



spotlight

Celebrating
Achievements
of Henry David Thoreau
Scholars,™ Graduates,
Faculty & Institutions

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Terri Aubele (top center) and Dr. Cristina Castro (right), Project Director of The Pacific Whale Foundation Ecuadorian Research Project, hold an impromptu get-together with their young students in Puerto Lopez, Ecuador.

Senior Henry David Thoreau Scholar™ and Faculty Advisor Launch Humpback Study with Pacific Whale Foundation Ecuadorian Program

Henry David Thoreau Scholars™ are strongly encouraged to take part in one or more internship programs during their undergraduate years. While students locate and secure their own internships, either in the United States or abroad, their Faculty Advisors also provide invaluable assistance in suggesting internships and/or overseas study programs to complement the academic interests and career goals of students.

Teresa Aubele, a senior Henry David Thoreau Scholar™ at Southampton College, Long Island University, and Dr. Paul E. Forestell, Director of the Southampton Psychobiology Program, have formed a mutually beneficial alliance. Terri majors in Psychobiology, studying the interrelationship of mental processes to an individual's anatomy and physiology. Through Dr. Forestell, she secured an internship that centered around the behavior of whales off the South American coast.

How did it all come about? Dr. Forestell, who also serves as Vice President and Senior Research Associate of The Pacific Whale Foundation (PWF), told Terri about his new humpback whale research project, being launched in Ecuador and continuing for several years. The study concerned the underwater acoustical displays ("songs") of males during breeding season. While song changes have been detected in entire whale populations, little is known about the mode of change in individuals.

On-site data collection was needed, and Dr. Forestell thought Terri would be perfect for the assignment.

As background, Terri's professor has been studying whales and dolphins since 1976. That same year, he received his master's degree in experimental psychology

from the University of New Brunswick. Twelve years later, he was awarded his Ph.D. in comparative psychology from the University of Hawaii.

"My Faculty Advisor was absolutely instrumental from beginning to end in helping make my past summer possible," Terri states. Her two-month internship took her to Puerto Lopez, Ecuador, a small coastal town in the middle of Machalillia National Park. The area is rich in wildlife, mountain scenery, rainforests, and archeological sites. Her most important assignment was to collect the first field data for the humpback project. She also taught natural history classes to local fishermen, guides and schoolchildren, stressing the importance of whales to the Ecuadorian ecosystem.

Dr. Cristina Castro, Project Director of the PWF Ecuadorian Research Program, supervised Terri in the classroom. As part of its mission, the organization offers a multi-faceted program of public environmental education, responsible marine research, and marine conservation activism/education.

Terri's home-away-from-home was the Hosteria Mandala. "I spent most of my weekdays gathering data, using eco-tour boats for three-hour periods. Each day, these boats transported tourists to Isla de Plata, and when the travelers went off on long
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Dr. Paul Forestell, Terri Aubele's Henry David Thoreau Faculty Advisor at Southampton College, Long Island University, also serves as Vice President of the Pacific Whale Foundation. Here he teaches a class of Ecuadorian eco-tour guides.

World-Famous Explorers Club Awards Grants to Teresa Aubele and Christopher Golden

For the first time, Henry David Thoreau Scholars™ have received grants from the Youth Activity Fund of The Explorers Club. Based in New York, the prestigious century-old organization promotes exploration and field sciences. Celebrated mountaineer Sir Edmund Hillary serves as its Honorary Chairman.

As an important part of its mission, The Explorer's Club supports outstanding young men and women in their exploration and field science endeavors all over the world. Henry David Thoreau Scholars™ Teresa Aubele and Christopher Golden now fall into this select category.

An account of Terri's experiences with The Pacific Whale Foundation in Ecuador begins on the front page of this issue of Spotlight. A senior at Southampton College of Long Island University, she used her Explorer's Club grant to fund travel to her internship in Puerto Lopez and medical preparations required for her stay in South America. She is a graduate of West Bridgewater High School.

