

# THE COASTAL SOCIETY'S 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

## 21<sup>st</sup> International Biennial Conference

Highlighting the year was the 21<sup>st</sup> Biennial Conference. TCS 21 was held on June 29 – July 2 in the beautiful urban coastal setting of Redondo Beach, California. The theme of the conference, *Coastal Footprints: Minimizing Human Impacts, Maximizing Stewardship*, highlighted the meeting's focus on innovative solutions to coastal problems and the footprint that humans leave on coastal areas. Presentations and posters focused on the following tracks: *Effective Integration of Coastal Science, Policy and Management, International Coastal Management Concepts and Practices, Coastal Energy Siting, Production and Consumption, Coastal Land and Watershed Use, Climate Change Impacts*, and *Working Waterfronts and Waterways*. In addition to these six traditional coastal management tracks, TCS 21 introduced the *Integrating Social Equity into Coastal Management* track, where conference attendees explored connections between economic and environmental policies.

The Opening Plenary, *Green Ports: Addressing Environmental Impacts of Working Waterfronts*, highlighted the conference location in an urban port city. The Closing Plenary, *Developing Inspired Leaders: Secrets to Success from Renowned Coastal Professionals*, opened a broader discussion of leadership and the future of coastal management. TCS proudly took steps to reduce the conference footprint, like partnering with Carbonfund.org to become a carbon-neutral conference and distributing reusable mugs made of corn-based plastic.

In February of 2008, TCS lost a dear friend, colleague, TCS Past President and family member when Marc Hershman passed away. At TCS 21, TCS celebrated Marc's life and our memories of him by naming a keynote address after Marc. This year's Marc Hershman Keynote Speaker was the opening plenary speaker, Geraldine Knatz, Executive Director of the Port of LA. Taylor and Francis and the Coastal Management Journal also sponsored two student scholarships in Marc's name.

The Conference drew 275 attendees and contributed net revenue of \$88,000 toward TCS future programming. At the conference, TCS announced that TCS 22 will be held in Coastal North Carolina in the summer of 2010.

## 2008 Fall Election Welcomes New TCS Leaders

In the fall of 2008, TCS members elected new Directors and a new President-Elect. **Lisa Schiavinato**, Law and Policy Specialist for North Carolina Sea Grant and Co-Director of the North Carolina Coastal Resources Law, Planning and Policy Center, will serve as President-Elect with a term from 2009 – 2010. She will serve as President of TCS starting in 2011. Director **Betsi Beem** is a lecturer at the University of Sydney, Australia, in the Department of Government and International Relations and will serve a 3-year term. Director **Angela Gustavson** is Congressional and Legislative Affairs Specialist for the US Fish and Wildlife

Service and will serve a 3-year term. Director **Christine Patrick** works in the NOAA OAR Office of Ocean Exploration and Research and will serve a 3-year term. Director **Tom Murray** will serve a 2-year term, filling the position that Lisa vacated, and is the Virginia Sea Grant Extension Program Leader, and holds a faculty appointment in Marine Business & Coastal Economic Development at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science's Graduate School of Marine Science at the College of William & Mary.

TCS owes a warm thank you to its outgoing TCS directors. We are indebted to them for their years of service: Patrick Christie, Ariel Cushnir, and Laurie Jodice.

### **TCS Offers Coastal Management Journal as Member Benefit**

Beginning in 2008, TCS offered an online subscription to the *Coastal Management Journal* (*CMJ*) as a benefit to each of its members. *CMJ* is an interdisciplinary journal that explores the technical, legal, political, social and policy issues surrounding the use of coastal resources and environments. The journal presents new information on management tools and techniques and serves as a forum for the exchange of ideas among those involved in developing coastal management programs. *CMJ* is the official journal of TCS, which is acknowledged on the front cover of the journal and its web pages. Each TCS regular member now has access to the online journal as part of membership.

### **TCS Amends its Membership Year**

In 2008, TCS also decided to shift away from an anniversary date for member renewal to a calendar year basis. The TCS Board determined this change to be the most cost-effective way to invoice dues. Members who renewed at different times during 2008 were invoiced using a prorated dues scale. Members who paid for several years beyond 2008 will be invoiced using the same prorated scale as their memberships come due.

### **TCS Partners with other Coastal Organizations**

TCS co-sponsored the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Coastal and Ocean Celebration along with the Coastal States Organization, National Estuarine Research Reserve Association, Sea Grant Association, and Consortium on Ocean Leadership, among others. Held on Capitol Hill, the Celebration was an opportunity to raise awareness of coastal and ocean issues on the Hill and provided a relaxed venue for colleagues to gather and discuss the importance of ocean and coastal issues.

TCS also graciously accepted a donated registration and exhibit booth from Restore America's Estuaries (RAE) for its 4th National Conference on Coastal and Estuarine Habitat Restoration in October in Providence, Rhode Island. The RAE conference brought individuals from a broad spectrum of interests together to discuss changing coastal habitats and restoration techniques. Representatives of nonprofits, academic institutions, and industry were all present to share best practices and innovative approaches to habitat restoration and coastal management. TCS had a

booth and informational handouts about the organization and was represented by TCS-URI Chapter member Erin Jackson.

### **TCS Chapters Contribute to the Organization's Mission**

From triathlons to conferences, from adoption of a public access point to coastal restoration, TCS Chapters were active in 2008 and contributed to TCS' mission for improved education and dialogue toward sustainable coastal resource management. Highlights of the chapters' efforts follow.

The Duke Student Chapter sponsored a triathlon (its 8<sup>th</sup> year) and, between entry fees and raffle tickets, raised \$3,500 for the Neuse River Foundation which advocates for protection of the Neuse River and its watershed. The Duke Chapter also participated in the North Carolina Maritime Museum's Waterside After School Program including running a touch tank and fielding questions about sea life for over 100 school children.

The University of Rhode Island Chapter (URI) sponsored a career panel, comprised of graduates of URI's Marine Affairs graduate program and, after several years of efforts, entered into an official agreement with the Town of Narragansett to adopt Bass Rock Beach as the chapter's cleanup site. In doing so, the chapter committed to holding monthly beach cleanups and to providing progress reports to the Town.

The University of Washington Chapter successfully hosted the 8th Annual Fisheries and Marine Ecosystems Conference at the Olympic Coast Institute in Port Angeles, WA. The chapter hosted 85 students from more than 20 colleges and universities with student presentations on a variety of marine studies topics including fisheries, environmental education, marine tourism, and social aspects of marine ecosystems. The chapter also focused on developing its service component in its own backyard including coastal restoration of the Duwamish River watershed and kayak-based shoreline patrols of Lake Union.

The East Carolina Chapter opened its membership beyond the Coastal Resources Management Ph.D. program to all students, faculty, and members of the university community who are interested in coastal issues. The Chapter also partnered with the local chapter of the Sierra Club (the Cypress Group) to clean the Tar River during the Big Sweep in October and is working toward opportunities for student travel to professional conferences.

Finally, the University of Hawaii took part in the Coasts, Oceans, Ports and Rivers Institute (COPRI) Solutions to Coastal Disasters Conference in April of 2008 which provided a venue for the exchange of information, tools and ideas relating to coastal hazards. Kudos are due to the chapters for such great work.

### **Final 2008 Statistics**

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

As of 1/1/08: 269  
As of 12/31/08: 312

**ASSETS**

As of 1/1/08: \$31,232  
As of 12/31/08: \$102,609