

Coastal Voice

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN SHORE & BEACH PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

— December 2016 —

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ASBPA and the new administration

By TONY PRATT,
ASBPA President

Writing this exactly one week after the national election, I am as uncertain as most are as to how the new administration will view the nation's need for coastal protection. It certainly is not a topic discussed in any national forums for the presidential race. Nor is it a topic on the tips of any politician's tongue as they vie for office, although Chris Christie certainly worked the political side of federal assistance very well for his state following Superstorm Sandy.

At the heart of ASBPA's mission is the goal of protecting and improving the nation's beaches and shores. So let's ask ourselves what would resonate in the new administration and how we can bring that/those issues to new government to make the convincing argument that an investment in the coast pays tremendous dividends in jobs, economic stimulus, reduction of costly storm damage response and recovery, and community protection — the issues we have been pushing for years. This certainly should be part of

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

the conversation.

I heard former House Speaker Newt Gingrich state that the first year of the Trump presidency should be an aggressive, action-oriented year. "Act quickly before 'the swamp' eats you up," he said. So all of us at ASBPA have a challenge before us: Hit the ground running with the new



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administration and Congress and be aggressive ourselves. One of the best ways to do so is to be a part of this year's Coastal Summit Feb. 28-March 2, where making ourselves

heard in DC will be critical.

We commit to this for you and on behalf of the nation's beaches and shores: The voice of the coast will be in the conversation about what the nation needs and how investing in the coast is a nonpartisan issue that brings a great return on the investment.

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Save the dates 2017!

- **Feb. 28-March 2:** ASBPA's Coastal Summit, Washington, DC. Registration is open
- **Oct. 24-27:** ASBPA's National Coastal Conference, Fort Lauderdale

2017 Coastal Summit:

A new commitment to our coasts

By JOAN POPE, 2017
Coastal Summit co-chair

ASBPA's Coastal Summit is from Feb. 28 to March 2, 2017, in Washington, DC, with a theme of: "A New Commitment to Our Coasts." On Jan. 20, 2017, Donald J. Trump will be sworn in as the 45th president of the United States. Regardless of your politics and who you supported on Nov. 8, the next four years will be interesting and different and will impact the direction for our nation and our coastal resources.

Both houses of Congress will have a Republican majority. As I write this, we don't know what course will be set nor the specifics of the changes we shall see. Most federal agencies are dealing with the same degree of uncertainty as they will feel their way through the administration's and legislative agenda.

As an organization interested in preserving and sustaining our coasts and coastal communities, ASBPA is striving to make sure our story is told widely and loudly, both inside and outside of Washington. We need your ears to gather information critical to understanding the future legislative and policy course and your voice to assist in influencing that direction. The 2017 Summit is a great place to start. This is the right time for "A New Commitment to Our Coasts."

With your help, ASBPA can develop a proactive and positive message that emphasizes the importance of the coast as a critical infrastructural resource that is both

economically and environmentally invaluable.

The ASBPA has long supported such practices as Regional Sediment Management, beneficial uses of dredged material, reducing coastal risk, investing in coastal research, and developing resilient coastal communities. Your congressional representatives have historically been receptive to these concepts and will listen to you. Federal agencies want to do what is right, but are trying to balance their programs through guidance and fiscal constraints. Your voice helps in setting the path. The Summit will arm you with the latest insights regarding key coastal science and policy issues, and better able you to deliver a consistent and supportable message.

According to the ASBPA mission statement, "ASBPA is

Administration

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As leadership emerges both in the White House and on the Hill, we will do our absolute best to draw attention to the issues and provoke an intelligent conversation about them.

I ask for your help. Please send me a short paragraph on the ways in which beach or shore management projects brought relief to

dedicated to preserving, protecting and enhancing our coasts by merging science and public policy." The Coastal Summit is an excellent opportunity to learn about and influence the science that shapes public policy. The Summit's opening plenary sessions focus upon current coastal policy issues and the related science. Speakers and panels are being lined up that will help you understand the current and evolving federal climate.

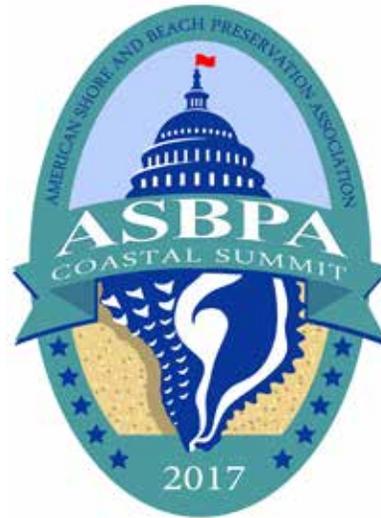
The Summit will also include advocacy meetings with key federal agencies, and we will recognize a few of our many successes via a Coastal Celebration Reception the evening of March

1. At the Summit's closing session, we'll share what we've heard and learned. Everyone involved with coastal science and public policy has an opportunity to learn and contribute at ASBPA's Coastal Summit.

Please put it on your calendar and register for the Summit! ❖

suffering, stimulated local economies, created jobs, or provided other tangible benefits. The more successes you share, the more our reach can be to Members of Congress.

We will compile those stories and use them to show positive results that are already out there. I greatly look forward to hearing from you. Thank you. ❖



Coastal Zone Foundation reborn with new role

In the 21st century, there is a need to define the body of knowledge that reflects best practices for coastal professionals and will address and advance a profession that has come into its own. The Coastal Zone Foundation (CZF) has taken on a new mission to develop and implement a Certified Coastal Practitioner (CCP) program. CZF is joining together with the American Shore & Beach Preservation Association (ASBPA) to implement this program by providing opportunity to present the CCP modules as short courses adjacent to ASBPA's National Coastal Conference and Coastal Summit.

These courses will build on ASBPA's leadership as a multidisciplinary association by providing coastal professionals from government, consulting and academia a series of short courses structured to expand and grow their knowledge base. This will increase their profi-



ciency and competitive advantage. The knowledge base is comprised of knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) needed by practitioners.

In addition, these courses will define what the coastal industry (science, government and nongovernment organizations) expects, identify qualified individuals, set a standard and require concurrence to a code of ethics, require and encourage ongoing education, and enhance ASBPA's value for existing members and draw new members.

