

# BIO-OCEANS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Issue 15, April 2002

On the web at: <http://www.bedfordbasin.ca/main.html>

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## THE PRESIDENT'S FORUM

By Dale Buckley

It is difficult to comprehend that two years have passed since I assumed the presidency of BIO-OA. My perspective is that this is the end of the second chapter in a long and enjoyable book. A review of this chapter reveals that we have made considerable progress in developing our character and plotting our course.

Over the past two years we have made some considerable progress in raising interest in preserving historical aspects of BIO. We now have the beginnings of a paper archive in the library, thanks in large part to Carole Broome and other library staff. The library now has an Archivist/ Librarian, Marilynn Rudi. We also have a desk and "office" that can be used for reviewing and cataloguing photographs that are of historical interest to BIO. Under Mike Gorveatt's supervision, an equipment or hardware archive storage area has been established and will be maintained by Bruce Wile (NRCan).

On the social calendar we note that we had some great success in having a number of members participate in the canal boat tour in England (2000), and we have found that a good number of members enjoy our summer picnic gatherings. We also note that our lectures with wine and cheese at BIO during the winter have been well attended.

Establishment of the Beluga Recognition Award, and presentation of the first award to Roger Belanger in 2001 was a highlight. Stay tuned: there are more to come. We are most pleased that many of our members and the current staff of BIO have very positively endorsed this award and the criteria for selection of the recipients.

Over the past two years our newsletter has expanded and become a "polished" publication. This is thanks to the efforts of our editor, Michael Latremouille, Jackie Dale, and a few behind-the-scenes associates.

The members of the Executive Committee have been a delight to work with since establishment of our association. Betty Anderson has done a masterful job of looking after our financial records, and has seen our membership and assets grow substantially. Jackie Dale always seems to be available and willing to look after our social activities as well as a number of other tasks. Clive Mason and a cadre of vice secretaries have maintained our records in excellent condition. My thanks to all of the executive for your enthusiastic support of BIO-OA.

A new president will assume the chair at the Annual General Meeting in May, and there may be a few other changes in the Executive. I know that our association will continue to grow and prosper. ✦

## CCGS HUDSON—“A SNAPSHOT OF HISTORIC FIRSTS”

By Capt. Richard Smith  
(December 2001)

CCGS *Hudson* is one of Canada's foremost deep-sea, multi-disciplinary science ships. She was built in 1963 by Saint John Shipbuilding and Drydock Ltd. of Saint John, New Brunswick, at a cost of 7.5 million dollars. She was originally operated by the Federal Department of Energy Mines and Resources out of the world renowned Bedford Institute of Oceanography in Dartmouth Nova Scotia. Over the years' *Hudson* has been funded and managed by several Federal Departments which have evolved into the present Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO). Originally the “flagship” of the DFO Science Fleet, the *Hudson* came under the management of the Canadian Coast Guard after the merger of the two fleets in 1996.

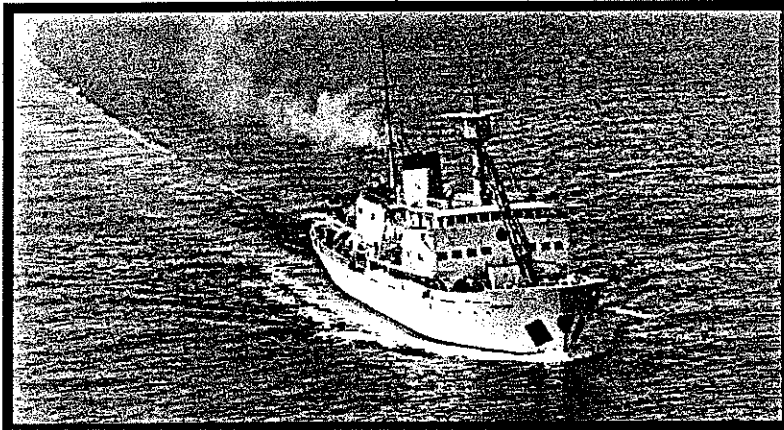
*Hudson* is named after the explorer Henry Hudson, who organised and led 4 expeditions in the Arctic in his search for a short route to China. The *Hudson* was the first Canadian ship specifically designed for Hydrographic and Oceanographic research. She

was designed by Gilmore, German and Milne of Montreal and built in 1963. Her commissioning took place in February of 1964. The ship is 296 feet in length and 50 feet in the beam. The ship has a displacement weight of 4800 tons and is powered by 4 Alco diesel engines coupled to 4 direct current electric generators which drive 2 propellers. The *Hudson* has a top speed of 16 knots and a cruising range of 15,000 miles.

