

A Winning Team for Lobster Outreach

Directors **Jack Mattice** of NYSG and **Ed Monahan** of CTSG are proud to announce that NYSG's **Antoinette Clemetson**, **Barbara Branca** and **Paul Focazio** along with CTSG's **Nancy Balcom** and **Peg Van Patten**, received the Group Outreach Award at the mid-January Northeast Sea Grant Regional Meeting in Durham, New Hampshire. The award was for their efforts to support the LI Sound Lobster Health Initiative, including arranging and conducting researcher and public meetings, preparing publications including the *Lobster Health News*, and maintaining the Web site www.seagrant.sunysb.edu/LILobsters.

Emory Anderson of the National Sea Grant Office and chair of the LI Sound Lobster Research Initiative Steering Committee, told the winners, "We on the steering committee are extremely grateful for all of your hard work. Without your efforts, all that has been accomplished would have been impossible."

Anthony Calabrese of the National Marine Fisheries Service said, "As former Chair of the Steering Committee it was my privilege to have worked with you. Your hard work and professionalism most certainly made my job as Chair go more smoothly. I thank you for your help over the last few years."

Said **Nick Crismale**, president of the CT-based Long Island Sound Lobstermen's Association, "I speak for all the Sound lobstermen in telling you how appreciative we are for all your efforts in the LIS research initiative. It is because of people like you and your efforts to coordinate research projects that hopefully will produce the knowledge to bring back the healthy lobster resource we once enjoyed."

New York Sea Grant Welcomes Shana Miller

Shana Miller joined the Marine District Extension staff in January 2004 as the Technical Outreach Specialist for the Peconic Estuary Program. The Peconic Estuary, located in eastern Long Island, is part of the National Estuary Program (NEP) whose mission is to identify, restore, and protect the nation's significant estuaries. The program is coordinated by the Environmental Protection Agency. Ms. Miller joins two other NYSG staffers who are also involved in outreach education with the NEP. **Kimberly Zimmer** has long served the Long Island Sound Study and **Laura Bartovics** conducts outreach and education for the New York/New Jersey Harbor Estuary Program.

Ms. Miller received her BA from Cornell in biology and her MS in marine biology from Stanford University. Welcome aboard!

—Robert Kent



Accepting their awards for outstanding outreach related to the Long Island Sound Lobster Health Initiative are (from l. to r.) from CT SG: **Nancy Balcom**, Extension Program Leader and **Peg VanPatten**, Communications Director; from NYSG: **Antoinette Clemetson**, Lobster Outreach Specialist; **Barbara Branca**, Communications Manager and **Paul Focazio**, Web Developer. Photo courtesy of Sea Grant

This multiprogram, integrated extension and communications effort has contributed heavily to the current progress under the LI Sound Lobster Health Initiative and provides an excellent template for scientific, industry and public outreach for a very complex initiative conducted within a cloud of litigation.

Congratulations to the team for its excellent, and now award-winning, outreach program.

— Jack Mattice



New Peconic Estuary technical outreach specialist **Shana Miller (l.)** and NYSG Communications Manager **Barbara A. Branca** at the Shifting Sands exhibit.

Photo by Paul Focazio