

The Seahorse



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of America



U.S. Branch of
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Spring 1999

Conference is resounding success

High level of interest exhibited

by Jerry Mills, NOAA, Coast Survey

Last month's (Apr.) 1999 U.S. Hydrographic Conference in Mobile, Alabama, was a huge success with over 650 hydrographers from 34 nations in attendance. The Exhibit Hall was filled to capacity, with 73 companies displaying their products and services. This high level of interest in the conference is attributable to many factors, not the least of which is the five-year span since the last major conference in the U.S. devoted solely to hydrography. The close proximity to the Naval Oceanographic Office and the Corps of Engineers Mobile District headquarters undoubtedly contributed to the large turnout.

Opening remarks were given by representatives of the four sponsoring agencies: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, NOAA, U.S. Naval Oceanographic Office and Canadian Hydrographic Service. Sir Anthony Laughton, president of The Hydrographic Society and Rear Admiral Guiseppa Angrisano, president of the Directing Committee of the International Hydrographic Bureau in Monaco also were in attendance and made short presentations prior to later sessions.

Over the span of the four days of

the conference, over 30 technical papers (posted on the THSOA web site at www.usahydrosoc.org) were presented along with 15 workshops/commercial training sessions. Particularly well-attended (nearly 100 hydrographers) was a workshop on tides and water level requirements for NOS hydrographic surveys. This was likely due to the increasing responsibilities being assigned to contractors in the area of tide and water level measurement and analysis including datum determination, zoning and corrector application. There are plans to offer a week-long training course in tides and water levels in Nov. of this year, most likely in Norfolk, Virginia.

Several companies took advantage of the riverside location of the convention center and offered underway equipment demonstrations. Of special interest were the new hydrographic survey launches from the Naval Oceanographic Office T-AGS60 ships. Each were equipped with multibeam sonar systems, side scan sonars and state-of-the-art electronics.

As is customary at hydrographic conferences, there were planned social activities every evening. These serve as a venue for exchanging the most recent "sea stories" and for making new contacts within the profession. The Welcome Reception in the Exhibit Hall on

Tuesday night included an endless supply of heavy hors d'oeuvres, including local Gulf shrimp, and the usual liquid refreshments. The highlight of the following evening was a reception aboard the battleship USS ALABAMA, followed by a buffet dinner in the adjoining vintage aircraft museum. Roussou's, a local restaurant, catered the affair which was composed of a wide variety of Gulf Coast seafood and southern dishes. An informal "post-function" occurred after the dinner at the local brew-pub which was an unofficial bus stop along the return route to the hotel.

(See Conference, page 3)

A Letter From Pat

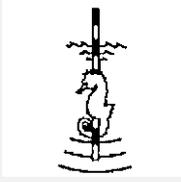
by President Pat Sanders, THSOA



A conference retrospective

The 1999 U.S. Hydrographic Conference is now over. The Hydrographic Society of America can take pride in its efforts to re-establish this

(See Letter, page 2)



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THSOA Tel: (301) 460-4768
 Fax: (301) 460-4768
 e-mail: thsoa@aol.com

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Mention in *The Seahorse* of commercial companies or products does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation by The Hydrographic Society. ✪

Letter (from page 1)

event. Over 650 hydrographers attended the conference. At the THOSA meeting after the conference, it was unanimously agreed that THSOA would host the 2001 U.S. Hydrographic Conference. As we begin our site selection for this show, I have a couple of comments and would like your feedback.

✓ There are too many small trade shows. THSOA, MTS, Oceans, etc. It is difficult for a small company or an individual hydrographer to determine which ones they should attend and which ones they can afford to miss. Over the next year, I would like to explore the possibility of combining one or more of these shows with the 2001 U.S. Hydrographic Conference. From an exhibitor and attendee standpoint, it seems to make a lot of sense.

✓ You always try to get a balance between the technical papers and the commercial exhibition. It was a definite mistake on my part not to arrange to have lunch available for purchase in the exhibit hall. The hall would empty out from Noon to 1:00 p.m. as everybody headed out to get lunch.

✓ The Tuesday night function in the exhibit area was great, and the Wednesday dinner at the U.S.S. ALABAMA was just tremendous. My special thanks to David Clarke for all of his time and efforts to arrange both the commercial exhibition and the social functions. Dave took a lot of time out of his personal schedule, something that is not easy to do when you are running a small business. THSOA owes him a big "Thank You". Also, my thanks to Karl Kieninger (Technical Session Manager), Joanna Hawkins (Publicity), Jeff Lillycrop (Local Site Manager), Jack Wallace (Finance) and to Rik Pepe and all of the group

from Coastal Oceanographics who helped out at the show.

✓ By now, everybody knows the CD-ROM which has the conference proceedings contained one file which had a virus. The virus, named "PRI B", was attached to a Microsoft Word document submitted by one of the authors. It would manifest itself by occasionally placing garbage text inside your document. We pre-screened all of the files using Norton Desktop and did not find the virus. A user at the conference screened the CD with Macafee and found it and reported it to us. We confirmed it and made the announcement to everyone at the conference. If you still have the CD in your possession, I suggest you toss it in the dumpster. We have placed all of the technical papers on the THSOA web site:

www.usahydrosoc.org.

