Coastal Voice

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN SHORE & BEACH PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

— March 2017 —

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Excuse us if we're a bit out of breath. We're just back from one of the best Coastal Summits ever, AND there is so much going on that we found it very difficult to decide what order is the best to present them to you! February is the shortest month, but ASBPA jam-packed it. Now it is time for you to be busy — nominate a beach for the Best Restored Beaches (due April 8), prepare an abstract for the National Coastal Conference (due May 8), contact your Member of Congress about EPA and NOAA's budget cuts, check out your beach on the new beach restoration database and catch up on the Coastal Summit and ASBPA President Tony Pratt's remarks before the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee hearing. ❖

Win your beach some bragging rights... awards deadline April 8

By LEE WEISHAR, ASBPA Best Restored Beach Chair

So you think you have the best beach in the United States! You think that your beach is the widest, has the best sand, and provides the absolutely best place to throw down your beach towel and spend a glorious day underneath a picture perfect blue sky. I am also sure that you are convinced that your community does more to maintain your nourished beach than your rivals just down the shore. Well if this is the case you should submit your restored beach for the ASBPA Best Restored Beach award so that when you win you will have unquestionable bragging rights over neighboring beaches for years to come.

After winning the Best Restored Beach Award, the benefits continue. For instance, your Convention and Visitors Bureau can use the award to publicize your beach. You can hold press conferences publicizing your award and/or use the award to gain face time with your federal and state representatives who have helped support you in obtaining funds to renourish your beach. This also gives them good publicity at the beach and also provides you yet another opportunity to show your competitors that you unquestionably have the best beach around. In short, we want to see your beach through your eyes so that we can feel pride that you have in your beach.

So how do you obtain these bragging rights? Merely go to the ASBPA website (ASBPA.org) scroll down to the Best Restored Beach section and clikc on "Read

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Proposed end of coastal funding includes major cuts to research

By DEREK BROCKBANK, ASBPA Executive Director

WASHINGTON REPORT

While the Trump administration's budget has not come out yet, a number of news reports have shared proposed budget cuts to both EPA's and NOAA's budgets. The proposals indicate massive budget cuts to both agencies (25% cut to EPA; 18% to NOAA), with beach and coastal programs (and science and research programs) fairing the worst. Among the cuts were:

BROCKBANK

• Eliminating Beach Water Quality Testing grants (currently funded at $9.5 million) from the EPA[1];

• Eliminating Sea Grant funding (funded at $73 million annually) from NOAA

• Eliminating "external research, coastal management, estuary reserves and "coastal resilience"" funding from NOAA.[2]

• Massive cuts to coastal restoration in the Great Lakes (from $300 million to $10 million), Chesapeake Bay (from $73 million to $5 million), Puget Sound (from $28 million to $2 million), San Francisco Bay (eliminated);

• Less steep, but still detrimental, 5% cuts to coastal permitting agencies in such as National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) that are already understaffed with backlogs in permitting.

This proposed cuts do come from a leaked proposal — not a final budget — and Congress has final say over all spending. However, it's important for coastal stakeholders to speak out now in defense of critical budgets, and not be tolerant of budget cuts to critical programs. We must also make sure our expectations don't get swayed and end up accepting cuts that are simply less than the above proposals. Please contact your Members of Congress, and let them know that funding for beaches and coastal programs are important to you and to the economy of your community! ❖

1) http://www.oregonlive.com/environment/index.ssf/2017/03/here_are_42_of_president_donal.html

2) https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/03/03/white-house-proposes-steep-budget-cut-to-leading-climate-science-agency

Award

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more." This will take you to the page with the application for the Best Restored Beach Award. In general, we are looking for the following information:

Submissions must be sent electronically to Bestrestoredbeach@asbpa.org by **April 8, 2017**. The nomination text must be in MS Word, WordPerfect, or PDF, and photos must be saved in JPEG or TIF formats. A nomination checklist is available at www.asbpa.org. We encourage all applicants to use this form to make sure their application is complete.

Nominations must contain:

1. Nominator's contact information (name, address, phone, fax, email).

2. The name and contact information for the nominee's public relations specialist who will be coordinating with the media.

3. The name of the project manager, design engineer, and the dredge contractor who constructed the project.

4. Project description (whether or not it is a federal project, sponsors, designers, engineers, location, length, dates and volumes of nourishment material for each nourishment episode and dates of nourishments, obstacles overcome, success of project).

5. At least one professional quality color photograph of restored beach with release (tourist development councils and local resorts are good sources).

6. Project locator map.

7. Before and after restoration photographs.

8. A statement about why you consider this beach a best restored beach in the United States.

Winners will be notified in advance. ASBPA will prepare press releases to notify the media of the winners. Winners must agree to provide press releases to their local media and arrange for a representative to be present at the 2018 ASBPA Summit in Washington, DC, to accept the award. All materials submitted will become property of ASBPA and will not be returned. Upon written request, a nomination from 2016 that was not chosen can be carried over to 2017.

So send in your nominations. I love reading about your successes and how you made your beach the best beach in the United States. ❖