*Hudson's* first major mission was in 1965 to Hudson Bay. This involved an intensive survey of the floor of the bay by scientists from BIO, the Geological Survey of Canada and the Observatories Branch, Energy Mines and Resources, and six Canadian universities. Industrial concerns also participated. Information obtained on this mission was deemed to be some of the most valuable to that

date. Also in 1965 a PDP8 computer was installed on *Hudson*, making her one of the first ships in the world to have an on board computer. This year also saw the first year that women sailed on the *Hudson*. They included scientists Charlotte Keen, Joleen (Aldous) Gordon, and Janet Eaton.

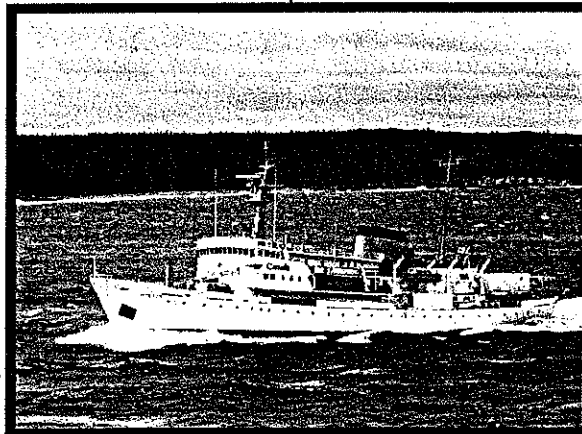
In 1966, *Hudson* conducted the first winter oceanographic survey in the Labrador Sea, starting a process of collecting data about the water column and the sea bed. Presently, *Hudson* still makes its annual pilgrimage to the Labrador sea to continue this research.



During the year of Canada's centennial, 1967, *Hudson* travelled to Expo 67 in Montreal where she was open to the public. In 1968, she received a state of the art Satellite Navigation System (Transit). She was the first ship outside of the US military to be navigated by satellite.

On November 19, 1969, the CCGS *Hudson*, under the Command of Captain David Butler embarked on a circumnavigation of North and South America. Known as “Hudson 70”. Organised by Chief Scientist Dr. Cedric Mann, the voyage began at BIO in Dartmouth and then south along the Gulf Stream, into the Caribbean, down the coast of South America and into the waters of Antarctica. During the voyage down the East Coast of the Americas, scientists studied all sorts of marine life including such diverse species as whales and plankton to mid depth fish. Christmas was spent in the South Atlantic with a stop in Rio de Janeiro, and later a staff change took place in Buenos Aires. Off the southern tip of South America studies were conducted into the west to east speed of the Antarctic

tic Current. A reverse current (east/west) was also discovered. Visits were made at Admiralty Bay and Deception Island in Antarctica. She sailed up the 150-west meridian of the Pacific Ocean with a stop in Chile to study currents in a fjord. In the South Pacific, *Hudson* scientists discovered and named the Hudson Peak and Deep areas previously undetected. *Hudson* visited Tahiti during the voyage in the Pacific. Along the 150° west meridian, the absorption of carbon dioxide into the ocean was studied. By late August of 1970, *Hudson* entered the Beaufort Sea and scientists studied the geology of the sea floor. Off the Mackenzie River, *Hudson* spent 4 weeks doing transects from the shore to the ice edge some 130 miles offshore. By September 1970 she was enroute across the Arctic via the Prince of Wales Strait and Melville Sound to Resolute. *Hudson* completed her circumnavigation on October 16, 1970 in Halifax after steaming some 58,000 miles. Over 122 scientists in total participated at various stages of the voyage. As the ship was heading down the Labrador coast towards home, the Newfoundlanders on board pointed out that if they went through the Strait of Belle Isle she would not have circumnavigated the Americas. So plans were altered at the last minute and the ship went out around Newfoundland. The *Hudson* is believed to be the first ship to circumnavigate the continents of North and South America.

