

The Canadian Hydrographic Association  
Association canadienne d'hydrographie



# NEWSLETTER

\*\*\* April/May 1993 \*\*\*

Vol. 7, No. 3

## Canadian Hydrographic Association

### Central Branch

#### 1993 Executive

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## Central Branch Committees

Conference Workshop  
Terese Herron, Rick Sandilands.

International Members  
Sean Hinds, Larry Robbins, Sam Weller.

Conference Registration  
Keith Weaver, J. Campbell, T. Herron, Bob Langford.

Seminar  
Brian Power, Ken McMillan, Paola Travaglini.

Lighthouse  
Terese Herron, Jennifer Campbell, Andrew Leyzack,  
Paola Travaglini, Sam Weller.

NewsLetter  
Sam Weller, Jim Berry, Brian Power,  
Larry Robbins.

Wade Essay Award  
Andrew Leyzack, Sean Hinds.

Heritage Launch  
Sean Hinds, Jim Berry, Andrew Leyzack,  
Ken McMillan, Brian Power.

Social Events  
BBQ: J. Campbell, A. Leyzack, P. Travaglini.  
AGM: T. Herron, A. Leyzack, K. McMillan, B. Power.  
H2O: Earl Brown, Rick Sandilands, Brad Tinney.

Membership/Nominations/Elections  
Terese Herron, Jim Berry, Jennifer Campbell,  
Paola Travaglini.

CHA Central Branch — NewsLetter — April/May 1993

Notes from the Branch Vice-President

Spring is sprung, adrenalin is pumped, and the waft of morning air is filled with the smell of engine exhaust. No, this is not the Indy 500; it is dockside at many hydrographic hangovers installations. Such a life.

Last month I took this opportunity to reflect on the original objectives of our Heritage Launch Project, and this time I would like to do the same with the CHA organization. The objective is certainly not to build a boat; it is, however, to build knowledge.

When the CHA was founded in 1966, it was done for the purpose of guiding training programs for the civil service hydrographer. This does not pertain to today's needs but a similar role is realized. Information is dynamic; what one needs to know today will not be the same requirement tomorrow. The face of hydrography is changing fast; GPS, EC, RDBMS are no longer the property of R&D but are tools and products for the working hydrographer.

Knowledge through the availability of information is the resource to fuel personal development. Through our journal Lighthouse, in seminars and in workshops, the CHA endeavours to meet this goal.

Partnership is another of the movements afoot today, and the CHA is involved in this on a less tangible level. We have the involvement of our Sustaining Members — these companies support us in a big way — and each individual member can be thought of as a partner. In a less formal way there is the mutual respect and exchange of information between CHA and affiliated organizations such as the Hydrographic Society and the Canadian Institute of Geomatics, as they provide a source of information to promote professional development.

With all this said and done I will remind members of the upcoming Survey and Mapping Conference to be held in June in Toronto. At this conference there will be the CHA/GIAC Workshop on *Geomatics in the Marine Environment* as well as the CHA 1993 AGM. All good opportunities for members to get together and develop the personal contacts that can be as beneficial as the informational contacts.

— Sean Hinds.

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Next Meeting

We are invited to join the Company of Master Mariners of Canada in the Wardroom of HMCS York, Toronto, on Tuesday 18 May. A social time with sandwiches & beer/soft drinks begins at 17:00, the meeting at 18:00. The speaker is Ray Gibson, recently-retired Marine Adviser for the Ontario Government.

We are arranging a car-pool from CCIW, so give us a call. Or see you there!

Central Branch

Treasurer's Report to 21 April 1993

Balance forward 10 March 1993: \$ 1,003.63

Receipts

Membership Dues	\$ 457.27
CHA Shirts	42.49
Bonspiel receipts	1,660.00
Brochures [from Nat]	880.44
Awards poster [from Nat]	260.59
Bank Interest	1.49
	\$ 3,302.28
	\$ 4,305.91

Expenses

Conference seed money	\$ 965.00
Postage	176.29
Meeting	37.37
CHA Awards poster	260.59
Heritage launch expenses	217.00
Bonspiel expenses	1,853.10
Photo work	25.30
Bank Charges	5.50
	\$ 3,540.15

Balance 21 April 1993: \$ 765.76

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[Note: To assist the Editorial team, some Lighthouse income and expenditures (reported below) are handled by the Central Branch treasurer. The balance is held available and is passed to Lighthouse on request.]