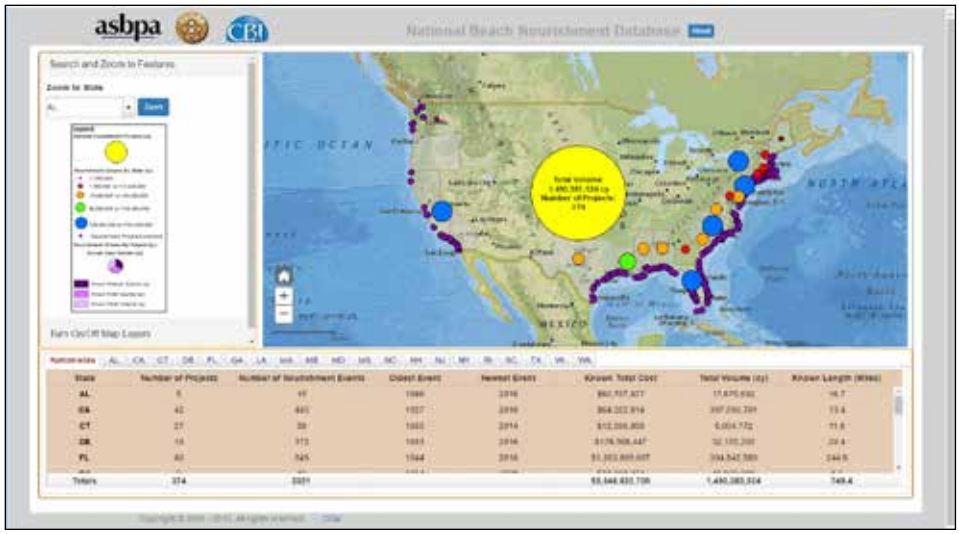
New national beach restoration database now online

• How many beach restoration projects have there been throughout the United States?

• What's the biggest project by volume? By distance?

• What's the oldest project? The newest?

• Which state has done the most projects? The fewest?



Communities searching for information to make coastal management decisions often want to know the answers to these and more questions. Coastal scientists looking for good data also want to know, as does the media when they're researching stories.

Until now, there wasn't a source of easily accessible national statistics online. But, on Feb. 28, ASBPA rolled out a new online National Beach Nourishment Database – featuring data on projects comprised of nearly 1.5 billion cubic yards of sand placed in nearly 400 projects covering the continental U.S. coastline.

The new database is online at www.asbpa.org.

In addition to the total volume and the number of projects, the database includes the number of nourishment events, the oldest project, the newest project, the known total cost, the total volume and the known length. The information is broken into both state statistics and those of local or regional projects. Every coastal continental state is included (so Alaska and Hawaii are still being compiled), and projects along the Great Lakes are similarly waiting to be added.

It can also be updated as appropriate, both as new projects get under way and as more information on existing projects is unearthed. In fact, coastal professionals are encouraged to submit any data they have access to that would expand the database's scope and accuracy.

ELKO

Under the leadership of Nicole Elko, Ph.D., ASBPA's Science and Technology Committee — a group of more than 25 coastal professionals from across the country and spanning a range of disciplines — spearheaded the collection and verification of data. ASBPA collaborated with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Regional Sediment Management Program and CB&I to develop this resource, which draws on nearly 70 data sources as diverse as Western Carolina's Program for the Study of Developed Shorelines to the U.S. Army Corps' of Engineers Dredging Information System.

"ASBPA is an appropriate multidisciplinary organization – comprised of state beach managers, industry professionals, universities and communities – to work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to provide us with a broadly sourced resource," said Elko, ASBPA Vice President for Science & Technology. The projects included those with "captured" sand (e.g. inlet, offshore or upland) which was placed on the beach. Three different kinds of projects were considered:

• Restorations undertaken as authorized federal beach nourishment projects;

• Those from navigation channel dredging (also known as beneficial use or sand bypassing); and

• Projects sponsored by the private sector or local or state governments.

"This inventory is critical for a small beach community that feels like it is dealing with a complicated issue all alone." Elko added. "Those communities can now see that there have been projects constructed since the early 20th century in every coastal state in the

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2017 Coastal Conference chairs named

Ken Craig, Mike McGarry and Peter Seidle are chairing ASBPA's 2017 National Coastal Conference, which will be held Oct. 23-27 at the Broward County/Fort Lauderdale Convention Center in Florida.

"This is shaping up to be ASBPA's best conference yet! We have a great team in place, a beautiful venue, and an expanded set of topics that is sure to interest you. Along with Mike and Pete, I can't wait for October to get here!" said Craig

The theme of the 2017 conference, "Beaches, Bays, and Beyond," continues to broaden our focus across the entire coastal and estuarine system. The National Coastal Conference provides an opportunity for all coastal stakeholders to learn together and develop collaborative networks and resources to promote best management practices to maintain and improve the health of our coastal and estuarine shorelines and ecosystems.

"I am excited to be working along with Ken and Mike in putting together what will be an exciting conference with an expanded range of topics for coastal and inland waters sciences, engineering and policy." said Seidle.

McGarry added: "Florida is home to challenging coastal issues, from water quality challenges within the estuaries to nuisance flooding associated with the rising

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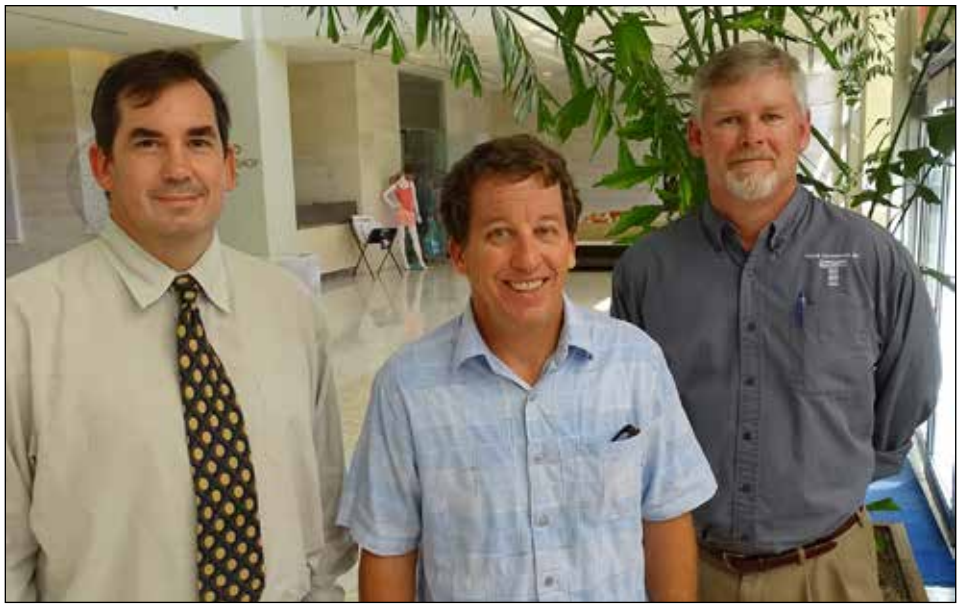

Serving as conference co-chairs for the 2017 National Coastal Conference are (from left) Peter Seidle, Applied Technology & Management; Mike McGarry, Brevard County; and Ken Craig, Tayor Engineering.

