
Florida Academy of Sciences

E news



FAS Office *Edward A. Haddad, Executive Director : Julie Regier, Office Manager* February 2006

From the Executive Director

During the past two months, we have been working diligently to process applications for new members and renewals for present Members along with applications for the upcoming Annual Meeting. As you know, this is the 70th Anniversary year for the Academy. FAS is a venerable institution. There are not many organizations which can boast of 70 years of service and existence in the state of Florida. And a great many of us have not been around for 70 years, either!

Did you know that in 1936:

- Keynes's General Theory of Employment, Interest, and Money was published?
- Physicist Carl Anderson won the Nobel Prize for his discovery of the positron?
- The BBC in London established the first high-definition TV broadcast service?
- Dr. Phillip C. Jeans persuaded the AMA Committee on Foods to recommend fortification of milk with vitamin D?
- Hoover Dam on the Colorado River was dedicated?
- The Parrot Jungle and Monkey Jungle opened in Dade County
- Egas Moniz published work on the first human frontal lobotomy?
- The Winter Olympics was held in Berlin?

1936 also saw the birth of the Florida Academy of Sciences.

Back then here in Orlando, a major concern was the state of citrus and cattle ranching here in Florida. Back then, Walt Disney was pioneering animated film productions. Who, back then, could have foreseen the future of Florida and our becoming the center of travel for space exploration? or that we could be in instant communication with people the world over just with the click of a "mouse" in the comfort of our home or office? Florida is indeed a different world today. And much of that world centers around science. All of you as members of the Academy have important involvements, contributions, and studies in the world of science and you can take justifiable pride in your efforts and contributions.

I am very honored to be your Executive Director at this important milestone in FAS's history and both Julie, our Office Manager, and I look forward to soon seeing you at Melbourne.

Annual Meeting Preparations

Preparations for the Annual Meeting are nearing completion at this time. Remember to consult our website for any last minute news. The advance program on the website contains directions and locations for events during the Meeting. You will also find signs at the FIT Campus directing you to parking and the various facilities we will be using. There will also be student volunteers present to assist in the registration process. You will need to check in at the Registration Desk to obtain pertinent material.

From the President

John H. Trefry

Congratulations to FAS on its 70th anniversary. Our largest annual meeting in years will soon be upon us with >230 papers and posters, including the 25th Anniversary Indian River Symposium.

Come join us on March 10 and 11 at FIT, Melbourne.

There's still time to sign up for the banquet.

Friday, March 10, 2006 at 7:00 PM

Social Hour 6-7 PM

Use the online conference registration form to sign up for the banquet – link below.

http://www.floridaacademyofsciences.org/Conf2006RegForm_RegOnly.htm

Indian River Lagoon Symposium Mar. 10, 11

Twenty-five years ago, during a Florida Academy of Sciences symposium in November 1981, the Florida Institute of Technology (FIT) hosted natural resource managers, scientists and environmentalists concerned about the Indian River Lagoon in a first-ever lagoonwide conference to take a comprehensive look at the lagoon ecosystem.

According to the symposium's proceedings published in the quarterly Florida Scientist, "An important result of the symposium was the realization that the Indian River system has not been studied as an ecological entity. Rather, a piecemeal approach has been taken, with investigators focusing on rather narrow questions."

Questions posed during the 1981 Symposium will be reviewed and additional questions posed during the "Future of the Indian River System Revisited, 25th Anniversary Symposium," scheduled at FIT's campus in Melbourne in conjunction with the Academy's 70th Anniversary Annual Meeting on March 10 and 11, 2006. Many of the same participants from 25 years ago plan to participate in this symposium, with presentations from lagoon resource management agencies, lagoon scientists, and others.

Officials with the Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program encourage the public to mark their calendars to attend this important conference. Topics will cover the current state of the lagoon and the many ongoing projects and programs through which work is being done to protect and restore this estuary of national significance.