✓ THSOA should now have funds (resulting from the conference) with which we can begin to do more for our users. Among the early items I wish to address is to have the web site professionally maintained. I want to open a members-only section on the web site which will have hydrographic resource material (conference proceedings, manuals, etc.) and be kept up to date.

✓ The last item I want to address has to do with the long term relationship between The Hydrographic Society and American hydrographers. The Hydrographic Society is the parent organization, run out of the U.K. under which national groups such as the U.S. Branch of The Hydrographic Society are organized. The Hydrographic Society of America was formed for those who did not wish to be involved in the international organization or to pay

(See **Letter**, page 3)

Letter (from page 2)

the higher fees involved. The Hydrographic Society is the originator of *The Hydrographic Journal* and the annual diary. Beyond that, it provides little of service to American members.

The Council of The Hydrographic Society (Karl Kieninger is our representative) is meeting in late May to discuss its long term future. Through discussions between board members of THSOA, it seems that The Hydrographic Society has become more and more irrelevant in our plans. I believe they need to ask themselves what "value-added" they are providing to their international members. If they cannot answer this question, then it is time to consider re-vamping the current organizational structure.

Please give me your thoughts. ✨

Conference (from page 1)

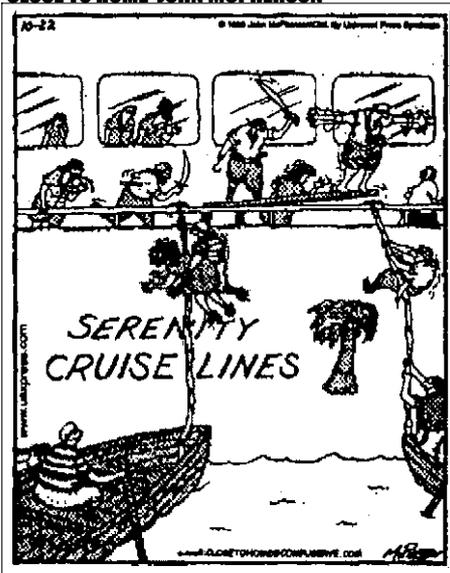
Although this conference is barely over, plans are already underway for the next THSOA-sponsored event in 2001. The organizing committee welcomes any suggestions to improve the conference and would like to hear members' ideas on preferred locations and dates. Comments should be forwarded to THSOA via e-mail to: THSOA@aol.com.

On a final note, the contributions of those responsible for organizing the Mobile conference must be recognized. Pat Sanders, the president of THSOA and Coastal Oceanographics, should be warmly congratulated for his efforts in bringing this conference to fruition. His initial proposal, shortly after his election in 1996, to have THSOA sponsor a hydrographic conference was met with some skepticism. All previous conferences had been organized by the major federal government agencies involved in hydrography and nautical charting. They obviously had more personnel and

resources at their disposal.

Nevertheless, Pat charged forward with his idea and along with a tremendous contribution from David Clarke, arranged all of the logistics for the conference and exhibit hall. THSOA board members also pitched in, especially Karl Kieninger (Technical Session Coordinator), Jeff Lillycrop (Local Site Manager) and Jack Wallace (Finance). Pat also involved the employees of his company and virtually closed Coastal Oceanographics for two weeks. Talk about the epitome of dedication and volunteerism for one's profession. Congratulations, and thanks Pat, for a job well done! ✨

CLOSE TO HOME JOHN MCPHERSON



"Calm down, Louis & I'm sure it's just part of the after-dinner entertainment."

NOTICE!

THSOA's web site,
www.USAhydrosoc.org
is continually being improved. Try it! ✨

NOAA selects new positions

from NOAA as seen in "Hydro International," Egon Bakker, Editor-in-Chief

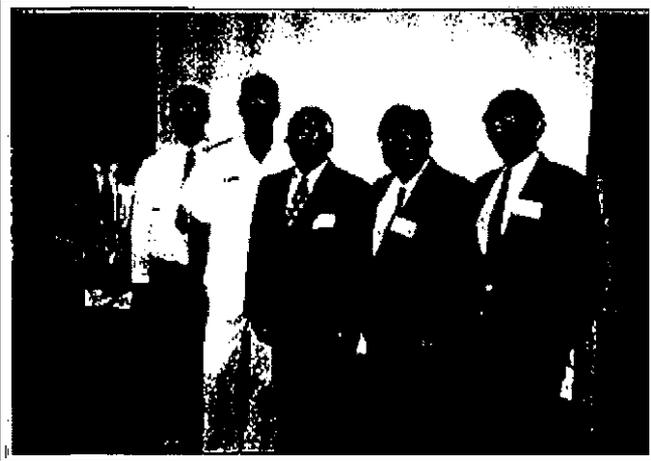
Commander Samuel P. DeBow, Jr., has been selected as the next Chief, Hydrographic Surveys Division, within National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), succeeding Captain Andy Armstrong.

