

BIO-OCEANS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Issue 51

July 2011

BRIAN BEANLANDS: 2011 BELUGA AWARD WINNER



Patrick Potter (left), Chair of the Beluga Award Committee presents Brian Beanlands with his award on 6 May 2011.

Brian Beanlands, has been working at BIO since 1977, and in that time he has solved countless technical problems with innovative solutions as an electronic design technologist. "Everyone loves working with Brian and its apparent from what he says and does that he loves working at BIO. Aren't we lucky?" says a long time friend and colleague, George Fowler.

Brian is the 11th winner of the Beluga Award given annually to an employee who has exhibited unselfish dedication to the community spirit at BIO.

He was given his award during a ceremony held on 6 May 2011 in the BIO Auditorium accompanied by many members of his family and witnessed by many appreciative co-workers.

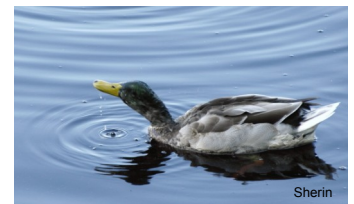
Nova Scotian Institute of Science Hall of Fame Nominations

Send your nomination of a BIO scientist to Paul Keizer, keizerp@gmail.com. For criteria visit:

<http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/Science/NSIS/>

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Jim Hamilton said in his speech at the ceremony: “We know [Brian] for his positive attitude, his pride in what he does, and his pride in BIO. Add to that his many contributions to oceanographic instrument development, his work with private sector partners, and his involvement with the mentoring of young people, the positive impact that Brian has had at BIO and in our local oceanographic community is clear.”

In Jim’s speech, he mentioned many of the instruments Brian had a hand in developing. The Moving Vessel Profiler (MVP) is an important tool used by the Canadian Hydrographic Service and other organizations conducting multi-beam bathymetry surveys. “Brian was instrumental in a very successful transfer of the MVP technology to Brooke Ocean Technology who are now selling units worldwide.” Brian developed the electronics and software for the Laser Optical Plankton Counter, the SeaHorse moored Ocean profiler, the Icyler and the Icyler’s big brother the SeaCycler. This work over the years demanded greater and greater sophistication in electronic design and control software.

Jim also mentioned Brian’s commitment to mentoring young technologists and engineers through his participation as a member of the Program Advisory Committee at the Nova Scotia Community College for 20 years, and his supervision of their work terms or class projects here at BIO.

Probably the greatest accolade Jim gave Brian was his satisfaction working in a successful team for which he has been recognized with team awards by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on two occasions.



Brian took the podium and gave a moving presentation on his career at BIO well illustrated by slides. He half seriously tied his talk together on the theme of attempting to preserve the data he had collected over the years on various media from punched cards to 9 track tapes and imaginary and humorous conversations

he had with modern information technology specialists trying to “help” him. But they were unfamiliar with these forms of data storage.

The BIO-Oceans Association continued the celebration at La Perla Restaurant in Dartmouth with a lunch for Brian, his family, colleagues, and members of the Association’s Executive.

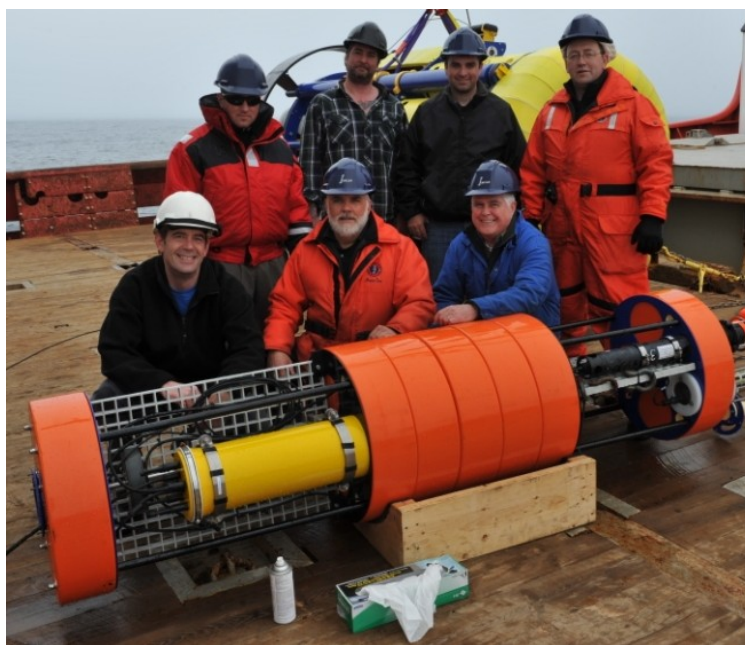


Photo captions (clockwise from top): Jim Hamilton, Brian’s nominator, delivers his dedication to Brian at the Beluga Award ceremony. The SeaCycler team (front row left to right) Greg Siddall, **Brian Beanlands**, George Fowler, (back row, left to right) Jay Barthelotte, Jason Burtch, Zach Chaisson, and Neil MacKinnon. The SeaCycler instrument float is shown in front and the winch float in the back. Brian telling his walrus story during his acceptance speech at the Awards Ceremony.





