



2012 Award of Excellence

Art Benke

The Award of Excellence and Distinguished Service Award Subcommittee is pleased to announce that Dr. Arthur C. Benke is the recipient of the SFS 2012 Award of Excellence in Benthic Science. Art has been a leader in the ecology of benthic freshwater invertebrates and their role in aquatic ecosystems for over 30 years. Art's major accomplishment has been his pioneering research on secondary production of benthic invertebrate communities; that pioneering research continues today. In 1992, Art was invited to give the Edgardo Baldi Memorial Lecture to the 25th SIL Congress in Spain. This recognition speaks to his international reputation in benthic invertebrate production. In addition to this research, Art has also played a significant role in the advancement of river conservation in North America. The outstanding and award-winning book "Rivers of North America" and its companion, the "Field Guide to Rivers of North America," are excellent demonstrations of his commitment to river conservation in North America. A long-time member of the SFS/NABS, Art has served as the Society's President, as a member of the Executive Committee, as a J-NABS Associate Editor, and as a member of numerous committees. He has displayed a life-long love and dedication to the Society and to its goal of promoting the further understanding of freshwater benthic systems.