

BIO-OCEANS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Issue 28, October 2005

Inside this issue:



Summer barbeque (with photos)	2
What's going on — 1 October to 31 December 2005	3
Results of our first newsletter reader survey	6
Noteworthy reads: Book reviews in brief	8
Financial status report — 17 May to 1 September 2005	10
CSS <i>Hudson</i> cruise profiled in <i>Chronicle Herald</i>	11
Obituary notice	11
About the Association	12

From President Don Peer:

BITTEN BY THE BUG AND OTHER TALES

We have finally seen the end of what seemed to be an exceptionally long, fine summer. As I was away and out of the loop for most of it, I am still in the process of getting back into the groove, so to speak. The Association had no scheduled events between June and the annual barbeque held at Hubbard's Cove on 15 September 2005. Yes, that was technically summer, as the sun was still on our side of the line, and the weather conformed -- more about that later. We will be holding more events this fall: watch for the announcements.

I will blame my absence on members of our family who decided to hold two weddings in the middle of the summer. I hope that you won't mind if I get somewhat personal and elaborate a bit. First of all, no one should have to travel to such far reaches of the country during the summer, when things are so nice on this coast. However, families are important, especially at our age, and, as one wedding was to be the family's first gay nuptials, we decided to go. As the two events were not much over a week apart, we thought that, rather than fly out and back twice, we would take the train and make one big adventure of both events. We had always wanted to make a crossing of the whole country by land, and this seemed to be the perfect opportunity to do it. Toronto was a natural stopover as you must change trains there and that was the location of the first wedding. It was held on board a three-masted schooner (the *Empire Sandy*, 338 tons) as she sailed around the mouth of Toronto harbour. That was my first sail of the summer!

In Toronto, we boarded Via Rail's Canadian train for Vancouver and three days and three nights later we were there, three hours late! After a day of Vancouver sightseeing, we boarded the ferry for Nanaimo and the second wedding. We checked in at a hotel in downtown Nanaimo, a popular



HAPPY
HALLOWEEN
TO ALL
OUR READERS

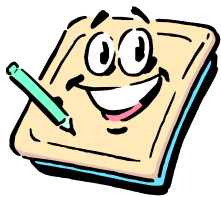
chain that shall remain nameless here. In the morning, the sheets were covered in spots of blood. Drawing on my experience in invertebrate taxonomy, I concluded that the fat little insects full of blood were ... bedbugs! (This was later confirmed by house-keeping). The hotel staff moved us to a new room that day, and, later, when there was a long line behind us at the registration desk, we successfully negotiated a reduction in the price of our room. In all of our travels to many parts of the world, this was our first encounter with this little creature, a fact that we were happy to use in pleasantly tormenting our Nanaimo relatives.

The train trip was a great experience. We were assigned a little two-berth cabin and left the berths made up so we could lie down when we felt the need. For a restless person like myself, there were lots of opportunities to move around including visits to the dome car, the club car, the observation car, and, three times each day, the dining car. (Meals are included in the fare). Usually, there were one or two stops per day that allowed us a chance to get out and walk around (but never very far from the train). With a pile of good reading and a constantly changing scene outside your window, what better way is there to travel Canada!

I hope that all of you have had as interesting a summer as we did and are looking forward to the events of the fall and winter. I also hope that you will pardon my vanity in spending so much time talking about myself.



Summer barbeque: On 15 September 2005, this summer's potluck picnic was held at Don and Dorothy Peer's place at 55 Maryfield Lane, on the shore of Hubbard's Cove. About 30 people participated and there was lots of good conversation and food. We had the cooperation of the weather and of our neighbours, the Hubbard's Yacht Club, who loaned us their gas barbeque. It is an enormous structure of stainless steel, too big to get around our woodpile, but we were all able to get over there to use it. Above, are photographs provided by Don Dinn of a few of those who attended.



WHAT'S GOING ON:

1 OCTOBER - 31 DECEMBER 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 David Nettleship, for inclusion in future issues of the newsletter (voice: 826-2360; internet: dnnlundy@navnet.net).

1 to 30 Oct.: Art Gallery of Nova Scotia – **“Clay Glaze Fire: 4000 Years of Ceramics of Asia”**. Exhibition from the collections of the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria. For additional information call: 424-7542.

1 to 30 Oct.: Museum of Natural History – **“Sable Island”**. An exhibit of the history of Sable Island and its recent use by humankind over several centuries.

1 to 31 Oct.: Maritime Museum of the Atlantic – **“Hurricane Havoc Reprised”**. Exhibit showing all current major storms on a weather map, gives the history of hurricanes that have battered Nova Scotia over the past 150 years, and displays the Canadian Hurricane Centre's website.

1 to 31 Oct.: Maritime Museum of the Atlantic – **“Titanic 3D”**. A 15-min film derived from 50-hours of filming Titanic as she rests 4 km below the surface on the ocean floor (by National Geographic cine-photographer Emory Kristoff; produced by Joe MacInnis, Undersea Research, Toronto). A short, but outstanding visual experience.

