

# SeaHorse THSOA Newsletter

The Hydrographic  
Society of America

Volume I Issue 60  
Spring 2007

## U.S. Hydro Conference 2007

The biannual Hydrographic survey conference sponsored by the Hydrographic Society of America will be held at the Sheraton Waterside in Norfolk, Virginia. The dates for the conference are May 14 to 17, 2007. Workshops, Technical Paper presentations and social event schedules can be reviewed in detail by visiting the societies web site at

**WWW.THSOA.ORG**

Updates of the IHO-S-44 draft along with the COE Hydrographic Manual will be reviewed at the workshops.

Please plan to attend this important industry event the organizers have put together an impressive agenda that will inform hydrographic surveyors and oceanographers about the latest industry trends. The industry manufacturers are hoping for your input to answer your needs and wished. Please visit the vendors booths and discuss your visions.

This edition of the Seahorse is the first in a series of news letters in this format. We plan to send our news letters in April, August and December. Input by members of our organization is critical to make this news letter a success. Please share your experiences with others in the industry through this news letter.

## Hydrographic Community of Practice Established

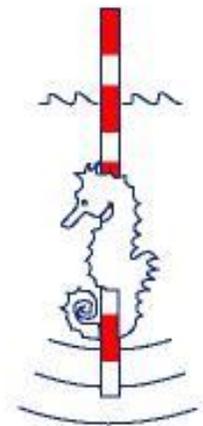
The Corps Of Engineers Community of practice was established in 2005 as an attempt to unify and share hydrographic information, technology, resources and solutions. The 2005 meeting began a general organization that was further updated through the year by Jim Garster of ERDC and Ray Williams of Norfolk District. The 2006 Hydrographic COP meeting was hosted at the Atlantic City,

Trump Marina by the COE Philadelphia District. The COP meeting was held in conjunction with the COE North Atlantic Division 's Multibeam Users Group Meeting. The COP meeting was attended by COE districts from across the nation along with NOAA representatives, Dredging industry representatives, Hydrographic survey contractors, equipment manufacturers and software developers. There

were also some local surveyors and state marine police in attendance. This initial attempt at hosting a meeting that crossed the industry was well attended and received favorable reviews. The next COP will be this November at the Trump Marina in Atlantic City. Persons interested in attending should contact Joseph Scolari, USACE Philadelphia District by E-mail  
Joseph.v.scolari@usace.army.mil

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## NOAA Hydrographic Field Procedure workshop held in Norfolk, Virginia

NOAA's Office of Coast Survey held its annual Field Procedures Workshop in Virginia Beach, Virginia on January 23-26, 2007. There were 115 attendees from all offices and vessels associated with NOAA hydrographic surveying including contractors and Navigation Response Teams. Also in attendance were representatives from the Naval Oceanographic Office and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

This annual meeting allows personnel from processing and planning offices to exchange information and experiences

with field personnel. Everyone gets a better understanding of all aspects of the acquisition and processing of hydrographic survey data which hopefully results in increased efficiency and data quality. As usual at most conferences/workshops of this type there were numerous discussions and exchange of information during the coffee breaks, lunches and dinners shared by the attendees. The social highlight of the week was the eighth Hydrobowl bowling competition. This year there were 22 teams in the three-game no handicap competition. For the second year in a row a team from the

Pacific Hydrographic Branch in Seattle carried home the trophy. The winners included Don Haines, Bonnie Johnston, Toshi Ouzumi, and Pete Holmberg (see attached photo). We are happy to report that this year's team, unlike last year's, completed the obligatory draining/chugging of a liquid refreshment from the "Hydrobowl" without spilling. True champions!



