

BIO-OCEANS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Issue 25, January 2005 On the web at: <http://www.bedfordbasin.ca/>

Inside this issue:

Srivastavas visit England	3
Beluga Award 2005	4
A short quiz...	4
Financial and Membership Reports	5
From the archives... 35 years ago	5
Noteworthy Reads: Book Reviews in Brief	7
Outside the Box: Potential benefit of continuous Public Service strikes	11
From the Desktop	11
Doggone it	12
Mulligan on stage at Neptune Theatre	12
What's going on: 1 January—1 March 2005	13
Special seminar and community social	16
Helpful Hints for Computer Users: Easy labels — Microsoft Word	17
The Members Corner: Man on the Move —Don Lawrence	17
About the Association	19
Reserve Feb. 13 on your calendar. Details p. 16.	

From the President:
Peer's Ponderings

What is the role of the BIO-OA? I see it as mainly a vehicle for maintaining contact with those who, for some part of their lives, were involved with us, in some way, in the study of the ocean. Through the BIO-OA, we can help preserve important memories of our BIO lives, stay current with some of the activities and staff of the Institute, and share and exchange information and experiences about our present activities and interests as retirees. To that end, John and Lisa O'Neill hosted the 2004 OA barbeque and picnic on Saturday August 21 at their home on Springfield Lake in Upper Sackville: it was a great event and we thank the O'Neills for their warm hospitality. Another get-together was the social evening and lecture of November 24th where retired Naval Architect David Walker gave an excellent and well-attended talk on the history of the CSS *Acadia* and of her new life at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic.

The Association also helps to collect and preserve important historical information and records from BIO's past work that might not be easy to retrieve without our collective memory as past employees. It seems that governments have short memories and need to be reminded of the things that worked in the past as well as those that did not. As the philosopher George Santayana once said: "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it". To serve this purpose, the Association has established three committees with archival responsibilities. A Library Archives committee, chaired by Bosko Loncarevic and assisted by BIO archivist Marilyn Rudi, identifies and catalogues scientific and technical records that have historic or scientific value. A Photo Archives committee, chaired by Michael Latremouille, with help from Charles Ross, Marilyn Rudi, and Shiri Srivastava, is organizing older (pre 1980) parts of the BIO photo collection now resident in the library. An Equipment Archives committee, chaired by Charles Schafer, is attempting to catalogue and store instrumentation largely developed at the institute that is of historical significance. A memorandum of understanding established in 2004 between the Association and the Institute is now in place establishing joint guardianship over these materials and ensuring that no valuable records will be accidentally disposed of.

Then there is the newsletter, our best vehicle for keeping members informed of the association's activities and those of its members. An Editorial Working Group to plan and produce a newsletter that serves the members even better has been struck and held its first meeting on November 9th. The early results from this Group can be seen in this issue of the newsletter with new columns by Charles Schafer (see page 7) and by Lisa O'Neill (see page 11) and a new Travel Corner column to debut next issue. Note also that Obituary Notices in this issue appear in the Membership Report rather than in a separate column as was done previously.

This issue contains two special articles. "Srivastavas Visit England" was received from Vivien Srivastava who we are sad to note passed away on November 8, 2004 (see page 2). The second article details the showbiz debut of Bob and Heather Cook's dog, Mulligan (see story on page 8).

The Association had hoped that BIO-OA members could use their membership cards to access the institute without having to submit in full to the new security regulations. Unfortunately, this will not be possible. I have inquired about giving all members security clearance and that apparently is not possible. The reason for this increased security is that the "International Ship and Port Security Code" has been implemented, which was developed to ensure the security of marine traffic and port facilities. This, of course, puts pressure on BIO management to institute strict security measures.

Security staff at DFO sites are taking a more vigilant stand on the implementation of security. This means that:

- Anyone entering or already on a DFO site who is not wearing an ID card or access pass will be challenged.
- Visitors will be required to wear "Visitor" passes while on DFO premises.
- All visitors, including volunteers, will be requested to sign in upon arrival and will be escorted to and from meetings by a DFO employee.

While this turn of events is unfortunate, we have no choice but to accept conditions as they are now and hope for a more trusting world in the future. Please treat these new requirements with patience and do not be dissuaded from supporting our Association's activities at BIO.

Lastly, I am pleased to announce that we are planning a Winter Celebration and Guest Lecture for February 13 – read all about in the announcement on page 10. I will look forward to seeing you there.

SRIVASTAVAS VISIT ENGLAND

By Vivien Srivastava



Clive Mason owns a magic shooting stick. On September 29, 2004, it twice brought the world's largest observation wheel, the London Eye, to a complete halt. This wheel, constantly turning, takes 32 capsules holding 25 people each to a height of 135m besides the Thames and down again.

After Shiri's meeting was over, we spent two nights with my nephew in part of a house built in 1490. In those days, this house held several families and was built with a large central hall where all daytime activities took place and two smaller ends divided into rooms and floors where people slept. Jonathon owns one of the ends which has no corridors; each room opens directly into others and the original doors, now with a piece added on top, were so low modern people could not walk through them.

Going south, we spent a day at the Southampton Institute of Oceanography and then tried to visit the Historic Dockyard at Portsmouth. On the map, a motorway seems to offer easy access but, if you go, avoid it as all the ferry traffic goes that way at a crawl. We saw the Mary Rose, the historic ship that is being preserved with a spray of wax and steam but the glass was so misted over that it was a disappointment. However, the dockyard is well worth a visit for the Mary Rose museum where they have a complete set of the pewter plates that were used on board and the doctor's and carpenter's tools. Floating tall ships are on display, you can take a boat tour of Portsmouth harbour and I tried to fly a helicopter in a flight simulator.

Dorchester is worth a visit if you are on the south coast as it has a hill fort, Maiden Castle, built more than 2000 years ago. The top is flat and large enough for a village and grazing land. Around it are three deep trenches, each as deep and with sides as steep as at the citadel which would give the defenders a great advantage as they rolled down rocks and shot arrows at the attackers. Also in the town is a Roman amphitheatre and townhouse. Most of the original patterned tile floor or the house is visible and the heating ducts that ran under the floor and up the walls are easy to see.

The rest of our visit was with friends in Cornwall and we enjoyed going to the Eden Project where vegetation from different parts of the world grows under enormous glass domes. Spring is the time to visit this area for the profusion and variety of wildflowers, the invigorating cliff top walks and the lack of visitors. I had also forgotten how good bacon and ham could taste. We bought back bacon after we got home but it was a washed out version of the food we enjoyed in Cornwall.

Our flight home should have been easy. Five hours Heathrow to St Johns and an hour and a bit to Halifax. We had to be at Heathrow by 10.30 for our 12.30 flight but actually arrived earlier. We were on the plane at 12 and then sat until 1.30 waiting to take off. Headwinds delayed us further and we all had to leave the plane at St Johns and go through customs with our luggage, then security, then board the plane again. Six passengers got lost so we sat and waited for them. I looked at my watch (still on UK time) as we waited for our bags at Halifax and it was 10.30 pm, twelve hours since we started. It was a nightmare trip. I think flying via Toronto might be easier and faster.

Editor's Addendum:

Vivien e-mailed this article to me on October 23rd a few weeks before her death. I sent a note next day saying: "Thank you for the contribution...much appreciated. I will get back to you later with editorial corrections if needed." She replied to say: "...the first paragraph may be the one that you want to edit but I wrote it deliberately as a teaser. In the context of our trip people can deduce that I had borrowed the stick because I am unsteady on my feet when standing still. When I got to the front of the line I asked for no help and was amazed when the wheel stopped just because I was using a stick. At the time it seemed like magic. I hope the article can stand as I wrote it." Indeed it can, Vivien.