1 to 22 Oct.: Pier 20, Marginal Road – **“Drum!”** (8:00 pm, Tues. to Sun.). Ground-breaking production featuring and uniting the rhythms of the four cultures of Atlantic Canada: Aboriginal, Acadian, Black and Celtic – a grand tribute to all. Tickets: Metro Centre Box Office or call 451-1221.

1 to 23 Oct.: Grafton Street Dinner Theatre, Halifax – **“Comin' Home” and “Goin' to the Chapel”**. Stage productions of the sailors' home coming from the 1940s musical comedy and the original Cape Breton wedding set in 1969, respectively; plays alternate weekly at 6:45 pm with reserva-

tions from Amy at 425-1961.

1 Oct. to 12 Nov.: Fundy Geological Museum, Parrsboro – **“Wildlife & Nature: The Art of Arlene Collins”**. Original works and reproduction wildlife and nature prints are featured in this impressive art exhibit. For details call: (902) 254-3814.

1 Oct. to 27 Nov.: Museum of Natural History – **“Under the Weather”**. A show that focuses on climate, how it works, and how it is evolving. For additional details call: 424-7353.

1 Oct. to 29 Nov.: Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, alternate Tuesdays, 7-8:00 pm – **“Ghosts & Marine Folklore”** and **“Tales of Pirates & Privateers of the North Atlantic”**. Two exciting 1-hour programs offered on alternate Tuesdays, 7-8:00 pm (free admission). For the schedule, call: 424-7490.

1 Oct. to 30 November: IMAX theatre, Chain Lake Drive – **“Aliens of the Deep 3D”**. James Cameron goes underwater with NASA looking for unusual deep-water creatures. For additional information call: 876-4800.

1 Oct. to December: Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, Boat Shed on the museum's wharf – **“Restoring a Stevens Class Sloop – Boatbuilding Demonstration”**. Watch as work proceeds on the museum's latest small craft restoration, an S-class sloop built in 1946 by well-known Nova Scotia boatbuilder David Stevens. Call 424-7490 for specific times.

1 Oct. to 21 May 2006: Art Gallery of Nova Scotia – **“Art of the Ancient Mediterranean World: Egypt, Greece, and Rome”** (open 7 days a week, 10 am to 5 pm, Thurs. until 9:00 pm). Exhibition from the collections of the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria – explore the world of pharaohs and emperors! For additional information call: 424-7542.

3 Oct.: Maritime Museum of the Atlantic – **“New Life for the Model of RMS *Franconia*”**. Official unveiling of the 4-metre model of RMS *Franconia*, the largest model in the Maritime Museum's collection and possibly the only one of the ship in existence. The restoration effort began in early 2004 with thousands of hours of work performed since then by volunteers of the Maritime Ship

Model Guild. It was built in 1922 and once graced the shipping offices of Samuel Cunard & Co. Call 424-7490 for details.

6 to 30 Oct.: Mary E. Black Gallery, 1683 Barrington, Halifax – **“In the Margins: Canadian Women in Ceramics”**. Ceramics from artists around the country that provide an overview of materials and designs. For additional information, call: 492-2522.

6 to 31 Oct.: Bedford Theatre, Bedford Highway – **“March of the Penguins”**. French director Luc Jacquet and his crew spent one year shooting footage of the breeding cycle of Emperor Penguins in Antarctica – an amazing film production of ecological adaptation to a demanding polar environment. For additional information, call: 835-9500.

7 to 26 Oct.: Studio 21, 1223 Lower Water St., Halifax – **“Janice Leonard: New Paintings”**. Exhibit of new works that are romantic histories, inspired by 18th and 19th century Northern European landscape painters. For additional information, call: 420-1852.

7 Oct. to 30 Dec. (Fridays, 4:00 pm): Maritime Museum of the Atlantic – **“Skills of the 19th-Century Sailor”**. A hands-on demonstration of a different traditional skill by heritage interpreter Derek Harrison is featured each week. Learn to stitch canvas sails, splice rope, fashion a ditty bag, or make a Turk’s Head rope mat. Take a trip back in time to the grand era of 19th-century sailors.

8 Oct. to 20 Nov.: Art Gallery of Nova Scotia – **“ItuKiagatta!: Inuit Sculpture”**. Exhibit of 51 pieces of stone, bone and ivory sculptures from one of the world’s largest private Inuit art collections. For additional information call: 424-7542.

11 & 18 Oct.: Maritime Museum of the Atlantic – **“Battle of Trafalgar: 200th Anniversary”** (7:30 pm). A two-part illustrated talk about the momentous naval battle in the Napoleonic Wars that established Britain’s long reign of sea supremacy throughout the ‘Age of Sail’ and into the 20th century. For details call: 424-7490.

13 & 14 Oct.: Rebecca Cohn Auditorium – **“Cinderella”** (7:30 pm). Full-length classical ballet by Ballet Jörgen Canada starring Tara Butler with accompaniment by Symphony Nova Scotia.