CDR DeBow has been a NOAA commissioned officer for 21 years and has served aboard three NOAA hydrographic ships including an assignment as Commanding Officer of the Ship RUDE which was instrumental in locating and mapping the wreckage of TWA 800 off Moriches, Long Island, in 1996. Most recently, he was Chief of the Operations Branch within the Hydrographic Surveys Division, Office of Coast Survey. He has a B.Sc. in Commerce and Engineering (Engineering Management) from Drexel University in Philadelphia, Pa., and an M. Sc. in Hydrographic Sciences from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Ca.

Captain David B. MacFarland was selected as the Director of NOAA's Office of Coast Survey where he will be responsible for all aspects of nautical charting and hydrographic surveying in U.S. waters. He relieves Captain Nicholas Prah who served as Acting Director from April 1998 to Feb. 1999 and was recently selected for promotion to Admiral where he will be in charge of the operation of all NOAA vessels. CAPT MacFarland has been a commissioned officer within the NOAA Corps since 1970 and has most recently served as the Chief, Marine Chart Division, directing nautical chart production and the raster chart program. He has served aboard four of NOAA's vessels, including a tour as Commanding Officer of the NOAA Ship MT. MITCHELL. He earned a B. Sc. degree in Geology from Michigan Tech in 1970 and a Master's degree in Technology Management from the University of Maryland in 1992. ✨

Scenes from
U.S. Hydrographic Conference '99

April 26—May 7, 1999, Mobile, Alabama



Opening session dignitaries (L To R) : Karl Kieninger , Treasurer , THSOA and Technical Session Chairman; Pat Sanders, President, THSOA and Conference Coordinator; CAPT Larry Warrenfeltz, Commanding Officer, US Naval Oceanographic office, CAPT David MacFarland, Director, NOAA's Office of Coast Survey; Tony O'Connor, Dominion Hydrographer, Canada; and Sir Anthony Laughton, President, The Hydrographic Society.



Officials of The Hydrographic Society (L To R) : Karl Kieninger, Treasurer, THSOA, Sir Anthony Laughton, President. The Hydrographic Society: Jim Cain, Trustee, THSOA,



Conference dinner at the battleship USS ALABAMA (L To R): Tony O'Connor, Dominion Hydrographer, Canada, Mike Casey, Canadian Hydrographic Service RADM Chris Andreasen, National Imagery and Mapping Agency and former President, International Hydrographic Bureau; CAPT David MacFarland, Director, NOAA's office of Coast Survey (foreground) and David Pugh, CHS (partially hidden)



Conference dinner, air museum adjacent to battleship USS ALABAMA CDR Sam DeBow (right) new Chief, Hydrographic Surveys Division, talks "shop" with two NOAA contractors, Jana DaSilva (John E. Chance & Associates) and Larry Whiting (Terra Surveys).

U.S. Hydrographic Conference '99 (Cont.)



(L To R) Doug Brown, NOAA, Deputy Director, Coast Survey; CAPT David MacFarland, NOAA, Director, Coast Survey, Tony O'Connor, Dominion Hydrographer of Canada; Mike Casey, Canadian Hydrographic Service



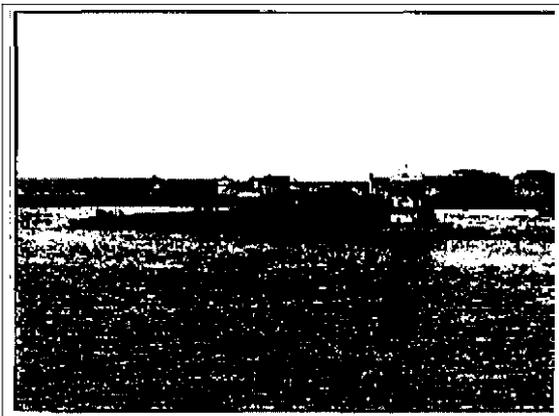
(L To R) Jerry Mills, NOAA; Doug Lockhart, Racal Pelagos, John Oswald, LCMF



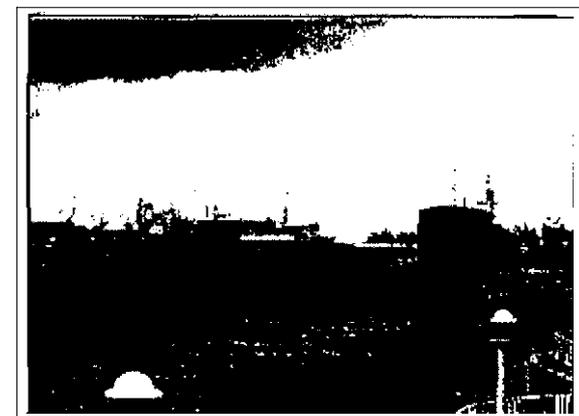
(L To R) John Dasler, David Evans and Associates Trustee THSOA; Brian Greenawalt, NOAA; Harold Orinsky, Triton Elics International (now with David Evans and Associates)



Pat Sanders, President Coastal Oceanographics and President, THSOA; and Jack Wallace, NOAA, Executive Secretary, THSOA.



Barge and tug



General View of harbor

Mail Bag

May 25, 1999

Dear Sir:

I recommend that a small paragraph be placed in the next edition of *The Seahorse* asking if any THSOA members have found web sites that could be included in the Ref. Materials section of the THSOA web page. There could be some interesting sites hidden away under other people's "favorites."