CSS *Hudson* circa 1984

In 1971, *Hudson* hosted scientists on a significant and first joint geological and geophysical cruise in the Gulf of Maine and Bay of Fundy. Scientists from the Geology and Geophysics Division at BIO were lead by L.H. King and Charlotte Keen. The survey assessed the bedrock and basinal structure of the region. Results of the mission led to the publication of significant maps of the seabed and subsurface, some of which were used to bolster our case in the later border dispute between Canada and the United States in the George's Bank Region; by assisting in the determination of the Hague Line Boundary.

In 1972, the *Hudson* was conducting research on the Grand Banks of Newfoundland when they were called to rescue the crew from a burning fishing vessel near the Southeast Shoals. January 1973 saw the *Hudson* make

the first winter run along the Halifax to Bermuda transect. This 3 year project collected data on various environmental variables (both natural and contaminants).

Another rescue took place in March of 1976 when *Hudson* and her crew rescued 18 crew members from the Fisheries Patrol Vessel "Cape Freels". The winds were gale force that day and it was blizzard like conditions when the Cape Freels caught fire and began taking water through her portholes. The crew had to abandon into the lifeboats. *Hudson* was nearby conducting research and responded to the distress call rescuing the crew from certain peril. Also in 1976 during a passage from the Arctic to Halifax, the *Hudson* encountered a terrible storm in the Labrador Sea. A heavy wave smashed out the windows of the Officers Lounge one deck below the bridge. The lounge was flooded out and emergency repairs were needed. The square original windows were replaced with round portholes still in place today.

In early 1980, the *Hudson*, on mission 80-010 conducted the first geological survey of the Eastern Grand Banks. This occurred shortly after the discovery of significant hydrocarbons at the Hybernia well site. Results of the survey delineated the distribution of iceberg furrows across the Grand Banks and identified thin sediment over the tertiary bedrock. This led to intensive surveys over the

next twenty years to assess the risk to hydrocarbon production by icebergs and foundation conditions for both gravity platforms and pipelines.

Once again in 1980, the *Hudson* embarked on another notable voyage of circumnavigation. This time it was around North America via the Panama Canal up the Pacific Coast and after a stop in Victoria, on through the Arctic to Halifax. The ship was under the command of Capt. Lorne Strum, one of the longest serving masters of the *Hudson*. She returned to BIO in November of 1981.

Between 1980 and 1984, *Hudson* played a major role in the international research on the feasibility of the disposal of high level radio active waste in deep sea sediments.

In February of 1982, the Drill Rig *Ocean Ranger* capsized and sank in a violent storm off Newfoundland. The *Hudson* was involved in the Search and Rescue activities surrounding that disaster. *Hudson's* crew recovered several bodies from the *Ocean Rangers* crew and took them to St. Johns. In March of 1982 the *Hudson* embarked on another major science mission to the Norwegian Sea and the Greenland Sea with the furthest latitude north being 79 45 N. This was of course at a time of the year when the weather was at its worst.

During 1983-1984, *Hudson* was host to the testing and final delivery of the "Seabed 2 Deep Ocean Mapping System". The Seabed 2 System was a joint government/industry technological development project with Huntec 70 Ltd.. The project aim was to build and deliver a deep ocean seabed mapping system and extend the tools designed for continental shelf depths for use in the deepest depths of the ocean. During the 1984 cruise the system performed flawlessly and was towed to its design depth of 2000 meters. Components of the system were later used during the search for the Titanic shipwreck. Gordon Fader was the Chief Scientist.