Tickets at Dalhousie Arts Centre box office, or call 494-3820.

14 to 23 Oct.: Museum of Natural History – **“Miracle Planet”**. Film premiere series by the National Film Board that follows the journey of life on earth over the past four billion years based upon the latest scientific findings. Call 424-3563 for final details of the schedule.

17 to 31 Oct.: Public HRM Libraries – **“How to Navigate the Internet”** (17th, 9:30 am: Bedford; 20th, 1:30 pm, Tantallon; 21st, 10:00 am; Alderney Gate; 24th, 9:30 am: Captain William Spry) and **“Internet Searching Made Easy”** (17th, 1:00 pm: Spring Garden Rd.; 27th, 1:30 pm: Tantallon; 31st, 1:00 pm: Spring Garden Rd.). For additional details, call individual libraries.

18 Oct. to 6 Nov.: Neptune Theatre – **“Frozen”**. For details, call 429-7070 or go to www.neptunetheatre.com.

19 Oct.: Museum of Natural History – **“Dreadnoughts of the Cretaceous: New Research on Armoured Dinosaurs of Alberta”** (7:30 pm). An illustrated talk by Dr. Matt Vickaryous about the lesser-known, but equally impressive, ankylosaurs of the badlands of southern Alberta: the armoured contemporaries of *Tyrannosaurus rex*.

19 Oct.: Keshen Goodman Library, Halifax – **“Appreciating Art”** (7:00 pm). Join Peggy MacKinnon, MSVU Art Gallery, on an exciting visual tour of some of the world’s greatest portraits, highlighting features that make them masterpieces. For more information, call: 490-6410.

22 Oct.: J.D. Shatford Library, Hubbards – **“Scott Walking Adventures”** (2:00 pm). Come for a ‘walk’ through the ways you can have fun exploring the natural areas of Nova Scotia – a 90-minute presentation. For more information, call: 857-9176.

22 Oct.: Spring Garden Road Library – **“Literary Walking Tour: Libraries and Literature in Halifax’s Past”** (10:00 am) – Halifax’s literary history will come alive in this guided walking tour highlighting famous authors, publishers, bookstores and libraries (90-minute walk). See Halifax

as never before! Registration is required; call: 490-5700.

22 Oct.: TAO – The Adventure Outfitters, 182 Chain Lake Drive, Bayers Lake Industrial Park – **“Gear Swap & Outdoor Equipment Sale”** (9:30 am to closing) – Great way to sell or trade your ‘experienced’ outdoor gear and obtain new and old clothing and equipment. For additional information and to book a table, call: 481-9826.

22 & 23 Oct.: Museum of Natural History – **“Orchid Society Fall Show and Sale”** (Sat., 9:30 am to 5 pm; Sun., 1-5:00 pm). Annual exhibit showing the diversity of orchids with society members present to answer queries; a demonstration of floral arrangements featuring orchids by Neville MacKay is to be given at 2:00 pm Sunday.

25 Oct.: Tantallon Public Library – **“Peggy of the Cove”** (7:00 pm). Ever wonder who Peggy of Peggy’s Cove was? Join Ivan Fraser, author of the book ‘Peggy of the Cove’, for a 90-min talk and find out the answer and many other things about the history of Peggy and Peggy’s Cove. For more information, call: 826-3330.

25 Oct.: Museum of Natural History – **“Cart Tracks & Cartographers: Walking 18th century Halifax”** (7:30 pm). An illustrated talk by archaeologist and cartographer Danny Dyke taking us on a virtual walking tour and journey down long-vanished pathways of Halifax past.

26 Oct.: Museum of Natural History – **“Sable Island 2005: A Review of Natural History, Monitoring Programs & the Sable Island Station”** (7:30 pm). An illustrated talk by long-time Sable Island researcher Zoe Lucas on the natural history of Sable Island, the importance of the research programs underway on marine litter, oiled seabirds, and Sable horses, as well as the Sable Island Station in ensuring adequate stewardship and conservation of the island.

1, 8, 15 & 22 Nov.: Maritime Museum of the Atlantic – **“Lecture Series: Lest We Forget”** (7:30 pm). Four-part illustrated talks to honour the brave men and women who fought for our country -- series is part of the 2005 ‘Year of the Veteran’ celebration and will cover the major contributions made by the people and city of Halifax during the First and

Second World Wars.

7 Nov.: Museum of Natural History – **“Brewing Science: Advances and Challenges”** (7:30 pm). Dr. Alex Speers, Dept. Food Science & Technology Dalhousie University, will discuss the details and technology involved in brewing beer. Talk is part of the NS Institute of Science meeting series.

8 to 27 Nov.: Neptune Theatre – **“God of Hell”**. For details, call 429-7070 or go to www.neptunetheatre.com.

16 Nov.: Museum of Natural History – **“The Grand Canyon: 2.5 Billion Years in 8 Days”** (7:30 pm). Dr. Helen Kisters will present an illustrated account of the geology and scenery of Grand Canyon as experienced during a 1-week rafting trip; the talk will be supplemented with background geological information from geologists W.H. Hamblin and G. Billingsley. Talk is co-sponsored by the Atlantic Geoscience Society.