Sincerely,

Charles D. Meador
Physical Scientist
Naval Oceanographic Office

[I have been informed that THSOA will happily consider all web sites that members recommend to be referenced on the THSOA web page, E-mail your recommendations to: **THSOA@AOL.com**. By the way, how are you Charlie? I don't think I've seen you since I retired. Thanks for your letter, — Ed.] ✧

Corporate Member Press Release

DEEPER WATER DIGITAL SIDE SCAN TOWFISH

March 1, 1999 — (Milford, Massachusetts) EdgeTech, the leader in side scan sonar products and systems, announces the DF-1000D a deeper water version of its highly reliable standard digital towfish. The new towfish is rated to 1850 meters and can be used with existing EdgeTech Digital Control Units (DCUs) or a modified Digital Control Interface (DCI).

The product was developed in response to customers' requirements to gather the highest resolution sidescan data possible at deeper depths. DF-1000 towfish in the field can be retrofit to achieve the deeper operating depths.



(Please contact the factory for more information). The DF-1000D system is also available in a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) configuration.

EdgeTech (formerly EG&G Marine Instruments) designs, develops, and manufactures products, instruments and systems for marine, estuarine and coastal applications. It has responded to the needs of the scientific, Naval and offshore communities for over 30 years by providing equipment such as the Side Scan Sonar, Acoustic Release and X-STAR High Resolution Sub-bottom Profiling systems which have become standards in the industry.

NEW UNDERWATER ACOUSTIC ACTUATOR

March 4, 1999 – (Milford, Massachusetts) In response to a request from the U.S. Navy, EdgeTech has developed an Underwater Acoustic Actuator. The device is being utilized by divers to safely detonate explosives from a distance with secure encoded acoustic tones. The Model AA100 is a low cost, battery powered underwater unit that contains a transducer and electronics that enables it to receive BACS commands from a variety of deck units including the EdgeTech 8011A, 8011B, 8011XS and AMD200. These secure, encoded acoustic commands are ultimately converted to a switch closure that triggers the explosive.



The Model AA100 is a compact device that measures 2 1/2" (6.35 cm) in diameter and 12" (30.48 cm) in length and weighs in at about 2 lbs. (1 kilo) in air. It is a versatile product with an

extremely low magnetic signature and a range of up to 5 kilometers depending on conditions. The unit can also be used for other underwater applications that require some form of switch closure such as triggering explosive bolts. The production version of the device will be available in April from the factory. Please consult the factory for further details and information. ✧

New ACSM Hydrographer Certification Exam procedures

by Jerry Mills, NOAA, Coast Survey

The American Congress on Surveying and Mapping (ACSM) Hydrographer Certification Board has recently adopted new procedures for the certification examination. Two major changes have been approved: (1) exams will now be "open book" and (2) short answer or "fill-in-the-blank" questions have been eliminated and questions will now be exclusively multiple-choice. The "open book" allowance was implemented for the examinations given at the Mobile conference. The conversion to only "multiple choice" questions is expected to take some time but should be ready for exams given after Sept. 1, 1999. In addition, the list of references has been updated such that newer, more modern references have replaced older, hard to obtain publications. Exam questions have been altered as needed.

Finally, the ACSM board has agreed to offer the exam at a location and time more convenient for examinees. This does not mean that a board member will show up on your doorstep two days after you are approved to take the exam. It does mean that the board will attempt to work cooperatively with candidates to find mutually agreeable sites and dates.

Board members are currently located in New England, the Mid-Atlantic, Gulf

(see **ACSM** page 7)

ACSM (from page 6)

coast and Illinois, and we have begun discussions with a qualified ACSM hydrographer on the west coast. In addition, travel plans for either board members or examinees may be such that they can be altered to accommodate an examination. It will certainly be an improvement over the current offering policy of 2 to 3 times per year.

As the board has been receiving increasingly more inquiries about certified hydrographers, it has become apparent that the list of ACSM-certified individuals is woefully out-of-date. Many addresses have changed and frequently the "hydrographers" are no longer active in the field. While a rigorous recertification process was rejected due to prohibitive costs and administrative overhead, the board did approve an updating procedure. ACSM-certified hydrographers will be sent a questionnaire annually to verify their current address and to request information on their current professional activities. Failure to supply a response within a prescribed time limit (to be decided) will result in the individual being removed from the list of active certified hydrographers.

More information on the ACSM hydrographer certification process can be found on the ACSM internet web site at <http://www.w.survorg/educat45/educat01.htm>. ✨

Notice

A summary of world-wide seafloor swath-mapping systems is currently available on the IHO's website at: <http://www.iho.shom.fr/free/freepub.html>.

The summary was assembled by Norman Cherkis, formerly of the U. S. Naval Oceanographic Office, and is easily down loaded in its .pdf format. ✨

SPEED BUMP DAVE COVERLY

CHRISTOPHER BEGINS TO DOUBT THE OLD SALT

Multibeam training course hosted by NOAA

by CDR Jim Gardner, NOAA

NOAA's Pacific Hydrographic Branch, Seattle, Washington, hosted the sixth annual US — Canadian Hydrographic Commission's Coastal Multibeam Sonar Training Course from Feb. 23 through March 2, 1999. The training facility was located at NOAA's Western Regional Center, on the shores of Lake Washington, just north of downtown Seattle.