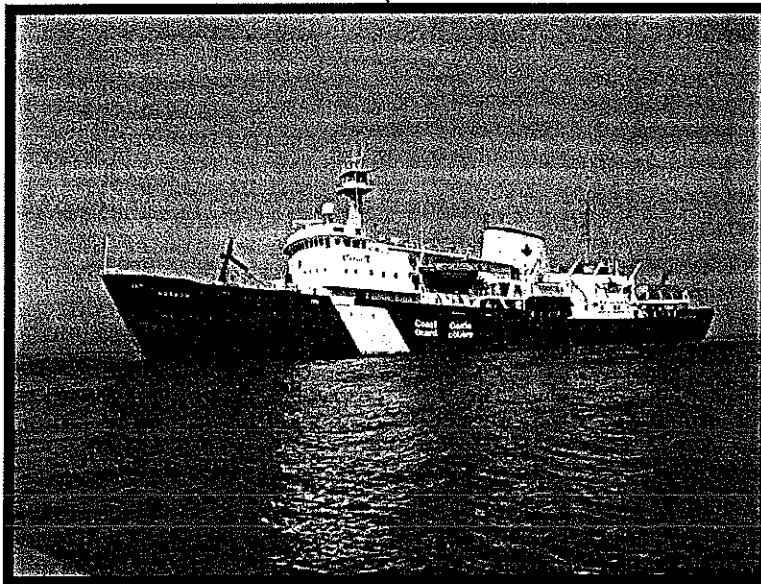
In April of 1987, the *Hudson* responded to a distress call from the cargo ship "Skipper 1". Her cargo of crushed cars had shifted in heavy weather and the ship took water through her spurling pipes and down flooded her holds. The Skipper 1 started to sink and the crew had to abandon ship. *Hudson* rescued all 24 of her crewmembers.

The very next year on April 28 of 1988 the *Hudson* was conducting research in mid Atlantic about 0200 in the morning when the 2<sup>nd</sup> Officer David Morse sighted what appeared to be an explosion on the horizon. The ship proceeded with all speed towards the glow in the sky which turned out to be some 40 miles away. They found the tanker "Athenian Venture" in two pieces and on fire. The

*Hudson* under the command of Capt. Lorne Strum steamed perilously close to the burning vessel, often through oil slicks and flames to search for survivors. Only one crewmembers body was ever found. The *Athenian Venture* burned for over 3 weeks.

In 1993, the *Hudson* ventured to Greenland for an oceanographic expedition. A decision was made to enter a fjord on the far north-eastern coast of Greenland. Multi-year ice and large icebergs were present. The vessel was badly holed in the ice leaving a 15 foot gash in the starboard side just inches from the engine room. Danish Naval divers, who had to be flown in by helicopter, inspected the *Hudson* in the fjord. After a hull inspection the *Hudson* carefully limped out of the fjord and was escorted to Iceland by the Danish Navy for emergency inspection and repairs.

From 1997 to 1998, the *Hudson* was assigned to a major Hydrographic mission to chart Rankin Inlet and Chesterfield Inlet in Hudson Bay. This marked the first time the area had been surveyed since 1926. This was done for the purposes of enabling tankers and other shipping to bring supplies into those communities. In 1998 and 1999 the ship was used to conduct research around the new Hybernia Platform off Newfoundland and at various sites on Sable Island Bank to determine the biological effects of drilling and production



CCGS *Hudson* circa. 1999

wastes released during normal oil drilling operations. Also during those years the *Hudson* was used to investigate the immediate and long term effects of otter trawling on the sea bed habitat on Western Bank. The ship worked in collaboration with the *Alfred Needler* (1998) and the *Teleost* (1999). In 1998 *Hudson* was also used to assist with the Swiss Air disaster off Peggys Cove. The ships video and sidescan equipment was used to study the bottom at the sight. In 1998, the *Hudson* was involved in a field experiment to determine the immediate and long

term effects of hydraulic clam dredging on the seabed habitat of Banquereau Bank. This was a joint project with industry and the ship worked in collaboration with the fishing vessel Atlantic Pursuit. Research continued in subsequent years.

From 1999 to 2001, the *Hudson* continued to conduct benthic surveys of the Eastern Gully area near Sable Island where deep water corals have been found. In 2000 live specimens were collected from the Gully and this was a first in scientific collecting for the ship.