The 2007 Hydrobowl champs L-R Toshi Ouzumi, Bonnie Johnston, Don Haines, Pete Holmberg

## Corps of Engineers Hydro Manual update

The Corps of Engineers Hydrographic survey manual is currently under review and being analyzed for updates. The manual encompasses the full spectrum of projects that come under the general heading of Hydrographic Surveying. During the past 2 years the Multibeam chapters along with the associated chapters containing the general specifications have been updated. The Corps is now planning to update various chapters that have been

significantly impacted through technology updates and improvements in processes and procedures developed by the industry. Input from various segments of the industry is being solicited. Relative input that is organized in an instructional manner and is backed up by documented facts and demonstration projects would be greatly appreciated. This COE Engineering manual is designed to be a living document that

reflects the best practices of the industry and provides recommendations and guidance to the industry in general. Any information that you wish to contribute can be sent to the following:

**William Bergan**

**William.a.bergan@usace.army.mil**

**Raymond Williams**

**Ramond.j.williams@usace.army.mil**

**Joseph Scolari**

**Joseph.v.scolari@usace.army.mil**

*Above Reson 8124 hull mounted with velocity probe behind panel*

*Show us your system installations. Share your installation stories to help your peers learn from your experiences. This will also help the industry grow.*

## Vertical Datum's under study across the nation

Recent environmental events and scientific studies have increased the momentum of the once routine studies of the geodesist and geographer. The once academic studies of the vertical relationships of the earth's land masses that were not considered critical by many people not directly involved with the surveying, geodesy and geography fields have suddenly become front page news. Various federal

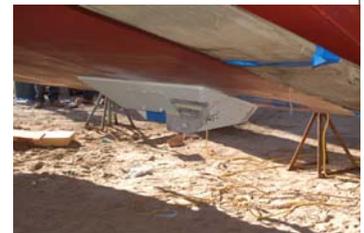
and state agencies have implemented studies and initiatives to update and maintain the information in a manner that can be utilized by the offices regulating planning and construction so that future catastrophes are avoided.

Federal agencies have stepped up the process of publishing studies and improving dissemination to the private sector relative information that will have an impact on the health & welfare of the

public. Several state and federal agencies have taken it upon themselves to update the flood plane mapping that is used to plan land use and emergency evacuation routes.

Keep tuned for future updates and links to web sites that will be helpful in order to keep up with this important industry update.

Unusual transducer mount picture here





## Training opportunities

The Multibeam workshops presented by the combined efforts of THSoA and the University of New Brunswick will be repeated in 2008. The next location has not been determined at this time.

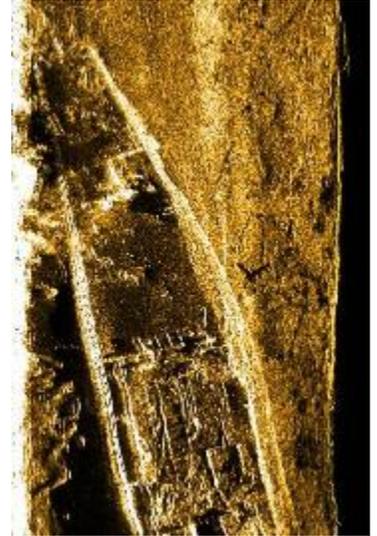
The COE Prospect course "Hydrographic Surveying" will be held in Jacksonville Beach, Florida at the Turtle Inn from 5 to 9 June, 2007. For more information call Ray Williams-757-201-7665

The COE Community of Practice meeting in November will include information sessions and highlights of hardware and software currently in use by the COE.

Plan to join us at the Trump Marina in Atlantic City, NJ. The meetings are held from October 29th to November 2nd. More information will appear in the summer newsletter.

Please submit future training opportunities to the editor for inclusion in future news letters.

We would like to see this page reflect many of the opportunities needed to maintain the professional aspect of this industry.