BELUGA AWARD 2005

In May 2005, the Bedford Institute of Oceanography – Oceans Association will present the 5th annual Beluga Award to recognize a member or former member of the staff of the Bedford Institute of Oceanography who demonstrated unselfish dedication to community spirit at the BIO. Over the past 4 years, we have made this award to a photographer (Roger Belanger), a biological technologist (Peter Vass), a technographic specialist (Art Cosgrove), and an engineer (Dave McKeown). We are so very pleased with the variety of specialists that have been nominated for this award, because it fulfills one of our objectives that this award is for anyone in any field of specialization. The recipients of this award also exemplify the criterion of an individual who contributes to the success of projects and the institute through cooperation and teamwork.

In 2005, we are again calling for nominations from any individual or group to be submitted to the Nominations Review Committee by February 15, 2005. Nominations should be sent to Dale Buckley, 21 Dumbarton Ave., Dartmouth, N.S. B2X 1Z7. or though e-mail to dbuckley@ns.sympatico.ca Brief guidelines for preparation of the nomination can be obtained from Dale Buckley. Nominations made in previous years for a candidate not selected for the award may be renewed or supplemented. The Nominations Review Committee consists of five persons, three members of the BIO-OA and two current staff members of BIO.

We urge all members of BIO-OA to consider making a nomination or encourage others to nominate a deserving person. Nominators are very generous people who honour those who have made great contributions to BIO.

A Short Quiz for the Heck of it

1. Only two vegetables can live to produce on their own for several growing seasons. All others must be replanted annually. Name them?
2. At noon and midnight, the hour and minute hands are exactly coincident with each other. How many other times between noon and midnight do the hour and minute hands cross?
3. What fruit has its seeds on the outside?
4. You can buy pear brandy, with a real pear inside the bottle. The pear is whole and ripe, and the bottle hasn't been cut in any way. How did the pear get inside the bottle?
5. Only three words in standard English begin with the letters "dw." They are all common. Name two of them.
6. There are fourteen punctuation marks in English. Can you name them?
7. It's the only vegetable or fruit that is never sold frozen, canned, processed, cooked, or in any other form but fresh. What is it?
8. Name six or more things that you can wear on your feet, that begin with the letter "s."

Answers

1. Asparagus and rhubarb.
2. Ten times (not 11, as many people seem to think).
3. Strawberry.
4. The pear grew inside the bottle. The bottles are placed over pear buds when they are small, and are wired in place on the tree. The bottle is left in place for the whole growing season. When the pears are ripe, they are snipped off at the stems.
5. Dwarf, dwell, and dwindle.
6. Period, comma, colon, semicolon, dash, hyphen, apostrophe, question mark, exclamation point, quotation marks, brackets, parenthesis, braces, and ellipses.
7. Lettuce.
8. Shoes, socks, sandals, sneakers, slippers, skis, snowshoes, stockings, and so on.

BIO-OCEANS ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT - JANUARY 4, 2005

By Betty Anderson

OPERATING FUND		FOUNDATION FUND	
Membership Fees:	\$7,648.96	<u>Donations:</u>	6,533.6228.4294.39
Socials:	269.89	Lunches, Beluga	129.9541.35
Bank interest:	<u>600.87</u>	Awards	265.69
Total Income:	8,519.72	Bank Interest:	<u>0.61</u>
Less Expenses:	<u>2,283.75</u>		6,865.45
	6,235.97	<u>Expenditures:</u>	
One Business		Beluga Award	
Account with		Bank Charges	
ING Direct		and Cheques:	
covering 9 deposits		<u>Lunches:</u>	
commencing at		2002	
3.85%,		2003	
now 2.5%:		2004	<u>6,827.73</u>
Interest:	\$5,525.00		
	<u>377.79</u>		
	5,902.79		
<u>CASH IN BANK:</u>	<u>\$333.18</u>	<u>CASH IN BANK:</u>	<u>\$37.72</u>

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

January 4, 2005

By Betty Anderson

We have 174 on the 2004/05 membership list which includes four deceased members who are prepaid, (Andy Atkinson, Elaine Blanchard, Mike McMullen, and Hans Neu), one Honourary Member, (Mike Friis) and 23 unpaid members.. Reminder inserts will be enclosed in the Newsletter addressed to the 23 late renewal members. Unfortunately, a number of inserts sent in the July Newsletter were directed to paid members and I apologize for this blunder, which I trust will never happen again!!.

A warm welcome is extended to new members Roger Cassivi, Barry Hargrave, David Heffler, Georgina Phillips and Dick Vine. Clive Mason became our 18th Life Member.

We regret to advise the following members passed away since the July Newsletter: Vivien Srivastava, November 8th, Stella Jones, October 11th, and Elaine Blanchard, September 25th. Although not members we regret to advise Jim Greig and Capt. Fred Mauger died recently.

The Telephone Committee comprising Dale Buckley, Tom Clarke, Jackie Dale, Marlene Karg, Evelyn Penney and Bob Reiniger, called members who do not have email to advise the dates and times for the Acadia Talk and the Annual BIO Christmas Party, both well attended.

To date membership fees total \$7,648.96; this amount covers \$5,123.96 collected from 1998 to January 4, 2005 and \$2,525.00 from prepaid members for period 2005/06 to 2027.

From the Archives ... 35 years ago

Compiled by Bosko Loncarevic

[These Highlights are excerpted from BI World Newsletter, published at the Institute between 1967 and 1973. Complete versions are posted on our web site.]

{August, 31, 1969, Vol. 3, No. 8} Dalhousie Department of Geology announced "lectures on a variety of topics for a

variety of people ... to help towards better understanding of ... research being carried out at the Institute.” ... Criticism that the summer tours of the Institute “are missing a golden opportunity to show visitors how exciting marine-science can be” ... A long newsitem on the history of the Soviet nuclear icebreaker LENIN ... Dr. Levy and Carl Cunningham in Drobak, Norway, taking a course in “Chemical oceanography”. ... HUDSON completed a two day cruise for the NFB ... Preparations for HUDSON 70 are well in hand – Dr. Mann visited Chile and Argentina. ... A complaint was lodged by A.S. Bennett against rush to adopt metric system ... MEL announced that Dr. Dickie was seconded to the Science Council to conduct a six-month study of on the Marine Science and Technology (with R.W. Stewart of UBC) ... Institute picnic was well attended ... Report on the activities of **12 SHIPS** engaged on Institute programs ... Dr. A. E. Collin, Dominion Hydrographer, selected to attend the National defence College at RMC, Kingston. ... HM 2 SURVEYMARINE sidewall hovercraft employed on hydrographic survey of Lower St. Lawrence experienced many technical problems ... Purchasing: Mr. Toms “has returned to the office having spent an enjoyable 3-week vacation” ... YE OLD BI CANNON (rescued from Martello Tower, Point Pleasant Park by Dr. Pagden in 1963) relocated to a grassy knoll on B.I. Campus.

{September, 30, 1969, Vol. 3, Nos. 9} IN MEMORIAM Mrs Ford died in a traffic accident on 5 October ... Long account by Dr. E.L. Lewis of “Summer in the Arctic Frozen Sea Research Group. ... Staff Association offered for sale: i)A small space heater; ii) Set of sails and masts, made of Egyptian cotton ... Intercomparison of three C_T-D on DAWSON instruments, while avoiding hurricane Gerda ... Major study of pollution in Canso Strait ... New faces: Dr. M. Hassan, Dr. S.H. Sharaf elDin (post Doc) and Dr. Ron Loucks (returning from studies at U of Michigan) ... Long report by John Woodside on the “New Global Tectonics” workshop at B.I. on August 27 & 28 ... Library has just completed an “inventory of its holdings ... on punched cards” ... “September 24 was the take-over date for the two floor office wing addition” ... A. Murray MacKay Bridge: “We have had the unique experience over the past several months to see the steel work being assembled and erected on a daily basis for the suspension bridge which slices across the south limit of the Institute property.”