Database

■ Continued from page 3

continental U.S. These projects are coastal infrastructure that protect people, communities, other infrastructure, and jobs and are nesting, resting and feeding places for wildlife."

The database was compiled from many sources nationwide and then reviewed for duplication and error (an ongoing process, but one which is being addressed here by cross-referencing and review by an array of coastal professionals). Work on assembling this database was begun in 2004.

So, to answer those coastal questions at the beginning:

• **How many nationally**: 374 projects comprising 2,321 nourishment events (since a single project or location can undergo a number of nourishments or restorations during its lifetime). That has restored over 750 miles at a known cost of $5.5 billion.

• **Most volume in a single event**: Project is Panama City Beach, Initial Nourishment 1998-99, 9.1M cy

• **Most sand placed by a coastal state**: California at nearly 400 million cubic yards of sand.

• **Longest project**: Sea Bright to Manasquan, NJ at 21 miles long

• **The oldest**: Coney Island, NY, with the first project in 1923. Rockaway and Jones Beaches are close behind with 1926 and 1927 respectively.

• **The newest**: Since projects are being started every month, that will be an ever-changing question.

• **State with the most**: Florida has the most projects with 80, but California has the most nourishment events with 549.

• **State with the least**: Oregon, so far, with a few that are trickling in. ❖

2017 National Coastal Conference abstracts due May 8

ASBPA, in cooperation with the Coastal Zone Foundation, announces the Call for Abstracts for its 2017 National Coastal Conference, Oct. 24-27, at the Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale, FL.

The theme of the 2017 conference, "Beaches, Bays, and Beyond," continues to broaden our focus across the entire coastal and estuarine system. The conference provides an opportunity for all coastal stakeholders to learn together and develop collaborative networks and resources to promote best management practices to maintain and improve the health of our coastal and estuarine shorelines and ecosystems.

Technical and policy-oriented presentations or posters are invited for a broad range of coastal & estuarine ecology, science, engineering, economics, and policy. Specific topics include, but are not limited to:

- Design Concepts and Projects
- Green/Grey Infrastructure and Living Shorelines
- Regional Comprehensive Coastal Studies
- Lessons Learned from tropical storms/hurricanes (Matthew, Sandy, Katrina, Ike, etc.)
- Coastal & Estuarine Landscape Architecture
- Coastal & Estuarine Modeling
- Coastal Hazard Mapping & Analysis Tools
- Coastal & Estuarine Resiliency
- Sea Level Guidance, Planning and Adaptive Management
- Beach Restoration and Coastal Structures
- Lagoon, Wetland, Marsh, and Estuary Restoration and Enhancement
- Regional Sediment Management
- Economics of Coastal Resources
- Federal, State, and Local Coastal Policy, Regulatory and Legal Issues
- Sand Source/Beach Access Rights
- Community Outreach and Education

Presentations may be PowerPoint or poster format. Please note that due to the overwhelming success of last year's poster session, we are expanding our poster presentation venue this year. Abstracts for both poster and oral presentations (up to 500 words) are due by May 8, 2017. Submit abstracts via the online form at ww.asbpa.org. Presenters are responsible for all of their expenses including travel, lodging, and registration fees. Notification of presentation status will occur by June 20, 2017. Additional information can be found at www.asbpa.org. ❖

Chairs

■ Continued from page 4

seas. I am excited that the conference will allow us to share practical solutions to these issues."

Kenneth R. Craig, P.E. is vice president of coastal engineering at Taylor Engineering, Inc., where he holds overall responsibility for the company's coastal engineering operations. Craig provides managerial oversight on many of the company's largest coastal engineering projects. He frequently acts as project liaison to local, state, and federal agencies regarding project related issues such as design, permitting, and funding options. Craig currently serves as the chair of the Coasts, Oceans, Ports & Rivers Institute's National Coastal Zone Management Committee.

Mike McGarry is Beach Project Manager for Brevard County, FL, where he administers coastal management and restoration projects along 72 miles of Atlantic Ocean shoreline. Since 2003 he has completed seven federal and non-federal projects placing $64 million dollars of sand along 35 miles of shoreline. McGarry holds a bachelor's degree in Marine Biology from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington and a master's degree in Oceanography/Coastal Zone Management from the Florida Institute of Technology.

Peter Seidle, P.E., is a coastal engineer for Applied Technology & Management, West Palm Beach, FL. Seidle has worked on numerous coastal projects in the U.S. and Caribbean, including feasibility studies, project design and permitting, and construction phase services for several projects ranging from beach nourishments to marinas to wetland restorations. His coastal engineering expertise includes shoreline analyses, sediment budget analysis, numerical modeling, wave analyses, etc. He received a MS in Coastal Engineering from University of Florida. ❖

2017 Coastal Summit: *A New Commitment to Our Coasts*

By JOAN POPE, 2017 Coastal Summit co-chair

ASBPA's successful 2017 Coastal Summit held from Feb. 28 to March 2 in Washington, DC, with the theme of: "A New Commitment to Our Coasts." The Summit was attended by more than 100 coastal supporters including several from Europe, elected officials, employees of various federal and local agencies, NGOs and consulting firms.

Regardless of your politics and whom you supported on Nov. 8, the next four years will impact the direction for our nation and our coastal resources. We are already seeing impacts as the new administration establishes its course through budget directions and executive actions. A number of federal programs of importance to ASPBA and our members may experience significant budget cuts.