CZF was formed in 1984 with the purpose of advancing scientific and related engineering and planning knowledge. During the late 20th century, CZF was known for its Coastal Zone conferences, which brought together thousands of coastal professionals in diverse coastal fields to share their knowledge in an interdisciplinary conference. This new CCP initiative will service the next generation of Coastal Zone professionals. ❖

Submit your 2017 Summit awards nominations now

Nominations are now open for the ASBPA Congressional Awards, Congressional Staffer Award and Corps Award, to be presented on March 1 at the ASBPA awards reception held during the Coastal Summit on Feb. 28-March 2.

- Congressional awards include "Coastal Advocate" — ASBPA's highest award, a lifetime achievement award — and "Friend of the Coast," for shorter term or more project-specific contributions. Any ASBPA member may nominate one or more Members of Congress for the awards.

- The Corps Award honors a member of the Corps of Engineers who contributed to the cause of beach management and preservation. For the most part these are people from the districts who make projects happen.

- The Congressional Staffer Award will be given to a single staff member for his or her efforts both to promote beach preservation and to facilitate project requests in the past legislative session.

- The Agency Award will be given to a single staff member for his or her efforts to promote beach preservation.

- The Friend of the Coast Media Award can be given for exceptional coverage of coastal news.

Nominations are due no later than Jan. 3, 2017, and may be e-mailed to awards@asbpa.org. The nominator will need to be in attendance to be present the award. For questions, e-mail us at managing@asbpa.org. ❖

You shop, ASBPA smiles!

A reminder as you begin your holiday shopping, please make any purchases at Amazon.com, using Amazon Smile with ASBPA listed as your charity! Anything you buy on Amazon.com, you can also buy through smile.amazon.com, but doing so will provide ASBPA a small contribution (0.5% of whatever you purchase).

Go to smile.amazon.com and select American Shore & Beach Preservation Association, or use the link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/53-0218954>.



Communication is focus of Summit short course

By KATE GOODERHAM, APR, CPRC, co-presenter for Communications Short Course and ASBPA Managing Director

Scientists and coastal engineers are, by training and temperament, logical beings who believe that good information is critical in decision-making. It is for good reason that ASBPA prides itself on being a science-based organization. Unfortunately, that is not enough. Time and time again, we have seen passion win over information. That's how human beings are built.

The key to explaining, persuading and influencing is communication. We need know our audiences, and tailor our messages to them. We need to determine who is

the best person to deliver that message. We need to determine the best presentation method for a particular audience. We need to understand a particular audience's concerns and priorities. Some of us directly interact with a variety of audiences. Some of us work with public relations professionals who are the direct communicators. Regardless, we each need to understand how communication works to best serve our employers, clients and community.

This is why the Communications module was included in the Certified Coastal Practitioner (CCP) certification program. All the knowledge we gain in all the other modules is for naught if we don't communicate that information effectively.

Join us on Thursday, March 2, from 1-5 p.m. to learn how to better communicate, take a step towards earning your CCP and earn four professional development hours. ❖

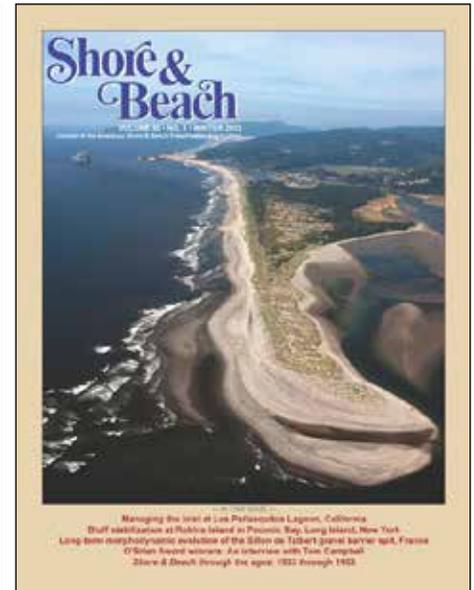
Don't delay, renew your membership today

By KATE & KEN GOODERHAM, ASBPA Managing Directors

We've emailed invoices to individual members and mailed invoices to government and corporate members. Your response has been immediate and enthusiastic! Thank you. We love it that you "get" the importance of ASBPA, and the importance of having a multi-disciplinary organization whose sole commitment is to the coast.

Our research shows that you value *Shore & Beach*, "Coastal Voice," the Coastal Summit and the National Coastal Conference, as well as the important work of our committees. You also know that, in this year of change, we need your help in refining our mission, so that our message gets out.

Please participate. Whether in committees, sponsorships, articles for *Shore & Beach*, we need and value you. You've been our strength for 90 years. Thanks. ❖



Are you impossible to buy for?

May we suggest the best gift for any coastal professional (or student) is "90 Years of ASBPA," the digital collection of all the past *Shore & Beach* journals (including a searchable index) from 1933 to 2016 and conference proceedings from 1927 through 1929. They are all on a convenient DVD or flash drive at a cost of \$100 for members (or 5 for \$350), \$200 for non-members, and \$250 for libraries and other institutions.

Fill out the order form and enclose a check or credit card information and send to ASBPA, 5460 Beaujolais Lane, Fort Myers, Florida 33919. If using a credit card, you can email or fax the information. The fillable order form is at <http://asbpa.org/wpv2/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/DVDOrder-formASBPAfillable.pdf> ❖

Politics won't change ASBPA's purpose

By **DEREK BROCKBANK**,
ASBPA Executive Director

With the U.S. election behind us and looking ahead to 2017, ASBPA anticipates some major changes with the new administration, and will try to prepare for possible fundamental changes to the way federal agencies operate. The make-up of Congress may not have changed significantly, but we have lost some of our best coastal leadership. Coastal Communities Caucus co-chairs (and de facto leads) Reps. Dave Jolly and Patrick Murphy from Florida both lost; and key committee ranking members (and 2016 ASBPA Coastal award winners) Sens. Barbara Mikulski (MD) and Barbara Boxer (CA) both retired.

However, this election does not change who ASBPA is or what we do. ASBPA is, and has always been, nonpartisan. For 90 years, we've prided ourselves in working effectively with coastal decision-makers of all stripes, and we will continue to do so in 2017 and for the next 90 years. ASBPA will continue:

1. To support science-based coastal management and restoration, including addressing coastal impacts of sea level rise and climate change;
2. To advocate for a strong federal role in coastal management and federal funding for coastal research and restoration;
3. To educate and develop new leaders and coastal champions in Congress and the administration.

WASHINGTON REPORT

This year's Coastal Summit theme is "A New Commitment to Our Coast," which is exactly what we need. It will take all the power of ASBPA and our many coastal partners and allies, to ensure the new administration and new members of Congress are committing to healthy coastlines over the coming years.