{October 31, 1969, Vol. 3, No. 10} List of six lecture at Dalhousie announced (“a charge of \$2 for materials”) ... Ships tracks section lists 8 ships, two launches and small boats ... Metrology group reported on the “Batfish” workshop ... Dr. D. H. Loring recently returned from A year’s stay in Nederland ... “Marine Geophysics ad hoc committee for improved Public Relations” submitted a commentary on Tourist Tours ... Report on “OMEGA Familiarization course” in Arlington, Virginia ... Library started “Book Reviews” in the newsletter ... W. Shearman explained the function of the “B.I. Antenna Farm” for communications with our ships ... “It is requested that anyone having borrowed a hydraulic jack from alongside the trailer in storage for Geological Survey of Canada in the outside Storage Area (Grave-yard) AOL, return same to Mr. B. G. Martin, Supply Depot Supervisor, for shipment to the field officer concerned.” ... Recent Publications included a list of 29 reports ...

{November 3, 1969, Vol. 3, No. 11} Christmas party on December 19, starting at 2:00 o’clock” ... Hans Neu’s long report on Hydraulic Conference in Kyoto, Japan ... Report on HUDSON 70 send off on November 19, 1969 ... Contract issued for the construction of the RAD “Core building” (under the bridge) ... C.D. Maunsell reported on CCO meeting and Second National oceanographic Symposium 17-21 November in Victoria ... A note by H. Sandstrom “... dedicated to St Galileo who perished when he published” was a whimsical account of “Second quinquennial Soul Searching session (or How to stop worrying and learn to love your boss)” ... HYDROGAPHY: “The hydrographic staff wish to say thanks to the Master, officers and, crew of CSS ACADIA for their many years of excellent service. It is not without sorrow and many fond memories that we see ACADIA pass into retirement.” ... A note by F. Keyte emphasized “-INCREASING IMPORTANCE OF STUDIES OF FLUCTUATIONS IN CLIMATE” (now called Climate Change) ...

{December 31, 1969, Vol. 3, No. 12} Three extra-curricular lectures by D.E. Wells on “NAVIGATION” announced ... A Brief Report on HUDSON’s progress (up to Rio de Janeiro)... Dalhousie Seminars schedule ... Metrology reported on DAWSON cruise to test new instruments: “The least joyful incident of the cruise was probably our stay in harbour of St. George without going ashore.” ... Tenders called December 30 for depot expansion project ... Library has been settling into its new space on the second floor ... Dr. G. T. Needler leaves in January on a one year sabbatical at Woods Hole as a Rossby Fellow ... New staff included D.E. Eisener, R.D. Wardrope, Olive Ross, G. Ranalli (postDoc) ... Recent Publications lists 17 reports.

NOTEWORTHY READS: BOOK REVIEWS IN BRIEF

*By David N. Nettleship
Book Review Editor*

The *Noteworthy Reads* section is a cooperative, volunteer effort by members of the BIO-OA to produce a representative list of recent noteworthy book publications related to the marine sciences and other subjects of general interest. The listing is not intended to be comprehensive or complete, but merely an attempt to highlight a number of 'good reads' that may be of interest to OA members and their associates. The principal aim is to identify titles of new publications from a variety of disciplines including oceanography (physical, chemical, biological), geology, natural history, nautical engineering and design, etc. Most books listed are available at local bookstores and via HRM libraries; book prices are regular retail in Canadian funds, but remember that discounts of 20-30% are normally available on line at: e.g. amazon.ca or chapters.indigo.ca. Anyone interested in becoming a regular contributor to 'Noteworthy Reads' should contact David Nettleship (voice: 902-826-2360; internet: dnnlundy@navnet.net).

SPECIAL REVIEW: THE PHILOSOPHY OF BIOLOGY — A CENTENARIAN'S VIEW

Mayr, Ernst. 2004. What makes biology unique? Considerations on the autonomy of a scientific discipline. Cambridge University Press, New York, NY. 246 pp. Hardcover, \$36.00 (ISBN 0-521-84114-3). – Ernst Mayr, hailed as the 20th-century's father of evolutionary biology and the modern evolutionary synthesis, offers his latest and final survey (as noted in his preface) of controversial concepts in biology and the philosophy of science. This summary work comprises 12 essays – four newly written and eight revised versions of papers previously published in journals and symposium volumes – that provide an outstanding firsthand overview of Mayr's philosophy of biology and why he finds evolutionary biology to be an "endless frontier" in the quest for knowledge. His 25th book, in celebration of his 100th birthday, covers ideas presented earlier, most recently in his "This is Biology: The Science of the Living World" published in 1997 (Harvard University Press, Cambridge, MA), but in a still more condensed version. Overall, the work will be loved and treasured by those who are curious about the science and philosophy of biology, along with Mayr's view of evolution as the most revolutionary idea ever formulated and of Charles Darwin its greatest philosopher.

GENERAL REVIEWS

Berton, Pierre. 2004. Prisoners of the North. Doubleday, Toronto, ON. 328 pp. Hardcover, \$39.95 (ISBN 0-385-66046-4). – This book, the 50th and last work of master Canadian historical storyteller Pierre Berton, is a collection of biographical portraits of five extraordinary individuals associated with Canada's northlands. All of the five – Joe Boyle (gold strike in the Yukon), Vilhjalmur Stefansson (arctic explorer, anthropologist and scholar) Jane Franklin (devoted supporter of her husband, arctic explorer John Franklin), John Hornby (explorer of Canada's Barrens), and Robert Service (Yukon's grand poet) – were ambitious and energetic individualists, quite impatient of authority. They all, however, became 'prisoners of the North', for very different reasons. And it is because of those differences that Berton's selection of people succeeds in producing an integrated work that informs, captivates, and holds the reader's attention. Each 'portrait', or personal vignette, of the five provides a vivid outline of how northern Canada became an all-encompassing driving force in their lives.

Byers, Andrew (ed.). 2004. The Canadian Atlas: Our nation, environment and people. Douglas & McIntyre, Vancouver, BC. 192 pp. Hardcover, \$69.95 (ISBN 1-553-65082-4). – A glossy and big atlas that succeeds in telling us about ourselves and the lands we occupy. This new edition of 'The Canadian Atlas' has the answers to just about any question we may pose, and provides the details in an attractive and thorough manner using both text and plenty of well presented charts and graphs on key statistics. In addition to many standard maps, there are satellite images for all provinces that give a three-dimensional perspective of the physical landscape for each area. This is a work to own and use.

Ganong, William Francis. 2004. Champlain's island: An expanded edition of Ste. Croix (Dochet) Island. The New Brunswick Museum, Fredericton, NB. 172 pp. Softcover, \$18.95 (ISBN 0-919-32657-9). – A new edition of W.F. Ganong's classic history, first published as an exhaustive article entitled "Dochet (St. Croix) Island" by the Royal Society of Canada in 1902 (Proc. & Trans. 2nd Ser. VIII, pages 126-231), in celebration of the 400th anniversary of the first permanent French settlement in North America (1604).

Greenlaw, Linda. 2004. All fishermen are liars: True tales from the Dry Dock Bar. Little Brown & Co., Boston, MA. 256 pp. Hardcover, \$33.95 (ISBN 1-401-30070-7). – By the author of best-selling titles "The Hungry Ocean" and "The Lobster Chronicles", comes a collection of 'tall' tales – but all true – generated from past discussions between

author and swordfish captain Greenlaw and her close associate, lobsterman Alden Leeman, at the Portland's infamous New England fishermen's hangout, the Dry Dock Bar. The stories include terrifying shipwrecks, peculiar shipmates, the fish that got away, and other bizarre adventures. Revealing, entertaining and informative.

Gurney, Alan. 2004. *Compass: A story of exploration and innovation*. W.W. Norton & Co., New York, NY. 320 pp. Hardcover, \$34.50 (ISBN 0-393-05073-4). – The subject addressed here is the history of the compass by a well-known ship designer, sailor and marine writer. The story begins in the 12th century with the early reports of loadstone magnetism by Chow Yu in China and Alexander Neckham in England. The people who contributed to the understanding of the earth's magnetism and the development of the compass are reviewed in detail, as are the use of the wind rose, compass rose, and the discovery of magnetic variation and techniques to correct for it. The overwhelming importance of the compass as the ultimate navigational tool is vividly displayed. The book is well researched, clearly written, and forms an important contribution to the history of the compass and the men who helped to shape it.