This course is put on by the Ocean Mapping Group (OMG) of the University of New Brunswick (UNB), Canada. Lecturers included Professor Larry A. Mayer, chair of the Ocean Mapping Group; Professor Dave E. Wells; John E. Hughes Clarke, senior research associate from UNB; and Christian P. deMoustier, research oceanographer from Scripps Institute of Oceanography.

Thirty-six lectures were presented over a six-day period, covering the concepts, theory, and practical applications of multibeam and side scan acquisition systems and processing procedures. Detailed information on the content of this lecture series can be found on the OMG web page at: www.omg.unb.ca.

In addition to the UNB lectures, the Pacific Hydrographic Branch conducted two days of live demonstrations of NOAA's launch-based multibeam data acquisition systems and CARIS Hydrographic Information Processing System (HIPS) for processing the multibeam data.

The launch demonstrations displayed how NOAA has integrated a Reson 8101 sonar, TSS POS/MV positioning and orientation system, and the Triton-Elics International's Isis data acquisition system into a 30-foot survey launch.

The CARIS exhibition showed how NOAA uses this application to clean, visualize and generate the final products from the raw multibeam data.

The course attendees represented a wide range of backgrounds and experiences from several different international (USA, Canada, Ireland, and Italy) agencies, universities, and private companies. The majority of the 43 course attendees were directly involved in nautical surveying. However, others were attending this course to understand this technology for geological and fisheries applications. Comments from course attendees, such as, "I found all facets of the instructors' presentations to be excellent!" and "I found the course to be of immense value. My job will be much easier now that I'm able to better understand multibeam systems and the data they produce," show that this course was an overwhelming success. ✨

NOAA contracting update

by C, Brian Greenawalt, NOAA, Coast Survey

NOAA continues to expand its use of private sector contractors to support its hydrographic survey program. Evaluations are currently underway of submissions for work in the northeastern United States. Negotiations with two companies are nearing comple-

(See **Contracting**, page 8)

Contracting *(from page 7)*

tion: Ocean Surveys, Inc. in southeastern U.S., and David Evans and Associates in California.

Contract surveys are continuing in the Gulf of Mexico (C&C Technologies, John E. Chance & Associates, and SAIC) and Alaska (Terra Surveys and Racal Pelagos, Inc.). The Gulf of Mexico contracts will expire in March and April, 2000, and NOAA plans to announce a requirement for additional hydrographic surveying services there sometime this fall.

Interested parties should look for further details in the Commerce Business Daily (CBD) or visit the website for NOAA's Office of Coast Survey: <http://chartmaker.ncd.noaa.gov>, and follow the links to the Hydrographic Surveys Division and contracting opportunities.

For additional information, contact C. Brian Greenawalt, NOAA, Hydrographic Surveys Division, Silver Spring, MD via e-mail at : Brian.Greenawalt@noaa.gov or (301) 713-4533 (fax). ✨

New NOS hydrographic survey specifications published

by Jerry Mills, NOAA, Coast Survey

NOAA's Office of Coast Survey, under the National Ocean Service, has released its initial edition of the NOS Hydrographic Survey Specifications and Deliverables document. It contains detailed requirements for all hydrographic surveys to be undertaken either by NOAA field units or by organizations under contract to the Director, Coast Survey. Additional details for specific project areas will be provided in project instructions for NOAA field units or the Statement of Work for contractors. This new document, dated April 23, 1999, is available on Coast Survey's Hydrographic Survey Division web site at:

<http://chartmaker.ncd.noaa.gov/ocs/text/hsd-0.html>. ✨

VERY PUNNY

from the Internet

Old Chief Gnarled Oak was turned into a millionaire by the discovery of oil on his reservation. He fell into yuppie temptation and was particularly proud and pleased when his two boys were accepted into the swanky yacht club. For years, it seemed, his one consuming ambition was to see . . . his red sons in the sail set. (Bennett Cerf) ✨



NEWS FROM THE CHAPTERS



HOUSTON CHAPTER

JAN. 1999 MEETING

The meeting held on Jan. 12, 1999, was attended by 53 members and guests. Alistair Helme provided the chapter's financial position. Earle Doyle gave an excellent talk on "Integrated Geoscience Studies in Deepwater." Rounds were provided by Sonardyne (Keith Vickery) and Racal NCS.

SUPER BOWL CHILI COOK-OFF

The 22nd Annual Super Bowl Chili Cook-off was held at Sherlock's Baker Street Pub in west Houston on Sun., Jan. 31. This event has a long-standing tradition in the geophysical industry, with great chill available to all, as well as numerous great prizes. By tradition, the winner in any year is tasked with planning the next year's event. The Feb. 1998

cook-off winner had been Jim Cain of Western, who took the title from two-time winner Meredith Rhodes of MDL.

There were fewer chili contest entries than in recent years, but the seven chili pots gave all attendees a good bowl of chili. Hopefully, we will be back to over a dozen chili contestants next year.