Finally, ASBPA decided months ago that pushing for greater investment in coastal and natural infrastructure with both presidential candidates was important. We had op-eds published in Florida, North Carolina, and two great Beach New Service articles discussing



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this. Both candidates campaigned on the need for greater U.S. investment in infrastructure and now, post-election, we will work to hold the new administration to that commitment, while continuing to highlight the needs and benefits of natural coastal infrastructure (such as beaches, dunes and wetlands).

I hope you will join us in DC at the Coastal Summit or, if you are unable to attend that, you will join us throughout the year, in working to educate new members of Congress and administration officials about the importance of coastal protection and restoration. ❖

New coastal Members of Congress

California:

- Senate – Kamala Harris (D) (replacing Env. & Public Works Ranking Member Barbara Boxer)
- 17th District – Ro Khanna (D)
- 20th District – Jimmy Panetta (D) (replacing Oceans Caucus chair Sam Farr)
- 24th District – Salud Carbajal (D) (replacing Coastal Caucus chair Lois Capps)
- 44th District – Nanette Barragan (D)

Delaware:

- At large House – Lisa Blunt (D)

Florida:

- 2nd District – Neal Dunn (R)
- 4th District – John Rutherford (R)
- 13th District – Charlie Crist (D) (defeated Coastal Caucus chair David Jolly)
- 18th District – Brian Mast (R) (replacing Coastal Caucus chair Patrick Murphy)

Hawaii:

- 1st District – Colleen Hanabusa (D)
- Illinois:
- Senate – Tammy Duckworth (D)
- 10th District – Brad Schneider

Louisiana:

- Senate – Run off Dec. 10 between John Kennedy (R) and Foster Campbell (D) (Replacing Env. & Public Works, Transportation & Infrastructure sub-committee chair David Vitter)
- 3rd District – Run off Dec. 10 between Scott Angelle (R) and Clay Higgins (R)

Maryland:

- Senate – Chris Van Hollen (D) (Replacing Appropriations ranking member Barbara Mikulski)

Michigan:

- 1st District – Jack Bergman (R)
- 10th District – Paul Mitchell (R)

Minnesota:

- 2nd District – Jason Lewis (R)

New Hampshire:

- Senate – Maggie Hassan (D)
- 1st District – Carol Shea-Porter (D)

New York:

- 3rd District – Thomas Suozzi (D)
- Virginia:
- 2nd District – Scott Taylor (R)

Washington:

- 7th District – Pramila Jayapal (D)

Wisconsin:

- 8th District – Mike Gallagher (R) ❖

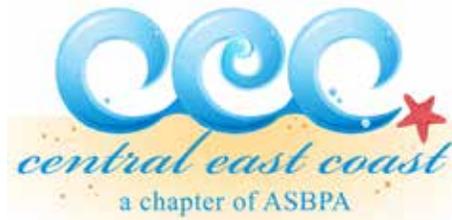
Coastal permitting workshop Jan. 10-11

By **KEN WILLSON, CEC**
Workshop Chair

Planning is well under way for the highly anticipated coastal permitting workshop being hosted by the Central East Coast Chapter of ASBPA. The event, which will be held in Wilmington, NC, Jan. 10-11, 2017, will bring together representatives from federal and state permitting agencies, federal and state resource agencies, coastal engineering and environmental permitting practitioners, and beach nourishment and navigation project sponsors to discuss what is working well and what can be improved with the permitting of coastal projects in the region.

This project is an important step in ASBPA's efforts to continue to engage resource agencies to look for ways to streamline the permitting process to find the right balance to protect natural resources and avoid excessive delays in implementing coastal projects in the public interest. The expectation of this workshop is that a focused dialogue between these groups will inform and enable those in attendance who are looking at ways to streamline the process.

We have already confirmed representatives from multiple regulatory branches of the USACE Districts within the region, representatives from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA National Marine Fisheries, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), state permitting agencies, USACE Environmental Resource Section



staff, and coastal consultants from North Carolina and South Carolina.

The first day of presentations will focus on federal and state permitting procedures and policy. The second day will include examples of application of federal and state permitting procedures presented by consultants and project sponsors. The workshop will culminate with a discussion between all in attendance in an effort to identify specific action items to improve the permitting process for coastal projects throughout the region.

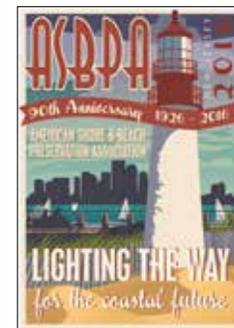
The working agenda is available here: <http://asbpa.org/2016/11/11/cec-workshop-agenda/>

Registration for the event is \$25 per person. You can register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cec-chapter-of-asbpa-permitting-workshop-tickets-27641562658> Sponsorship opportunities are also available, which include the ability to exhibit.

The venue is the Hilton Wilmington Riverside. Rooms are available for reservation with the special group rate of \$109/night until Dec. 10 at <http://www.hilton.com/en/groups/personalized/I/ILMNCHF-ASB-20170110/index.jhtml>. For additional details, contact Ken Willson at (910) 443- 4471 or Kenneth.Willson@cbi.com. ❖

2016 Coastal Conference awards

In 1926, the work of the National Research Council Committee on Shoreline Investigations resulted in Gov. Moore of New Jersey convening a meeting at Asbury Park from Oct. 14-15. In



attendance were 85 delegates representing 16 states. They passed a resolution forming the ASBPA.

The ASBPA held its annual meeting 90 years later celebrating what those 85 delegates began. This was Brad Pickel's last meeting as Awards Chair. He will be a hard act to follow, but Katie Brutsche has committed to trying. Thank you, Brad.

On Oct. 27, the following awards were presented:

- Morrough P. O'Brien Award – Richard Weggel
- Robert L. Wiegel Coastal Project Award Winner – Monmouth County
- Rising Star – Amy Williams
- President's Award – Lee Weis-har
- Bob Dean Coastal Scholar Award – Tom Herrington
- Coastal Project – Monmouth County, NJ
- Member – Tiffany Roberts Briggs
- Education Award – Julie Cisneros
- Coastal Scholar Award – Corey Aitken
- Student Poster Award Winner – Riley Nevin ❖



ASBPA Educational Award: Julie Cisneros

The 2016 ASBPA Student Educational Award is given annually to an undergraduate or graduate student who, through his or her research, is furthering the state of science of coastal or riverine systems as it relates to the goals and mission of the ASBPA. To be eligible for the award, a nominee must submit a technical paper for review by the award's committee. This year's first ASBPA Educational Award goes to Julie Cisneros (left, with Brad Pickel).

