



Louisiana Natural Resource News

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Inside this issue:

Student Presentation Awards **2**

LAPB/TWS Scholarship Recipient **3**

Newsletter of the Louisiana Association of Professional Biologists Louisiana Chapter of The Wildlife Society

LAPB 2015 Fall Symposium Awards

LAPB/LA Chapter TWS met August 27-28 at the LSU Mini-barn in Baton Rouge, 84 people attended. Publication awards were given in the Basic Research, Fisheries, Wildlife, and Popular categories.

Ruth M. Elsy took top honors in the **Basic Research Category** with her publication "Comparison of Metabolic Substrates in Alligators and Several Birds of Prey" published in *Zoology* 117:253-260.

In the **Fisheries Category**, "Oyster Reef Restoration in the Northern Gulf of Mexico: Extend, Methods, and Outcomes" published in *Ocean & Coastal Management* 89:20-28 by Megan K. La Peyre was chosen as the outstanding publication.



Megan La Peyre with President Dr. Andy Nyman

Ruth M. Elsy received top prize in the **Wildlife Category** for her publication "Sex Ratios of Wild American Alligator Hatchlings in Southwest Louisiana" published in *Southeastern Naturalist* 13:191-199

In the **Popular Category** Mike Carloss, Donald M. Baltz, Bill Delany, Marty Floyd, Ted Joanen, Scott Nisbit, William G. Vermillion, and Paul Yakupsack earned first place for their publication "An Open Letter to the Citizens of Louisiana" published online at: <http://www.mississippiverdelta.org/files/2015/05/AnOpenLettertotheCitizensofLouisiana.pdf>



Marty Floyd and Mike Carloss with President Dr. Andy Nyman (center)

Eleven students presented their research and Kristen DeMarco (LSU) received **first place** in the oral presentation contest for her presentation SAV and seed resource availability in coastal marshes across the northern Gulf of Mexico.

Christopher Fontenot (ULL) received **second place** on the oral presentation contest for his presentation Wax ZLake Delta—plant community dynamics

There were 10 student poster presentations. Whitney Kroschel (LSU) won **first place** with her poster “An Analysis of Bottomland Hardwood Forest Stand Development in a Hydrologically Altered Floodplain and Megan Nepshinsky and Eva Windhoffer (Nicholls State University) received **second place** for their poster “Foraging Movement Patterns of Breeding Royal Terns (*Thalasseus maximus*) on the Isles Dernieres Barrier Islands Refuge in Southern Louisiana”.



Christopher Fontenot with President Elect Dr. Eddie Lyons



Whitney Kroschel with President Elect Dr. Eddie Lyons



Eva Windhoffer (L) and Megan Nepshinsky (R) with President Elect Dr. Eddie Lyons

Ethan Burke (ULM) received the LABP Scholarship Award. After serving his country with two deployments to Afghanistan, Ethan enrolled at ULM. Ethan has a real love for field work and has been involved with working deer check station and conducting deer browse surveys with LA state biologists, working hunter bag checks on opening day of squirrel season with state biologist, trapping nuisance beaver, feral pigs and coyotes with USDA-WS and USFWS personnel, performing necropsies on feral pigs, coyotes and waterfowl with state wildlife veterinarian, banding Wood Ducks, assisting Steve Shively (USFS) in banding Red-Cockaded Woodpeckers ,and assisting Samantha Collins (LDWF) in banding Black-Bellied Whistling Ducks. Ethan is also the Vice-President of ULM's Tri-Beta Biological Honor Society. Ethan is currently employed as a Biological Student Trainee Pathways Position with USFWS at Overflow NWR. His job includes helping to preserve and manage moist soil units, a green tree reservoir, and bottomland hardwood forest, while controlling nuisance beavers and hog populations, and operating heavy equipment to help in management operations. Throughout his college career, Ethan has found his passion in working to pursue a career as a wildlife biologist. Ethan states that the courses he has taken and the field work that he has experiences has provided many challenging yet exciting tasks. Ethan looks forward to a future as a wildlife biologist and cannot wait to put his experience to work while taking the opportunity to learn from more experienced biologists that he will have the privilege to work with.



Who We Are

The Louisiana Association of Professional Biologists is a diverse group of natural resource specialists including, but not limited to, foresters, botanists, wildlife biologists, wetland scientists, fisheries biologists, and students who are dedicated to the economically sound and science-based protection, management, and use of Louisiana's natural resources through peer-reviewed research, mentoring, ecologically sound habitat management, and informed public policy.

We're On The Web!!!
www.labiologists.org

Questions, Comments, or Suggestions?

Contact Any Member of Our Executive Board

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