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Lighthouse "Convenience" Account

Balance forward 10 March 1993: \$ 1,719.34

Receipts

Subscriptions	\$ 11.37	\$ 11.37
		\$ 1,730.71

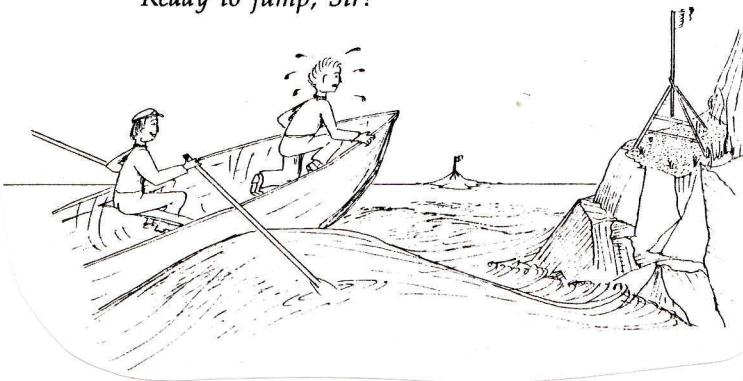
Expenditures

Postage	17.60
Photo work	\$ 58.85
	\$ 78.45

Balance 21 April 1993: \$ 1,652.26

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*"Ready to jump, Sir?"*



Minutes of General Meeting of CENTRAL BRANCH held on 21 April 1993

1) The meeting was hosted at Sam Weller's home: 4062 Lorraine Cr, Burlington. Sean called the meeting to order at 19:25, introduced everyone, and welcomed our visitors from Pacific and Ottawa Branches of CHA.

Attendees:

Sean Hinds - Chairman

Sam Weller - A/Sec.Treasurer

Sheila Acheson	Jim Berry	Doug Cartwright
Patti Dew	Brian Power	Paola Travaglini
Keith Weaver	James Wilcox	Brian Wingerter.

2) Minutes of the Mar. 10, 1993, General Meeting were available, and were circulated in the last newsletter.

- Moved J. Berry/B. Wingerter CARRIED

3) In Terese's absence [still in the Arctic], Sam presented the Treasurer's Report to date.

- Moved J. Weller/Keith Weaver

Sean said the \$965. advance to the Conference was to purchase a supply of Admiral Ritchie's book. This is a fascinating and enjoyable read, and Admiral Ritchie has agreed to sign these for sale at the Conference.

The Motion then... CARRIED

4) Launch: Sean said the boat is nearing completion at Gill Bibby's boat shop and should be in the water in two or three weeks. The planking is finished and caulking is starting. The boat will be painted white with black gunwales. The sails are ready and are quite impressive. Official "launching" will be 11 June, the closing day, as a finale to the CHS/CIG Surveying and Mapping Conference, after being on display in the Conference Exhibit Hall. Our first official Toronto 200 [ie 200 Anniversary] appearance is Sunday 25 April at Fort York as part of their period presentation. Sean reminded us that it was always hydrographers who led the way in successful naval invasions; it would be appropriate for our launch - hydrographer in action - to lead the way in future naval re-enactments.

Keith said the Conference Committee sees our Launch as a big focus, & considering featuring it in other ways.

Sean said that completing the launch commercially is adding \$7,000. to the cost. Of the total anticipated cost of \$30,000. we have raised \$18K. We still need to find at least \$12K; more if we are to have maintenance funds to pass on with the launch later. All cheques gratefully received and earnestly solicited.

5) Conference Registration: Keith said that the Registration package has been mailed out, with a good response already. He is now seeking volunteers to staff the Registration Desk during the conference. The Heritage Launch will be a key focus of the Exhibit Hall. Perhaps the Registration Desk could be entirely in period costume??? Delegates will get a voucher for one Heritage Launch stein; others will be for sale, as will autographed copies of Admiral Ritchie's book.

6) Seminar Committee: Brian said for our next meeting we are invited to join the Company of Master Mariners in the Wardroom of HMCS York [Toronto] on Tuesday 18 May. Their Social Time begins at 17:00, followed by a speaker at 18:00 and a short business meeting. All are welcome. We'll arrange a car pool from CCIW. The CHA AGM will be on 9 June during the Conference, as will the Directors' Meeting (8 June).

7) Membership: Paola said our paid-up membership now stands at 67: 36 In-house, 11 Out-house, 2 Student, 18 International. Six Sustaining Members have signed on with Central Branch for 1993: Atlas Electronic of America, EG&G Marine Instruments, Racal Positioning Systems, and Simrad Mesotech Systems have renewed. Our warm thanks to each of you for your continuing support. We also welcome C-Map/USA of Sandwich, Mass, and SeaBeam Instruments Inc. of E. Walpole, Mass, USA, as Sustaining Members. Welcome aboard!

8) Correspondence: Sean had copies of an interesting article: Canada Steamships Ltd has signed a contract with Offshore Systems Int [Vancouver] to equip 11 ships with electronic chart equipment... which means a big push by CHS to create 90 electronic chart files.