Julie's paper is titled "Potential influence of placed sediment characteristics on sea turtle nesting patterns, Case study from Palm Beach County, FL." She presented findings from her paper this morning under a slightly different title, "Evaluating the Relationship between Sediment Source Characteristics, Temperature, and Sea Turtle Nesting Patterns along Palm Beach County, FL" Julie is currently working on her Ph.D. in the Department of Geosciences at Florida Atlantic University. As the award winner, Julie received a \$500 check. ❖

2016 Nicholas Kraus Coastal Scholar Award: Corey Aitken

The winner of this year's Nicholas Kraus Coastal Scholar Award is Corey Aitken (right, with Katie Brutsche). Corey is pursuing a Ph.D. in Geosciences at Florida Atlantic University after receiving his Master's Degree at the University of Rhode Island in Environmental and Life Science with a focus on Marine Affairs. He presented a poster this year. Prior to pursuing his Ph.D., he worked as a field scientist in the Gulf of Mexico after the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill.

The Coastal Scholar award includes a mini-internship where he will work with the ASBPA's Science & Technology Committee, and various conference committees throughout the year. In addition to serving the internship with the Science and Technology Committee, Corey will receive a \$600 stipend. ❖





Bob Dean Coastal Academic Award: Tom Herrington

The ASBPA's Bob Dean Coastal Academic Award is given in recognition of an academic who has made significant contributions furthering the community's understanding of coastal science or engineering and in fostering young coastal scientists or engineers. This year's winner is Dr. Tom Herrington (above, with Nicole Elko).

Dr. Herrington exemplifies ASBPA ideals and Bob Dean's spirit. Dr. Herrington has made significant contributions furthering the community's understanding of coastal engineering and in fostering young coastal engineers at Stevens Institute of Technology where he is an associate professor of ocean engineering in the Department of Civil, Environmental and Ocean Engineering and is the Assistant Director of the Center for Maritime Systems at Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, New Jersey.

Dr. Herrington has also dedicated countless hours to beach preservation advocacy, serving as Vice President of the Northeast Chapter of the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association, and is on the Board of Directors of the Jersey Shore Partnership as well as ASBPA. ❖



2016 ASBPA Member of the Year: Tiffany Roberts Briggs

The Member of the Year Award is intended to annually honor an individual ASBPA member on the basis of giving their time, talent, and treasury to furthering the goals and objectives of the ASBPA during the previous year. This year's recipient is Dr. Tiffany Roberts Briggs (above, with Gordon Thomson).

Dr. Briggs has worked tirelessly over the last several years on behalf of ASBPA. She co-chaired the 2015 National Coastal Conference in New Orleans. If you've enjoyed the volleyball games or scavenger hunt at ASBPA's conferences, you have Tiffany to thank!

Dr. Briggs has led the charge to invigorate the organization with students and new professionals. She founded and co-chaired ASBPA's Student and New Professional's committee along with developing a Facebook page for this group, orchestrating a social at the conference to welcome our future leaders, and has monthly calls and updates in "Coastal Voice" to keep them engaged.

She is also the vice-chair of the Science and Technology committee, which has made significant leaps in expanding ASBPA's visibility and role in coastal research. ❖



2016 Rising Star Award: Amy Williams

The Rising Star Award is given periodically to honor an individual ASBPA member who has gone above and beyond for the organization while clearly being a rising star in their own right. Amy Williams (above right, with Tiffany Roberst Briggs), this year's recipient, clearly fits that description.

Dr. Williams has given a significant amount of time to ASBPA in her efforts to actively engage Student & New Professionals through social media, volunteering for the Summit, both volunteering herself and organizing volunteers for the fall conference, and working hard on the steering committee to make ASBPA's 90th Anniversary Coastal Conference in Long Branch, NJ, a great success. Dr. Williams is currently a post-doctoral research assistant at Stevens Institute of Technology working to advance the state of knowledge on living shorelines and rip currents.

Dr. Williams has given several technical presentations at national conferences and presents at local libraries teaching children about beaches, dunes, ecology, and coastal hazards. She advocates for the coastal health of New Jersey by participating in Sea Grant workshops, conducting outreach and education (such as her work on rip currents with the National Weather Service), and volunteers for the Alliance for a Living Ocean. Dr. Williams has been recognized by ASBPA in years past (winning the Educational Award in 2007 and the Coastal Scholar award in 2009). ❖



Robert L. Wiegel Coastal Project Award: Sea Bright to Manasquan, NJ

The Robert L. Wiegel Coastal Project Award is given in recognition to a coastal project that has stood the test of time and has shown a positive environmental, social, or recreational benefit. It is our lifetime achievement award for a project and this year's winner is the Sea Bright to Manasquan (Monmouth County), New Jersey Coastal Storm Risk Management and Erosion Control Project. Lynn Bocamazo (above center) received the award on behalf of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Dave Rosenblatt (above right) received the award on behalf of the State of New Jersey. (Nominator Doug Gaffney is shown above left.)

Since the initial beach restoration in 1994, the Sea Bright to Manasquan (Monmouth County), New Jersey Coastal Storm Risk Management and Erosion Control Project has been proactively maintained by the Corps of Engineers in partnership with the state and local municipalities. Estimated to be the largest beach fill project by volume in the world, the Monmouth County Project provides critical storm protection to nine highly populated tourist and residential areas.

After evaluating the impacts by Hurricane Sandy in 2012, it was determined that the project performed well with significantly less damages to oceanfront areas than non-nourished beaches, even though Sandy far exceeded the design criteria. Since Sandy, four areas were identified for nourishment within the project that total roughly eight million cubic yards of sand along approximately 18 miles, further demonstrating the financial commitment by the state and the Corps to the Monmouth County Project for years to come. ❖



President's Award: Lee Weishar

As president, Tony Pratt has the opportunity to give out the President's Award which is not awarded yearly. He felt strongly that in the 90th anniversary year, it is particularly important to honor and recognize someone among us who goes above and beyond the call of duty for the benefit of the coast.

Dr. Lee Weishar (above right, with ASBPA President Tony Pratt) deserves this award for many reasons; he serves as ASBPA's secretary and takes great minutes of so many of our meetings in that role.

In addition, both last year and this he has been the nominating committee chair and has helped steer us through a big transition. For years now he has chaired the Best Restored Beaches Committee that recognizes great beaches around the country.

Lee heads the committee which is putting together our credentialing program and short courses and also serves as president of the Coastal Zone Foundation. For the last several years, he has chaired the papers committee which this year meant reviewing, with his committee, 190 abstracts and putting them in a subject order that limits conflicts.