The Summit's keynote speakers and panelists provided important and insightful presentations that were not only appreciated but prompted much discussion. The meeting started with keynote presentations from Collin O'Mara (President and CEO of the National Wildlife Federation), Renee Orr (Chief of the Office of Strategic Resources, BOEM) and Major General Ed Jackson (Deputy Commanding General for Civil Works and Emergency Operations, USACE). Each provided an important perspective.

O'Mara emphasized the importance of coastal resources for wildlife with an emphasis on wetland restoration. Orr discussed her agency's work in establishing

Colin O'Mara

Major General Ed Jackson

Renee Orr

sand resources in support of coastal restoration. Jackson discussed the Corps' coastal mission and the importance of the Coastal Engineering Research Board in setting the direction for coastal science and technology development.

ASPBA President Tony Pratt presented the President's Award to Jackson for his exceptional support in promoting interagency collaboration in coastal research. He also presented the Corps award to Jarod Norton of the Portland District for his work in applying Regional Sediment Management at the mouth of the Colombia River.

The Tuesday afternoon agenda included a panel of DC lobbyists who provided insight on the current framework in working with the Congress to promote coastal issues. The ASBPA Government Affairs and Science & Technology Committees provided briefs of their activities and accomplishments. The afternoon ended with a briefing by Derek Brockbank (ASBPA Executive Director) and Mark Osler (Michael Baker International) designed to arm the participants with those concepts that would help them to maximize the value of their visits to their elected officials in Congress and when visiting the various federal agencies. A major takeaway is to have a clear agenda and to deliver a consistent and supportable message.

Wednesday morning started out with presentations by the five winners of ASBPA's 2016 Best Restored Beaches and recognitions of their contributions in improving the coastal experience for their citizens. Sean Smith (USACE lead

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Above: Coastal lobbyists offer their insights on a changing DC landscape. From left: Panel organizer Phill Roehrs;Nancy Prowitt, Alcalde & Fay; Howard Marlowe, Warwick Consultants; Greg Burns, Van Scoyoc Associates; and Julie Minerva, Carpi & Clay

The 2016 Best Restored Beach winners received their awards following each presentation to the Summit attendees. The winning beaches were (clockwise from top left) Redondo Beach, CA; Topsail Beach, NC; Babes Beach, Galveston, TX; Rosewood Beach, Highland Park, IL; and Seabrook Island. SC.

Summit

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for Hydrology, Hydraulics, and Coastal) provided an update on the Corps' Civil Works and Coastal Program. There was also a panel on the national coastal research collaboration between the various federal agencies and a presentation by Norma Jean Mattei, President of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

In the afternoon some attendees had advocacy meetings with key federal agencies, while others visited with their Congressional representatives. The highpoint of the Summit was a joint Coastal Celebration reception held with the Coastal States Organization (CSO). This was a fantastic opportunity to discuss common concerns and initiatives with the representatives of the various states who are members of the CSO.

Thursday started with a recap of the federal agency advocacy visits and the messaging the Coastal Summit attendees took from their visits to the Hill. We had a panel representing various stakeholders on how to get sand on the beach. We had a drawing for a three-night stay at the Hilton Fort Lauderdale Marina (site of the 2017 National Coastal Conference), which was won by Vance Wyatt. We also had two keynote presentations to close out the Summit.

Former Senator Mary Landrieu (LA) gave a passionate presentation on the need to mobilize for resilient and restored coastal communities. She asked for a lead NGO that could work with her and others to promote investment in coastal infrastructure. Pratt

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Summit

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promised ASBPA's support and willingness to provide leadership. Dr. Sandra Knight of the University of Maryland ended the Summit by discussing the need to advocate for resilient coastal communities, including developing plans for retreat (where appropriate).

By the end of the Coastal Summit we had shared what we've heard and learned. We have some strong voices on the Hill, but do need to work hard to keep up the dialogue and continue to nurture these relationships. Investments in coastal projects, science, technology, and resources won't happen unless we continue to follow up with the various contacts developed during the Summit.

A special "thank you" goes to the various sponsors who helped to make the Summit possible. The conference co-chairs (Bill Hanson, Mike Walther, and Joan Pope) would also like to thank the Summit committee members, Derek Brockbank, Ken Gooderham and Kate Gooderham for their extraordinary assistance in pulling together the logistics, sponsors, program, and countless other details needed for a successful Summit. ❖

Left: Norma Jean Mattei with Summit co-chair Michael Walther. Bottom left: Sean Smith. Below: Former Sen. Mary Landrieu.

President's Award:

Major General Donald E. (Ed) Jackson

The President's Award is not something given every year. But President Tony Pratt wanted to give this award this year to Major General Donald E. (Ed) Jackson, the Deputy Commanding General for Civil and Emergency Operations at USACE Headquarters. We recognize him for his outstanding vision, dedication, and commitment to the small, but very important, part of the Corps' world that is coastal.

The entire ASBPA board is grateful to have General Jackson at the helm of both Civil and Emergency Operations and the Coastal Engineering Research Board, and the entire U.S. coastal community benefits from his exemplary service. Jackson has become not only an outstanding leader within the Corps, but also a leader of the entire U.S. coastal research community. He has a firm grasp on coastal issues from research to operations, and he challenges his own staff, and that of other federal agencies, to "step up" to help address today's coastal challenges. ❖

Awards are a great way to say "thank you" to people who have been significant in our mission to advocate for healthy coastlines. At the 2017 Coastal Summit, we honored members of Congress through our Friend of the Coast Awards, a member of the Corps of Engineers and a Presidential Award.