Huler, Scott. 2004. *Defining the wind: The Beaufort Scale and how a 19th century admiral turned science into poetry*. Crown Publishers, New York, NY. 288 pp. Hardcover, \$33.00 (ISBN 1-400-04884-2). – Scott Huler, a copy editor by profession, became intrigued by the poetry inherent within the 110 words of the “Beaufort Scale” that he found one day by chance in Merriam-Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary. This discovery of words he considered “the best, clearest, and most vigorous piece of writing” he had ever seen prompted an investigation of their origin. The result is an intriguing journey from the scale's beginning in NE England by a weather station reporter in the early 1800s to its refinement and application to navigation by Rear Admiral Sir Francis Beaufort, royal hydrographer at the time. Part marine history, part biography of Sir Beaufort, and part ‘poetry’, the book is entertaining and informative of what has become a standard navigational and oceanographic tool in ‘defining the wind’ at sea.

Jinshian, J. Russell. 2004. *Bound for blue water: Contemporary marine art*. Greenwich Workshop, Workman Publishing, Fairfield, CT. 180 pp. Hardcover, \$130.00 (ISBN 0-867-13088-1). – A visual feast for anyone who appreciates beautiful pictures of boats, derived from the works of 85 contemporary American marine painters produced through the 20th century. Jinshian, publisher of the Marine Art Quarterly and former director of Mystic Seaport's Maritime Gallery, is well positioned to have produced a selection of marine painters to comprise a “definitive collection”. The paintings offered display the timeless beauty of traditional boats and ships, with subjects spanning interests from offshore fishing vessels like the Grand Banks schooner ‘Annie M. Parker’, steamship and great ocean liners to battle depictions and America's Cup sailboat racing competitions from the early days to recent times. This authoritative work will satisfy and please both the marine art/boat expert and simple boat-enthusiast alike.

Lavery, Brian. 2004. *Smithsonian ship: The epic story of maritime adventure*. Dorling Kindersley Publishing, New York, NY. 400 pp. Hardcover, \$55.00 (ISBN 0-756-60496-6). – This stunningly beautiful work charts the development of ships over 5000 years and their role in the great events of world history. The text is authoritative and enhanced by photographs, paintings and historical timelines, along with lavish colour illustrations throughout. The reader is taken from the travels of the Vikings and earlier, through the Battle of Trafalgar to the tragedy of the ‘Titanic’ and beyond. This is a voyage that will grasp and hold the attention of landlubbers as well as old seadogs. An outstanding portrait of ships and reference source for information.

Mayers, Adam. 2004. *Sea of dreams: Racing alone around the world in a small boat*. McClelland & Stewart, Toronto, ON. 272 pp. Hardcover, \$37.99 (ISBN 0-771-05753-9). – Sailing alone around the world takes skill and courage, but a solo racing circumnavigation in a 40-50 foot fiberglass boat is unimaginable for most of us. More people have made it to the summit of Everest or traveled in space than have raced alone around the world. This book chronicles the international ‘Around Alone’ ocean race of 2002-03, and focuses on Canadian Derek Hatfield and his Open 40 ‘Spirit of Canada’ and the adventure and challenges of the five legs of the circumnavigation. Although Hatfield's remarkable achievement is highlighted, *Sea of Dreams* follows all the men and one woman who entered the 2002 Around including the only other Canadian, John Dennis, who was forced to withdraw from the race owing to chronic equipment problems off Cape Town, South Africa. Mayer's account reveals vividly what the racers faced and what they had to do to survive the savage seas they encountered. Sailors and non-sailors alike will be captivated by this remarkable story of sailing solo for over 28,700 nautical miles around the globe and details of the seamanship skills required to sail on the edge of control and cope with killer weather at sea. A superb read!

Mowat, Farley. 2004. *No man's river*. Key Porter Books, Toronto, ON. 355 pp. Hardcover, \$36.95 (ISBN 1-552-63624-0). – A grand revisit by Canada's icon of the North, Farley Mowat, to his early arctic experiences on the Keewatin Barrenlands in summer 1947, accounts well described in his classic ‘People of the Deer’ (1952), ‘The Desperate People’ (1959), ‘Never Cry Wolf’ (1963) and others. Although from the same time frame, the present work describes his journeys from Windy Post, some 300 miles northwest from Churchill, with companion Charles Schweder that culminated with a perilous canoe trip down the virtually unknown Big River (Thlewiaza River) to Hudson Bay, an account not presented in earlier publications. ‘No Man's River’ is based on both men's journals and thrives as a result of differences in focus between the two reporters. The book's highly readable prose and journal extracts produce a

travelogue rich in detail, a story beautifully written and a delight to read. Overall, a companion book to 'People of the Deer', and for those who have not read the 1952 classic, read 'No Man's River' first – a fine book by a skillful storyteller and master of what is known of the original Barrens Inuk culture.

Plisson, Philip. 2004. The sea: Day by day. Harry N. Abrams, New York, NY. 432 pp. Hardcover, \$52.50 (ISBN 0-810-93538-4). – In prose and photographs, author Plisson's 25-year obsession and love affair with the sea bursts through the 365 spectacular images, one for each day of the year. They range from placid waters, fog-shrouded sea-cliffs, roaring surf, ships and lighthouses to living inhabitants that collectively show the ocean in all its majesty, power and infinite variety. Each photo is accompanied by a short essay that is carefully integrated with the subject depicted, prose that usually gives simply information and opinion, but sometimes becomes almost a poetic interpretation of the image presented. This is a book to savour and enjoy, and to use as a catalyst to recall personal experiences at sea and to enhance our appreciation of the living waters that cover most of the planet.

Savage, Candace. 2004. Prairie: A natural history. Douglas & McIntyre, Vancouver, BC. 308 pp. Hardcover, \$60.00 (ISBN 1-550-54985-5). – An enlivened popular science that presents an up-to-date synthesis of knowledge about the Great Plains environment and its many individual ecosystems. The informative text and carefully integrated illustrations – colour photos, excellent maps and black & white drawings – provide a fine overview of the Plains, past and present, and the clear need to preserve and protect the small areas of prairie wilderness that remain. This summary document provides benefits for all readers, from the pure aesthetic and educational to the environmental management for wildness.

Storck, Peter L. 2004. Journey to the ice age: Discovering an ancient world. University of British Columbia Press, Vancouver, BC. 384 pp. Hardcover, \$39.95 (ISBN 0-774-81029-9). – Published in association with the Royal Ontario Museum, this book takes readers on a journey through time to explore the lives of the ancient North American Paleo-Indians. An enlightening archaeologist's account of discovery.

Wright, Ronald. 2004. A short history of progress. House of Anansi Press, Toronto, ON. 132 pp. Softcover, \$18.95 (ISBN 0-887-84706-4). – Canadian author and Massey Lectures essayist Ronald Wright tells us to look to history for lessons, and presents a reasoned warning of serious calamities to come if governments and societies fail to heed past events of environmental destruction of natural habitats and living systems. In five lucid, meticulously documented essays, Wright details the rise and fall of four regional civilizations – those of Sumer, Rome, Easter Island, the Maya - where groups altered and exploited their environments to such a degree that the lands collapsed and resident human populations subsequently became extinct. However, despite the clear picture these disastrous events provide, Wright believes that humanity will make the same mistakes and the next collapse will be on a global rather than regional scale. Current worldwide food and water shortages are alarming, as are the implications for the future in the absence of corrective action by people and their governments to stem the destructive tide. Clearly, we need to heed the dire predictions offered by Wright based on historical facts, and quickly re-appraise the reckless direction human populations are taking today. Care must be given to safeguard natural environments, both now and in the future, if the present world community is to survive.