22 Nov.: Museum of Natural History – **“The Original Bridges, Shipwrecks & Former Islands of Halifax Harbour”** (7:30 pm). Marine geologist and historian Gordon Fader delves into the marine archeology of Halifax Harbour and the discoveries found on the bottom of the sea. Talk is co-sponsored by the NS Archeology Society.

22 Nov. to 8 Jan. 2006: Neptune Theatre – **“The Sound of Music”**. For details, call 429-7070 or go to www.neptunetheatre.com.

24 Nov.: Spring Garden Road Library – **“Game Over: Kasparov and the Machine”** (7:00 pm). An 85-min film presentation of the most famous chess tournament and scientific experiment ever played: the May 1997 showdown between Garry Kasparov, widely regarded as the greatest chess player ever, and Deep Blue, a 1.5 tonne super-computer. The outcome stunned the world.

29 Nov.: Maritime Museum of the Atlantic – **“Workshop: Knot a Nautical Christmas Wreath”** (6:30 pm & 8:00 pm). Make an unusual Xmas wreath using the ‘Turk’s head’ decorative sailor’s knot. Ribbon, cord, cones, and baubles provided, but participants should bring a pair of garden gloves. Space is limited and so, please register by calling 424-7490 after 9:30 am on 3 Nov.

Fee is \$20 + HST.

1-31 Dec.: Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic, Lunenburg – **“Lights in the Rigging”** (late afternoon & evening). See the museum fleet festooned with white lights in the vessels’ rigging throughout the holiday season. For details, call (902) 634-4794.

5 Dec.: Museum of Natural History – **“Begging Birds & the Evolution of Elaborate Animal Signals”** (7:30 pm). Avian behaviourist Dr. Marty Leonard, Biology Dept., Dalhousie University, will discuss the interactions between birds and their offspring, and how these have evolved into

elaborate communication signals. Talk is part of the NS Institute of Science seminar series.

6 Dec.: Maritime Museum of the Atlantic – **“Halifax Wrecked: Remembering the Halifax Explosion”** (7:30 pm). The Maritime Museum looks back at the accident of 6 Dec. 1917 that killed over 2000 people and left the city of Halifax shattered – an illustrated talk.

24 Dec.: Bedford Institute of Oceanography – **“BIO Christmas Party”** (9:30 to 12:00 am). A fun morning for BIO staff, alumni, family and friends.



RESULTS OF OUR FIRST NEWSLETTER READER SURVEY

By Michael Latrémouille

Many thanks to those of you who took the time to respond to the reader survey that was included with issue 27 of the BIO - Oceans Association Newsletter. It was mailed to members in July and also made available electronically to you as an e-mail attachment in both Microsoft Word and Corel WordPerfect formats.

We heard from just over 27% of the 176 Association members, a total of 48 responses in all. Two-hundred-and-eight hard copies of the July issue were mailed and this includes 32 sent via internal mail to current BIO managerial staff (who are not counted as part of the statistics presented here). Seven replied via e-mail, one by telephone, and 40 members returned their surveys in the stamped, self-addressed envelopes we had provided.

This survey will guide development of the newsletter over the next year or so, but it is too early to say now how this will play out. Please look

over the initial results summarized below... but also look at this as a moving target that still needs a lot of input from you. By all means, do continue to send me comments, suggestions, and opinions on any aspect of the newsletter.

1. How would you rate the newsletter?

The results were: Excellent = 17 (35%); Nice = 20 (42%); Not bad = 8 (17%); Not good = 1 (2%); Needs a major overhaul = 0; No answer = 2 (4%).

2. How much of each newsletter issue do you read?

The results were: Most = 34 (71%); Half = 6 (12%); Only fragments = 4 (8%); I scan the pages = 2 (4%); Little or none = 0; No answer = 2 (4%).

3. What is one thing we should never drop from the newsletter?

Eleven said that nothing should be

dropped and 5 did not reply to the question.

Votes for never dropping individual columns or articles were as follows: Archives = 8, Noteworthy Reads = 7; Obituary notices = 6; Member's Corner = 4; What's Going On = 2; President's Note = 2; Outside the Box = 1.

4. What is one thing we should immediately drop?

Twelve said nothing should be dropped and 16 did not reply to the question.

Votes for immediately dropping individual columns or articles were as follows: Noteworthy Reads = 7 and one vote each for 3 columns – What's Going On, Helpful Hints for Computer Users, and Who Am I.

5. Do you read or otherwise consult the online version of our newsletter at www.bedfordbasin.ca?

The results were: Yes = 28 (58%); No = 18 (37 %) ; No answer = 2 (4%).