On top of all that, he is on the Executive Committee and provides us with amazing insights and perspectives as well as a great sense of humor. He finds great joy in life and demonstrates true enjoyment in his work and the people he works with. Lee is very special person and ASBPA is a far better organization as a result of his inspiring dedication. ❖



M.P. O'Brien Award: Dr. Rich Weggel

The Morrough P. O'Brien Award is the ASBPA's highest honor and is given annually to an individual or organization on the basis of 1) an outstanding record in achieving the objectives and ideals of ASBPA; or 2) for major direct contributions to ASBPA. This year, we recognized Dr. J. Richard Weggel (above right, with ASBPA President Tony Pratt).

Dr. Weggel has spent more than 50 years working in governmental and academic arenas to further the state of the knowledge of coastal engineering. He was a hydraulic engineer with the Coastal Engineering Research Center involved with the development of the internationally recognized Shore Protection Manual in 1970.

Dr. Weggel served in many leadership roles at the Coastal Engineering Research Center including Special Assistant to the Commander and Director advising Corps District and Division offices on complex coastal engineering problems, Technical Assistant to the Chief of the Engineering Development Division, and Chief of the Evaluation Branch of the Engineering Development Division.

Dr. Weggel was a Professor of Civil Engineering in the Department of Civil and Architectural Engineering at Drexel University for over three decades, with a list of publications exceeding 95 entries, at least five of which appeared in *Shore & Beach*. Dr. Weggel has

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Ken Craig (right) accepting the trophy on behalf on the engineers after their win at the Trivial Pursuit match at the Coastal Conference. Katie Brutsche (left) represented the geologists in relinquishing the award.

Weather forces annual contest indoors

The highly anticipated volleyball game between the coastal engineers and the geologists had to be called this year as a result of high winds, rain and cold. The ever creative and inventive Students and New Professionals Committee, led by Tiffany Roberts Briggs and Katie Brutsche, substituted a game of Trivial Pursuit which was won by the coastal engineers. The contest was accompanied by an open bar for both participants and the audience, courtesy of sponsor Crowder Gulf. We'll be awaiting the rematch in Fort Lauderdale! ❖



Thanks to our conference volunteers, who helped make the event run so smoothly. From left: Ali Mohammad Rezaei, Thommy Shahan, Corey Aitken, Maddy Rubio, Julie Cisneros, Will Warren and Dawan Taylor.

Grain-size contest winners named

As part of its exhibit, American Vibracore Services held a “guess the grain size” contest. The sand sample from Cape Cod was 0.521mm. There were ties for first and third places:

- **First Place:** .511mm — Kenneth Christensen, EcoShore International (The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Award)
- **First Place:** .531mm — Joe Parisi, Town of Rockport, MA (The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Award)
- **Second Place:** .536mm — Doug Gaffney, Mott Macdonald (Grammy Award)
- **Third Place:** .550mm — Christine Avenarius, East Carolina University (Golden Globe Award)
- **Third Place:** .550mm — Ginger Croom, CDM Smith (Golden Globe Award) ❖

Award

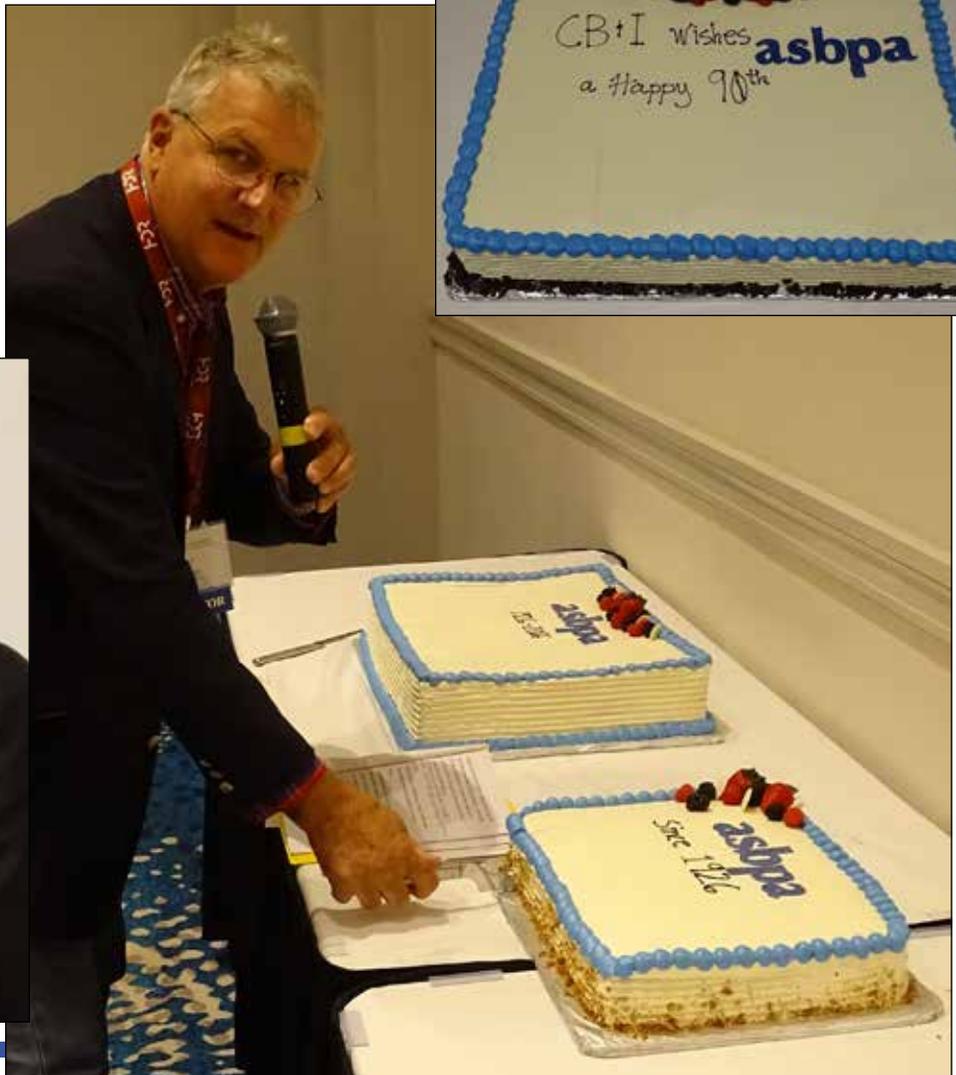
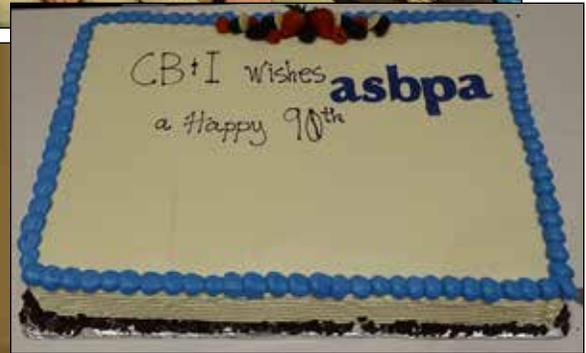
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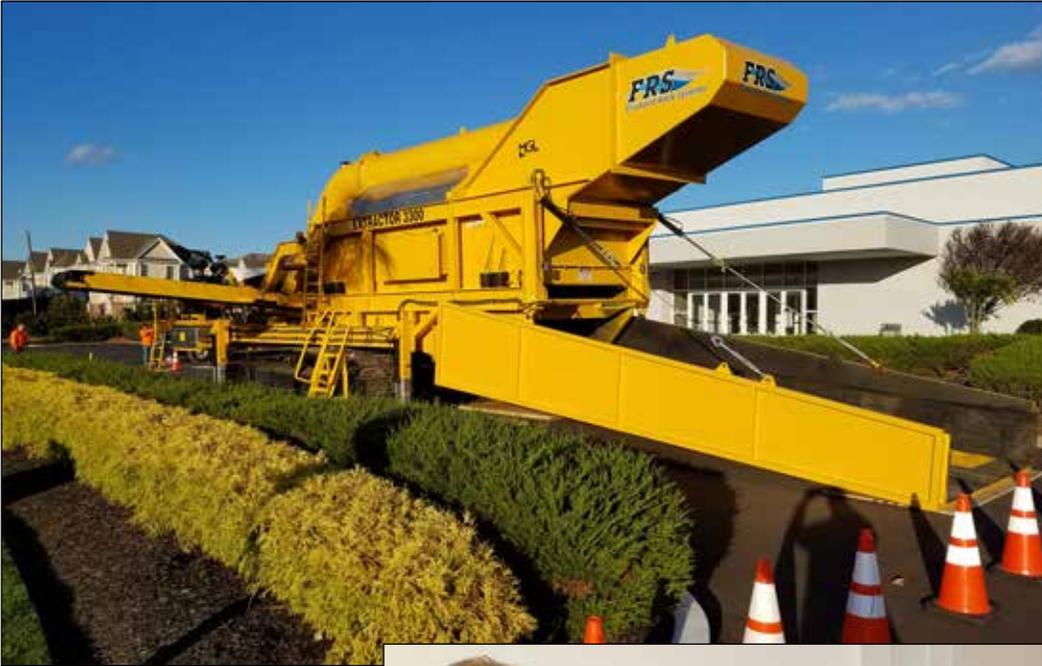
worked on many projects in the northeast U.S. and internationally, for private clients as well as municipalities and the Federal government.

