



BIO - OCEANS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Issue 1

October 1998



Quote

Nobody climbs mountains for scientific reason. Science is used to raise money for the expedition, but you really climb for the hell of it.

Sir Edmund
Hillary

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the BIO-Oceans Association. I hope, with your help, this will grow to be a lively and prosperous association where members can continue or renew friendships. We already have had several joint projects with BIO, and plan to continue if the Association feels it can contribute in a positive way. A picnic which was our first event proved to be a very successful and most enjoyable by all those in attendance. We plan more social activities in the fall and over the winter months. How active the Association becomes depends upon you, the members. I hope that many of you will come forward to organize activities which are of special interest to you. The executive can help you with suggestions and the membership list.

We still are actively looking for other employees of BIO. As well, we have the names of some 60 staff but do not have their addresses, hence have been unable to inform them about the Association.

Please pass on this newsletter to other former employees who may be unaware of us. Hope to see you at our next event.

Bob Reiniger

WE NEED A NAME FOR OUR NEWSLETTER!



Have you noticed that we do not have a name for our newsletter yet? WE NEED YOUR HELP! Please send suggestions to our mailing address at BIO, leave them in the box at the front desk (BIO) or call Bob Reiniger at 477-9833 or Don Locke at 835-5209.

Please submit your suggestion(s) with your name. Identification will be removed prior to passing all suggestions over to a panel of judges. A prize will be awarded to the person who provides the winning contribution. Deadline for submission is October 21, 1998.

AUGUST 11TH PICNIC

Those members who were not able to make the August 11th picnic missed a very pleasant gathering and some terrific food! The weather could have been better, we had a shower or two, but were still able to chat with friends and one-time colleagues we would not have seen otherwise. Members of the staff at Fairbanks Center went out of their way to accommodate us, which was certainly appreciated. Hopefully, we will be able to arrange a few gatherings over the fall/winter/spring months, perhaps to include a guest speaker, or musical entertainment. If you have any ideas, do not hesitate to call your Program/Event Coordinators Ted Smith at 826-2059 or Jackie Dale 466-2584.

COCKTAIL PARTY



A cocktail party will be held on Friday October 16, 1998 (06:30 to 08:30 PM) on board *HMCS Sackville*.

HMCS Sackville, docked at the foot of Sackville Street behind the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, has been made available to members of the Association and their guests for a cocktail party. Cost will be \$15.00 per person. Drinks and sandwiches will be included.

The *Sackville*, a WW II corvette, is the last remaining corvette of the 121 operated by the Royal Canadian Navy in WW II. The vessel has been restored by the Canadian Naval Memorial Trust, is on display each summer and receives 50,000 visitors each year. It has been designated as a historic monument and is well worth a visit. The vessel was used by BIO during the 60s and early 70s for hydrographic and scientific work. Many of BIO's retired personnel sailed in her during this period.

You are invited to attend this social event! If interested, please send your money order or cheque (payable to the BIO-Oceans Association) to the Association office at BIO no later than October 8, 1998. We cannot accept payment at the door. If you have any problems or other questions, please contact Ted Smith at 826-2059, Betty Anderson 443-2573 or Jackie Dale 466-2584 / 429-9497.

A GLIMPSE OF THE PAST

BIO opened in 1962 with Dr. William Ford as its first Director. His secretary was Vivian Kerr. There were five groups who reported to the Director.

G.W. LaCroix; Regional Hydrographer

Dr. C.R. Mann; Regional Research Oceanographer

Captain J.S. Horan; Regional Ship Officer

Dr. R. L. Gilbert; Head, Engineering & Technical Services

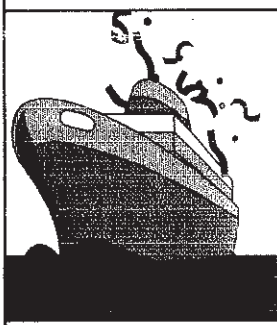
S. H. Scott; Administrative Officer

Over the next several issues the staff employed under these managers will be covered. If you can contribute anything toward this column, please contact Bob Reiniger.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON PERSONAL NEWS AND STATISTICS

It might be nice for each of us to know more about what is going on within our retirement community. The editors would be happy to publish any information received about our own members or any other retirees, e.g., births, deaths, marriages, employment, moves, travel, etc. A quick call or short note will be sufficient, and perhaps allow all of us to maintain a closer touch with one another. Remember that this newsletter will be published every three months, i.e. October, January, April and July. The deadline for submissions will be the 25th of the previous month. Let's hear from you!

TRAVELLERS' CORNER



As a result of information on questionnaires and several casual chats, it is clear that many of our members are very interested in travel. Some naturally would prefer to travel on their own, but several seem to be interested in a group undertaking.