6. *The newsletter's goal is to support the mandate of the BIO-Ocean's Association which is to help maintain and enhance the fellowship that members developed during their BIO days, to help preserve BIO's spirit and history in cooperation with the present management of BIO, and to support efforts to increase public understanding of the oceans and ocean science. In your view, is the newsletter meeting its goals?*

The results were: Yes = 30 (62%); No = 0; Only partially = 15 (31%); No answer = 2 (4%).

7. *Do you wish to suggest particular articles, columns, or topics you would like to see covered in the newsletter?*

✓ Personal news of past employees would be most welcome, e.g., where are they, what are they doing in retirement, are they traveling, are they interested in reunions, etc.

✓ More on BIO's spirit & history. What is happening in Ottawa that might/will/does affect BIO (so that we might be able or wish to comment based on our BIO experience). "Where are they now?", a bit like "Member's Corner".

✓ State of government science, what's going on back at the fort!

✓ You had an article about Kevin R. – how about the other support staff or techs?

✓ More articles on the various branches at BIO (e.g. Hydrographic Service -- cartography past & present).

✓ Articles on what BIO science has achieved.

✓ More travel reports. More reports from committees – especially

equipment and library archives.

✓ Many of us are refugees from the now, alas, extinct Halifax Laboratory. Jim Stewart recently published a history of the lab (which was about as old as Saint Andrews) in the Proceedings of the NS Institute of Science. It would be nice to have a note on this & maybe comments from the past on that lab as well as BIO.

✓ Have you considered an editorial column that commented on Canada's Ocean Policy?

✓ Retirements, etc. (all right, face it — deaths too). More descriptions of what people are doing — I can't believe that everyone I knew at BIO has just stopped and are sitting growing cucumbers.

✓ Brief reviews of particular contributions or accomplishments made by BIO over the years - e.g. technological advances, scientific discoveries, methods invented, significant publications.

✓ I think we need a column that is aimed at grandchildren. Not certain about format/ content at this point.

✓ Need much more interaction with current staff – we are not all retired yet! I'd like to see more on current marine/ ocean research at BIO & agencies and its relevance to pressing societal problems facing the oceans & their living resources & habitats. Also more on people's trips to interesting marine/ oceanic locations around the world... travelogues.

✓ Get a strong future-looking context. If you want interest, then you want continuity! Highlight: 1) new staff, projects, directions, 2) any international programs, 3) a new research point in each issue.

✓ I wonder whether there should be a more systematic attempt to collect news of people who have moved away, retired or not. For example, solicit a news item from

Ken Drinkwater in Norway or Richard Addison in BC.

✓ With their permission, include reports on the activities of colleagues one sees around town at social events or other occasions

✓ More personal stuff. What are members doing for fun? Does anyone need help from us?

✓ The largest gap I see is the absence of information on current activities at BIO including coverage of ongoing research, technological advancements, application of science (i.e., knowledge) to problem solving, and philosophical discussion and social events.

8. *Are you willing to volunteer some of your time to help in preparing and distributing the newsletter?*

Our thanks to the nine people who have volunteered to help out with the newsletter. We will be in touch for the 2006 issues.

In conclusion, we would like to hear from more members on the newsletter. Please consider sending in your survey to the Editor if you have not yet done so. If you need another copy of the questionnaire we circulated with the July issue, please contact Michael Latrémouille (see p. 12 for contact information).

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Little Tim was in the garden filling in a hole when his neighbour peered over the fence. Interested in what the rosy-cheeked youngster was up to, he politely asked, "What are you up to there, Tim?"

"My goldfish died," replied Tim tearfully, without looking up, "and I've just buried him."

The neighbour was concerned. "That's an awfully big hole for a goldfish, isn't it?"

Tim patted down the last heap of earth, and quietly replied, "That's because he's inside your cat!"

**NOTEWORTHY
READS:
BOOK REVIEWS
IN BRIEF**

*By David N. Nettleship,
Book Review Editor*



The *Noteworthy Reads* section is an effort by 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 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 contributing a book review to 'Noteworthy Reads' should contact David Nettleship (voice: 902-826-2360; internet: dnnlundy@navnet.net).

**SPECIAL PUBLICATION: CELEBRATING THE INDELIBLE
STAMP OF DARWIN**

Watson, James D. (ed.). 2005. *Darwin: The Indelible Stamp – The Evolution of an Idea*. Running Press, Philadelphia, PA. 1262 pp. Hardcover, \$39.95 (ISBN 0 7624 2136 3). – Edited by Nobel laureate J.D. Watson, and the first time in one volume, are four of the most influential works by Charles Darwin: 'The Origin of Species' (1859), 'The Voyage of the Beagle' (1839), 'Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals' (1872), and 'The Descent of Man' (1871). Each book in the anthology is illuminated by commentary from Watson, insightful in content and illuminating in context. Unquestionably this collection represents one of the most important achievements of the past millennium, now easily accessible for all to read. It is an edited work that should be on the bookshelf of every biologist and all others interested in evolutionary science and its origin, and of course, our place within the animal world.

