuss an array of topics besides AAH. However, the most common thread of conversation was VHS; folks are concerned, as well they should be, and some states are rewriting their Aquatic Animal Health Plans or Programs, while others are considering developing AAH Programs. That is why NASAC promotes talking to contacts in other states or at the national level so that we can learn from and help each other in the ever-changing environment of aquaculture. After all, we are all in the *same boat!*

Again, thank you for your help.

Gary Jensen
CSREES-USDA
gjensen@csrees.usda.gov

NOAA Launches 2008-2009 National Marine Aquaculture Competition Deadline for Pre-Proposals is October 18, 2007

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has announced an open competition for up to \$8 million in competitive grants in 2008-2009 through the National Marine Aquaculture Initiative. The grants will be awarded to demonstration projects and research to develop sustainable marine aquaculture in the United States. The deadline for preliminary proposals is **October 18, 2007**. The deadline for full proposals is January 24, 2008. Institutions of higher education, nonprofit organizations, commercial organizations, Federal, State, local and Indian tribal governments, and individuals are eligible to apply.

Coordinated by the NOAA Aquaculture Program and NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, the 2008-2009 competition will consider aquaculture research and demonstration projects in near shore, open water, or terrestrial environments across a range of scientific disciplines. NOAA will fund individual projects ranging from approximately \$200,000 to \$1,000,000 for a two year period. It is anticipated that the agency will make approximately 20 awards, including up to four pilot-scale demonstration projects at or near the \$1,000,000 level, and the remainder of projects at or about the \$200,000 level.

2008 National Marine Aquaculture Initiative Funding Priorities

- Site-specific commercial/pilot scale demonstration projects to establish technical and economic feasibility with special emphasis on hatchery development, land based, near shore and offshore production systems;
- Studies to assess environmental impacts of current marine aquaculture production systems and species including fish and shellfish;
- Nutrition research involving alternative protein based diets and influence of diet on product quality;
- Development of environmental models and Geographical Information System (GIS) tools to aid site selection for new facilities;
- Development of disease diagnostics and controls;
- Development of hands-on training programs in marine hatchery operations and management; and
- Development of synthesis research papers for the following topics: Environmental impacts of marine production systems; alternative protein feeds and potential impacts; disease transmission from aquaculture to wild stocks and vice versa, and status of ecologically acceptable treatments and preventives; and genetic technologies and environmental risk analysis.

To view the full announcement, including specifics on eligibility and the process for proposals, go to the Federal Register at <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html> and search on "NOAA Aquaculture Grant Funds".

For questions regarding the 2008 competition, contact Dr. Andy Lazur by e-mail, Andy.Lazur@noaa.gov

GREAT NEWS!!!!



NASAC now has a website: www.nasac.net thanks to Scott Leach, Aquaculture/CWD Program Manager, from the Colorado Department of Agriculture, Animal Industry Division, Lakewood, CO. **Take a look at the website and if you have any ideas or suggestions please contact Scott Leach at (w) 303-239-4295, (cell) 303-807-2598, or email: scott.leach@ag.state.co.us**

DIRECTORY OF STATE AQUACULTURE COORDINATORS

As changes occur (**retirement, resignation, etc**) please send the new information to Karl Roscher, Maryland Department of Agriculture, 50 Harry S Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21401 or email roschekr@mda.state.md.us

It is very important to keep your state's information current. Without the correct email or address your State will not receive the quarterly newsletter or important information disseminated concerning aquaculture issues. You can get an up to date copy of the Directory of State Aquaculture Coordinators from the Maryland website: www.marylandseafood.org/aquaculture/nasac.php

NASAC DUES

THE FOLLOWING STATES HAVE PAID THE 2007-2008 MEMBERSHIP DUES:

Executive Membership Dues:

Alabama, Colorado, Hawaii, Kansas, Massachusetts, New Jersey (2), North Carolina, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Virginia

Associate Membership Dues:

Don't forget to pay your NASAC dues for the upcoming fiscal year. Membership in NASAC is important. The stronger our association is the louder our voice will be heard when testifying or commenting on aquaculture issues. Dues are good from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. A form for membership is included with this newsletter. If you have questions concerning dues contact Karl Roscher, Maryland Department of Agriculture, 50 Harry S Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21401, 410-841-5724, or email roschekr@mda.state.md.us

2007-2008 NASAC OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT: Bart Hawcroft, MO
VICE PRES: Debra Sloan, NC
SEC./TREAS.: Karl Roscher, MD

NORTHEAST BOARD MEMBERS

Linda O'Dierno, NJ
 Charlie Conklin, PA

SOUTHERN BOARD MEMBERS

Robins Buck, VA
 Ted McNulty, AR

MIDWEST BOARD MEMBERS

Angela Caporelli, KY
 Ron Johnson, WI

WESTERN BOARD MEMBERS

Leonard Young, HI
 Sen. Dan Swecker, WA

PAST PRESIDENT: Jimmy Carlisle, AL

THE NEXT ISSUE OF RAMBLINGS WILL BE OUT IN JANUARY

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
STATE AQUACULTURE COORDINATORS

(NASAC)

c/o Karl Roscher

Maryland Department of Agriculture

50 Harry S Truman Parkway

Annapolis, MD 21401

INVOICE/MEMBERSHIP FORM

DUES 2007/2008

(Please print or type)

NAME _____

TITLE _____

Agency/Institution _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Business phone _____

FAX number _____

E-Mail Address _____

Type of Membership (check one)	Total
<input type="checkbox"/> Executive Member \$100 (State, Province, Territory Coordinators)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Member \$ 50 (Industry, Federal agencies, others)	_____

NASAC=s Federal Employer Identification Number: 54-1589538

Please remit annual membership dues for **fiscal year July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008**.
Please remit payment by the end of the first quarter, September 30, 2007. **MAKE CHECKS**
payable to NASAC and remit to the above address.

If you have any questions, please contact: Karl Roscher
(410) 841-5724
(410) 841-5970 FAX
roschekr@mda.state.md.us