Science Notes - Marshland Magic Workshops

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NSF Sponsors Oceanography Summer Program

“Ahoy thar mates!” Are you interested in an NSF-sponsored oceanography summer program in Massachusetts combining three weeks of intensive study with a two week “final exam” at sea? If you are, Sea Experience may be the program for you. Classrooms on land are located in a picturesque setting just outside Woods Hole, Massachusetts, while the tall-masted 134-foot S.S.V. Corwith Cramer provides the setting for the final weeks of study.

We boarded this beautiful research ship in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and headed out into the North Atlantic for a 14-day voyage of sailing and studying. This was definitely not a pleasure cruise — no lounges or deck chairs were to be found. Aided by experienced sailors and science researchers, we performed all scientific experiments as well as ship operations and maintenance. Although things started badly for me, as I “hit the rail” early and often with sea-sickness, I recovered and settled into the routine of 24-hour ship operation.

Then Hurricane Bob came along. We raced “Bob” back to Nova Scotia and won by about six hours. After one day in port, we returned to the rough Atlantic to complete our mission.

Life at sea is demanding; putting those sails up and down is a lot of hard work. However, if you are interested in doing scientific research in a very unusual setting, I would recommend Sea Experience. In my opinion, it is the “Cadillac” of National Science Foundation Teacher Programs.

For more information or an application form, contact Dr. Michael Reeve, Room 609, 1800 G. St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20550, ph. (202) 357-9639.

Paul D. Jones

Marshland Magic Workshops

A “Marshland Magic” workshop will be held July 17-19, 1992, to provide an opportunity for educators and their families to explore the origin, history and ecology of wetlands, as well as opportunities for and effects of human interactions with them. The workshop and campsite will be based at Cooper’s Cove, but activities will take place throughout Pocahontas County. Graduate credit is available from Morningside College, and the Arrowhead AEA is offering staff development credit.

The registration fee is $25 for the entire workshop or $15 per day for individuals and $55 for families. Meals are an additional $20 per person. For more information, contact Stacey Newbrough, RR#2, Box 11A, Pocahontas, IA 50574, ph. (712) 335-4395.

—J.M.H.