GENERAL REVIEWS

Batham, Tere. 2004. *Cruising Japan to New Zealand: The Voyage of the Sea Quest*. Sheridan House,

Dobbs Ferry, NY. 320 pp. Hardcover, \$37.50 (ISBN 1 57409 182 4). – Highlights a 14-month, 10,000 mile sailboat journey from Japan to New Zealand by way of Hong Kong, the Philippines, Micronesia, Vanuatu, and New Caledonia. Scenic islands and waterways, as well as South Sea Island cultures, are described along with the rigorous seas and coastlines navigated. This account provides armchair travelers and serious sailors alike with a wealth of information of exotic locales and sailing challenges. Altogether, an exciting marine adventure narrative.

Bree, Marlin. 2005. *Broken Seas: True Tales of Extraordinary Seafaring Adventures*. Marlor Press, St. Paul, MN. 216 pp. Softcover, \$21.95 (ISBN 1892147092). — Sea-story fans take note. In these pages, author Bree provides six captivating and varied true marine adventures ranging from a voyage across the Pacific Ocean in a 10-foot sailboat to the sinking of the Edmond Fitzgerald during a Lake Superior storm. Readers who enjoy at-sea narratives won't be disappointed.

Buchanan, Roberta, Anne Hart and Bryan Greene (eds.). 2005. *The Woman Who Mapped Labrador: The Life and Expedition Diary of Mina Hubbard*. McGill-Queen's University Press, Montreal, QE. 488 pp. Hardcover, \$49.95 (ISBN 0 7735 2924 1). – Published in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of Mina Hubbard's crossing of Labrador in 1905, this volume provides a much more human picture of this unusually talented and committed female explorer. Compared to previous books (including her own published in 1908), this work shows Mina Hubbard's incredible enthusiasm and determination to succeed and vindicate the tarnished reputation of her deceased husband who died in 1903 attempting to explore the Labrador interior. A gripping story and biography of an extraordinary woman.

Dugard, Martin. 2005. *The Last Voyage of Columbus: Being the Epic Tale of the Great Captain's Fourth Expedition, including Accounts of Swordfight, Mutiny, Shipwreck, Gold, War, Hurricane, and Discovery*. Little, Brown & Co., New York, NY. 294 pp. Hardcover, \$33.95 (ISBN 0 316 82883 1). – Martin Dugard chronicles Christopher Columbus' eventful voyage of 1502-03, revealing happenings that, until now, were untold. Ten years after first reaching America, Columbus undertook his fourth and final journey to the New World in search of the mythical passage westward to India. From Puerto Rico he

moved carefully along the unknown Central American coastline as far as Panama enduring endless catastrophes: a mutiny, several hurricanes, and the loss of his ships. These new revelations will leave you spellbound.

Everhart, Michael J. 2005. **Oceans of Kansas: A Natural History of the Western Interior Sea: Natural History of the Western Interior Sea.** Indiana University Press, Bloomington, IN. 322 pp. Hardcover, \$46.95 (ISBN 0253345472). – In this work, Michael Everhart shows how the shape of land and life in the Americas has changed dramatically over time by tracing the natural history of a large ancient sea that once occupied America's interior. In the past – from 87 to 82 million years ago – a so-called 'Western Interior Sea' bisected North America and was home to a vast number of long-gone species including giant sharks, mosasaurs, pteranodons, and birds with teeth. Descriptions of these extinct species and their habitats are given, along with a summary review of the known geologic history of the ancient sea based upon the findings of geologists and paleontologists over the past 150 years including the seminal work by 19th century fossil hunters E.D. Cope and O.C. Marsh. After reading 'Oceans of Kansas', your view of North America will be changed forever.

Horsman, Paul. 2005. **Out of the Blue: A Journey Through the World's Oceans.** MIT Press, Cambridge, MA. 160 pp. Hardcover, \$29.95US (ISBN 0262083418). – Here is a book on the sea for everyone, from the novice beginner, youth and adult alike, to the serious marine scientist. The combination of stunning underwater colour photography with author Paul Horsman's comprehensive account of marine life reveals the beauty, diversity, and fragility of the undersea environment. A treasure book for every ocean enthusiast -- a celebration of the rich variety of ocean life from the tiniest of plants and plankton to the awe-inspiring Giant Squid and Blue Whale.

Hutchinson, S. and L.E. Hawkins. 2005. **Oceans: A Visual Guide.** Firefly Books, Buffalo, NY. 303 pp. Hardcover, \$29.95 (ISBN 1 55407 069 4). – Here is a super introduction to the wonders of the sea and oceanography. Hundreds of colour photographs and drawings abound supplemented by a text that is exceptionally clear, informative, and readable. The book is divided into six parts: 'The Blue Planet' (71% of Earth is covered by oceans largely unexplored), 'Exploring the Ocean' (from ancient times to the age of satellites), 'Ocean Life' (the circle of life from plankton to whales and seabirds), 'Into the Deep' (the origin of life in world of darkness), 'The Fringes' (marine life where

the oceans meet the land), and 'The Human Impact' (richness of the oceans and how to protect them). Overall, this is a superb work that will excite and stimulate all readers.