Friend of the Coast Awards:

Rep. Mark Sanford

Rep. Mark Sanford of South Carolina for his assistance with the passage of the 2016 Water Resources Development Act, re-named the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act" or the "WIIN Act." Rep. Sanford and his staff helped to include language on a) beneficial use of dredged material and regional sediment management (RSM), b) interagency collaboration on coastal resilience, c) a South Atlantic Division coastal study, and d) planning assistance to states. The bill also authorized a number of new Coastal Storm Damage Reduction Projects. Rep. Sanford has long been a Friend of the Folly Beach coast, and we want to particularly thank him for his attention to these important national coastal topics during this legislative session. Nicole Elko and representatives from Folly Beach (including Mayor Tim Goodwin, shown) presented him with his award at his office. ❖

Sen. Chris Coons

Sen. Chris Coons of Delaware used his position on the Energy & Water Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee to push for increases on coastal projects and shore protection funding in the annual Army Corps of Engineers appropriations bill. In the 2016 sub-committee mark-up for the USACE appropriations bill, Sen. Coons spoke passionately about the cost effectiveness of investing in beach and dunes as coastal risk reduction projects, rather than paying for recovery after a storm. During this hearing on March 2, 2016, Coons questioned Jo-Ellen Darcy, Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Army for Civil Works, about funding for emergency work to repair beaches and dunes in Rehoboth Beach, Bethany Beach and South Bethany in the wake of two damaging storms this past fall and winter.

ASBPA President Tony Pratt will give Sen. Coons his award in his office. ❖

Far right: Among the Members who spoke at the Coastal Celebration reception were (from top): Rep. Mark Sanford, Rep. Garret Graves and Sen. Gary Peters. Right: The Wednesday Hill briefing with staffers Sara Gonzalez Roth and Geoff Bowman.

Corps of Engineers' Award:

Jarod Norton, Portland District

Jarod Norton has been an exemplary advocate working collaboratively with the district, stakeholder, and resource agency teams to implement beneficial use of dredged material and RSM practices in an effort to achieve healthy coastal systems in Oregon. Jarod has provided oversight to develop and implement an RSM strategy which identifies opportunities to beneficially use dredged material to reduce coastal shoreline erosion, enhance ecosystems and promote living shorelines, and stabilize coastal structures and infrastructure in coastal Oregon.

Successful efforts include permitting of two new nearshore placement sites to allow the sediments dredged from the Lower Columbia River to be placed within the system. Historically these sediments are disposed of in the ocean, which permanently removes the sediments from the system. These placement strategies were developed through sound science and engineering, which provided the necessary data and information to gain the trust and approval of the entities interested in maintaining healthy coastal systems in Oregon.

Jarod Norton and the Portland District team epitomize the term public servants and are exceptional assets to the nation's beaches, waterways, and coastal infrastructure. ❖

Senate EPW Committee:

ASBPA testifies about coastal infrastructure

On Wednesday, Feb. 8, ASBPA President, Anthony P. (Tony) Pratt testified about the need for federal investment in coastal infrastructure such as beaches, dunes and wetlands at the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee hearing: "Oversight: Modernizing our Nation's Infrastructure." Pratt is administrator for Shoreline and Waterway Management at the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC).

The hearing was held as Congress begins to develop legislation on U.S. infrastructure. Natural coastal infrastructure, such as beaches, dunes and wetlands, provide coastal risk reduction, but also provide recreation, support coastal economies, provide habitat and environmental services, and are — above all — an incredible job creator. ASBPA has called for an investment of $5 billion over 10 years for natural coastal infrastructure as part of a federal infrastructure bill. This investment should easily pay for itself in avoided costs related to disaster recovery, and in generating economic benefits including job creation.

"Investing in coastal infrastructure will save the federal government money by reducing post-disaster recovery payments," said Pratt in his testimony. "Federal investment in shore protection was estimated to have saved $1.9 billion in damages during Hurricane Sandy[1]. With a $65 billion recovery price tag, imagine how much we could have saved if we'd invested a fraction of that money to update our coastal infrastructure before the storm rather than after."

"Beaches get more recreational use in the U.S. than all our national parks combined[2]," continued Pratt. "Therefore beaches support tourism jobs throughout coastal communities. This adds up to a major economic impact – beaches help generate $225 billion annually to the national economy[3]." ❖

1) http://www.nad.usace.army.mil/Portals/40/docs/ComprehensiveStudy/Estimate%20of%20Sandy%20damages%20avoided.pdf.
2) Houston, J. 2013. "The economic value of beaches – a 2013 update" *Shore & Beach* 81(1), 3-11.
3) Ibid.

Tools you can use: legislative agenda and advocacy card

By DEREK BROCKBANK, ASBPA Executive Director

The ASBPA Government Affairs committee is pleased to share our 2017 "Federal Agency & Legislative Agenda" and our 2017 "Advocacy Card." The agenda is a summary of the federal policies we support and would like to see acted upon this year. It's divided amongst our three priorities: 1) funding, 2) regulatory issues, and 3) regional planning. The audience for this is YOU, our member and partners. Please use this with your colleagues, your lobbyists, your Members of Congress and anyone else who you think might be interested in knowing what ASBPA would like to see accomplished this year. It is online at http://asbpa.org/wpv2/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/2017LegAgendaBrochureColor.pdf

Our "Advocacy Card" is highly distilled version of our Agenda, comprising our top four policy "asks" of Congress and the administration and our top two science goals, together with some coastal facts that demonstrate the importance of our coast to the nation as whole. It can be found online at http://asbpa.org/wpv2/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/2017_lobbyCard_rack.pdf

Please use and share both these documents with coastal decision-makers at all levels! ❖

Saving the Indian River Lagoon

By AARON DUECASTER,
Geoscience Graduate Student,
Florida Atlantic University

Florida will always be in need of strong coastal management due to a growing population, a desire for living on the coastlines and the massive tourist industry that brings in a substantial amount of money to the economy. Florida's waters have been under watch in the past few years to due to increasing pollution from agriculture and poor management.

Recent die-offs of seagrasses, fish and marine mammals, along with more appearances of harmful algal blooms in Florida's Indian River Lagoon have called for quick action to "save" this important and valuable estuarine ecosystem. A multidisciplinary approach to understanding the dynamics of the Indian River Lagoon has been under way, aiming to better manage and maintain a healthy estuary in spite of increasing pressure to meet human needs.