Dr. Weggel has been an active member of the American Shore & Beach Preservation Association since 1980 and was a board member for 20 years. He has also been the vice president of the Northeast chapter of the ASBPA since its inception in 1997, and is influential in the planning and execution of all chapter conferences. ❖



Above: ASBPA board members, officers and staffers who attended the board meeting in Long Branch, NJ. Right: ASBPA President Tony Pratt presided over the cake cutting to honor ASBPA's 90th anniversary back in the state where it all began. The cakes, sponsored by CB&I, were part of the awards luncheon held during the National Coastal Conference. Below: U.S. Rep. Frank Pallone (NJ-6) Was among the keynote speakers to kick off the annual conference.





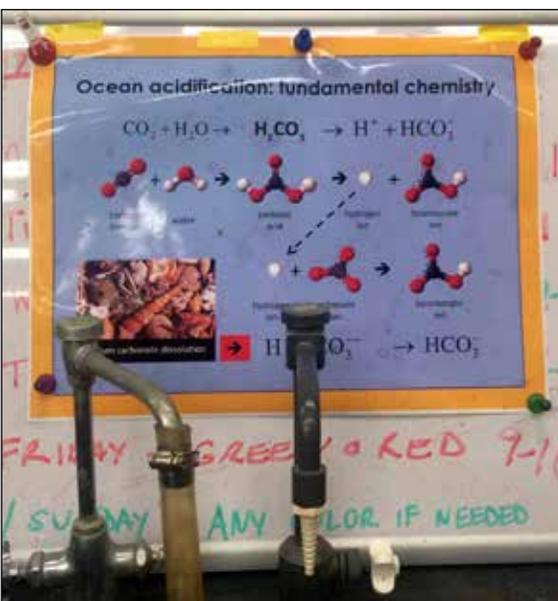
Top left: Conference attendees were greeted by the FRS Extractor 3300, Set up in the hotel parking lot by sponsor Eastman Aggregates prior to it going into service just down the coast from the conference.
Top right: David Rosenblatt, assistant commissioner with the New Jersey DEP, addressing the attendees.



Above: The co-chairs of the 2016 conference — from left, Doug Gaffney, Tom Herrington and Margto Walsh — handed off the conference bucket to two of the 2017 conference chairs, Peter Seidle (right) and Ken Craig. Left: The pre-conference short course on coastal engineering drew a record number of attendees. The day-long course was one of the modules of the Certified Coastal Practitioner series.



Scenes from the conference field trip to Sandy Hook, NJ



From student to new professional

By ZACHARY TYLER, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Engineer Research and Development Center

When I last wrote for the Student & New Professionals column, I was a student at the University of South Florida writing my master's thesis, "Morphodynamics of Egmont Key at the Mouth of Tampa Bay: West-Central Florida." Fast forward nearly a year and I find myself again writing, this time as a new professional. In June, I began working for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at the Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) as a research physical scientist in the Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory.

The transition from student to professional has been an interesting learning experience for me, and so it is my goal here to discuss some of my experiences and to introduce some of the research I'm undertaking. During my transition from student to professional, I have to come to appreciate the usefulness of networking. While in graduate school I took advantage of every opportunity I could to work, collaborate and conference with the people whose networks I wanted to be a part of.

