

## Co-Directors / Instructors of the SoFo Marine Science Program Summers 2014, 2015 & 2016

### Robert Gelling

Rob has been teaching science at Kings Park High School for 31 years. After completing his BS in Geology and MAT in Earth Science at Binghamton University, he began his career at KPHS teaching Biology and Environmental Science. He has over the years taught AP Geology, Independent Science research, Astronomy, and an independent study program called the Environment Team, but most recently his primary preparation is Regents Earth Science. Rob created an extracurricular program called the *Student Environmental Action Society* in his first year, and has been advising the group that engages in eco-projects every year since. This past year, he received a donation from a former student that provided the resources to resurrect a special program called the BOCES Mariculture Research Project that provides an opportunity for his students to learn all about Long Island's shellfish industry and to nurture seed clams in rafts they construct. The room he teaches in is called the Environmental Center and features a Critter Lab, Courtyard Classroom, and recycling station. Rob also coaches Boys Winter and Spring Track and is First Aid/CPR certified.

Summer experiences have included research at the Brookhaven National Laboratory, teaching in a residential BOCES Marine Science Enrichment program in the Hamptons/Montauk, directing the SCOPE Environmental World summer program, eight summers on the Long Island Aquarium education staff and most recently shark satellite tagging and release with the Long Island Shark Coalition.

### Theresa Gelling

Terri graduated from Binghamton University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology as well as a Master of Science in Education. She has over 30 years of teaching experience in a variety of academic settings. Terri is currently the seventh and eighth grade science teacher at St. Mary School in East Islip. She teaches several courses in science including Regents Earth Science, Living Environment, and she has also served as science chairperson since 2010. Terri is the advisor to several science extracurriculars at St. Mary School including "Supermarket Science" for grades 1-2, "Junior Chemists" for grades 3-4, and the "Archaeology Club". In addition, Terri is a founding member of both the St. Mary Science/Technology/Engineering/Math Program and the STEM community of the Diocese of Rockville Center. In addition to her full-time teaching responsibilities, she works part time at the Sylvan Learning Center after school. Terri has worked with her husband Rob at camps over the years, including the BOCES Summer Marine Science Enrichment Program as well as at the Long Island Aquarium