After graduating with a B.S. in Marine Science with a concentration in chemistry at Coastal Carolina in December 2015, I wanted the chance to further my education and broaden my skillset for research in environmental sustainability along the coast. FAU's Harbor Branch Oceanographical Institute in Fort Pierce, FL, had several projects under way that were concerned with the degrading health of the Indian River Lagoon.

I was fortunate enough to meet and begin to study under the advisement of Dr. Laurent Cherubin, who has started a project that focuses on the tidal exchanges through the three main inlets (Sebastian, Ft. Pierce and St. Lucie) of the Indian River Lagoon to generate a complete hydrodynamic model for the Lagoon. Currently, I am taking classes in my second semester at Florida Atlantic University as a graduate student.

For my research in the next year, I plan to characterize the lagoon by deploying sensors for long-term measurements of several parameters. First, I will set up Acoustic Doppler Current Profilers (ADCP) in Sebastian Inlet while testing deployment methods in a shallow inlet to receive the best possible data, limit obstruction from boat anchors and biofouling, and keeping a low cost.

This data will quantify seasonal variations in the Inlet's tidal flux. Additional sensors can be attached to the ADCP to quantify the oxygen, salinity, chl-a, CDOM, etc. Finally, deploying smart drifters released at different tidal intervals will let us know the fate of the water in the lagoon and when it exits.

Aaron Duecaster

My future goals include the integration of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV or UAS) or unmanned aerial systems into environmental research on the Lagoon. I would like to map out the distance that plumes are stretching out into the lagoon and ocean, as well as being able to detect and accurately quantities in water constituents throughout a shallow water column. The UAS could possibly conduct surveys for sea-grass mapping and other hard structures.

What would all this research be able to tell us? Preliminary studies have showed that there is great variability in the net water flux and salinity through the St. Lucie Inlet. Having a full understanding of these measurements will greatly help land management by knowing the residence time of the lagoon water seasonally and the ability to create a complete hydrological model of the Lagoon. Drifters deployed during flood tide will also help understand the destination of recruitments within the inlet. My goal is to broaden the understanding of hydrodynamics and methods of research for maintaining a healthier Indian River Lagoon. ❖

Students & new professionals
asbpa
American Shore & Beach Preservation Association
Advocating for healthy coastlines

The Student/New Professional Committee submits a monthly column that either highlights research or experience of ASPBA'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.

ASBPA board approves major bylaws changes

By KATE GOODERHAM, ASBPA Managing Director

At the Feb. 28 ASBPA board meeting, the board unanimously approved a major rewrite of the bylaws.

According to Bylaws Chair Gary Jones: "Our bylaws had become like many attics, in need of some spring cleaning." He added: "Bylaws need to be broad brush, like the constitution, while policies and procedures are more specific."

Significant changes include:

• The board of directors will be elected at the annual meeting rather than by the board.

• The number of directors is more flexible

• Mergers and dissolutions are allowed

• Establishes a quorum for the annual meeting

• Officers serve a two-year term

The policies and procedures will be presented to the board later this year for approval. Although there are numerous adopted individual policies and procedures, they have not been codified as a whole.

The new bylaws can be found at http://asbpa.org/about-us/mission/. ❖

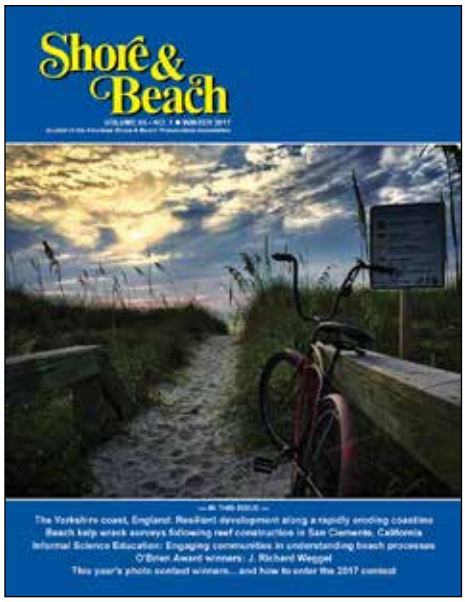
WWW.ASBPA.ORG

Don't forget that nomination information for this year's Best Restored Beaches has been posted. Consider nominating your local community for this prestigious award — the deadline is April 8!

Abstracts are being accepted for the 2017 National Coastal Conference, "Beaches, Bays, and Beyond," until May 8. We look forward to our best conference yet, in sunny Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. It's not too early to start preparing your talk and making plans to join us.

As always, all the latest Beach News and updates on legislative action items are linked to our home page. Follow us on Twitter and "like" us on Facebook to stay up to date with all of the latest news and happenings. ***— Beth Sciaudone, Ph.D., ASBPA webmaster*** ❖

Instead of searching for your past issues of *Shore & Beach*, purchase a copy of "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 available at http://asbpa.org/wpv2/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/DVDOrderformASBPAfillable.pdf ❖



'Shore & Beach' update

What's ahead in your next issue of *Shore & Beach*?

• "The Yorkshire coast of England: Resilient development along a rapidly eroding coastline," by Gary Griggs.

• "Annual maximum wave heights from Waverider Buoy data," by Richard J. Seymour and David Castel.

• "Beach kelp wrack surveys following construction of Wheeler North Reef in San Clemente, California," by James Peeler, Robert Grove, and Hany Elwany.

• "Informal Science Education (ISE): An approach for engaging communities in understanding beach processes in Puerto Rico," by Maritza Barreto-Orta, Rubén Estremera-Jiménez, and Yogani Govender.

• Another edition of our O'Brien Award articles, featuring remarks by Rich Weggel from the 2016 Coastal Conference.