Articles about Chris' environmental activities in Madagascar and Panama have been featured in past editions of Spotlight. Now a senior at Harvard College, he returned to Madagascar last summer under the auspices of the Wildlife Conservation Society. He carried out three months of research on illegal hunting and the bushmeat trade in Makira Forest, which took him on foot to 15 villages. After graduation, he plans to return to the Makira for eight months and then on to Gorongosa National Park in Mozambique for a four-month research project supported by the Carr Foundation. Chris was the first of four consecutive Henry David Thoreau Scholars™ to be named from Cohasset High School.

Our hearty congratulations to Terri and Chris for their outstanding accomplishments! All of us at the Henry David Thoreau Foundation™ are very proud of them.



Ryan Mahoney, sternman on the Marilyn M out of Nahant, with his father, skipper Bill Mahoney. A Henry David Thoreau Scholar,™ Ryan has joined the freshman class at Dartmouth College.

Ryan Mahoney, Lobsterman and Gridiron Star, Begins College Life at Dartmouth As a Henry David Thoreau Scholar™

Nahant, a peninsula occupied by some 3,632 residents, extends out into Massachusetts Bay. Henry David Thoreau Scholar™ Ryan Mahoney, who calls Nahant home, has loved its waters and beaches from his early childhood. Along with his father Bill, plus two uncles and two cousins, he has spent between 40-45 hours a week in summer lobstering over the past three years. He became Nahant's youngest commercial fisherman and acquired an 18-foot skiff of his own.

Ryan also found time to earn honors grades at Swampscott High School and compile an outstanding record as linebacker on the Varsity Football Team. He captured the all-time career tackle record in grades 9-12 and was nationally ranked among the Top 50 Inside Linebackers by *Sports Illustrated* and *Max Emfinger Recruiting*. In addition, the National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame selected him as one of their 2004 High School Scholar Athletes. Now he has begun the second semester of his freshman year at Dartmouth College and played linebacker for the Big Green last fall.

Living and working on the Atlantic has given Ryan an abiding concern and appreciation for the sustainability of the Massachusetts Bay ecosystem, the biology of lobsters and their habitat, and laws regarding lobstering. Both his parents are public school educators. Bill is a guidance counselor at Lynn Classical High School and first pointed him toward the Henry David Thoreau Scholarships.™ His mother Marilyn is an early childhood specialist for the Lynn Public Schools. In summer, Bill skips the vessel *Marilyn M*, where Ryan acts as sternman.

An invitation for a 10 a.m. sail on the *Marilyn M* turns into an intense and fascinating experience. Upon meeting Ryan and Bill at Tudor Wharf, the visitor sees immediately that their boat is a busy workplace. While it is 10 a.m., they have been lobstering since 4:30. Holding on tightly is a must for a guest, whether standing in the wheelhouse or sitting on a sea chest. Bill steers a steady course out into the choppy waters and checks the location of submerged traps with a depth monitor.

Back in the stern, Ryan unloads the first of several 45-pound traps, measures the lobsters caught inside

for proper size, places thick yellow rubber bands around the claws of "keepers," returns any juveniles or egg-bearing females to the sea, and rebaits the traps. He says that it takes about seven years for lobsters to reach their regulation size. Later in the day, they will be sold to a Nahant dealer.

While lobstering, the Mahoneys have occasionally done double duty as field researchers for Northeastern University's Marine Science Center. This graduate study facility, located on Nahant's East Point, has been studying the migration and numbers of lobsters in Massachusetts Bay. Ryan and Bill have supplied data to Professor Joseph Ayres, a marine biologist and neuroscientist who has developed autonomous ambulatory and undulatory vehicles based on the lobster and lamprey. Working together, these vehicles can conduct investigations of both the bottom and water column of the littoral zone or rivers.

When it came to selecting a college, Ryan opted for Dartmouth, a rural campus instead of an urban one. The decision is not surprising: his family owns a vacation home in Western Maine, where he enjoys skiing, snowshoeing, and other outdoor sports. "I'm not a city kid!" he laughs. "Nahant is about as close as I want to get to Boston." As a Henry David Thoreau Scholar,™ he is drawn to the Environmental Studies program at Dartmouth and hopes to major in that area.