As with any recollection of historic events, time obscures the facts. Indeed history is created in the "eye of the beholder". What is certain is that the *Hudson* and all those who sailed on her have made their marks in history both in feats of seamanship and scientific excellence. For those that follow in the proud tradition of the *Hudson*, a knowledge of the ship and the events of her past will enable them to more fully appreciate the significance of the ship and the labours of her scientific staff and crew. ♦

## ARCHIVES UPDATE

By Marilyn Rudi

I would like to introduce myself to the Oceans Association community. I am Marilyn Rudi, the new archivist at BIO. My actual job title is Archivist/Librarian, as 50% of my time is devoted to library duties. I began working at BIO October 2, 2001, after spending 12 years at the Biological Station in St. Andrews, NB, as Head of Library Services. I took a spousal relocation leave to accompany my husband to Dartmouth where we moved in July. My husband is a marine biologist by training and the new Director of Marine Programs at World Wildlife Fund, Atlantic Canada. My family (we have 3 children ranging in age from 7 to 14) has gradually adjusted to big city life after leaving the small village of St. Andrews, and we're liking Halifax/Dartmouth just fine!

I am finding my new position very interesting and challenging. Summer student Carole Broome did a first rate job in the past four summers, collecting, organizing, and classifying a very valuable collection of archival material. I am lucky to have such a solid foundation to build upon. For those of you who know Carole, you will be pleased to hear that she has successfully completed her Masters degree, and has accepted a position in Ottawa with the federal government. She will be a Junior Analyst with the Social Policy Branch of HRDC in Hull. Her responsibilities will include monitoring long term social

policy changes in areas such as health, justice, etc.

I am taking a series of workshops offered by the Nova Scotia Council of Archives that will lead to a certificate in Archival Studies. These courses are helping to orient me to both the theories and practices of archives, as I start to write policies and establish procedures for the BIO Archives.

The Archives is participating in the BIO-Oceans Association Open House display with a computer presentation of key moments in BIO's history, illustrated with appropriate images from our large collection of photos and slides. Drop by the Association's booth during Open House and discover BIO's remarkable history!

If you have any questions or concerns about the archives, or if you have material you are interested in donating, please contact me at 426-3683 or [rudim@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:rudim@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca). I'm especially interested in recruiting more volunteers to help identify people, places, and dates in our many unlabelled photo albums, slides, and photographs. ♦

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

APRIL 2, 2002

By Betty Anderson

We presently have 154 members. Five members have not renewed and their names will be struck off on April 30, 2002 unless their fees are received.

We are pleased to welcome nine new members: Art Collin 613-236-31476 Rao Durvasula 902-463-7804; Michael Gorveatt 902-861-2717; Vi and Art Parsons 902-435-3776; Kevin Robertson 902-423-3082; Karen Scott 905-337-2364; Betty Tillman 902-860-1978; Don Waldron 203-254-2891. Please add to the 2001 telephone list. [Kevin is a life member and Art Collin and Karen Scott, RN, are five year members.]

Total fees collected, 1998 to 2002, (including donations and US/UK currency exchanges): \$2,753.90  
Total fees prorated, 2003 to 2022: \$2,245.00  
TOTAL: \$4,998.90  
Membership fees for 2002/03, (May 1/02 to April 30/03) are due. The 2002/03 membership is 99.

REMINDER: Please advise me at 902-443-2572 or [bettyvanderson@hotmail.com](mailto:bettyvanderson@hotmail.com) of any address and/or email change, and/or typing errors!! ♦

## FINANCIAL REPORT—APRIL 2, 2002

By Betty Anderson

OPERATING FUND	\$	FOUNDATION FUND	\$
Membership Fees:	4,998.90	Expenditures:	5,070.41
Socials:	558.36	Cash in Bank:	<u>405.88</u>
Bank Interest:	<u>123.17</u>	Total:	<u>5,476.29</u>
Total Income:	5,680.43		
Less Expenses:	<u>1,048.25</u>		
	4,632.18		
Five GICs/ Savings Accounts:	<u>4,289.09</u>		
Cash in Bank	<u>343.09</u>		

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

**M**y uncle was in the fertilized egg business when I was young. He had several hundred young layers, called pullets, and 8 or 10 roosters whose job was to fertilize the eggs.