Also featured are winners of the 2016 ASBPA photo contest, both on the cover and inside. ❖

The 2016 'Shore & Beach' photo contest winners

Winning photos have been published in *Shore & Beach*, Volume 85, Number 1.

• U.S. East Coast winner and Grand Prize: "Beach Life" (left) by David Hall, from Jacksonville Beach, Florida.

• U.S. Gulf of Mexico Coast, winner: "McFaddin National Wildlife Refuge Saltwater Intrusion" by Evan Walters.

• Caribbean, winner: "The reef at Well Bay, Necker Island,British Virgin Islands" by Douglas Gaffney.

• Pacific, winner: “Wai Aina (means “Water Land” in Hawaiian); Natural Shoreline of Oahu just prior to sunset” by Robbyn C. Spratt.

• U.S. Pacific Coast and Alaska, winner: “Royal Palms Beach” by Cesar Espinosa.

• Great Lakes, winner: "Independence Day in the Heartland of America: Fireworks over Lake Michigan" by Stefanie Nagelbach

View the winning photos and the details of the 2017 photo contest at: http://asbpa.org/wpv2/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/photo_85_1_color2_wcover-1.pdf

• Pacific, honorable mention (above): "Friendly Green Sea Turtle" by Robbyn Spratt.

• U.S. Gulf of Mexico Coast, honorable mention (below left): "A Long Day" by Elizabeth Wysocki.

• U.S. East Coast Honorable Mention (below right): "Jasper Beach" by Douglas Mann.

• U.S. Pacific Coast and Alaska, honorable mention: "Waves breaking at Table Rock Beach, Laguna Beach, California" by Robert Grove.

American Beach News Service

Invest in our coastal infrastructure

When the word "infrastructure" comes up, most people think of steel and concrete, bridges and ports. But our water and coastal infrastructure is just as critical to the American economy and creates (and protects) just as many jobs, but does so with sand and sediment, roots and grass.

Infrastructure refers to the structures, systems, and facilities serving the economy of an industry, country, or area, including the services and facilities necessary for its economy to function. Water and coastal infrastructure, just like man-made infrastructure, is an asset that society depends on – and, most particularly, it is about U.S. jobs. Creating jobs and protecting jobs, blue collar jobs and white collar jobs, American jobs that cannot be outsourced.

Just as importantly, this coastal infrastructure is used by visitors from every state as well as countless foreign countries. If we don't maintain our shorelines, many of those visitors will travel elsewhere for their coastal experience, taking with them their money and our coastal jobs. Many of those jobs are service jobs, tied to robust tourism as well as a growing residential base. The importance of the service industry as a national employer cannot and should not be ignored. Nor should the fact that service jobs such as these are local jobs; they cannot be outsourced and the money mostly stays in the local economy.

Beach project construction is a job bonanza in itself. Restoring a beach starts with engineers, geologists, and biologists working in tandem to design a project by taking into account shore geomorphology, local coastal dynamics and site-specific ecology. The project is carried out with dredges or trucks, heavy equipment, bulldozers, and, when a vegetated dune is included, planters. This means construction crews, foremen and support staff.

That is just the start. The beach is an economic engine itself– according to economist James R. Houston, Ph.D., beaches get more recreational use in the U.S. than all our national parks combined[1]. Therefore beaches support tourism jobs throughout coastal communities. This adds up to a major economic impact — beaches help generate $225 billion annually to the national economy[2]. Dr. Houston goes on to state that "for every $1 the federal government spent on beach nourishment in 2012 ($44 million), it collected about $570 ($25 billion) annually in tax revenues from beach tourism."

Furthermore, beaches protect communities from coastal flooding, reducing the likelihood that hurricanes and coastal storms will significantly disrupt the local economy and result in job losses. These wide beaches and high dunes also protect upland property and infrastructure from waves and flooding, which can speed a community's recovery and reduce insurance and repair costs. Strong coastal infrastructure means local businesses are still in business after a storm, and coastal residents will be able to get back into their homes quickly and with fewer repairs.

This protection also accrues from coastal wetlands, which can reduce storm and flood risk for property and infrastructure, and provide recreation benefit. Wetlands also support fisheries and, in many areas, a major fishing industry. A detailed study of Gulf Coast restoration, which is primarily wetland restoration with some beach and mangrove restoration, determined that 88,000 new jobs would be created in the Gulf Coast with an investment of $25 billion in coastal infrastructure over 50 years[3]. Studies of estuarine restoration — from the Gulf of Maine to the Chesapeake to North Carolina — consistently show that for every $1 million invested, approximately 30 jobs are created or protected[4].

Another advantage of beaches, dunes and wetland is their environmental value. From sea turtles to shorebirds to commercial and non-commercial fisheries, wildlife of all sorts live, breed and feed on what we should consider our coastal and water infrastructure.

Barrier beach systems are

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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

1) Houston, J. 2013. "The economic value of beaches – a 2013 update" Shore & Beach 81(1), 3-11.
2) Ibid.
3) https://www.mathereconomics.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Knowledge_Center_Walton_Foundation_White_Paper.pdf
4) http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/pdf/RAE_Restoration_Jobs.pdf
5)http://www.nad.usace.army.mil/Portals/40/docs/ComprehensiveStudy/Estimate%20of%20Sandy%20damages%20avoided.pdf

American Beach News Service

Congress, fund our nation's coastal infrastructure

What can Congress do to protect our country's invaluable coastal resources? First and foremost, fund coastal infrastructure.

The American Shore & Beach Preservation Association (ASBPA) is recommending at least $5 billion over ten years to rebuild and restore our nation's beach, dunes, wetlands and other coastal flood risk reduction infrastructure. This should include building already authorized, but unfunded, coastal projects around the country. These projects all have a positive benefit-cost ratio (meaning they have been determined to have a positive return on investment), but they have to compete for annual appropriations and federal new-start limitations.

