

About our Contributors



A.J. Hand is a retired editor/writer/photographer for *Popular Science* magazine. He has spent many hours exploring Long Island Sound, first as a fisherman, and now as a birder and photographer. His area of focus is the Norwalk Islands, especially Cockenoe, where he has become involved with the protection of nesting terns, American oystercatchers, piping plovers and other shorebirds.



Before retiring in 2014, **Robert Miller** worked as a newspaper reporter for 36 years. Of that, he worked for 22 years at *The News Times* in Danbury. He spent most of his time there covering health, science and the environment. In 2006, he began writing “Earth Matters,” a weekly column about the environment. He has continued to write the column after retiring, typing away for 12 years and counting.



John Pirro is a Connecticut native who worked for 37 years as a newspaper reporter and photographer. Now retired, he lives in Litchfield with his wife and two cats.



Christine Woodside is a writer and editor who writes about the environment and the history of ordinary Americans and their clashes with nature. Her most recent book, *Libertarians on the Prairie*, was published in 2016. She worked for newspapers for 18 years, and since 2005 has been the editor of *Appalachia*, a journal published by the Appalachian Mountain Club. She writes for the Connecticut Health Investigative Team and is the former longtime editor of *Connecticut Woodlands*. She is earning a master’s in history from Arizona State University.



Judy Preston conducts public engagement and education for the Long Island Sound Study at Connecticut Sea Grant. In partnership with the UConn Master Gardener program, she runs the Coastal Certificate program that teaches sustainable gardening practices. She lives, plays and volunteers in conservation efforts at the mouth of the Connecticut River. She has an undergraduate degree in geology from Skidmore College, a Master of Science in botany from the University of Vermont and Master of Environmental Management from Yale University.



Judy Benson has been the communications coordinator of Connecticut Sea Grant and editor of *Wrack Lines* since 2017. Prior to that, she was a reporter and editor at *The Day* of New London for many years, including more than a dozen covering health and the environment. Exploring the tidal marshes, islands and natural beaches of Long Island Sound by kayak and on foot is one of her favorite pursuits. She earned both her undergraduate degree in journalism and her Master of Science in natural resources from UConn.

Shad, continued from page 21

Still, by summer he was already looking forward to shad season the following spring.



Dan Russell’s custom-built aluminum skiff is docked next to his market, Hale’s Shad, on the Connecticut River in Rocky Hill.

“This is what I do,” he said. “Next year will be better, because the full moon will be on April 22, instead of on April 29. They start the run on the April moon.”

The Empress for Life of SECT is looking forward to it, too.

To learn more about that status of Connecticut River shad, visit:

https://seagrant.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/1985/2018/11/shad_DEEPReport.2017.pdf

WINNERS OF PHOTO CONTEST

1st place photo (back cover): Sailboats and kayaks are blanketed in snow after a storm in February 2017 at Jennings Beach in Fairfield.

2nd place photo: A lobster boat and traps are reflected in the water off the docks at the Guilford Lobster Pound at the Guilford Town Marina on an early morning in April 2017.

3rd place photo: Recreational clammers gather just offshore from the Surf Club in Madison during the Madison Shellfish Commission’s spring clam dig in June 2018, as town Shellfish Commission Chairman Stephen Nikituk, left, looks on.

Honorable mention: Barn Island Wildlife Management Area in Stonington is the site of a research project set up in May 2018 by UConn students testing the effects of sea level rise and plant species on salt marsh carbon and nitrogen cycling.



Illuminated sculptures of right whales will be created by Kristian Brevik, recipient of a 2018 arts grant.

Connecticut Sea Grant Arts Support Awards Program

The Connecticut Sea Grant Arts Support Awards Program awards up to \$1000 to an artist or group of artists through this competitive funding program. The winning submission will be selected on the basis of its aesthetic quality, relevance to coastal and marine environments and Connecticut Sea Grant themes, as well as its potential impact on non-traditional audiences.

ELIGIBILITY: Artists who live in Connecticut, or whose work relates to the Connecticut coast or is Long Island Sound-based. **DEADLINE** for applications: **May 13, 2019.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, visit: <https://seagrant.uconn.edu/?p=1108> or email **Dr. Syma A. Ebbin**, research coordinator, at: syma.ebbin@uconn.edu

2nd Place
Ben Kuropat



3rd Place
Kevin Clark



**Winners of
Connecticut Sea Grant's
30th Anniversary
Photo Contest**

*Scenes of how we work,
play and enjoy the
natural beauty of
Long Island Sound*

*First Place on
Back Cover*
Sally Harold



Honorable Mention
Beth Lawrence

Many thanks to everyone who submitted entries.

*Please visit <https://seagrant.uconn.edu/?p=4252>
to see a selection of the other beautiful photos
submitted to the contest.*

UConn

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First Place Photo Contest Winner
Sally Harold

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