OTHER NOTABLE READS

Bleakne, J. Sherman. 2004. Sods, soil, and spades: The Acadians of Grand Pré and their dykeland legacy. McGill-Queen's University Press, Montreal, QU. 256 pp. Hardcover, \$49.95 (ISBN 0-773-52816-4). – A detailed account of how early Acadian settlers turned the Grand Pré tidal marshes into fertile farming lands.

Crockett, Rigel. 2004. Fair wind and plenty of it: A modern-day tall ship adventure. Knopf Canada, Toronto, ON. 394 pp. Hardcover, \$34.95 (ISBN 0-676-97634-4). – A first-hand account by a young sailor of his year-and-a-half voyage from Lunenburg around the world in the three-masted, square-rigged tall ship, the 'Picton Castle'. Overall, an insightful story of a fun-filled, perilous and exotic adventure to be enjoyed by all.

Flayhart, William. 2004. Disaster at sea: Shipwrecks, storms, and collisions on the Atlantic. Norton & Co., New York, NY. 384 pp. Softcover, \$22.00 (ISBN 0-393-32651-9). – A collection of 21 captivating accounts of some famous and obscure disasters of ships on the Atlantic Ocean. Tales of danger, mayhem and heroism abound, details presented by a master storyteller that will captivate and inform.

Hanrahan, Maura. 2004. Tsunami: The Newfoundland tidal wave disaster. Flanker Press, St. John's, NF. 229 pp. Softcover, \$16.95 (ISBN 1-894-46363-3). – The story of the Newfoundland south coast disaster of 1929. It details the nature of the tsunami tidal wave triggered by an offshore earthquake on the Grand Banks, and the ensuing destruction along the coastline of the Burin Peninsula, killing 27 people and destroying homes and fishing operations in 50 outports. Also highlighted are the incredible efforts made by Dorothy Cherry, resident nurse, to save the sick and dying, and Magistrate Malcolm Hollett's tireless campaign to rebuild shattered lives and the devastated communities of the

region.

Hubbard, Mina Benson. 2004. A woman's way through unknown Labrador. McGill-Queen's University Press, Montreal, QC. 324 pp. Hardcover, \$39.95 (ISBN 0-773-52704-4). – Edited and with an introduction by Sherrill Grace, this re-issued autobiography (originally published in 1908) of one of Canada's most prominent female exploration and travel writers will rekindle interest in this important historical event and the outstanding accomplishment it represents. [See also, Silvis 2004 below.]

LaRue, Diane. 2004. Common wild flowers and plants of Nova Scotia. Nimbus Publishing, Halifax, NS. 200 pp. Softcover, \$17.95 (ISBN 1-551-09488-6). – A good and informative introduction to the Nova Scotian flora.

MacBeath, George. 2004. Great maritime achievers in science and technology. Goose Lane, Halifax, NS. 96 pp. Softcover, \$14.95 (ISBN 0-864-92380-5). – Outlines the achievements of more than 30 scientists and inventions that changed the course of history.

McCrea, Margaret. 2004. Maine sail: An artist's journal of a cruise down east. Down East Books, Camden, ME. 128 pp. Hardcover, \$32.00 (ISBN 0-892-72622-9). – A wonderful introduction to the beauty of coastal Maine. Presented in journal form, this lovely little book takes readers on a summer cruise from Port Clyde to Campobello Island via an informative text and 250 watercolours painted by the author/artist McCrea that together capture the nature of the place. Overall, this lavishly illustrated work is a real bargain, and certainly captures the magic of the Maine coast.

Mitchell, Alanna. 2004. Dancing at the Dead Sea; Tracking the world's environmental hotspots. Key Porter Books, Toronto, ON. 240 pp. Softcover, \$26.95 (ISBN 1-552-63586-4). – A critically important ecological and cultural exposé of environmental hotspots around the globe. This review by award-winning journalist Mitchell stands out in its unique approach of integrating scientific knowledge with travel adventure and history.

Silvis, Randall. 2004. Heart so hungry: The extraordinary expedition of Mina Hubbard into the Labrador wilderness. Knopf Canada, Toronto, ON. 288 pp. Hardcover, \$ 34.95 (ISBN 0-676-97586-0). – This is a gripping cold weather true-life adventure of a race across unknown Labrador and one woman's determination -- Mina Benson Hubbard – inspired by grief and fed by outrage to set the record straight. A remarkable expedition into the wilderness by a remarkable woman. [See also, Hubbard 2004 above.]

Wagg, Len. 2004. Nova Scotia landmarks: Portrait of a province from the air. Formac Publishing, Halifax, NS. 132 pp. Hardcover, \$55.00 (ISBN 0-887-80631-7). – A photo portfolio of Nova Scotia as seen from the air comprising more than 100 aerial photographs that show the beauty of the province's seacoast and landscape.

Outside the Box A column of feedback & commentary

Potential Benefit of Continuous Public Service Strikes

By Charles Schafer

Like many of my BIO Oceans Association colleagues, I arrived at the main entrance for the 14 October 2004 executive meeting only to encounter a line of employees. All of us in the line had elected to wait until the PSAC pickets would allow us to enter the building. I had neglected to bring along my “Tilley” hat and had a few initial concerns about being ‘drilled’ by ultraviolet radiation on that beautiful autumn morning. However, I quickly discounted that risk, turned to the stranger standing next to me and introduced myself. As luck would have it, this particular DFO scientist was an expert in the area of contaminant transport in marine systems and was working on several aquaculture-related topics. We soon discovered that we had both studied aquaculture contaminant dispersal processes at commercial sites situated along the southeastern coast of New Brunswick. His approach involved the use of chemical species tracers while my proxy indicator choice was centred on a suite of benthic foraminifera (seafloor-living protozoans) species that reacted to environmental impacts of one kind or another. I guess my new friend and I talked for almost 45 minutes (i.e., 1.5 coffee breaks) as the PSAC pickets allowed groups of 10 employees at a time to occasionally enter the building. When our turn finally came, I exchanged business cards with my new acquaintance and then we both went in opposite directions to pursue the tasks of the day.

In retrospect, I realize now that I probably would never have had the opportunity to trade ideas with my waiting-line friend if it were not for the circumstances of the picket line and our decision to “wait it out”. I remember a time at BIO when these kinds of new encounters were fairly commonplace – and particularly consistent with the aims of the original promoters of the BIO “institute” concept. Things have certainly come a long way since those exciting formative years. Naturally, management and administrative bureaucracies have grown, seemingly disproportionately to the ranks of the scientists attending ‘at the bench’. However, what’s really sad to see is how a seemingly self-imposed culture of isolation is manifested in BIO’s cafeteria. In this potentially favourable setting for networking and exchange of new ideas, I often see GSC-Atlantic scientific and technical teams, and their DFO and CCG counterparts, clustered together in isolation from one another. What’s worse, to my mind, is that this reserved and restrained model is often (almost vigorously) practiced by a good number – but not all – of the managers of the various departments that occupy the BIO facility.

It’s impossible to know exactly how things arrived at where the BIO informal information-exchange dynamic stands today. However, I am happy to say that the PSAC-imposed waiting line – at least in my case – has made a small contribution to reversing a trend that will eventually erode the potential of BIO to be anything more than just another government building (not unlike some that I have had the occasion to visit in Ottawa). Although the word ‘strike’ is no longer a concept that I have had to worry about since my retirement, it certainly has some very positive ‘spin-off’ consequences. I wonder what other unions can be persuaded to strike next? Personally, I am looking forward to meeting more of my fellow BIO occupants, especially those who make their living in laboratories at the north end of the complex. MORE STRIKES PLEASE!!

Charles Schafer, retired BIO scientist, can be contacted at: charlestschafer@hotmail.com

FROM THE DESKTOP

By the Webmaster

Recent insertion of Cassini spacecraft into an orbit around Saturn has already produced some spectacular pictures with many more to come. The space odyssey continues and the best way of following it is to look at the “Astronomy picture of the day” (apod) web site operated by NASA (<http://antwrp.gsfc.nasa.gov/apod/>). For the past five years or more, this web site has displayed a new picture every day related to astronomy, from faintest galaxies to close-ups of Aurora. The pictures are accompanied by a short explanation with every term linked to another site exploring the concepts in depth. You can spend hours following these links and learning much about the Universe in an entertaining way. Make this site your own home page (In Internet Explorer MENU > Tools > Internet Options > General) and then every time you log onto the internet you will be thrilled with a new aspect of the heavens.