Chili was cooked by Wayne Garcia (John E. Chance & Associates), Jim Cain (Western Geophysical), Meredith Rhodes (MDL Technologies), Peter Trabant (Trabant and Associates), John-Roscoe Hudson (Racal NCS), Gareth Thomson (CODA), and Brent Brown (Western Geophysical). The chili Judging team of five was headed by Don Seifert (Kvaerner).

The 1999 winner was Wayne Garcia of Fugro/JECA who will plan the year 2000 Super Bowl event. Jim came in second this year, with Meredith placing third. Winners were given their choice of the three top prizes, with Wayne choosing a Palm III palmtop computer. Jim won a \$100 Gift Certificate to America's/Churrasco's Restaurants, and Meredith received a very nice portable CD player with car kit. [The three chill winners' prizes were donated by Western Geophysical and the Houston Chapter of The Hydrographic Society

Other door prizes donated included a case of very nice wine from Racal NCS, another ten selected bottles of wine from The Hydrographic Society, a case of Moet & Chandon champagne from John E Chance & Associates, a \$50 Rudy Lechner's Gift Certificate from Input/Output, another portable CD player from MDL Technologies, and a computer speaker set from Western Geophysical. In addition, there were numerous other door prizes donated by Steve Lieber & Associates, Novatel, LCT, DigiCOURSE, Mercator GPS, Trimble Navigation, and others. The chill cooks' specialty designed aprons were provided courtesy of Steve Lieber & Associates.

(See **Chapters**, page 9)

Chapters (from page 8)

Make your plans now to attend the Super Bowl 2000 Chill Cook-off!

GULF COAST CHAPTER

Secretary Art Najjar sent us the results of the Jan. meeting of The Hydrographic Society of America, Gulf Coast Chapter, Jan. 13, 1999, Jacmel Restaurant, Hammond, La.

In Attendance: NAVOCEANO — Mr. & Mrs. John Iwachiw, Art Najjar, Glen Carson, Mr. & Mrs. Larry Gronmeyer; Odom Hydrographic — Al Rougeau, Richard Byrd; U.S. Army Research and Development Center — Dr. Lynn Hales.

Dinner at 7:15 p.m. Guest Speaker: Dr. Lynn Hales of the U.S. Army Research and Development Center, Vicksburg, Mississippi (formerly the Waterways Experiment Station), gave a very informative presentation on DOER (Dredging Operations and Environmental Research) program. This is a \$40 million, 10-year program to develop a recipe for successful dredging operations, taking into account factors such as contaminated bottom materials, human health problems, suspended material, environmental windows of opportunity, innovative technology, instrumentation and nearshore placement of bottom material.

Larry Gronmeyer was presented with a plaque by President Al Rougeau for his many years of service and dedication to the Chapter and his contribution as treasurer for several years.

We discussed holding the next meeting in March in Slidell. We also announced the upcoming Hydrographic Conference in April in Mobile, Alabama. You can register for this conference by going to the web site at: www.usahydrosoc.com.

The March meeting was held March 25, 1999, at Doug's Restaurant, Slidell, Louisiana.

In Attendance: C&C Technolo-

gies — Mr. & Mrs. Art Kleiner, LCDR (Ret.), Casey Church; Odom Hydrographic — Mr. & Mrs. Al Rougeau, Richard Byrd; NAVOCEANO — Shirley Dorsey, Elliot Arroyo-Suarez, Maxim van Norden, Gail Smith, Glen Carson, Art Najjar, LCDR Richard Dobson, Morris Heinzen, Dave Pitcher, Eric Villalobos, Jenny Moestikawati and husband (Donald), Reid Sandford, Mary Pyles and husband (Rick), Ian Fergusson and Kevin Thrash.

Dinner at 7:00 p.m. Guest Speaker: Mr. Art Kleiner of C&C Technologies, Lafayette, Louisiana, gave a most interesting presentation on the hydrographic survey of California's Lake Tahoe using the Simrad EM 1000 multibeam system. The survey was done for the University of New Brunswick, and ultimately researchers, for the purpose of finding solutions for maintaining the health of the lake, which has diminished its clarity from 160 feet to 60 feet.

President Rougeau reminded everyone of the upcoming Hydrographic Conference in Mobile, Alabama, 27-29 April.

The May meeting was held at Semolina's Restaurant, Slidell, Louisiana, on May 27, 1999. In attendance were Mr. & Mrs. Don Rowe (Rowe Surveying); Odom Hydrographic — Mr. & Mrs. Al Rougeau, Richard Byrd, David Andrews; Naval Research Lab — Dr. & Mrs. Brian Bourgeois, Maria Kalcic; Naval Oceanographic Office — Art Najjar, Mr. & Mrs. John Iwachiw, Rebecca Smith, Frank Moore, Landry Bernard (Technical Director), Ian Fergusson, Gail Smith, Morris Heinzen and Mary Pyles. Dinner at 7:00 p.m.

Speaker: Al Rougeau, of Odom Hydrographic and President of the Chapter, gave a very informative presentation on "Correlating True Side Scan Imagery and Multibeam Bathymetry" using the Odom Echoscanner and analog side scan system. Al showed some excellent examples of how the side scan image can be draped over the bathymetry to reveal bottom characteristics and features

such as wrecks that may otherwise go undetected.