**Information Page**—Items listed below on this page are for general information and do not indicate a preference or endorsement of items. Items are listed by category in not specific sequence. Items of interest for the general community should be submitted 1 month prior to the newsletter release. This is NOT a forum for advertising or endorsements

## Equipment updates 1 or 2 lines introducing new equipment or service

TSS introduces "ORION" inertial Navigation system

Odom introduces "ES-3" shallow water multibeam

International Industries updates GSA contract GS-07F-5715P to include Edgetech Marine

*To War  
or  
not to War*

*That is not really the question but an interesting fact has come about as an indirect effect. Government agencies have begun to cooperate and work together in order to improve efficiency and overcome funding shortages.. Hopefully this will continue after the funds used for the war are returned to domestic issues.*

## Software updates

Please submit information to the editor for inclusion in future newsletters.

Government Updates  
NOAA tide adjustment program TCARI in use by NOAA Hydrographic Survey Division

Educational Updates

Commercial Updates  
HYPACK release 6.2 includes "CUBE" processing



Hydro—More than Coastal Jobs  
Try to guess the dam site game will appear in future issues.

Below is a Draft Copy of the Hydro 2007 conference agenda. Updates will be posted on the web site as they become available

Visit [WWW.THSOA.ORG](http://WWW.THSOA.ORG) for up to date information.

**US HYDRO 2007 Sessions - draft**

<b>Session No.</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Session/Paper</b>	<b>Author</b>
<b>Tuesday, 15 May 2007</b>				
1	8:45	10:00	Conference Opening Session	Author
	8:45	8:55	Welcome	
	8:55	9:15	Opening Remarks	
	9:15	10:00	Keynote Address	
2	10:30	11:55	Processing I	
	10:30	10:51	Multibeam Echosounder Data Cleaning Through an Adaptive Surface-based Approach	Nathalie Debese
	10:51	11:12	Alternative use of CUBE; how to fit a square peg in a round hole	Duncan Mallace
	11:12	11:33	A practical approach to quality control and quality analysis of depth data	Ulf Olsson
	11:33	11:55	Evaluation of Multibeam Hydrographic System Performance in Dense Seagrass	Bruce Sabol
3	13:15	14:45	Interferometry	
	13:15	13:37	NOAA Preliminary Integration of Interferometric Sonar Technology	Caleb Gostnell
	13:37	14:00	Determining the Functional Shallow Water Limitation for an Angle of Arrival Based Sonar	Fred Hegg
	14:00	14:22	Lake Borgne, Louisiana Debris Mapping	Gary Davis
	14:22	14:45	Survey Operations and Results using a Klein 5410 Bathymetric Sidescan Sonar	Jim Glynn
4	15:15	16:40	Marine Archeology	
	15:15	15:36	The Loss of a U.S. NAVY Frigate: Archaeological investigation of USS CUMBERLAND (44N73)	Steve Schmidt
	15:36	15:57	Marine Heritage Monitoring with High-Resolution Survey Tools: Scapa Flow 2001-2006	Brian Calder
	15:57	16:18	Wrecks as you have never seen them ...	Martin Dean
	16:18	16:40	Clearing the Mississippi Coast, Locating Post Hurricane Katrina Marine Debris	Joseph Burke
4	16:45	17:30	Poster session - need to check the time of the beer social	
<b>Wednesday, 16 May 2007</b>				
5	8:15	10:00	Lidar	
	8:15	8:36	NOAA's use of Bathymetric LIDAR	David Scharff
	8:36	8:57	Processing lidar data for charting applications - understanding the trade offs and challenges	Mark Sinclair
	8:57	9:18	Shallow Water Depth Extraction - Progress and Challenges	Karen Francis
	9:18	9:39	LIDAR as a Tool for Shoreline Mapping	Shachak Pe'eri
	9:39	10:00	Field Integration of Lidar and Sonar Hydrographic Surveys	Nicholas Gianoutsos
6	10:30	11:55	Backscatter	
	10:30	10:51	A Surprise Occurrence in Acoustic Bottom Backscatter Measurements Conducted in the eastern Bering Sea	Lloyd Huff
	10:51	11:12	Segmented Backscatter Angular Response	Luciano Fonseca
	11:12	11:33	Integrating imagery from hull mounted sidescan sonars with multibeam bathymetry	Freddy Pohner
	11:33	11:55	The Use of Sediment-Profile Imagery Data to Ground-Truth Multibeam Backscatter and Side-Scan Sonar Data	Tom Waddington