9) The business part of the meeting adjourned at 20:25.  
Moved K. Weaver/P. Dew CARRIED

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We adjourned for a beer break, then watched the video *Ships of Shame*, a BBC Panorama production exposing some of the outrageous dealings that have resulted in sunken ships, drowned seamen, sleek ship-owners. The classic note was surely the episode of the modern tanker whose bow fell off...

Altogether, this was an enlightening view into the world of Flags of Convenience, less-than-exacting Classification Societies, and surveyors who seem to miss serious defects.

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CHA 1993 AGM

The 1993 Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Hydrographic Association is from 16:00 to 18:00 on June 9 in the Nova Scotia Room of the Royal York Hotel, Toronto.

Enclosed with this newsletter is your Proxy and financial statement (National Account), and a draft agenda for the June 8 Directors' Meeting. If there are other items you would like to have discussed, please send them (and your comments) to us with your proxy.

All members and observers are welcome. This is your annual opportunity to make your voice heard!

Well, four months into the new year already! Horrifying! It would seem from comments I hear from Sam and others that 1993 is a very very busy but relatively lean year for us all. The need to "do twice as much with half the resources" seems to be a global malaise. My commiserations to fellow sufferers!

It's already been a momentous year for me, personally, having suffered an accident which put me in hospital for 3 weeks and off work for 7 weeks in all. We work in a dangerous environment, do we not... and of course observe all the safety precautions all of the time? I always do, especially in a dangerous environment such as ours, but then suffered my accident (involving the amputation and subsequent re-attachment of my big toe) at home when mowing the lawns – and of course NOT taking all the precautions that one should!

I maintain it was my wife's fault as she should have been doing the lawns... but that argument seems to cut little ice here! What made it worse was that a Canadian safety expert (a fellow member of the Nautical Institute) was visiting. I got a very stern lecture from "the little Canadian with the big voice"!! Fortunately I am now back in full working order and lasting effects will (hopefully) be minimal.

It is shaping up to be a busy and interesting year for Central Branch, too, especially with the launch of "The Launch". I was delighted to see that Admiral Steve Ritchie will be there to MC the great event, and I'm glad to hear there'll be autographed copies of his book available. His book *No Day too Long – an Hydrographer's Tale*, makes a very good read and should have pride of place in any hydrographic surveyor's library. The book nicely covers the days of traditional surveying and the move through to modern methods.

The admirable Admiral is quite a character and should help the event to be even more memorable. We International Members are sorry not to be able to participate more in it, but look forward to the reports in Lighthouse – and perhaps to seeing a video of the event? Hope it goes well, team.

Jack Wallace and THSOA (The Hydrographic Society of America) seem to be going well. They put out a most interesting newsletter (Thanks, Jack, for sending it).

It is good to hear that C-Map/USA have joined us as a Sustaining Member of CHA Central Branch. They are a wholly-owned subsidiary of C-Map srl. of Marina di Carrara, Italy, makers of C-Map electronic cartographic technology. Ken Cirillo mentions that they have played a major role in making C-Map the most widely-used electronic chart database worldwide. Welcome aboard, and thank you for your support.

Allan Dennison (RAN) – Australia – was last heard of doing a Staff Course in Sydney. Quite an extensive course I seem to recall. Hope it goes (went) well, Allan. Other 'buzzes' from Australia indicate that Hydrographic Surveyors there are moving towards formal accreditation and registration of some kind, and that the Hydrographic Office is about to move to a decentralized location in Woolongong (some miles along the coast south of Sydney and in a fairly quiet locale as I remember).

All 'buzzes' (= substantiated rumours) from around the globe are always welcome for this column.

We had the RNZN Hydrographer selling the 'Hydrographic Branch' at the Officer Training School recently. One fact he came up with – and which seemed to grab the young people's imagination suitably – was that the invisible return to the country from national hydrographic effort is (according to a Canadian study) apparently something like \$10 for every \$1 spent on the surveying and charting. We should, perhaps, publicize such facts more.

Stay well.

- Larry Robbins [Commander, RNZN].

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#### Geomatics Workshop

On 8 June, CHA and Geomatics Industry Association of Canada co-sponsor a one-day workshop on *Geomatics in the Marine Environment*. This event is a lead-in to the CHS/CIG 1993 Conference at Royal York Hotel, Toronto. Morning presentations include experience with GIS, Larsen Lidar, an Optical Cable system project, and the influence of technology trends.

Afternoon demonstrations of marine applications include the Hygro-92 Ground Truthing Experiment, by Ocean Mapping Group, U of New Brunswick; Electronic Navigation Chart Data, by Eastcan Group of Survey Consultants; Electronic Chart Pilot Project, by Offshore Systems Ltd., and an open forum on the Future of Geomatics in the Marine Environment.

Cost is \$133.75 [inc. GST]. Attendance is limited to 50.

Kenneth J. Cirillo  
Vice President & General Manager



THE ELECTRONIC CHART STANDARD

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