



BIO-OCEANS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As noted in the last issue of the Newsletter, Michael Latremouille has taken on the duties of editor-in-chief of the Newsletter. I would like to express our gratitude to Linda Seto who worked so diligently as the first editor of the Newsletter. I hope that she will continue to contribute when she can.

I also express our thanks to Carole Broome who has worked with the BIO library for the past three summers in establishing paper archives of BIO. She noted the incredible amount of support that she received from members of the BIO Oceans Association (see her report on page 6).

The first presentation of a BIO-Oceans Association Recognition Award should be made in May 2001. The criteria for this award are provided in this newsletter (page 2). Plans are being made to have an artist commissioned to create a unique symbol for this award that can be presented each year. It is important that all members of BIO-OA and current staff of BIO prepare nominations for the first recipient. It is hoped that we will have a good number of nominations in hand early in the new year.

It is with some relief that I can finally report that BIO-OA is now registered with the Registry of Joint Stock Companies of Nova Scotia. Although this registration appeared to be a simple process, it was not! After many revisions of our by-laws and memorandum of association we were finally acceptable. We even have a tax number! My sincere thanks to Betty Anderson, John Lazier, and Michael Latremouille who all worked on this task.

We are at the early stages of preparing a proposal for an issue of a Canadian postage stamp to recognize BIO as a nationally and internationally important scientific institute. This concept was enthusiastically endorsed by managers and directors of the BIO Tuesday Club at a recent meeting held with the president of BIO-OA. We encourage members to contribute ideas and suggestions regarding this proposal.

Dale Buckley

BIO-OCEANS ASSOCIATION RECOGNITION AWARD

This award has been established with the following rationale:

Many individuals have contributed to establishing the Bedford Institute of Oceanography as one of the leading international institutes of ocean study. Contributions by staff over the years have been made in many aspects of program development and execution. Ship's crews have provided extraordinary skill and experience in carrying out expeditions in many difficult environments. Administrative personnel have often made it possible for projects to be successful in spite of unusual requirements. Technical personnel have made outstanding contributions to oceanography through adaptation and innovation. Scientists have made significant contributions to global knowledge of marine sciences.

The award is intended to have the following nature:

The BIO-Oceans Association award recognizes outstanding employees who have exhibited unselfish dedication to community spirit at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography. This award is to be made to an individual in any field, craft, or skill who has made exceptional contributions to the success of projects, initiatives, or programs, and whose contributions exemplify unselfish effort that encourages cooperation and fosters the team-work approach of the Bedford Institute of Oceanography.

[Extracted from the Report of the Subcommittee of the Association to review a proposal to establish a recognition award.]



THE TRAVEL CORNER

A Visit to Tancook Island

My daughter Tina and I spent two days in July on Big Tancook Island. Approximately three square miles in size, this quiet haven is reached by ferry from Chester, a 45-minute ride. The small island is home to about 200 people.

Houses are well-maintained, lawns are immaculate and well-manicured, and many residents have flourishing vegetable gardens. There are hiking trails and old roads through wooded areas and farmland, and abundant softwood and hardwood trees and wildflowers. The ferry from Chester (where there is adequate free parking for those visiting the island) makes regular trips and is the major link to the mainland, transporting people (both residents and visitors), food, building materials, fuel, etc. Roads are unpaved, but very well-maintained: hills are scarce and so the terrain is ideal for leisurely walking or biking. The island also boasts a small but very comfortable B & B, a restaurant which serves mainly fast food, a general store, a small museum, and a volunteer emergency response team (serviced by helicopter).

If you are looking for a very pleasant place to spend a day (or two), and enjoy quiet pleasures (e.g., the ferry ride, walking or biking), this could be a perfect choice. As we browsed through the small, old graveyard beside the Baptist Church, we tried to imagine the stories behind some of the old headstones. People on the island were very friendly. We attended a Craft Sale and Flea Market at the Recreation Hall (there is also a Herring Chokers Picnic held annually in August). Weather of course would be an important consideration. We noticed people of varying ages, with knapsacks and picnic lunches.

Tina and I really enjoyed our stay, and I thought it might appeal to some of you too. Up-to-date information (ferry schedules, etc.) can be supplied by Nova Scotia Tourism, and can also be found in the *Nova Scotia Doers and Dreamers Guide*.