There are many web sites on basic (i.e., high school) science on the web. The one I found very useful as a gateway to refresher literature (esp. math) is called geometry (at <http://www.geometry.net/>). You can find out such things as how to construct a tangent on two circles (useful in gardening!).

Also of interest: "Polar Oral History Program" at Ohio State University (<http://www.lib.ohio-state.edu/arvweb/polar/oralhist/oralmain.htm>) lists dozens of interviews with (mostly American) scientist who have worked in Polar regions since the IGY. Fascinating reading of living history.

And, finally for all you lovers of old cars, there is an interesting and detailed description of restoration and modification of a 1991 MAZDA Miata at <http://www.pacificsites.net/~hakuna/miata.html>. Amazing things some people do (and tell the world) on the internet.

Doggone it!

Two dogs were walking down the street. One says to the other: "Wait here a minute. I'll be right back." He walks across the street, sniffs a fire hydrant for about a minute, and returns. The other dog says, "What was that about?" The first dog replies: "I was just checking my messages."

Dog Property Laws: If I like it, it's mine. If it's in my mouth, it's mine. If I can take it from you, it's mine. If I had it a little while ago, it's mine. If it's mine, it must never appear to be yours in any way. If I'm chewing something up, all the pieces are mine. If it just looks like mine, it's mine. If I saw it first, it's mine. If you are playing with something and you put it down, it automatically becomes mine. If it's broken, it's yours.

Mulligan on Stage at Neptune Theatre

By Bob Cook



When Bob Cook retired from DFO in 1998 after serving 15 years as the Director of the St. Andrews Biological Station and 6 years as the regional Aquaculture Coordinator for the RDG, Neil Bellefontaine, he, and his wife Heather, were unsure what their next adventures would be. One thing for sure, they enjoyed country living and, above all, wanted to have a dog. Their last dog, a Golden Retriever, Sandy, had passed away at the time of their move back to Halifax. A friend introduced them to the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier breed. The idea of having a cute, medium sized, mild mannered dog, that didn't shed hair and was appealing. In 1996, they acquired their first Wheaten puppy called Willow. Willow had a great personality; unfortunately he died in 1999 from a suspected genetic disorder. In 2000, they acquired a second Wheaten who they named Mulligan. An Irish name to be sure as the breed originated in Ireland, and, in golf, a "mulligan" is a second chance; this name seemed to match his situation.

From the very beginning, Mulligan was given exposure to many forms of training. With Heather as the principal trainer, Mulligan completed several obedience programs, participated in agility courses, as well as other fun programs such as "dancing with dogs" and being a member of a "Drill Team". He has also taken part in several Dog Shows winning Best Puppy in PEI in 2001 and, more recently, the Best of Breed at a Terrier Speciality in Halifax in 2004.

Mulligan's latest accomplishment, however, is far more glamorous, and, for his trainer, Heather, and logistics coordinator, Bob, it's a major challenge. In October 2004, there was a call for auditions to select the dog "actors" to play the role of "Sandy", Little Orphan Annie's faithful companion, in the stage production of ANNIE at the Neptune Theatre in Halifax. Out of this competition, Mulligan was chosen, along with another terrier (a Wire Fox Terrier named Lily), to join the cast. This production has two Annie's who alternate in the performances with each Annie having her own "Sandy". Mulligan will be acting alongside the Annie played by Heather Alexa Ross.

There has been considerable advance publicity featuring the terriers in the play. The Halifax Chronicle Herald has had several articles on the dog auditions. Featured in this paper on October 24, there was a dramatic picture of Mulligan weaving around Heather Cook's legs, a trick he learned from his training sessions on Dancing with Dogs. In addition to obedience and agility training, and being registered as a therapy dog for the QEII Hospital, Mulligan is steadily accumulating the points he needs from conformation competitions at Dog Shows to become a CKC champion. This performing on stage just seems to be a natural step in his career.

Following a photo shoot by Neptune Theatre for the promotion of Annie, Mulligan and Heather were interviewed and appeared on television for the ASN morning show "BT" (Breakfast Television) on November 12th.

Rehearsals were held in November and continued several times a week until the first public previews of the play on the evenings of November 23-25. Opening night was Friday, November 26th at 7:30 pm and the play ran until December 26th with each of the "celeb" terriers acting in 20 live performances. It was a great success. As one patron says on the Neptune website: "Me and my daughter loved it, the props were great, as well as the actresses... And as for the dog... phenomenal!!"

Heather and Bob enjoy their protégé Mulligan, and, because of him, are associated with several regional and national dog associations including: the Canadian Kennel Club, the Atlantic Terrier Association, the Soft Coated Wheaten Association of Canada, the Canine Agility Association of Nova Scotia, and the Halifax Kennel Club. Although Mulligan represents only one facet of their busy retirement activities (e.g. they do have grandchildren, enjoy travelling, etc.), having the time to enjoy a very special pet has proven to be a most rewarding experience.

WHAT'S GOING ON: 1 JANUARY - 31 MARCH 2005

Here are some current and upcoming events in the Halifax Regional Municipality and adjacent regions that may interest members. Send in event listings to the OA Associate Editor, David Nettleship, for inclusion in future issues of the newsletter (voice: 826-2360; internet: dnnlundy@navnet.net).

1-30 Jan.: Museum of Natural History – **"Sable Island"** (An exhibit of the history of Sable Island and its recent use by humankind over several centuries.)

1 Jan. to 13 Feb.: Art Gallery of Nova Scotia – **"Paintings of Nova Scotia"** (Exhibition from the Gallery's collection to celebrate the new book of the same name by Mora O'Neill of the AGNS. For additional information: 424-7542)

1 Jan. to 31 Mar.: Maritime Museum of the Atlantic – **"New Life for Model of RMS Franconia"** (A demonstration by the Maritime Ship Model Guild of the restoration of the largest model in the Maritime Museum's collection: the 13-foot model of RMS Franconia, built in 1922, that once graced the shipping offices of Samuel Cunard & Co. before falling on harder times. For times and other information, phone: 424-7490.)

1 Jan. to 30 Sep.: Pier 21 National Historic Site – **"Cunard on Canvas: The Langley Collection"** (An

exhibit of paintings of ships from the outstanding collection of John Langley, President of the Cunard Steamship Society.)

2 Jan. to 11 Mar.: Maritime Museum of the Atlantic – **“Masters of the Sea: Tall Ship Portraits from the Age of Sail”** (An exhibit of the heyday of sail in Nova Scotia via 20 ship portraits that illustrate the diversity of styles of marine artists of the day and many other aspects of the ‘Age of Sail’ – a must see exhibit. For additional information: 424-7490)

2 Jan. to 7 Feb.: Museum of Natural History – **“Portrait of Susanna Francklin”** (A 240-year-old painting of Susanna Francklin, the wife of one of Nova Scotia’s early political figures – Michael Francklin, lieutenant-governor in the 1760s and early 1770s – is on display as part of the MNH Exhibit ‘Building our Collections, Preserving our Heritage’ until 7 February; also see below, 2 Feb.)

8 Jan.: Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic, Lunenburg (902-634-4794) – **“Saturday Fun at Fisheries Museum: Tancook Whaler”** (Public program to see the Tancook whaler Amos H. Stevens under construction in the museum’s boat shop and to participate in other ongoing activities – free admission.)

19 Jan.: Museum of Natural History – **“Places Less Travelled – Remote Areas of China”** (7:30 pm – An illustrated talk by Yau-Sun Tong, from the Photographic Guild of Nova Scotia, on the people, culture, and landscapes of remote regions of China and the Ngari area of western Tibet.)