My uncle kept records and any rooster or pullet that didn't perform well went into the pot and was replaced. Now this took an awful lot of time and so, when my uncle saw a set of eight tiny bells that each rang a different tone, he promptly bought them.

He glued a piece of foam rubber to each clapper shaft so the bell wouldn't ring except when violently shaken. He hung a bell on each rooster's neck and went and mixed a Mint Julep.

Now he could sit on the porch and sip while filling out an efficiency report on the roosters by listening to the different tones of the bells and marking down each encounter.

My uncle's favourite rooster was old Brewster. A very fine specimen he was and his bell did not ring all morning. Uncle went to investigate.

Several roosters were chasing pullets, bells a ringin'. Brewster had his bell in his beak so it couldn't ring. He'd sneak up on a pullet, do his job, and walk on to the next one.

Uncle was so proud of Brewster, he entered him in the county fair. Brewster was an overnight sensation. They not only awarded him the No Bell Prize but also the Pullet Surprise. ✦

**T**he European Commission has just announced an agreement whereby English will be the official language of the European Union rather than German, which was the other possibility.

As part of the negotiations, Her Majesty's Government conceded that English spelling had some room for improvement and has accepted a 5-year phase-in plan that would become known as "Euro-English".

In the first year, "s" will replace the soft "c". Certainly, this will make the sivil servants jump with joy. The hard "c" will be dropped in favour of the "k". This should klear up konfursion, and keyboards kan have one less letter.

There will be growing publik enthusiasm in the sekond year when the troublesome "ph" will be replaced with the "f". This will make words like fotograf 20% shorter.

In the 3rd year, publik akseptanse of the new spelling kan be expekted to reach the stage where more komplikated changes are possible. Governments will nkourage the removal of double letters which have always ben a deterrent to akurate speling. Also, al wil agre that the horibl mes of the silent "e" in the languag is disgrasful and it should go away.

By the 4th yer peopl wil be reseptiv to steps such as replasing "th" with "z" and "w" with "v".

During ze fifz yer, ze unesesary "o" kan be dropd from vords kontaining "ou" and after ziz fifz yer, ve vil hav a reil sensibl riten styl. Zer vil be no mor trubl or difikultis and evrivun vil find it ezi tu understand ech oza.

Ze drem of a united urop vil finali kum tru. ✦

**PETER VASS TO RECEIVE THE  
2002 BELUGA RECOGNITION AWARD  
FROM THE BIO OCEANS ASSOCIATION**

The second recipient of the BIO-OA Beluga Recognition award is Peter Vass. Following in the tradition begun with last year's award, Peter embodies many of the characteristics described in the criteria set up for this award as revealed in the career highlights encapsulated below.

Peter grew up in Ellerslie, Prince Edward Island; following in his father Stan's footsteps he attended the University of New Brunswick graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology in 1970. Peter, as did his father, worked as a summer student for the Fisheries Research Board (FRB) in St. Andrews and did his first environmental work with John Sprague. The Red Herring Crisis (elemental phosphorous in Long Harbour and Placentia Bay, Newfoundland contributed by the Electric Reduction Company) struck in February 1969 and that summer Peter worked long hours on it under the direction of Vlado Zitko. This crisis, the largest and most prolonged acute pollution episode in the Canadian Atlantic area to date, caused major destruction in Placentia Bay fisheries eliminating most of the herring spawning run. For over 8 months it consumed the staffs of the Federal Resource Development Branch and the FRB Laboratories of St. John's, Halifax, BIO (MEL) and St. Andrews who worked intensively on identifying the problems and means to overcome them. Far from daunting Peter, this experience apparently revealed to him how all-consuming and demanding of initiative such a crisis could be and whetted his appetite for more.

