

Hi all,

An account has been set up at Dauphin Island Sea Lab. Funds sent to this account will directly benefit our SG colleagues, J.L.Scott (Sharon's place) is among them.

Please forward as you wish, Beth Day

-----Original Message-----

Subject: Sea Grant Assistance to Miss-Ala.

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for responding to my e-mail sent on behalf of Dr. LaDon Swann, the Director of the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium (MASGC). LaDon has said that the response has been overwhelming, but that many have asked how we can contribute directly to the help the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium (MASGC), the GCRL/University of Southern Mississippi, and the Scott Aquarium.

In my discussions with LaDon, he has stated that there is a lot going on, and that he has had many conversations with his Sea Grant and university colleagues in the Gulf and elsewhere on how we as individuals, as university reps. and as individual state Sea Grant programs could best assist our marine lab, university, and Sea Grant colleagues who have been stricken by the greatest natural disaster ever to hit our nation.

Here's what we can do to help.

The MASGC has an Alabama Office at the Dauphin Island Sea Lab that LaDon reports is in fairly good shape. By comparison, the Gulf Coast Research Lab in Ocean Springs, Miss., where the MASGC's main offices are located, is in shambles, as is the JL Scott Aquarium (Dr Sharon Walker), which is in Biloxi and is almost destroyed.

The outstanding community-based fisheries, aquaculture, and coastal community programs that MASGC has fostered over many years with the community of Bayou LaBatre, Ala. has been wrecked. And, very sadly, LaDon has reported that this beautiful community is suffering.

This is all heart-breaking and very emotional for many of us who feel too distant from our friends and colleagues and want to help!

And, I know you feel as strongly as we do that we want to direct our energies and funds to help our colleagues at MASGC, GCRL, Scott, USM, and the community of Bayou LaBatre.

Well. here's how you and your Sea Grant can help our colleagues.

Please send donations as soon as possible made out to the _Dauphin Island Sea Lab_. In the cover letter, and in the "notes" on your check, you can designate that your funds be used for

*the benefit of MASGC in support of its recovery programs with the community of Bayou LaBatre

*the benefit of MASGC in support of its recovery programs with the GCRL and the University of Southern Mississippi

*the benefit of MASGC in support of its recovery programs with the J.L. Scott Marine Aquarium.

LaDon has stated that he will form a committee that will determine collaboratively how best to allocate these resources.

Please send the funds to the _MASGC Program Fund, c/o the Dauphin Island Sea Lab, 101 Bienville Blvd, Dauphin Island, AL 36528

_Our community of friends on the Miss-Ala. Gulf Coast greatly appreciates your generous assistance.

Some might have already received this but just you have not. ESA has established a bulletin board on its website (<http://www.esa.org/katrina>) to facilitate assistance to ecological and environmental science colleagues in the Gulf Coast region.

If you have contact with colleagues in the affected areas, please alert them to this site as a place to seek help and find assistance ranging from relocation to laboratory equipment.