



The Hydrographic Society of America

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Dear Member,

This letter is intended to provide additional information that was omitted from the most recent (Summer 1999) edition of the Seahorse.

Dale Westbrook, our editor, has decided to step down because of health concerns. If anyone has been sending Dale material by e-mail, please redirect your material to **thsoa@aol.com**. If you would like to send Dale a note of appreciation please e-mail us at **thsoa@aol.com** and we will provide his mailing address. We are now looking for someone to take over from Dale. If you would like to volunteer or know of someone who does this for a living please contact us. In the meantime, please bear with us during the transition.

If in your haste to open this letter, you tossed the envelope, go retrieve it **now** because the mailing label contains important information!

Election of Officers.

Nominations are now being accepted for the combined Hydrographic Society of America and US Branch positions of Treasurer (Karl Kieninger), Trustee (Jon Dasler), and Trustee (Dave Clarke). Present incumbents are noted in parentheses. There are no term limits; anyone can run.

Nominations must be in writing, signed by the person being nominated, and received at THSOA, P.O. Box 732, Rockville, MD 20848 or e-mail **thsoa@aol.com**, by November 12, 1999. The new officers step-in at the conclusion of the 1999 Annual General Meeting.

Annual General Meeting

The 1999 Annual General Meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday December 8, 1999. The location is NOAA's Office of Coast Survey, located on the 6th floor, at 1315 East-West Highway, in Silver Spring, Maryland. Conference room 6836 has been reserved from 12:00 to 1:30.

This facility is conveniently located adjacent to the Silver Spring Metro station on the Red Line. The building and entrance is directly behind a fountain, and a statue depicting Noah's hand releasing doves. Upon entering the building, take any elevator and press the "1" button. Proceed to the security area. U.S. Government employees can sign in and proceed to the conference room. Non-Government employees should identify themselves as attending the "Hydro Meeting" and will be asked to present a picture ID.

After entering the elevator, press 6. Exit the elevator and proceed through the wooden doors. The conference room is directly behind the wall as you pass through the wooden doors. If you arrive early you can stop in at the cafeteria, just before the security area and pick up a brown bag lunch to bring to the meeting.

In order to facilitate easy access or in case we need to switch to a different location, please e-mail us at **thsoa@aol.com**, if you plan to attend! Also you should check our web site **www.usahydrosoc.org**, and click on NEWS button, for any last minute updates.

AGM Special Business

The 2001 Hydrographic Conference as well as important matters related to US Branch relations with the International Hydrographic Society will be discussed. If you are interested in either of these topics you should plan to attend!

New THSOA Web-Site

As noted in the President's letter, THSOA is undertaking a major overhaul of the existing web site.

The first order of business is to register a new Internet Address and move to a new service provider that will support a larger volume of reference material at a lower cost. This has been completed. In order to avoid "construction disruptions" on the new site, the new URL will be announced in December.

The reason we asked you to retrieve your mailing label is because the top line includes *User Name* and *Password* information that will allow you to access a Members section. Employment opportunities, a bookstore link to Barnes and Noble (dot com), reference materials, and valuable links will be placed in the Members section. The Corporate Member Directory, membership information, and initially, Discussion Groups, may be accessed in the Open section.

The top line of the mailing label contains two fields separated by "****" The first field is the User **Name** (same as your membership number). The second field is your **Password**. If there is nothing printed in the top line please e-mail us at **thsoa@aol.com**.

We intend to reinstate advertising in the form of monthly sponsorship. Anyone wishing to participate, at an introductory rate of \$100, should e-mail us at **thsoa@aol.com**.

We expect to be on-line by December 15, at which time there either be a note or an automatic transfer to the new site. Once on the new site be sure to reset any Bookmarks.

New Web Sites:

The Australasian Branch of the International Hydrographic Society is now on the www. Check out this dynamic page at **www.hydrosocaasia.zipworld.com.au**.

An Assessment of the U.S. Marine Transportation System, a special report to Congress, September 1999, is now available on the www. Commonly known as the MTS report it may be found in its entirety on the home page of the U.S. Maritime Administration at **www.marad.dot.gov**. Pages 84 and 85 may be of special interest to the hydrographic community.