Upon graduation Peter joined the new Environmental Quality Unit of the FRB Marine Ecology Laboratory at

the Bedford Institute of Oceanography working first for Steve Kerr, then Gareth Harding - an association that has persisted to the present. Tasked with studying the fate and effects of organochlorines in the marine environment, Peter was presented with an early opportunity to develop new equipment. With the design of holding chambers for experiments on zooplankton-phytoplankton OC uptake and loss, his talent for combining technical expertise with scientific understanding of a problem emerged. There's been no stopping him since! In the mid to late 70s, as a member of the St. Georges Bay ecosystem study group, he designed and modified plankton nets and sorting machines, and created traps for collecting organisms moving either up or down in the water column. Later, in the 1980s, he developed a revolutionary electronic trawl for larval lobster research. His involvement in the CESAR project, through the 1980s and early 1990s, resulted in his taking his plankton traps to the Arctic pack ice and his development of specialized gear ranging from winches and sleds to styrofoam toilet seats. The 1990s brought a return to St. Georges Bay for a more extensive organochlorine study and the design of rain traps and snow melting devices. His participation in research cruises to study the impacts of mobile fishing gear and release of drilling wastes on the continental shelf led to yet another legacy of innovations in equipment for sampling and imaging seabed habitat and communities. In this century, Peter is conducting field research on methylmercury biomagnification in the Bay of Fundy and continues to be part of the deep-sea trawling impacts study which has evolved to include deep-sea coral research and habitat mapping.

The application of his mechanical, technical and scientific abilities has resulted in his playing a central role in design, fabrication, maintenance and deployment of a va-



riety of oceanographic sampling equipment used at BIO. His leadership in coordinating field efforts in all of these research programs has resulted in highly successful applications illustrated by such suggestions as the appropriateness of the BIO-developed bottom video grab (which he helped construct) for deployment in the CCGS Parizeau survey operation in support of the recovery of Swiss Air Flight 111 wreckage.

In conclusion, two direct quotes in particular, from the many statements made in support of Peter's nomination, exemplify his general nature and attributes. These in part were:

"I had the good fortune to work with Peter on the domoic acid toxic mussel scare of 1988-89. We were trying to find what was responsible for the deaths of several people who had consumed P.E.I. mussels. Armed with clues from Dr. Hanic of U.P.E.I. and with great assistance from DFO fisheries officers on the Island, we sampled many of the bays and inlets of Prince Edward Island for over a month (in January and February). The weather conditions were very harsh – blizzards, wind-chill of -40C and either thick ice or freezing, choppy seas. Peter's humor, hard-working, cooperative nature, knowledge of local geography and



ability to fabricate equipment enabled us to sample through 3 feet of ice and keep going 18 hours every day. He knew the specialty of every restaurant in each town, who to get hold of to get things done and how to talk to people to ensure their enthusiastic assistance. It was one of the most fulfilling projects I have been involved with at BIO and Peter was instrumental to its success."

"I have worked closely with Peter Vass for about fifteen years on the development of experimental scientific research equipment for benthic studies. Peter participated in and contributed to all phases of our endeavors: initial concepts, design implementation, construction, testing & debugging and field operations. Whenever a task came within the scope of his very wide-ranging skill set he would do it, usually unasked. It's a fact that only after I'd worked with Peter for some years that I found out that he was a career biologist. This is because he does so many things so well: machining, woodworking, welding, hydraulics, electrical work, etc. Also, Peter is absolutely essential to the preparation, organization and execution of the cruises. There are employees who are bigger than their jobs, people whose contributions belie their place on the org-chart; Peter Vass is one of these." ♦

## CEILIDH AND POT LUCK SUPPER DEFINITELY A BIG SUCCESS

*By Jackie Dale*

Although the attendance at this event was not quite as high as we had hoped it would be, those of us who did attend had one great time. Ron and Mary Macnab were terrific hosts and, as usual, the food was delicious. We really do have fantastic cooks in this organization of ours. Maybe we should think about providing one of these great recipes in each newsletter!

The Celtic music provided by Sheamus and Ryan MacNeil was thoroughly enjoyed by all, and it was an extra special treat to have our own Al MacDonald play along with them for part of the time.