Among the recommendations that accompanied Ryan's application for the Henry David Thoreau Scholarships™ is one from a fellow lobsterman. He described Ryan as "intelligent, inquiring and outgoing... [someone who] can analyze and solve problems easily." Then he closed with this telling comment: "Ryan has a commitment to make a difference."

An Introduction to the Governing Boards Of the Henry David Thoreau Foundation™

“The Henry David Thoreau Foundation™ is dedicated to encouraging highly talented and academically successful young women and men to pursue undergraduate studies preparing them for leadership in advancing the quality of life for all individuals, protecting the environment, and ensuring equitable and sustainable use of the world’s natural resources.”

Organizational Mission Statement

As you read this newsletter, close to 70 Henry David Thoreau Scholars™ and Scholar Graduates are preparing for leadership positions in the environmental field. Their areas of concentration span science, engineering, business, law and social science. They carry out their degree programs at educational institutions all over the United States, and some from the first two Scholar graduating classes—2003 and 2004—have also enrolled in advanced degree programs and established themselves in the workplace. Life continues to unfold in exciting ways for these talented young people, who are bound to excel in a multitude of environmental pursuits.

Such developments energize the leaders of the Henry David Thoreau Foundation.™ Besides designating a new group of Henry David Thoreau Scholars™ each year and providing stipends of up to \$30,000 in tuition for their undergraduate environmental studies, the Foundation oversees a Faculty Advisor Program for Scholar mentoring.

Once Scholars receive their bachelor’s degrees, they are inducted into the Henry David Thoreau Society for the Environment.™ This organization is developing into a powerful intellectual forum and networking vehicle for alumni pursuing graduate studies and careers in the environmental field. The Foundation also awards two annual \$25,000 grants to assist undergraduate environmental programs at colleges and universities.

The Henry David Thoreau Foundation™ is governed by a five-member Board of Trustees and a Selection Committee. Three Trustees represent as many generations of the Galvin family, with their long-term commitment to higher education and environmental well-being.

Trustee George M. Galvin and the late John Hoffman established the Henry David Thoreau Foundation™ and Northeast Educational Services, its parent organization, in the late 1990s. The two men had operated Northeast Institute of Industrial Technology, a Boston professional school located on Beacon Hill. Today, John R. Galvin serves as President of the Henry David

Thoreau Foundation™ and oversees its investment portfolio and operations. Jennifer P. Galvin advises the Henry David Thoreau Society for the Environment,™ bringing her extensive public health and scientific expertise to the table. Trustees Philip R. McCabe, retired Dean of Admissions and Director of Alumni Affairs at Northeastern University, and John B. Gray, former President of Dennison Manufacturing Company and Trustee of Executive Service Corps of New England, round out the group.

Identifying Henry David Thoreau Scholars™ and institutional grant recipients is the cornerstone activity of the Foundation. Its Selection Committee seeks out and recommends candidates to the Trustees. Mr. McCabe chairs the committee; other members are Ms. Galvin, a doctoral candidate at Harvard School of Public Health; David D. Cuttino, retired Dean of Admissions, Enrollment and External Affairs at Tufts University; and Marilee Jones, Dean of Admissions at MIT.

How are Henry David Thoreau Scholarship™ recipients chosen? “All Massachusetts high school seniors who are residents of Massachusetts are eligible to apply for the Henry David Thoreau Scholarships.™ These awards—for tuition use only—are academically competitive. About 100 candidates apply each year, and the application deadline is February 1. Our Selection Committee evaluates these students based on their academic record, recommendations, extracurricular activities, and their essay. We place strong emphasis on candidates’ interests in the environmental field and their history of leadership positions. A number of past recipients have been class presidents, presidents of clubs and organizations, and captains of athletic teams,” Mr. McCabe stated.

For further information about any of the Henry David Thoreau Foundation™ programs or to download a Henry David Thoreau Scholarship™ application, go to www.thoreauscholar.org or call Jane Nalieri, Executive Administrator of Northeast Educational Services, Inc., at 617-666-6900.