IHB File N° S1/1900/A

## WORLD HYDROGRAPHY DAY

Reference: CL 55/2006 dated 27 July

Dear Hydrographer,

1 With reference the Directing Committee proposed the theme of 2007 celebrations for the World Hydrography Day (WHD) to be "Electronic Navigational Charts (ENCs), an essential element of Safety at Sea and Efficient Maritime Operations". Comments received from Member States were in support of this theme.

2 In celebrating the WHD the Bureau will organize

1. A special page on the IHO web, where papers and other material appropriate for the celebration will be posted and Member States can make use of them;

2. A Press Release for use in Monaco, which Member States may also use in support of their own celebrations;

3. A Press Conference and interviews with local television on the importance of the celebrations highlighting how the theme supports safety at sea and protection of the marine environment;

4. A reception where His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco, Members of the Government and other officials and representatives from diplomatic missions, other organizations, the local maritime industry will be invited.

3 Member States are requested to take this opportunity, through the theme of this year's WHD, to bring to the attention of their Governments, appropriate Administrations, local maritime industry and other bodies, the significance of the IHO and its Member States' Hydrographic Offices for the safety of navigation, protection of the marine environment, sustainable development and security. The Bureau will endeavor, as resources permit, to support Member States as they develop their plans to commemorate WHD.

On behalf of the Directing Committee

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A. Maratos", written over a horizontal line.

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS

President



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THSOA—helping to train the industry



The Hydrographic Society of America is dedicated to expanding the Knowledge, Skills and Abilities of the American Hydrographic Industry. The function of this news letter is to provide an open forum for the members of the community at large to exchange ideas and information. Letters, articles and information that readers wish to share with the hydrographic community should be e-mailed to the editor. Articles will be included in as a complete manner as possible with only enough editing to allow it to fit into the space available. The content and message of the articles will be kept as intact as possible. This is a technical newsletter and not intended as a political forum. Please keep articles submitted free of politics and bias.

E-mail information for inclusion in the newsletter to-  
[Joseph.v.scolari@usace.army.mil](mailto:Joseph.v.scolari@usace.army.mil)

Please include the words “THSOA article” in the subject so it will automatically be forwarded to the correct folder.

## Notes from the Editor & President

**More success stories from the Katrina Fund will be posted on the organizations web site**

The following is an excerpt from a letter received from the Boothville-Venice Elementary School thanking THSoA for their donation helping students that lost their science lab equipment from the Katrina Hurricane.

This donation will make a huge difference to our school. We plan to purchase science equipment and materials in order to stock the former high school biology lab. We are planning to provide microscopes, beakers, goggles, and other such supplies. Mrs. Baham teaches science in grades five and six, and she will use the lab exten-

sively. We also plan to make it available for teachers in lower grades to either check out materials or to bring their class in for simple experiments. This is quite a feat for an elementary school to offer students, needless to say.

If you or anyone from your group would ever care to visit, please consider this an open invitation. We would love to meet you in person, and I'd also like our children to know more about what you do--we need to broaden their horizons! Thanks again. We are forever grateful. Ellen

## New Board Members Holly & Joe



Holly DeHart  
Joined NOAA in 1999  
Junior Officer on the Whiting from 1999 to 2001  
Officer in Charge on the Bay Hydrographer from 2002 to 2004  
NOAA'S Hydro Survey Division working on manual updates 2005 to July 2006  
Presently XO on the NOAA vessel RUDE



Joseph Scolari  
Joined the COE in 1974  
Currently the Chief of Surveys for the Philadelphia District  
ACSM Certified Hydrographer  
New Jersey Licensed Surveyor