Many thanks to Ron and Mary for suggesting and offering their home to us for this very special evening.ö



## BIO OPEN HOUSE UPDATE

By Jackie Dale

Our Open House exhibits are nearly ready. We are exhibit number 62 and we hope you will get a chance to visit us there as well as to catch up on what other people in the Institute are doing these days. If you can, you may wish to attend the one-hour Opening Ceremony beginning at 9 a.m. on Thursday April 25. Our president, Dale Buckley, is the MC for this event as he was for the last Open House.

Among the things you can see at the BIO-OA exhibit are:

⇒The first hydrographic chart prepared at BIO: a handout providing more detailed information on hydrography will also be available for those interested in receiving it.

⇒A Power Point presentation covering some of the most important events in BIO's history.

⇒A replica of the Beluga Award launched last year. The first recipient was Roger Belanger and this year the award will be presented to another deserving candidate – Peter Vass.

⇒An archival display of old oceanographic gear. This display will also give you the chance to test your memory on gear and other topics so be sure to pay us a visit.

⇒A photographic montage featuring images taken at some BIO-OA activities as well as photos of trips or activities submitted by some of our members.

In addition, Roger Belanger will be at the Open House doing what he does best – photography. He plans to document a single family as it moves from one exhibit to another.

Several members have volunteered to work at our exhibit as well as at various other points along the open house route. We hope to see you there. ✦

## OBITUARIES

**Daniel Joseph Casavechia** died December 30, 2001. Danny was a well-known and popular employee of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans in Halifax for 43 years.

**Catherine E. "Kaye" Gillis** died on January 12, 2002, after a lengthy illness. Kaye, a retired employee of Transport Canada in Moncton who worked at BIO for several years, was a member of our association,

**Ronald Leslie Hannaford** passed away January 12, 2002, at 80 years of age. He worked for the Department of Fisheries and Oceans as a fisheries officer out of Shubenacadie, retiring in 1985.

**Peter Frederick Kingston** passed away February 22, 2002, at the age of 74. Peter was employed with the federal government for 28 years, first with Atomic Energy

of Canada and then with the Bedford Institute of Oceanography. During his years of service, he was awarded several patents for his inventive research.

**Shirley Anne Lyons**, 59, passed away January 12, 2002. Shirley was employed for 33 years with the federal government, ending with her retirement from the Bedford Institute in 1997.

**James A. MacDonald** died March 26, 2002, at the age of 81. He worked for over 30 years with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, both on land and at sea.

**Roy Sparkes** passed away peacefully January 11, 2002, at the age of 60. Roy worked in the Program Support Group in the Atlantic Geoscience Centre. ✦

## FROM THE DESKTOP ...

By the Webmaster

It is spring – when an old man's fancy turns to home repairs. Some of us are ready to grab a hammer and go to it. Others prefer to 'carefully plan' the project and here internet can help. There are many web sites dealing with every aspect of home repair and I have selected a few as a starter. They are accessible from the LINKS button (new) on the Navbar.

There was a time when one could dial a number and a nice voice would tell us whether the expected flight was on time or was delayed. The human is gone and the automated voice only tells us the scheduled time. But the Internet has stepped in and the Arrivals/Departure Information is now available in full detail on the web.

I have collected the links to "Flight Information for Canadian airports", wherever available. All 8 category I airports (more than a million passengers per year) and some of the 28 Category II airports have posted Arrivals/Departures information and they update it every few minutes. You can check whether your loved ones' flight departed Regina on time and when it is expected in Ottawa. On a stormy day you can roam across all the different airports and see how many flights are delayed – while you sit at home clicking the keyboard.

There is more new stuff on the Links page: Find out about "Polar Flights", a fabulous Map Collection, a different style of Museum presentation from France and an inspiring selection of articles, essays and book reviews. We also give hints how to use GOOGLE to search for ships, and in the process find that there are 67 sites dealing with Titanic. ✦

### ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION

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 annum, \$25.00 for a 5 year membership, 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 or to obtain a membership application form, contact any of the current executive members listed below.

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