Johnson, Tora. 2005. **Entanglements: The Inter-twined Fates of Whales and Fishermen.** University Press of Florida, Gainesville, FL. 291 pp. Hardcover, \$35.95 (ISBN 0813027977). – An insightful examination of the inter-relationship between two apparently disparate groups, fishermen and whales, and their uncertain futures. Author Johnson explores the links in an attempt to prevent parallel tragedies, the extinction of the North Atlantic Right Whale and the death of small-scale fisheries in northeastern North America. Conclusions drawn from the data presented are based on a solid research effort. Overall, a work that will assist in the attainment of conservation goals aimed at saving both whales and fishing communities along the Atlantic seaboard from the Bay of Fundy south to Cape Cod.

McGhee, Robert. 2004. **The Last Imaginary Place: A Human History of the Arctic World.** Key Porter Books, Toronto, ON. 296 pp. Hardcover, \$39.95 (ISBN 1 55263 637 2). – Canadian anthropologist McGhee takes the reader through the millennia to chart the changing challenges and struggles that have occurred in the Arctic, from the arrival of 'Paleo-Eskimos' 8,000 years ago to the changes brought about by exploration in recent times. A comprehensive, revealing, and captivating document about northern peoples.

McGoogan, Ken. 2005. **Lady Franklin's Revenge: A True Story of Ambition, Obsession and the Remaking of Arctic History.** HarperCollins, Toronto, ON. 468 pp. Hardcover, \$36.95 (ISBN 978 0 00 200671 2). – Here is a very complete 'life and times' of Lady Jane Franklin, a work prompted by the author's earlier award-winning account of arctic explorer John Rae – 'Fatal Passage' (2001) – and Victorian England's smear campaign, initiated by Lady Jane, to discredit Rae's outstanding accomplishments. In the present work, McGoogan shows the depth of Lady Jane's determination to exonerate her dead husband, Sir John Franklin, and wrongly bestow upon him credit as the discoverer of the final link in the Northwest Passage. Her ability to shape and manipulate public opinion to her advantage is detailed, attributes that allowed fraud to persist for more than half a century. This book is a most impressive and satisfying read, one that not only provides the best biography of Lady Franklin to date and her skill in creating arctic myth, but also in showing how her obsession opened up the golden age of polar exploration

in Arctic America. Overall, an outstanding biography of a special woman, a work destined to become a classic.

Mowat, Claire. 2005. **Travels with Farley: A Memoir.** Key Porter Books, Toronto, ON. 272 pp. Hardcover, \$ 29.95 (ISBN 155263714X). – This charming memoir by Claire Mowat provides an intimate portrait of her marriage to Canadian writing icon Farley Mowat and what that really means. The account is set against the backdrop of the Magdalen Islands in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. A ‘not-to-be missed’ work for every aficionado of writer Farley Mowat.

Ruth, Maria Mudd. 2005. **Rare Bird: Proving the Mystery of the Marbled Murrelet.** Rodale, Emmaus, PA. 288 pp. Hardcover, \$33.95 (ISBN 13 978 1 59486 090 4). – Sensitive and thoughtful, inspired and well written, this book by general nature-writer Maria Ruth takes the reader on an incredible journey of discovery. The Marbled Murrelet, a little known member of the seabird family Alcidae (puffins, murres, and other auks), is a small, chunky diver that occurs offshore and along seacoasts in the north Pacific. Although known to science since James Cook’s ocean surveys in the 1770s, where the species nested remained undetected until 1974 when a tree trimmer discovered a chick high up – 148 feet – on a moss-covered branch in a Douglas fir. Since then, numerous nests have been found at low density in coastal mature forests from Alaska to California. The Marbled Murrelet was listed as threatened in 1992 owing to a major decline in numbers observed at sea, believed to be caused by oil pollution, drowning in gill-

nets, and over-exploitation of coastal old-growth forests. This book provides a well-researched overview of the bird’s history including the recent push to protect and conserve a highly specialized seabird. It shows the complex interplay of preservation and exploitation, the players involved, and the joys and tribulations of scientific discovery. A gripping story beautifully told by a talented researcher and nature writer.

Stringer, Chris and Peter Andrews. 2005. **The Complete World of Human Evolution.** Thames & Hudson, London, UK. 240 pp. Hardcover, \$42.00 (ISBN 0500051321). – This outstanding work provides an opportunity to explore the rise of our species and appreciate how recently the role of modern *Homo sapiens* in the history of the planet began, a mere 150,000 years. The earliest apes evolved around 20 million years ago, and in the intervening period, many species of early apes and human have lived and died out, leaving behind only fossilized remains. Stringer and Andrews divide the story into three parts: “In Search of Our Ancestors” -- finding primate fossil remains and the techniques used to study them, “The Fossil Evidence” -- traces the evolution of apes and humans, and “Interpreting the Evidence” -- reconstructs and explains the evolution of human behaviour, development of tool use, and dispersion of modern humans worldwide and how *Homo sapiens* replaced other human species such as Neanderthals. With a clear and readable text supplemented by hundreds of photographs, diagrams and reconstruction drawings, this work vividly shows us how we got where we are, and what came before. A most rewarding read.

FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT — 17 MAY TO 1 SEPTEMBER 2005

OPERATING FUND

Opening bank balance — 17 May 2005	\$458.93
➤ Income from fees	290.00
➤ Bank interest	0.07
➤ Transfer from the ING account	100.00
➤ Bank charges	(5.10)
➤ Transfer to the ING Account	(452.00)
➤ Closing bank balance	50.64
ING account opening balance — 17 May 2005	5,949.50
➤ Interest	51.04
➤ Transfer to the ING account	452.00
➤ Transfer from the ING account	(100.00)
Closing bank balance	6,352.54

FOUNDATION FUND

Opening bank balance — 17 May 2005	\$84.39
➤ Bank interest	0.04
➤ Expenses	(12.42)
➤ Bank charges	(0.85)
Closing bank balance	71.16

CSS HUDSON CRUISE PROFILED IN THE CHRONICLE HERALD

By Michael Latrémouille

Freelance writer Jodi DeLong recently spent two weeks aboard the Hudson on a cruise to Sable and Western banks off Nova Scotia. Her experiences and impressions were published in a series of five articles and several photographs in three successive editions of the Sunday Chronicle Herald.

Ms. DeLong is not a scientist, but she is a keen observer and she brings a refreshing lay perspective to her writing on life and work aboard a research vessel, something we don't experience often enough in our local media coverage. The articles are well worth reading if you have not had the chance to do so. (I can e-mail copies to anyone who is interested.)

In the article of 2 October 2005: A4, she tells of joining the ship at BIO's jetty as final preparations are made for departure. She briefly explains some of the history of the 42-year-old vessel, how she came to be aboard, the rules of shipboard life, and the fish-habitat studies that will be done. She describes participating in the mandatory pre-cruise safety orientation, donning of survival suits, and fire drills. She describes how she was allowed to slip away for one hour just before departure to attend part of her sister's wedding in Halifax.

In the second set of two articles (9 October 2005: A6), she gives a status report at the mid-cruise point and describes the "delicate and wonderful choreography between the officers and crew of the vessel and the scientists working in its labs". She talks of the close-knit community aboard ship, how important weather is out there while things like the nightly news are less so, and about the excitement of seeing pilot whales, dolphins, and a falcon. The Alfred Needler joins the Hudson on site to help do the work, and Ms. DeLong gets the opportunity to be escorted by fast-rescue craft across several kilometres of choppy water to visit this "trawler used for working on fish stock surveys, a very different vessel from Hudson". She describes concern over a "Ralph" that goes missing over the side and the chuckle everyone gets at her expense when it's revealed that Ralph is an instrument. (The name given is deliberately not an acronym, but just a friendly appellation!)

Two articles – "Homeward Bound on the *Hudson*" and "Saving the final frontier" – were published on 16 October 2005: A5). The first tells about the excitement



The Hudson takes a wave on her stern and splashes the Towcam with water. [Photo by Jodi DeLong. Photo and caption reproduced by permission.]

of everyone on board with "the program winding down and the good ship Hudson turning for the homeward steam". She has an overwhelming impression of great pride, teamwork, and camaraderie from "every man and woman on board" and yet she speaks of "worry in my heart too, for the future of long-term ocean research done through the Department of Fisheries and Oceans". She briefly touches on some of the challenges facing oceanography in Canada. The second article delves into the work done on this cruise and discusses ways in which "we all have a duty to protect the ocean's fish habitats."

OBITUARY NOTICE

Dr. Peter A. Hacquebard, 87, passed away on 7 September 2005 in the new Halifax Infirmary, the QEII. He was a geologist with the Geological Survey of Canada for many years and had continued on at BIO as an emeritus scientist after his retirement in 1983.

IN THE SPIRIT OF HALLOWEEN

A tourist in Vienna is going through a graveyard and all of a sudden he hears some music. No one is around, so he starts searching for the source.

He finally zeroes in on a grave with a headstone that reads: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827. Then he realizes that the music is the Ninth Symphony and it is being played backwards! Puzzled, he leaves the graveyard and persuades a friend to return with him.

By the time they arrive back at the grave, the music has changed. This time it is the Seventh Symphony, but like the previous piece, it is being played backwards.

Curious, the men agree to consult a music scholar. When they return with the expert, the Fifth Symphony is playing, again backward. The expert notices that the symphonies are being played in the reverse order in which they were composed, the 9th, then the 7th, then the 5th.

By the next day the word has spread and a throng has gathered around the grave. They are all listening to the Second Symphony being played backwards.

Just then the graveyard's caretaker ambles up to the group. Someone in the crowd asks him if he has an explanation for the music.

"Oh, it's nothing to worry about" says the caretaker. "He's just decomposing!"

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 Envi-

ronment, 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.

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