25 Jan. to 20 Feb.: Neptune Theatre – **“Cat on a Hot Tin Roof”** (A classic play by Tennessee Williams; for information on timing and tickets, phone theatre box office: 429-7070.)

26 Jan.: Museum of Natural History – **“Focus on Winter Photography”** (7:30 pm – An opportunity to join award-winning photographer Stephen Scott Patterson to see his incredible images of winter and learn about the methods employed – of value to anyone interested in outdoor photography!)

1 Feb.: Maritime Museum of the Atlantic – **“A Maritime Life of Service”** (7:30 pm – Join Carole Thornton, doctoral candidate in maritime history, on the role of women during the Age of Sail from the 1840s to the early 20th century, unique on-board vocations such as the captain’s wife or stewardess of the captain’s family and officers.)

2 Feb.: Museum of Natural History – **“Susanna Francklin returns to Nova Scotia”** (7:30 pm - An illustrated talk by Scott Robson, curator of history collections, on the recent acquisition of the 1762 portrait of Susanna Francklin, its artist John Singleton Copley, and the artifact’s historical connections with Nova Scotia; also see above, 2 Jan.)

7 Feb.: Museum of Natural History – **“Antibiotic Use on the Farm: Implications for Human Health”** (7:30 pm – An illustrated talk by Dr. Kevin Forward of the Faculty of Medicine, Dalhousie University, that examines the problem of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in farm produce and the need for an evidence-based perspective on the use of antibiotics on the farm. Presentation in co-operation with the NS Institute of Science.)

8 Feb.: Maritime Museum of the Atlantic – **“Able Seaman William Hall VC, RN”** (7:30 pm – William Hall, born in 1827 in Nova Scotia, was the first African-Canadian to win a Victoria Cross. Join David States, Parks Canada, for his illustrated presentation of the compelling story of AS Hall and his outstanding accomplishments in 1857 on HMS Shannon in Lucknow, India. See also the Exhibit entitled “The Victoria Cross of William Hall”, on display throughout February.)

9 Feb.: BIO-OA Executive Meeting -- (10:00 am, 4th Floor Ron Trites Boardroom, BIO – for additional information contact: Don Peer, phone 857-9268 or e-mail d.peer@ns.sympatico.ca)

12 Feb.: Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic, Lunenburg (902-634-4794) – **“Saturday Fun at the Fisheries Museum: The Grand Banks Fisheries”** (2:00 pm - A slide presentation on the Banks fisheries in the Ice House theatre, followed by a visit to the aquarium and indoor exhibits – free admission.)

16 Feb.: Museum of Natural History – **“The Volcanoes of Greece”** (7:30 pm – An illustrated talk by Dr. David Piper, Geological Survey of Canada (Atlantic), BIO, and Dr. Georgia Pe-Piper, St. Mary’s University, that explains the origin of the volcanoes of Greece and how volcanism in the eastern Mediterranean is a consequence of the collision of Africa with Europe over the past 25 million years! Presentation co-sponsored by the Atlantic Geoscience Society.)

17 to 20 Feb.: Exhibition Park – **“Halifax International Boat Show”** (Three days of boating fun including wooden and fiberglass sailboats and powerboats, nautical displays ranging from equipment - sails, electronics to diesel engines – to educational lectures and the unveiling of the newly restored 4.2 m Beinn Bhreagh dinghy, built in 1916 at the Bell Estates Laboratory, plus boat-building demonstrations – a must event for all boat aficionados!)

23 Feb.: Maritime Museum of the Atlantic – **“Sir Samuel Cunard and Nova Scotia Lighthouses”** (7:30 pm – An ‘exposé’ by John Langley, President of the Cunard Steamship Society, to show that Samuel Cunard not only founded a famous steamship line, but was also deeply involved in establishing lighthouses in his role as a Commissioner of Lighthouses for Nova Scotia. This illustrated talk follows activity reports of the NS Lighthouse Preservation Society presented at 7:00 pm.)

26 Feb. to 22 May: Art Gallery of Nova Scotia – **“Rodin: A Magnificent Obsession”** (A complete retrospective of Auguste Rodin’s [1840-1917] career that includes more than 60 bronzes from small studies to monumental works. For additional details, phone: 424-7542.)

13 Feb.: BIO-OA ‘Winter Celebration’, BIO – **“Peggy of the Cove: A Legend Brought to Reality”** (2:00 p.m. – A special guest lecture by Ivan Fraser, author and painter, on the legend of Peggy and his quest for information that culminated in the publication of his book “Peggy of the Cove”, with social before [start: 1:30 p.m.] and after [3:00 – 4:00 p.m.] the talk).

2 Mar.: Museum of Natural History – **“Perilous Plants: Poison Plant Awareness”** (7:30 pm – Botanist Marian Munro and staff from the IWK Poison Control Centre review the plants in Nova Scotia’s fields and forests that are harmful, and what to do if a poisoning is suspected.)

7 Mar.: Museum of Natural History – **“Filling the Void – Discovering Life Beneath the Seas”** (7:30 pm – Join Dr. Ellen Kenchington, Director of the Centre for Marine Diversity and research scientist with Fisheries and Oceans Canada, to learn about recent discoveries from the world’s oceans including two new phyla of tiny animals [Loricifera and Cycliophora], a deep-sea coral reef off Cape Breton, and a new species of beaked whale, and several species of coelacanth – amazing discoveries from the last frontier on Earth. Presentation in co-operation with the NS Institute of Science.)

8 Mar.: Museum of Natural History – **“Kayaking in Atlantic Canada”** (7:30 pm – An illustrated journey into the sea-kayaker’s world of intriguing plants and animals presented by Dr. Scott Cunningham, one of Canada’s premier sea-kayakers and marine naturalists.)

12 Mar.: Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic, Lunenburg (902-634-4794) – **“Saturday Fun at the Fisheries Museum: The S/V Bluenose”** (2:00 pm - A special lecture and slide presentation on the Bluenose in the Ice House theatre, followed by a visit to the aquarium and indoor exhibits – free admission.)

23 Mar.: Museum of Natural History – **“The Rocky Planets: A Geological Field Trip through the Inner Solar System”** (7:30 pm – An intergalactic geological field trip by Dr. Simon Hanmer, Geological Survey of Canada – Ottawa, of the ‘rocky planets’ comprising Earth and its Moon, Mercury, Venus and Mars – all made of rocks, yet all different! Presentation co-sponsored by the Atlantic Geoscience Society.)

23 Mar.: Maritime Museum of the Atlantic – **“Lighthouse Equipment from the Golden Age of Lightkeeping: A Hands-On Demonstration”** (7:30 pm – Museum curator Don Conlin and members of the NS Lighthouse Preservation Society will demonstrate the secrets of lighthouse equipment and explain how light keepers lit their lamps and sounded their fog horns in the era when Nova Scotia had over 200

manned light stations. Talk follows reports of recent NSLHPS activities that begin at 7:00 pm. – all welcome.)

30 Mar.: Museum of Natural History – **“Birding: The Organized Co-operative Approach”** (7:30 pm – The first of a four-part ‘50th Anniversary Talk Series’ organized by the Nova Scotia Bird Society on the history and purpose of birding in Nova Scotia with Dr. Ian McLaren, of Dalhousie University, reviewing the important contributions made by Nova Scotians over the last 50 years. The remaining three lectures are scheduled for 6, 13 and 27 April.)