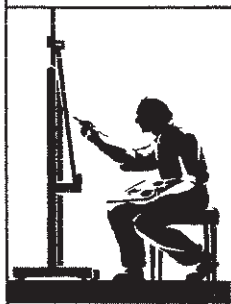
With this mind, we would like to get together with all those who are interested in any kind of travel, be it local day tours, or longer trips on a provincial, national or international level. Soooooo.., if you are interested, we need to know.

Please let Jackie Dale know (466-2584) before October 10 to place your name on the travel telephone list. We can then plan to meet before the end of the month at one of our houses for coffee, and investigate the possibilities for travel over the next year. International travel especially will have to be planned well in advance.

We are also hoping that this is one activity in which our out-of-province members will be able to share with us. Thus, if any of you who do not reside in the area would like to spend some time with us locals, we want to hear from you too. Even if you are not able to get to a meeting, we will put you on our list and be sure to keep you up to date regarding any ideas or plans.

Please, all interested parties give us a call. If we do not hear from you, we will assume you are not interested in any form of trip/travel. But let's hope you are, it could be great fun!

HOBBIES



Interested in getting together to share and exchange information and ideas about your hobbies: gardening; woodworking; painting; tole painting; decorating; collecting model building/ship; wine/beer making etc. etc? Please call Gordon Bowdridge at 865-7530. Let's get organized and explore our untapped/hidden talents!

EQUIPMENT ARCHIVES

The Association is interested in preserving and recording the history of BIO. One aspect of this is in recording the existence of and preserving marine science equipment and technology that has been used and developed at the Institute over the past years.

Anyone interested in this and able to attend a future meeting to further discuss the possibilities of how and when this could be done are asked to contact Keith Manchester at 861-3509 or by e-mail at K.Manchester@ns.sympatico.ca. Respondents will be contacted with a tentative meeting date to be scheduled in November.

BIO ARCHIVES by Anna Fiander

A student worked this summer at BIO organizing the material from 80 cartons, which had been left by retiring staff. The material was sorted into eight broad categories:

- . Internal Publications
- . Personal Papers
- . General and Historic Information
- . Dr. W. Bell Dawson
- . Old Oceans Records
- . Special Projects
- . United Nations
- . Ship and Cruise Information

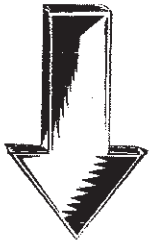
A Chronology of events of BIO was updated and put into electronic format. We received advice from the N.S. Public Archives about the organization and storage of the materials.

We need copies of "BIO World" issued after 1976. We also need copies of the newsletter published on board the *Baffin* and *Hudson*. I understand that these were "house" newsletters concerning events of the cruises, and not many were issued. If members of the Association have copies of these, please contact me at the BIO Library.

Our future plans include:

- Continue collecting material
- Expand the Archives to include photos
- Expand the Archives to include equipment
- Find a permanent office at BIO for material
- Put up BIO Chronology on our website

I am looking forward to working with the Association on this project. I think a BIO Archive has been needed for some time, and I am pleased with the progress, which was made this past summer.



Questionnaire:

Please take a minute to complete the enclosed questionnaire & return to us ASAP.

We need your input to the future activities of our Association.

BIO OPEN HOUSE

BIO will be hosting its first Open House in eight years on October 22 – 25. A showcase of over 50 exhibits depicting the various research activities being carried out at the Institute, along with a lecture series with topics ranging from the ever popular “Titanic”, to “How Many Fish Are There in the Sea”, is sure to offer something for everyone. On opening day BIO will provide tours to students throughout the Province. This will be followed on Friday with a “Clients Day” wherein BIO’s past and present clients/partners will be invited to come and interact with staff while enjoying a private viewing of the displays. These clients include representatives of the fishing, ocean and oil and gas industries, as well as those from industry in general and academia. Finally, BIO will show its “stuff” to the local community on Saturday and Sunday when the doors will be thrown open to the general public.

Want to be a part of it? For more information, please check out the Open House Website at <http://dfomr.mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/open-house-98/>. The Association will contact some of you for volunteer work during the Open House.

THE HUMOUR COLUMN

Have you ever heard the little ditty that children sing “There’s a hole in the bucket, dear Liza, dear Liza”? well, to make that little chant fit this story, we would have to replace the word “bucket” with another word!

THE VANISHING CARPET

As many of you know, back in the 70s the CCGS Baffin (now based on the West Coast) had a very pleasant and comfortable wardroom, in which officers and scientific crew spent many of their off-duty hours.

Once upon a time, in that same wardroom, several spots appeared (origin unknown) on the carpet. Initial attempts to remove the spots were unsuccessful. Dr. Roger Pockington, a member of the BIO scientific contingent on that particular trip, was requested to do what was necessary to remove the spots, which he did, using isopropyl alcohol. Unfortunately, this powerful solvent also dissolved the synthetic-fabric carpet. The steward’s memorable words to Roger, as he applied the solvent were “Look Sir, it’s MELTING.....!”.