Rebecca Smith proposed a joint mini-conference of the Gulf Coast Chapter of THSOA and the Marine Technology Society (MTS) in the spring of 2000. This conference would be spearheaded by MTS member Laurie Jugan of PSI. No theme has been proposed yet. A mini-conference was last done two years ago.

☆☆☆☆

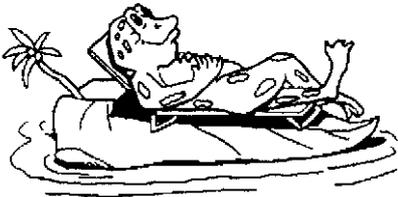
No report was received from the Texas A & M Student Chapter. ✪

Welcome to new Corporate Members joining in 1999

Aquatrack Corporation
Bottom Line Echo Co.
C.A. Richards & Associates, Inc.
Canstar Navigation, Inc.
Coda Technologies, Inc.
Communication Systems International
Datasonics Inc.
DIMCO, Inc.
Foresight Surveyors, Inc.
GeoPulse Systems, Inc.
Hagedorn, Inc.
ICAN Limited
L.D. Bradley Surveyors
Land & Mapping Services
Minster and Glaeser Surveying, Inc.
oceanic Imaging Consultants, Inc.
Offshore Charts Ltd.
Racal NCS, Inc.
RGA Inc.
Rogers Surveying PLLC
Seabeam Instruments, Inc.
T. Baker Smith & Son, Inc.
TVGA Engineering, Surveying, P.C.

THANKS!

On the next!



by Goldbrick

Let me count the ways

X ylophone. Ha! Ha! I just did that. So I could see an X in a drop cap. But now, back to the subject. I was fortunate enough to see a copy of Pat Sanders letter to the members before *The Seahorse* went to press. He opines that the home office of The Hydrographic Society doesn't give us much for our dues except *The Hydrographic Journal* and the diary. I think he's dead wrong. I think we get a lot more from the Brits than we recognize or are willing to admit.

As for the *Journal*, I gave up on it long ago. Even the *National Geographic Magazine* finally went to color photos on their front cover after many years of printing just the sterile table of contents there. Why the *Journal* can't put something different on the cover once in a while is beyond me.

The diary is something else again. It is such a beautiful piece of work that I could never bring myself to write anything in it. Like defacing a Bible. Instead, I have always given it away to someone who doesn't have that problem and who may be more interested in knowing the date of the Queen's Birthday than I.

I get much more from headquarters than those material things. First, I get a sense of **TRADITION**. What is more traditional than putting the same cover in the same ink color on a printed publication year after year? What is more traditional than calling the secretary and treasurer of your organization "the Honorable"?

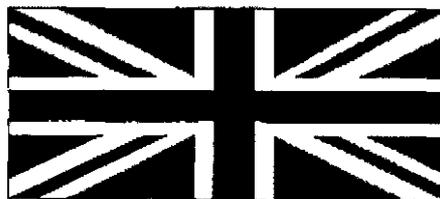
Next, I get a sense of **FISCAL**

CONSERVATISM. This is important in a world where credit card debt is rising astronomically. Our international headquarters is very good at sitting on a large mass of money and crying that it is broke. Each year, it is the same, yet each year they seem to make more money. I like that. Speaking of money, the British put pictures of the Queen on theirs. She is pleasant looking and well-known. Our new money, on the other hand, with the enlarged pictures of scary guys with wild hair and/or beards and small obscure type to indicate the denomination, is a travesty. We almost need to identify the denomination by knowing which guy is on the money.

The Brits are also good at maintaining "a stiff upper lip." This doggedness and **STEADFASTNESS** manifested itself well during World War II when Hitler tried to bomb England into submission. It didn't work. The Brits dug in and became more determined. It is an attribute that should be emulated. I think a few other countries have found the secret, too, How about North Vietnam? Iraq? Yugoslavia? Better yet, how about the fortitude of the headquarters staff in accepting the poor working conditions over the years.

Lastly, I admire their belief that royalty and titles provide **RESPECTABILITY**. What other organization could elect a Sir Anthony Laughton as its president and not get the feeling that its credibility has not increased 1000-fold. In America, a man named Tony might be elected dog catcher if he were lucky.

So I say, don't underestimate the enormously positive effect that The Hydrographic Society headquarters and its leaders have on the psyche of ordinary members like me. ✪



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Individual checks or credit card payments for \$40, or additions to membership/renewals should be sent to THSOA P.O. Box 732, Rockville, MD 20848. Questions? e-mail: thsoa@aol.com. ✪

Miscellaneous announcements

by Secretary Jerry Mills, THSOA

GLOSS Donations Solicited

GLOSS (Global Sea Level Observing System) is experiencing a shortage of operational equipment in their network of nearly 300 tide gauges around the world. GLOSS is a component of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) which is jointly sponsored by IOC (Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission) and WMO (World Meteorological Organization). At present nearly one-third of the 287 tide gauges are not operational and GLOSS is asking hydrographic offices and tide gauge manufacturers for assistance. Officials would appreciate any older but serviceable equipment that might become available from tide gauge authorities which are re-equipping their networks with new gauges. In addition, any donations of new equipment from tide gauge manufacturers would also be

(See **Misc.**, page 12)

Membership Application



The Hydrographic Society
of America
and the
U.S. Branch of The Hydrographic
Society

Membership in The Hydrographic Society is open to any individual or organization with an interest in surveying afloat. No formal qualifications are required.