Jackie Dale

A Trip to Ireland

[Editor's note: From time to time, we get news of what some of the people who worked part of their careers at BIO have been up to. We welcome such items and in fact all readers are invited to submit any such pieces for inclusion in the newsletter. For about 10 years until his retirement in 1997, Edward Sampson was the Atlantic Communications Manager for the Department of Natural Resources (formerly DEMR) and his office was located at BIO from 1987 through 1991. His wife Valerie and he travelled to Ireland in April 2000.]

We arrived at Shannon to be greeted by blooming dafs and pleasant faces. Our plan was to stay at Magowna House just outside of the town of Ennis the County seat for Clare. On arrival in the town after a most pleasant flight we realized too late that we had no Irish change for the parking meter. This problem was pleasantly resolved when the first person we spoke to gave us 70 pence and welcomed us to Eire. We spent three nights in Ennis and travelled each day to tour the countryside...the Cliffs of Mahor, Limerick, Kilross, Kilkee, Loch Derg, Tipperary, and more. We then went to Westport on the West Coast with a most fantastic trip through County Galway and the Connemara National Park. I have traveled the Scottish West Coast extensively and I would honestly compare Connemara with any region of the Hebrides. Both are wild and remote and home to some excellent fishing rivers. We spent three nights in Westport and toured the coastal areas plus travelled the complete circumference of lochs Nahooey and Mask. These areas offer great sport fishing opportunities for salmon, pike, trout, bream & tench.

The Saturday night of the Westport stay was spent in Hoban's Pub from 9 p.m. until 1.45 a.m. seated in the middle of the smallest room that ever held 75 people as we all drank pints and listened to traditional music. What a night! On Monday we moved on to the quieter waters of the Barrow River and the medieval splendor of Kilkenny, Carlow, Enniscorthy, and the battlefields of the 1798 uprising. My family is from this area, between Wexford and Wicklow. I fished the Barrow hard but luck was on the side of the fish. We returned to Ennis for our last night in the country to Magowna House and our new found friends from County Clare. Flew back to Boston and drove home the next day. Great people, great country, great trip!



Loch Mask, Connemara National Park, Ireland. [Photo and article by Edward Sampson.]

THE CIRCUMNAVIGATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND

[Editor's note: Ted Smith and his wife Betty recently took part in a 7-day marine expedition to and around Newfoundland, and we persuaded them to give us some highlights of their trip.]

The expedition was sponsored by Worldwide Quest International (Toronto), departing and returning to St. John's, Newfoundland, aboard the Russian vessel *P.V. Lyubov Orlova*, under the command of Captain Andre Skidanov.¹

The ship left St. John's Harbour on September 15th, and during the next five days travelled to some of the remote and not-so-remote areas of our tenth province. At all stops, the ship anchored offshore, and passengers were transported by Zodiac to and from the selected port. Between stops, passengers were treated to a variety of films, lectures, and stories on the province, covering culture, history, seabirds, confederation, outport resettlement, the marine environment, and wildlife.

The visit to *Terra Nova National Park* included stops at the Marine Discovery Centre, woodland walks, a boat tour, close-up views of bald eagles and majestic scenery, as well as a visit to the Interpretation Centre. Kittiwakes, herring gulls, and a single dolphin accompanied the ship as it approached *St. Anthony*. People were friendly, and guests were treated to an exhibit of rug hooking at the Sir Wilfred Grenfell Museum. At the Viking site of *L'Anse aux Meadows*, passengers were entertained by stories from local "Vikings" on the reconstructed Norse sod houses.

As the ship travelled overnight toward *Battle Harbour, Labrador*, passengers witnessed a spectacular display of Northern Lights. The buildings of Battle Harbour, the unofficial capital of Labrador during the heyday of the fishery there, have been refurbished by a private trust to give visitors a unique view into life at that time. Guided tours included the fish processing plant and the Grenfell Hospital. Humpback whales and killer whales (orcas) were sighted in this area.

The stop at *Gros Morne National Park* included guided tours of the Interpretation Centre, the Tablelands, and the town of Woody Point. Prince Edward once remarked that "Gros Morne is to geology what the Galapagos are to biology". Birdwatchers were surprised upon approaching *Port aux Basques* by the visit of a Savannah sparrow and an immature Baltimore oriole, fluttering around the deck. A blue whale was also sighted. A large number of the 175 inhabitants of the town of François greeted the passengers as they stepped ashore. Hiking afforded magnificent views. A Newfoundland "time" (party) was held in the evening, with all thoroughly enjoying the homemade goodies and the dancing.

After an animated and interesting lecture on the French Islands, passengers enjoyed shopping, lunch, and a bus tour around the island of *St. Pierre et Miquelon*. Passengers disembarked in St. John's on the morning of the 22nd September, with a much deeper insight into the province of Newfoundland, its beauty, its culture, and its people.