Initially that took the form of volunteering as a deckhand, simply casting anchors and collecting water samples within dredge plumes. As I progressed through graduate school, those relationships I made as a deckhand developed into research collaborations which formed the basis for my master's thesis. As I developed my thesis I was given the opportunity to at-

Students & new professionals

asbpa

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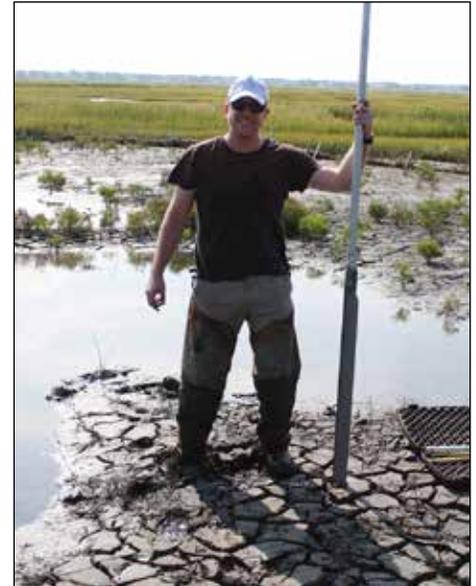
Advocating for healthy coastlines

tend conferences such as ASBPA's annual coastal conference, where I was able to network with those people who I thought may be able to employ me after I graduated.

Eventually, it all worked out well for me. The person who I had initially worked for as a deckhand, the person whose co-workers I collaborated with on my thesis and who had seen my presentations at conferences ended up hiring me. I largely attribute networking with my successful transition from student to professional, and I encourage all students to take advantage of every opportunity to engage with people in the coastal science field.

Here at the ERDC we are tasked with solving America's most challenging problems in the civil, military, geospatial, environmental and water science fields. In my short time here so far, I've found myself working on research questions that five months ago I had no idea existed. One avenue

The Student/New Professional Committee submits a monthly column that either highlights research or experience of ASBPA's students and new professionals. If you are a student or new professional and would like to contribute to the monthly student/new professional column, please contact Tiffany Roberts Briggs: briggst@fau.edu. If you are a seasoned professional and would like to connect with any of the monthly writers, please also contact Tiffany Roberts Briggs.



Tyler working on a thin layer placement in an Avalon (NJ) marsh.

of research I've been fortunate to be involved with is to examine the benefits and effects of using maintenance dredged material for coastal marsh restoration and enhancement.

Coastal marshes around our country are often struggling to maintain surface elevations that allow their unique flora and fauna to exist there. The strategic and careful addition of dredged material to coastal marshes helps these environments combat continued sea level rise, sediment starvation due to anthropogenic development, and ground subsidence. I'm fortunate in the sense that I get to be involved in all aspects of the research from doing field work and collecting sediment samples to performing geotechnical laboratory analysis as well as modelling sediment consolidation and surface elevation.

I thoroughly enjoy doing research on the immense challenges we are given here at ERDC. If you think you might like those challenges too, I hear we're hiring. ❖

In memoriam: Bill Curtis

William “Bill” R. Curtis, Jr. passed away Nov. 4, 2016, at home in Vicksburg, MS, after a brave battle against cancer. He was 50 years old.

Bill was born on Aug. 17, 1966, in Pembroke, MA. He graduated from Texas A&M University in 1992, where he earned his bachelor’s degree in Marine Science and his master’s degree in Oceanography. He began his career in June 1992 with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Engineer Research and Development Center, Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory.

He worked on a wide range of coastal projects throughout his career and played significant roles in several studies designed to push

the edges of conventional coastal science and engineering solutions. In 2011, he became the Technical Director for Flood & Coastal Systems.

Bill was a true leader for CHL, ERDC, USACE and the Army, and faithfully served this great nation. He was unique in his ability to bring warmth, humility and humor to the most challenging problems and situations.

Bill was a long-standing member of ASBPA and served on the board. He loved America’s beaches and made many contributions to coastal processes during his all too short life. His family and many colleagues will miss him greatly. ❖

CONFERENCES

■ **Jan. 10-11:** ASBPA’s Central East Coast Chapter Regional Environmental Permitting Workshop, Wilmington, NC. Details at mbosw002@odu.edu.

■ **Feb. 8-10:** National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology, Hutchinson Island Marriott, Stuart, FL. Details at www.fasbpa.com.

■ **Feb. 28-March 2:** ASBPA Coastal Summit, Washington, DC. Registration at www.asbpa.org.

■ **Oct. 24-27:** ASBPA National Coastal Conference, Fort Lauderdale-Broward County Convention Center and Hilton Fort Lauderdale Marina Hotel. Details to come at www.asbpa.org. ❖

Texas Chapter meeting Dec. 9

Mark your calendar: The next meeting of the Texas Chapter will be on December 9 in Port Neches, a luncheon at the Neches River Wheelhouse restaurant (see: <http://www.nechesriverwheelhouse.com/>), and the next one will also be a luncheon on March 8, 2017, in Austin during the Legislative Session at the Scholz Garten Restaurant (see: <http://www.scholzgarten.com/>).

Please note, we would like the Port Neches meeting to finalize our legislative agenda for the 2017 Federal and State. We will use the Texas ASBPA Legislative Federal agenda when we are at the ASBPA Washington Summit the end of February 2017. Use the Texas State Legislative agenda whenever anyone visits Austin during the legislative session and also during the time we have our March 9 meeting. The state and federal legislative agendas have been very helpful when we meet the legislators. ❖

WWW.ASBPA.ORG

New chapter websites have been launched! Look under the “About Us” tab from any page on our site to access your local chapter. We are excited about bringing this up-to-date local information to you – many thanks to our chapter volunteers who have worked hard to get these sites online.

As the holidays approach, we are starting to prepare for next year’s Coastal Summit. Registration and sponsorship information are provided via links on the Conferences page. It’s never too early to start making your plans to attend this important event.

Remember, DVD and flash drives containing the entire *Shore & Beach* archive (through summer 2016) are now for sale. Ordering information can be found on the home page and via the Publications tab.

As always, all the latest Beach News is linked to our home page, including updates on the election. Please follow us on Twitter and “like” us on Facebook to stay up to date with everything that is going on with ASBPA. — *Beth Scieudone, Ph.D., ASBPA Webmaster* ❖



In celebration of ASBPA’s 90th anniversary, we are looking back at 1926

Popular Baby Names

- **Boys:** Robert, John, James, William, Charles
- **Girls:** Mary, Dorothy, Betty, Helen, Margaret ❖

American Beach News Service:

Investing in our natural infrastructure

When you hear the word “infrastructure,” what do you think?

Probably roads, bridges, dams, sewer systems, power grids... man-made and machine-driven, the industrial veins and arteries that keep this country moving and its economy alive.