Note: It is only fair to mention that had the carpet been made of wool, or cotton, all would have been well, and only the spots would have disappeared. Many thanks to Roger Pockington, who agreed to the publication of this story in our newsletter, and supplied pertinent details.

Do you know a story about one of your friends or colleagues, which we could use for our future editions? If you will tell us about it, we will publish in our newsletter, and make sure that the person about whom the story is told gives his/her permission to publish.

OUT OF THE FOG – “The challenges of steering a true course through the world of electronic environmental information” by Paul Boudreau

Many different persons, organizations and agencies are presently interested in ensuring the long-term health of our coastal environments. One of the key components to reaching any such goal is access to good information. This is true for managers, researchers, residents and especially those that earn their living in the coastal zone. The explosion of computers and the Internet now provide everyone with computing and communication power that is rarely tapped to its full capacity. Anyone with a PC and a modem can surf the web for information from around the world, send and receive e-mail in minutes and access data, often for free, from countless locations.

This has been a boon to many who are computer literate and have the skills required to do the searches. To many more, the myriad of data, information, commercials, sites, etc., provides an impediment to getting the required information, in a useful format in a reasonable time. This is in spite of many initiatives by government and others to provide data and information to the public. Obviously something more is required other than just “putting it on the web”.

To address this problem for a small region of the world, the Gulf of Maine, a workshop, entitled “OUT OF THE FOG”, is presently being planned. The purpose is to identify and work towards an effectively electronic environmental information exchange system for the Gulf of Maine. It hopes to identify what is needed, what is missing and what might be required for a useful and active exchange among interested people.

The workshop is sponsored by a large number of interested groups including scientists, managers, educators, fishermen, government agencies, business and community groups and other parties interested in responsible stewardship of the Gulf of Maine system. It is hoped that through this broad sponsorship, sufficient interest and support can be developed to carry out focused work towards a common goal of increasing our shared understanding of aquatic habitats.

How is this relevant to the BIO-Oceans Association? One of the most often neglected components of such a grand vision are the people. Even with the best computer system and best databases, the system does not exist without the people to ask their questions, share their knowledge and apply their skills. I don't mean computer techies, I mean the people who have a question about the mud flats, whales, salt marshes, estuaries, etc. The people that make up the BIO-Oceans Association have long experience with such questions, and the information that can be used to address them. With a simple commitment to answer one or two questions from a high school class, members may be able to provide a unique function that would benefit the system as a whole. I put the question to you as to what opportunities may exist for this partnership.

By this note I would like to cordially invite the participation of the Association in the Workshop and hopefully in the activities that result. The workshop is scheduled for November 4-6th, 1998 in Boston, Massachusetts. Anyone interested in additional information is encouraged to contact:

Paul Boudreau
Marine Environmental Sciences Division, Science Branch
Department of Fisheries and Oceans
Bedford Institute of Oceanography

BIO-OCEANS ASSOCIATION

QUESTIONNAIRE

The number of responses we received from our previous questionnaire is very limited. **We need your input to the future activities of our Association.**

Please complete & mail to our address:

BIO-Oceans Association

PO Box 1006

Dartmouth, N.S. B2Y 4A2

Or leave in the box at the front desk of BIO or Fax to 902-429-9491

Name: _____ please, fill out your name so that we may contact you for further information.

1. **NEWSLETTER** We need reporters! Would you be interested in participating?

Please check : Yes _____ or No _____

2. **MATERIAL FOR PARTICIPATION IN BIO HISTORY RESEARCH** Please check if you can contribute the following items:

Photo _____ ; Posters _____ ; Research papers _____ ; Physical items _____

3. **BIO PROGRAMS & SOCIAL EVENTS** Please check interest in the following:

Conferences _____ ; Open House _____ ; Parties _____ ; Picnic _____

Other (please specify) _____

4. **ASSOCIATION SOCIAL EVENTS** Please check any special interest

Walking, hiking _____ ; Biking _____ ; Crafts _____ ; Local tours _____ ;

Travel : Provincial _____ ; National _____ ; International _____

Cards: Bridge _____ ; 45s _____ Crib _____

5. **INVITED SPEAKERS** Do you think this is worth investigation? Yes _____ or No _____

If yes, suggested topics:

Science _____ ; Investment _____ ; Retirement _____ ; Crafts _____

Others (please specify) _____

6. **COMMUNITY EVENTS** Are you interested in active support of school programs, charity events, etc? Yes _____ or No _____

If yes, suggested topics:

School tutoring _____ ; School speaker _____

Charity (please specify) _____

Others (please specify) _____

7. **OTHER COMMENTS**

Are you interested in organizing any of these events? Yes _____ or No _____

Thank you!