Ted Smith and Jackie Dale

¹ The vessel is an ice-strengthened Russian research vessel of 4500 tons that carries 120 passengers. It is crewed by Russian personnel except for the marine expeditionary staff of lecturers. The *P.V. Lyubov Orlova*, chartered to Maritime Expeditions Incorporated, normally conducts cruises to the Arctic and Antarctic.

PERSONALS

Obituaries

J. E. "Jack" Creeper, Group Captain DFC CD (retired), passed away August 26, 2000, at the QEII, Halifax. After a distinguished career in the RCAF, Jack joined DFO in Halifax where he remained until his retirement in 1979. Our thoughts are with his wife Sheila and family.

Marcel Neri Saulnier died at the Yarmouth Regional Hospital September 6, 2000. A one-time lobster fisherman, he was also a seaman aboard the *CSS Baffin* for many years. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to his wife Ruth and members of his family.

Elizabeth Scriven, passed away at Oakwood Terrace, Dartmouth on April 4, 2000 at the age of 96. Born in Moser River, she was mother to one of our own members, Rose Cameron. Rose, please accept our deepest sympathy.

Charles Joseph Stingle died September 13, 2000, at home in Lakeside at the age of 78. He worked at the BIO as a cook aboard the ships, and was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion. Sincere sympathy is extended to his family

E. Kenneth Weaver, of St. Bernard, Digby County, died August 25, 2000, in Halifax, at the age of 80. A veteran of WWII, Ken spent 22 years as an engineer with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. To his wife Josephine and family, we extend our deepest sympathy.

BRIAN NICHOLLS: FIRST RECIPIENT OF THE H. B. NICHOLLS AWARD

The objective of the Coastal Zone Canada Association (CZCA), formed in 1994, is to promote and facilitate the development of coastal zone management in Canada for the purpose of protecting and improving the quality of our coastal waters and marine communities.

This year, the Board of Directors established the H. B. Nicholls Award "for significant contribution to the field of coastal zone management in Canada". The CZCA further conferred upon Brian the added honour of naming him the very first recipient, for the leading role he has played in the coastal zone management field, and his continued steady influence upon and dedication to the CZCA.

Those of you who know Brian well will agree that his reliability, dedication, modesty, and sincerity make this man the ideal choice for the award. Congratulations, Brian, from all of us, for this double honour. It is well deserved!

A REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Many of you will remember Captain Dave Deer, Master of the *C.S.S. Hudson* 1974-1979. Captain Deer passed away in 1988. His brother Stephen is researching the captain's seagoing experiences in the Arctic, and is soliciting our help. If any of you, our members, can assist him, with information of any kind – either stories of a personal nature, or specific information regarding his trips to the Arctic - please contact Dale Buckley or Jackie Dale. If you would rather correspond directly with Stephen Deer by e-mail, his address is yewtree@madasafish.com . Any effort on behalf of Dave's past friends and colleagues would be greatly appreciated.

ARCHIVES PROGRESS REPORT (SUMMER 2000)

For the third consecutive summer, the Bedford Institute of Oceanography Library hosted a summer student (Carole Broome) to continue work on the expanding Bedford Institute of Oceanography Archives. During her summer term with the Library, the Archives Researcher received an incredible amount of support from the members of the BIO-Oceans Association. It is her genuine hope that a friendly and productive relationship will continue to grow between the Archives and the BIO-Oceans Association in the coming years.

The Archives Researcher was asked to prepare a report on the history of the art at the BIO. This is the first time that the Archives material has been used for such a purpose. The Archives Researcher sees the preparation of such historical reports/briefs as a new opportunity through which the BIO Archives may become more visible to both BIO staff and the general public.

The Archives Researcher believes that the number of Archival accessions will grow exponentially in the next few years as a result of retirements in the BIO community. She strongly believes that the retiring members of the BIG community will willingly donate their papers to the Archives, providing that management continues to show its physical, emotional, and financial support for the Archives project. The most pressing concern regarding the Archives is the lack of a permanent and secure display area. This has been the major obstacle preventing concerned retirees from donating their papers to the Archives.

Carole Broome [report prepared for BIO "Tuesday Club" Management Committee]

WHY ENGLISH IS HARD TO LEARN

Let's face it -- English is a crazy language. There is no egg in eggplant nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat.

We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig. And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth beeth? One goose, 2 geese. So one moose, 2 meese? One index, 2 indices?

Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend, that you comb through annals of history but not a single annal? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it? If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? If you wrote a letter, perhaps you bote your tongue?

Sometimes I think all the English speakers should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane. In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell? Park on driveways and drive on parkways? How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites? How can overlook and oversee be opposites, while quite a lot and quite a few are alike? How can the weather be hot as hell one day and cold as hell another?

Have you noticed that we talk about certain things only when they are absent? Have you ever seen a horse-drawn carriage or a strapful gown? Met a sung hero or experienced requited love? Have you ever run into someone who was combobulated, gruntled, ruly or peccable? And where are all those people who ARE spring chickens or who would ACTUALLY hurt a fly? You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which an alarm goes off by going on.

English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race (which, of course, isn't a race at all). That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible. And why, when I wind up my watch, I start it, but when I wind up this essay, I end it.

[Attributed to Kevin Daniels, PhD - Procept, Inc. - Cambridge, MA]



Long before the BIO-Oceans Association was formed, this group of BIO ladies met informally but regularly to socialize and mark special occasions such as retirements. Today, they still do! This particular photo dates from the 1980s. How many of these ladies can you identify?
[For the answer turn over the text to the right]

Answer:
Moving from left to right in the back row we have: Celesta Gallant, Doris Macdonald, Shirley Furlong, Parker, Joan Guilderson, Veronica Brown, Evelyn Penney, Carolyn Frost, and Alberta McGorman.
From left to right in the front row are: Stella Jones, Betty Anderson, Connie Isnor, and Sharalyn Fraser.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT – SEPTEMBER 30, 2000

In our third fiscal year, membership is holding constant in the 130 range. In 1998/99, 17 members did not renew but we gained 12 new members bringing our total membership to 136. For this fiscal year ending April 30, 2001, two life memberships were awarded, 97 members renewed, and 2 new members joined, bringing total membership to 101 with 40 members who have not renewed.

In recognition of the fact that it is easy to overlook renewing one's membership, we introduced a more flexible structure allowing members to renew annually for \$5.00, renew every 5 years for \$25, or renew as a life member for \$100. We ask members to check their membership cards: if the expiry date on your card says April 30, 2000, you are in arrears and need to renew your membership. We certainly do not want to lose you. The Association's policy is to continue mailing the newsletter to members in arrears for one year. With this issue of the newsletter, we have regretfully discontinued sending them to the 17 non-renewals from 1998/99.

We are pleased to welcome Earl Doe of Ottawa as a new member and Bosco Locarevic as our second life member. (It was Bosco who initially proposed establishing this category of membership.) Note that membership dues can be mailed to the Treasurer of the BIO-Oceans Association, Betty Anderson, at 79 Flamingo Drive, Halifax, N.S. B3M 1T2.

Betty Anderson

SOCIAL EVENTS

Summer Barbecue

Due to inclement weather the summer barbecue, planned for August 17th, had to be postponed until the 18th. In spite of the short notice, 33 members were still able to come and enjoy a beautiful day. However, we missed the 13 others who could not attend the second date because of previous commitments. Vivian and Shiri Srivastava generously offered their home on Lake Charles for the barbecue, and several members assisted them in the preparation of a sumptuous feast of lobster, steak, salads and dessert. The lobster, purchased that morning in St. Margaret's Bay, was fresh and sweet, the steaks tender and very large, the salads tasty and the desserts delicious.

There was no lack of conversation – it was so good to see everyone, to renew old acquaintances, and to bring each other up to date on recent travel, current activities and health. The weather also co-operated, and we had a marvellous day. The beautiful setting and the superb food were the perfect added touch. A very sincere 'thank you' to the Srivastavas for helping to make this day such a success.

Jackie Dale [Photos opposite by Michael and David Latremouille]

(See photos opposite): Vivian and Shiri Srivastava hosted the Association's barbecue this year in the back yard of their lovely home. Some of those attending the event held on the lovely afternoon of Friday August 18th are pictured at right. Even Keith Manchester put forward his best leg for the occasion. (Keith broke the leg in a fall from the roof of his Fall (?) River home!)



Cicero: The six big mistakes of man

- The delusion that personal gain is made by crushing others.
- The tendency to worry about things that cannot be changed or corrected.
- Insisting that a thing is impossible because we cannot accomplish it ourselves.
- Refusing to set aside trivial preferences.
- Neglecting development and refinement of the mind, and not acquiring the habit of reading and study.
- Attempting to compel others to believe as we do.

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