But what about our natural infrastructure? Those aspects of nature that play as much (or more) of a role in making our lives possible? We often forget the benefits of healthy forests, estuaries, coastlines, wetlands and their contribution to the health of our ecology and economy.

If a road falls into disrepair, it is less able to safely carry the cars, trucks and tankers essential to moving people and goods around our country. But if a waterway or harbor becomes unnavigable due to neglect, how will the goods that need to pass through those make their way?

When a water or sewer system falters, unable to safely deliver potable water or remove waste, the public health crisis is clear. But is there no less of a crisis when a forest is destroyed – and with it the capacity to capture tons of carbon? Or when a wetland is drained, removing its ability to filter polluted surface water before it returns to the sea?

When dams deteriorate or floodgates fail, allowing waters to rush downstream or wash inland uncontrolled, the threat to public safety is dire. But is it no less dire when the lack of high coastal dunes, nearshore oyster

beds or mangrove forests, and bayside marshes or buffers allow storm waves and waters to threaten coastal property and habitat?

There is a growing recognition that natural infrastructure plays a vital role in our economic and environmental well-being, equal to or even greater than that of man-made infrastructure. With this comes an understanding that any infrastructure – natural or man-made – must be maintained to be effective.

And there is the stark realization that this country has done a pretty poor job of maintaining all its infrastructure (natural and man-made alike) in the past few decades – and the cost of this lack of maintenance is increasing, both in dollars wasted and loss of quality of life. The bill for all this is coming due very soon.

Focusing on the coast for now, what does this mean?

The price of taking a reactive approach to coastal management and protection is rising as the severity of storms and threats to coastal property and habitat ramp up. Rebuilding and restoring destroyed infrastructure costs more overall than having a proactive and robust coastal protection system in place – meaning high dunes, wide beaches and resilient structures.

American Beach News Service

The articles were sent the second and fourth Tuesday of the month to more than 400 media outlets. We encourage members to utilize information in these communications with their clients, constituents and others. A full list of all the ABNS articles can be located at http://www.asbpa.org/news/newsroom_beachnews.htm

Man-made coastal infrastructure that once was considered safe is now increasingly at risk, as rising sea levels and more damaging storms expand the coastal risk zone. Such infrastructure must be relocated or redesigned – at a not inconsiderable cost – for it to be removed from the high-risk area.

No one notices as natural barriers or habitat are slowly destroyed... until estuaries became less vital or storm risk became more evident. Marshes and wetlands, say, once viewed as smelly, muddy, and inconvenient are now increasing seen as vital habitat and essential buffers. However, the cost to put these natural assets back in place will be far higher than what it would have taken to maintain the ones that were once there – and the impact of their loss will continue to be felt in the interim.

The price of taking our infrastructure – natural and man-made – for granted is starting to come into focus. But undoing years of neglect will not happen overnight. Essential to any success in restoring and renewing our infrastructure will be:

- **Public support:** The necessary education and engagement to help citizens grasp the value of all our infrastructure, and the impact its neglect has on our lives.

- **Political will:** Easier said than done in an era when elective expediency, paralyzing partisanship and fiscal short-sightedness are more the political norm. Infrastructure projects are “big picture” efforts, which often have to be approved by “small picture” officials.

- **Adequate funding:** When projects span multiple budgets and election cycles, keeping the dollars

■ Continued on page 14

American Beach News Service:

Making a case for the coast

Elections are great for drama... the winners and losers, the big comebacks and the just falling short, the unexpected and even the unimaginable.

Once the dust settles, however, you still need to govern – to get the day-to-day business of the people and the community done. There are new players or new coalitions, certainly new circumstances and new ideas that need to be reflected (or deflected). Throughout, there's always the need to bring your issues and concerns to the political powers-that-be – however they may have changed – to seek action and address needs.

Advocating for the coast requires all this and more, since coastal concerns can get lost in the larger battles at hand, or be muddled by jurisdictional or geographic issues since what happens here has a major impact there – wherever “here” and “there” may be.

However, the coast also has a lot going for it in terms of getting some political attention... and maybe even action. Here are just a few of the coastal verities that can register with elected officials at every level:

If you're looking to boost the economy, look no further than beaches. There's probably no greater economic engine than a healthy coastline, to build tourism and communities by bringing jobs, trade and people.

Investing in infrastructure should include our natural infrastructure. Maintenance matters to beaches and bays as much as it does to roads and rails, and a crumbling coastline has as much

negative impact to a community and its economy as broken bridges and ragged roadways.

The old saw is right: An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure when it comes to coastal protection from storms and rising tides. Wide beaches, high dunes and prudent coastal development protects people and property, true – but it also helps communities bounce back from storms faster and keeps their economies (and the revenues they produce for government at all levels) on an even keel in the face of whatever nature throws at it.

The federal government (and the state and local, too) must stay engaged in protecting our coast. Not just with funding, which has such a good return on investment as to be nearly a no-brainer... but also with reasonable regulations, sound science and prudent

Investing

■ Continued from page 17

moving to the right efforts can be a challenge. And making the “less taxes” mantra sing in harmony with better infrastructure is a tough tune to pull off these days.

Seeing infrastructure as more than bricks-and-mortar undertakings is a crucial first step. This can help communities acknowledge its natural assets and begin to plan to effectively maintain them and (as necessary) restore them. Recognizing their value in your local economy an ecology is critical to then devoting the community resources needed to keep them (and your community) healthy. ❖

oversight to protect all interests involved.

Coastal communities don't necessarily need coastal leadership from politicians of all stripes. They need cooperation to help get things done – a partnership with government where local knowledge takes a lead, not a dictatorship designed for top-down dictums. Most of all they need reliability – in funding and focus, in permitting and planning.

Coastal protection is also a big-picture issue, since nothing along the coast happens in isolation. Decisions made upstream or inland can have consequences on the coast, and minor changes in habitat or hydrology can have massive impacts on creatures and shoreline stability.

To protect the coast, science matters, as do decisions based on factual reality rather than partisan politics. If science is based on the predictable and politics is grounded in the expedient, which would you want making decisions about our coast and its waters?

Now is the time to bring your coastal concerns to elected officials, whether newly minted or old hands, to ensure they are part of the discussion in whatever happens next. You should ask them what information you can prove that will help them advocate for your position. Plan to meet with your new (or old) Member of Congress, your state legislators, your community officials – anyone who can make decisions that will make your coast healthier.

Don't wait for them to come to you. Bring your concerns straight to them.

The election is over. Let the governing begin. ❖