

SER Awards

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SER/ESA meeting in San Jose, California, in 2007. He generously shared his wealth of knowledge and experience as a member of the SER Site Visit and Planning Team for the 2003 Austin, Texas, annual meeting and for the Zaragoza, Spain, 2005 World Conference on Ecological Restoration.

Bill is an inspiration to those who work to fulfill SER's mission. He has enthusiastically served the Society with energy, dedication, and graciousness. Passionate about ecological restoration, he has honored the field by donating thousands of hours of his time to SER during the last 20 years of his 45-year professional career.

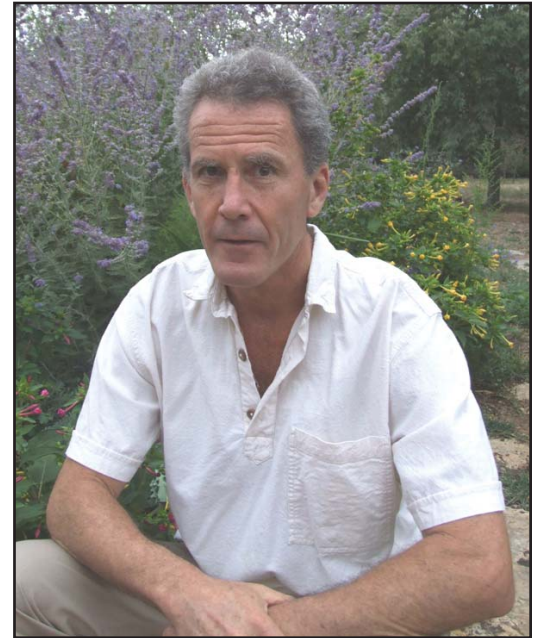
"Bill is the quintessential scientist," wrote Martinez. "He has demonstrated great dedication to both his professional field and to SER. Bill will be retiring from SER service after the San Jose conference. He richly deserves to be honored with the John Rieger Award for his numerous contributions to SER and the field of ecological restoration." The Board heartily agrees, and offers its congratulations and sincerest thanks to Bill Halvorson for his outstanding service to the field and to the Society.

Communications Award James Aronson

By this award, the Society acknowledges the importance of all forms of communications that advance the goals of the Society.

In the history of the field of ecological restoration, there are few people who have been more passionate than James about spreading the word about the need for ecological restoration. James has traveled across the world to speak and write and teach about the importance of restoring all nature's goods and services for the benefit of people. Not only has James been dedicated, but he has also been extremely effective in enriching the public conversation about restoration.

Based in France, James recently created the Restoring Natural Capital (RNC) Alliance. His focus on restoring natural



James Aronson

capital has been the subject of his numerous presentations at conferences, journal and popular writings, papers, books, and website, www.rncalliance.org. With co-founders James Blignaut, Andy Clewell, and Olga Martha Montiel, the RNC Alliance is an international network of non-profit, non-governmental organizations that offer locally appropriate solutions to resolve environmental and economic development problems simultaneously, in underdeveloped countries and industrialized countries alike. The RNC Alliance has projects in the Mediterranean Basin, Africa, Madagascar, Australia, Latin America and South Asia.

In addition to his pioneering work communicating the mission and importance of the RNC in as many venues as possible around the world, James also has served as editor of the SER/Island Press Book Series. During a period of just a few years, he has facilitated the publication of 13 seminal books on restoration ecology.

"In my opinion, James Aronson proves that one person can make a difference for the better, even in the troubled and damaged world today," wrote Sue Milton in her nominating letter. The Board of Directors offers its congratulations to James Aronson for being a passionate and effective advocate for restoration.