**BIO-Oceans Association’s “Winter Celebration”
Special Seminar and Community Social**

OPEN TO BIO-OA MEMBERS & NON-MEMBERS

Main Auditorium, 4th Floor, Bedford Institute of Oceanography
1 Challenger Drive, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

Sunday, 13 February 2005
(open social 1:30 pm; lecture 2:00 pm)

**PEGGY OF THE COVE:
A Legend Brought to Reality**

Speaker: Ivan Fraser

Mr. Ivan Fraser, author, painter, photographer and art gallery owner/curator, is one of Atlantic Canada’s foremost authorities on the maritime history associated with “Peggy” of Peggy’s Cove, St. Margaret’s Bay, Nova Scotia. Mr. Fraser will review events — fact and fiction — of the wonderful legend of Peggy, about the shipwreck on Halibut Rock and the tragic loss of life that occurred, about Peggy, her rescue and life in the Cove. But how did the little orphaned girl receive her name? And how did the Cove come to be called Peggy’s Cove? Some think the name Peggy’s Cove already existed and Peggy was named after it. Others believe it came from an abbreviation of St. Margaret’s Bay. Whatever the truth about the origin of the Cove’s name, two versions of the legend of Peggy exist. One describes Peggy as a young woman when rescued, whereas the other is of a little girl who washed ashore too young to remember her name and called Peggy by the family that took her in. What both versions have in common is the fact that folks in the area would say: “Let’s go to see Peggy of the Cove”, and thus derived the name “Peggy’s Cove”!

Come and join us on Sunday, 13 February 2005, for this enlightening and eye-opening seminar on the nature of the legend of “Peggy” by Ivan Fraser, author of the recently published book “Peggy of the Cove: A Legend Brought to Reality”.

See you there to learn a little bit about Peggy and life in the Cove. The lecture is at 2:00 pm, but there will be time available before (1:30-2:00 pm) and after the lecture (3:00-4:00 pm) to talk to Ivan Fraser, and ask specific and/or general questions about the history of Peggy and Peggy’s Cove.

For additional information call: David Nettleship (ph: 826-2360; e-mail: dnnlundy@navnet.net). There is a voluntary fee of \$1.00 per person to help offset the costs of the refreshments: juices, tea and coffee along with a selection of cookies and cake.

The Bedford Institute of Oceanography Oceans Association was established in 1998 to foster the continued

fellowship of its members; to help preserve, in cooperation with the Institute's managers and staff, BIO's history and spirit; and to support efforts to increase public understanding of the oceans and ocean science. Membership is open to all those who share our objectives. Most current members are present or past employees of BIO or of the federal departments of Environment, Fisheries and Oceans, and Natural Resources (or their predecessors) located in the Halifax Regional Municipality. Membership is \$5.00 per year, \$25.00 per half decade, or \$100.00 for a lifetime membership. Payment for membership renewals should be sent to: Ms. Betty Anderson, Treasurer, 79 Flamingo Drive, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3M 1T2. For further information, contact any of the current executive or other members listed below.

HELPFUL HINTS FOR COMPUTER USERS: EASY LABELS – MICROSOFT WORD

By Lisa O'Neill

I too have been there, ruler in hand, attempting to add sixteenths of inches, holding up labels sheets and my fiftieth printout to the light while trying to line up labels on my computer. Great news! Help is on the way. While into the depths of Microsoft Word for completely unrelated reasons (isn't that how we all discover great things), I hit a gem - an auto label template creation, good for most of styles of labels and manufacturers!

Using Microsoft 2000 (although it also works on older and newer versions), under the "Tools" tab at the top, there is a feature called "Envelopes and Labels". I had always assumed that this was for mail merges and never explored the option. Although the feature is meant for mail merges, it is also a wonderful way to set up label templates.

Within the "Envelopes and Labels" selection, choose "Labels" and afterward "Options". There, you may select the label manufacturer and the item type (e.g., Avery standard – 5261 address). After selecting all the options required, and returning to the initial "Label" screen, select "New Document" after determining whether or not you want all the labels to be the same or different. Voilà a new template and document is created and ready to go. From my long experience setting these silly things up the long way, this method is far more accurate at lining up on the printer as well.

Happy addressing!

THE MEMBERS CORNER: DON LAWRENCE – MAN ON THE MOVE

By Michael Latremouille



Seagoing oceanographers have an adventurous streak, and Don Lawrence is no exception. He joined our Association in 2002 upon retirement from BIO after 35 enjoyable years as a seagoing physical oceanographer.

Halifax born and raised, Don developed a love of sailing and the ocean at an early age, but oceanography was not yet a career option at Dalhousie University when he went there in 1953. "I was interested in mechanical sorts of things," says Don, who later changed his major from engineering to physics. He graduated with a masters degree in physics in 1959 and left shortly after to pursue doctoral studies in low-temperature physics at the University of London, England.

Don claims it was purely coincidental that he joined the competitive sailing team at the University's Queen Mary College shortly upon arrival. In those days, students could sail for little cost while the University built and maintained the sailboats they used. Don graduated in 1964 and returned shortly after to run a graduate physics laboratory at Dalhousie University. In 1967, Canada's centennial year, he did return to London to wed Miss Pauline Tarbox, whom he had first met sailing. Pauline was also on the University's sail team and a botany student at Queen Mary College at the same time as Don. The Lawrences have two daughters – Rosemary and Carolyn – about whom we have more to say a little further on.

BIO had been established while Don was away at University, but it piqued his curiosity and before long he managed to land an interview with first Earlston Doe and then Ced Mann, and in 1966 he accepted a job as a Physical

Oceanographer and was tasked with developing longer lasting, more capable deep ocean, instrument moorings.

Oceanographers everywhere were intent on developing better moorings in the late sixties and there existed a friendly competitiveness between institutions. Don remembers with fondness the hard work and frequent cruises making field measurements, analyzing data, and developing current meters used by other scientists in arrays.

Moorings could only record about a month of data in those days before they had to be replaced and this meant that he participated in cruises every month or so to recover and replace them, often from the “Halifax Line” that runs from Sambro to the edge of the continental shelf. This work could be dangerous because the ship could slip out of position in the time it took to recover a mooring under strain. Don and other scientists made suggestions to ease the work that were incorporated into the design of the CSS *Dawson* and its sister ship, the *Parizeau*. These ships were built with fully open starboard halves that would allow the scientists and technicians to recover a mooring line under strain by moving it from the bow to the stern without interruption.

Don recalls with affection some of his memorable early managers such as Commander Ian Farquharson (OBE), a distinguished hydrographer who enjoyed an extended career with both the British Hydrographic Service (1921-1956) and the Canadian Hydrographic Service (1956-1966). Don was much impressed with the Commander’s great devotion to the tasks at hand and with the extensive writing he did at the end of each busy day at sea despite his age.

Don became increasingly involved in “operational oceanography” in the seventies and

.....concluded on page 12

eighties and, as a member of the DFO Regional Environmental Emergency Team (REET), he played lead roles in responding to the spills of the tanker Arrow and the oil freighter Kurdistan. Other career highlights were the seminal current measurements he made in Cabot Strait and Halifax Harbour. As an emeritus scientist, he has been involved with archiving the position and sensor data from the Argos satellite to MEDS (DFO’s Marine Environmental Data Service).

Don and Pauline like to travel and they have enjoyed trips to Western Canada, England and Europe, Florida, Texas, Los Angeles, and even Indonesia where Pauline undertook a CIDA project for environmental management training in the mid-nineties. Don is very active in community theatre, especially the Dartmouth Players, and keeps up his sailing interest by crewing on a yacht each year.

An event that occurred last year has now kick started Don and his family’s taste for adventure and new beginnings. That was the birth of their first grandchild, Phillipa, on June 1, 2004, in Whistler, BC, where their daughter Carolyn and her husband Nigel live. Their other daughter, Rosemary, is currently an Information Technology manager in London, England.

During the holidays this year, a big decision was made – and its not known who decided first: both Don and their eldest daughter Rosemary, who wants to return to Canada, have separately decided to up and move lock, stock, and barrel to British Columbia. We can’t miss those precious first years say the doting grandparents and aunt. It’s never too late to embark on an adventure says Don – let’s get a move on.

Don and Pauline will be moving to Squamish, midway between Vancouver and Whistler, at the head of Howe Sound, probably in early summer. They plan to sell their lovely waterfront home and double lot on the Dartmouth side of Halifax Harbour – feel free to contact Don at 465-5917 for more information.

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