This $5 billion investment should also send funding directly to states that have coastal projects they would like to see implemented but don't have the funding to start. While federal involvement from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is critical to every water project, allowing states the opportunity to lead on some projects has shown in some places to be more cost-effective and to get projects built quicker. We're seeing this in Louisiana on a number of their coastal restoration projects where they are using money from the RESTORE Act, Natural Resources Damage Assessment (NRDA) and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) funding following the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill.

Innovative financing that allows for public-private partnerships may prove helpful on some smaller-scale projects. For example, we have begun to see environmental mitigation banking generate funds for important coastal projects. Finance schemes that allow companies or communities to reduce their flood insurance by building dunes have created helpful incentives for coastal infrastructure.

However large-scale projects that will drive job creation and protect communities need federal investment. Industry will not build a beach simply for tax credits, they need to be paid — and, since the public and our national economy benefit from sound and substantial coastal infrastructure, the federal government must provide that funding. Financing options and incentivizing private investment is helpful for smaller localized projects, but to really create jobs and make a sound investment the federal government needs to fund coastal projects.

Furthermore, federal investment in water and coastal infrastructure will ensure projects are coordinated regionally and provide benefits across coastal communities. ASBPA does not want to see "random acts of restoration" which often prove ineffective and economically inefficient. The regional approach to coastal management – in funding as well as in planning – ensures projects are effective and the benefits are distributed evenly around the coast.

Finally, Congress has an important role to play in oversight of our federal agencies with water and coastal infrastructure in their jurisdictions. One of the most important things ASBPA advocates for is Regional Sediment Management (RSM) and Beneficial Use of Dredged Material (BUDM). The placement of dredged sand and other sediment on beaches, dunes, and coastal wetlands can serve multiple benefits, including flood and storm risk reduction, ecological restoration, and adaptation to sea level rise. As sediment sources become increasingly scarce, the USACE and other agencies must manage sediment as the valuable and limited resource it is.

Congress recently authorized a "South Atlantic Coastal Study," which directs the Corps to conduct a study of coastal areas located within the geographic boundaries of the South Atlantic Division to identify the risks and vulnerabilities of those areas to increased hurricane and storm damage as a result of sea level rise. This study will also include a focus on sediment resources and coastal erosion issues. Like the North Atlantic Coast Comprehensive Study authorized after Hurricane Sandy, this study will ensure coastal projects are coordinated regionally and are achieving multiple benefits, and help the Corps and other agencies find new and better ways to guide the management and preservation of America's coasts.

Water and coastal infrastructure, such as beaches, dunes, wetlands and the like, may not fit the traditional vision of traditional infrastructure such as steel and concrete stretching as high or as far as

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Invest

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shock absorbers for the high energy waves and tides generated by coastal storms. The nation's most biologically beneficial wetlands and estuaries are often protected from open Pacific, Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico and Great Lakes waves by a barrier beach. Erosion over time, stabilization of inlets for ships and boats and high waves and tides during a storm can change the placid and protected waters of a back bay into a very energized water body, resulting in a greatly diminished fishery.

This directly impacts those who work our coastal fisheries as their sole profession, and who feed America and the world. Practically all of our commercial fish stock depend on these quiet coastal areas; back bays, wetlands and estuaries for their very existence. Investment in maintaining the sandy shores and wetlands is a clear and undeniable investment in the valuable fishing industry of this nation.

Of course coastal infrastructure such as beaches, dunes and wetlands, as well as inland water infrastructure like stream- and riverbank restoration, are essential to the U.S. economy for more than just their job creation potential. They are, simply put, wise fiscal investments.

Investing in coastal infrastructure will save the federal government money by reducing post-disaster recovery payments. Federal investment in shore protection was estimated to have saved $1.9 billion in damages during Hurricane Sandy[5]. With a $65 billion recovery price tag, imagine how much we could have saved if we'd invested a fraction of that money to update our coastal infrastructure before the storm rather than after.

These scenarios play out time and again: Wide beaches and high dunes protect other infrastructure and jobs. With water and coastal infrastructure, we will either pay now to build and maintain it, or pay a lot more later in repair and recovery. ❖

Fund

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they eye can see. But they are just as critical to our nation's economy and well-being, and they provide just as many, if not more, jobs and other economic benefits. Water and coastal infrastructure provide jobs via construction and restoration; via recreation (including hunting and fishing) and tourism; via support for the coastal community's local economy; and via protection of property and local business from flood and storm damage. Investing in coastal infrastructure is also a wise investment, since if we don't invest now we'll pay more in recovery from damages later.

ASBPA urges Congress to invest $5 billion over 10 years in coastal infrastructure. A sound and long-term investment in coastal infrastructure will help put Americans back to work, create a strong economic return on investment and save money in the long run. ❖

CONFERENCES

■ **April 25**: Texas Chapter 2017 Symposium, "Comprehensive Texas Shorelines," Port Aransas, Texas. Abstracts due on March 31st. Submit to cris.weber@fereese.com or jace.tunnell@austin.utexas.edu.

■ **May 23-24:** Headwaters to Ocean Conference, University of California, Irvine, Abstracts due on Feb. 24. Submit abstract at http://64.58.171.133:591/fmi/iwp/cgi?-db=H2O&-loadframes

■ **Sept. 27-29**: FSBPA Annual Conference, Westin Fort Lauderdale Beach Resort, Fort Lauderdale, FL. Details at www.fsbpa.com.

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

ASBPA Texas Chapter 2017 Symposium call for papers

Abstracts for the 2017 Texas Chapter Symposium, "Comprehensive Texas Shorelines," are due **March 31**. The symposium will be held on April 25 at the UTMSI Visitor Center Auditorium in Port Aransas. They are inviting technical and policy-oriented abstracts for a broad range of coastal issues related to changes in coastal ecology, science, engineering, economics and policy in Texas.

Submit one-page abstracts as PDF or Word documents to cris.weber@freese.com or jace.tunnell@austin.utexas.edu. Presentations will include 15 to 20-minute oral presentations and posters. ❖