Henry David Thoreau Scholars,™ now members of the Class of 2008 at their respective colleges and universities. Front row, left to right: Katelyn E. Homeyer, Julie E. Erickson, Skylar R. Bayer, and Jessica A. Lynch. Back row: Eugene A. Drokhlyansky, Stacie A. Brimmage, Ryan E. Mahoney, Timothy J. Huth, Brittany M. A. Novak, Roman Michael Kichorowsky and Kathryn Au. Additional details about our freshman Henry David Thoreau Scholars™ appear below.

Henry David Thoreau Scholars™ Join Class of 2008

Kathryn Au Springfield	Yale University	High School of Science and Technology, Springfield
Skylar R. Bayer Wayland	Connecticut College	Wayland High School
Stacie A. Brimmage Worcester	College of the Atlantic	South High School, Worcester
Eugene A. Drokhlyansky Westwood	Brandeis University	Westwood High School
Julie E. Erickson Colrain	Middlebury College	Mohawk Trail Regional, High School, Shelburne Falls
Katelyn E. Homeyer Great Barrington	University of Vermont	Monument Mountain Regional High School, Great Barrington
Timothy J. Huth Norfolk	Cornell University	King Philip Regional High School, Wrentham
Roman Michael Kichorowsky Andover	Cornell University	Andover High School
Jessica A. Lynch Boxford	MIT	Masconomet Regional High School, Topsfield
Ryan E. Mahoney Nahant	Dartmouth College	Swampscott High School
Brittany M. A. Novak Cohasset	Harvard College	Cohasset High School



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Mission Statement

The Henry David Thoreau Foundation™ is dedicated to encouraging highly talented and academically successful young women and men to pursue undergraduate studies preparing them for leadership in advancing the quality of life for all individuals, protecting the environment, and ensuring equitable and sustainable use of the world's natural resources.

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This newsletter is published periodically by the Henry David Thoreau Foundation,™ administered by Northeast Educational Services, Inc. Office address: 265 Medford Street, Suite 102, Somerville, MA 02143, telephone 617-666-6900, fax 617-666-0345, web site www.thoreauscholar.org. Massachusetts high school seniors, with plans to pursue an interest in the environmental field, may apply for Henry David Thoreau Scholarships™ totaling up to \$30,000 for undergraduate education. They will usually be distributed at \$7,500 per year, for tuition use only, to the student's choice of college.



*Humpback whale
breaches off
the coast of Ecuador.*

*Photo courtesy of The Pacific
Whale Foundation.*

Henry David Thoreau Scholar™ Contributes To Humpback Whale Study

continued from front panel



*Henry David Thoreau Scholar™ Terri
Aubele, with Dr. Paul Forestell, her
Faculty Advisor.*

wildlife hikes on the island, I could borrow one of the vessels for my research.”

While offshore, Terri connected by walkie-talkie to a group of Ecuadorian researchers stationed on Isla de Plata. They used a theodolite, a highly accurate surveying instrument, to track the position and behavior of several humpback groups. Because the researchers shared this information with Terri, she could go directly to the whales' locations and record their sounds with a hydrophone (underwater microphone). Over the summer, she made digital recordings of different “singing” individuals.

For Terri, the best part of her Ecuadorian experience was that it gave her a handle on what she can do as a future career. “It was very exciting for me to carry out hands-on, independent research at

the first stage of a novel project. I learned to depend on myself a lot more.”

And, as a result of his experiences advising Terri, Dr. Forestell has nothing but praise for the Henry David Thoreau Foundation.™ “The work your organization is doing is amazing. You are undertaking a critical service in identifying and supporting exactly the sort of students we need to provide sensitive and intelligent leadership in the coming years.”

Before graduating, Terri will spend her second internship at the Brookhaven National Laboratory, where she will work full time with Dr. John Neill, also a Psychobiology Professor from Southampton College. Their study will focus on a study of auditory discrimination in rats that have been exposed to radiation in space.