The Hydrographic Society of America (THSOA) serves as the focal point for activities in America. Members of THSOA receive *The Seahorse* newsletter, are eligible for membership in local chapters, receive a \$15 discount on subscription to *Hydro International* magazine and receive a discount on registration at THSOA sponsored events. Local chapters have been formed in Houston, Tx. and Bay St. Louis, Miss. THSOA also provides administrative support to the U.S. Branch of The Hydrographic Society.

The Hydrographic Society (THS) was founded in London, England, in 1972. For those members interested in the international aspects of the profession, the U.S. Branch of THS provides a convenient way to pay dues in U.S. dollars. Members of THS receive quarterly copies of *The Hydrographic Journal* and a discount on registration at sponsored international events.

THSOA Corporate Members receive *The Seahorse*, a free hotlink or company description on THSOA's website (www.USAhydrosoc.org) and free posting of recruitment notices in *The Seahorse*. THS Corporate Members receive two copies of *The Hydrographic Journal* and a discount on *Journal* advertising.

The dues structure allows Individual, Retired, Student and Corporate Members to opt for THSOA alone or both THSOA and THS. There is no THSOA-only Associate Corporate rate. Individual and Retired memberships begin on entry and are renewed on April 1. Corporate memberships are renewed on January 1. Student THS memberships begin on April 1, while THSOA Student memberships are totally flexible to accommodate the school calendar. In all cases, dues are not prorated. However, members joining in the middle of the year receive all back issues of the publications for that year.

NAME: Title (Mr, Ms, CAPT, Dr, etc) First			M.I.	Last
ADDRESS (for mailing and correspondence)				
CITY		STATE	ZIP	
EMPLOYER				
TEL:		FAX:		
e-mail address:				
YEAR	(From which membership is to be effective):			199
<input type="checkbox"/> Check box if name may be included on mailing list provided to Corporate Members.				

ANNUAL DUES (Check appropriate box)

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| INDIVIDUAL (Houston Chapter add \$10 for local dues) | <input type="checkbox"/> THSOA \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> THSOA/THS \$75 |
| RETIRED and no longer employed in the profession of sea surveying | <input type="checkbox"/> THSOA \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> THSOA/THS \$37.50 |
| STUDENT full-time undergraduate | <input type="checkbox"/> THSOA \$5 | <input type="checkbox"/> THSOA/THS \$20 |
| CORPORATE | <input type="checkbox"/> THSOA \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> THSOA/THS \$385 |
| ASSOCIATE CORPORATE available to a different location or unit of a parent Corporate Member | | <input type="checkbox"/> THSOA/THS \$205 |

If **Student**, name of institution _____

If **Associate Corporate**, name of parent _____

STATEMENT: I wish to make application for membership in The Hydrographic Society. I agree to abide by the Articles of Association and to further its aims and objectives. I declare that the answers to the above are accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I agree that the decision of The Hydrographic Society Executive in regard to this application is final.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Please return with payment to-
The Hydrographic Society
P.O. Box 732
Rockville, MD 20848-0732

Misc. (from page 10)

very welcome. I am certain that cash donations would also be readily accepted. More information on GLOSS can be obtained from their website at: <http://www.pol.ac.uk/psmsl/gloss.info.html>. Please respond to Thorkild Aarup of IOC via e-mail at t.aarup@unesco.org.

Possible Portland Chapter?

John Tamplin of Seafloor Systems, Inc., has contacted the THSOA board about possibly establishing a chapter in the Portland, Oregon/Vancouver, Washington area. He apparently has the requisite ten people interested in signing a petition requesting approval. Jon Dasler of David Evans and Associates has already offered two locations in which to hold meetings.

John's e-mail address is: johnt@seafloorsystems.com. Sounds great! Best wishes for a successful venture, John. ✨

Hydrographic surveying workshops held

by Jerry Mills, NOAA, Coast Survey

NOAA's Office of Coast Survey and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers jointly sponsored a day-long workshop on hydrographic surveying on March 16, 1999, at the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping (ACSM) conference in Portland, Oregon. The workshop was sold out, with over 100 surveyors in attendance. Twenty-eight other workshops were also held, several of which were of possible interest to hydrographers – Introduction to GIS, Introduction to GPS, Geodesy Basics, Water Boundaries for Surveyors, Positioning Accuracy Standards, and Surveying Errors and their Analysis.

The Hydrographic Surveying Workshop will be given again at the fall ACSM Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan, on Oct. 19, 1999. If there is sufficient interest, a second offering of the workshop may be given on Oct. 18.

For more information about the conference, visit ACSM's website at: <http://www.survmap.org/confer41/grcon01.htm> or contact Denise Calvert at: deniseacsm@mindspring.com or (301) 493-0200 Ext. 108. ✨

CLOSE TO HOME JOHN MCPHERSON

"G' day, mate! First time to Australia?"



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