Photo captions (clockwise from the top left): Brian Beanlands with his wife, Kathy, at La Perla; Clive Mason (left) and Tom Septhon, members of the BIO-OA Executive at Brian's luncheon at La Perla with other well wishers in the background; Claudia Currie (left) and Georgina Phillips (Director); Bob O'Boyle (left, Past President) and Don Gordon (Vice President) raise a glass; and, Brian at work? on the foredeck of CCGS *Hudson*.

BIO-Oceans Association's Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting of the BIO-Oceans Association was held in the BIO Auditorium on 6 May 2011. In addition to the Beluga Award presentation, a highlight of the meeting was a presentation by David McKeown on the BIO-OA equipment archives. David has prepared, with the help of Ted Phillips, a display of physical oceanographic instrumentation. Other displays are in development. The displays will become part of the public exhibit at BIO. David thanked Don Peer and Tim Milligan for the bathythermograph, the centre piece of the display (see the story in BIO-OA Newsletter 49, January 2011), and Tom Shepton and the management of BIO for the donation of the display cases. The cases are examples of excellent cabinet making. David described the archive as large and growing including an number of enormous pieces that are a problem to store. There was discussion about how to ensure the long-term conservation of the artifacts. The President thanked David for his dedication and the progress made with the inventory and display of the instrument archive collection.

The meeting also elected a new Executive for 2011-12. Betty Sutherland started her second term as Past President and handed over the reins to Paul Keizer. She couldn't pass the gavel since it could not be found! Mike Hughes was elected as the new First Vice President; Don Gordon will continue as Second Vice President. Bob Reiniger, after serving many years as the Association's Treasurer, and before that as Presi-

dent, handed over the books to Lori Collins, our new Treasurer. Gordon Fader, after a long and productive tenure as coordinator of social programs, has resigned from his post. No replacement has yet been found.

The names and contacts for the new Executive appear on page 12 of the Newsletter.



Picture captions (clockwise from top right): Betty Sutherland congratulates the new President, Paul Keizer; David McKeown and Ted Phillips stand beside the new display of oceanographic equipment; Bob Reiniger smiles broadly as he congratulates the new Treasurer, Lori Collins.



From the President

When taking on a new position, whether volunteer or paid, there are always some little surprises about what the position involves. For me, this column was one of those little surprises. Due to other commitments, I have not been involved in the BIO-OA prior to being asked last year if I would serve as first vice president. So I was not fully aware of all of the little things that need to be done, this column was one of those things.

An obvious place for me to start is with some words of thanks: to Betty Sutherland for doing such a fine job stepping in as president for a year; to Bob Reiniger who served as treasurer since the inception of the BIO-OA; and to Gordon Fader who has kept us socially engaged. Thanks also to all of you who continue to serve on the executive, to those new members of the executive, and to those who support the association in other ways. Also, I would be remiss if I did not mention our Beluga Award winner this year, Brian Beanlands, who treated all those present at the ceremony on 6 May 2011 to a most enjoyable and memorable acceptance speech. Well done, Brian, in continuing the high calibre of Beluga Award recipients.

On a more serious note I would like to say a few words about the purpose of the BIO-OA. The mandate of the OA was discussed at length recently by the OA Executive as we pondered what to do or not do in response to proposals being vetted for the replacement of the CCGS *Hudson*. (See the President's column in the April 2011 issue of the newsletter.) Readers may recall that in our April 2010 edition of the newsletter there was an exchange of letters between our then president Bob O'Boyle and Dr. Alan Longhurst wherein, inter alia, Dr. Longhurst encouraged the OA to be more active in making our views on the state of oceanographic research in Canada known to senior management. So what should the OA be doing?

In the documents that are the basis for existence of the BIO-OA there is no mention of the OA as an advocacy group. Our intervention in the *Hudson* replacement and the activity that Dr. Longhurst was promoting would certainly fall into that category. When discussing our recent letter to the ministers, concerns were raised that lobbying activity might not be supported by the majority of the membership and in particular that it might be of concern to many of our members who are still employees of DFO and NRCan. (In fact we did have one member request that their membership be suspended for this reason.) However, in this instance our decision to lobby the departments on this issue was based on an overwhelming sense of responsibility to make the considerable expertise of the OA membership available to the decision makers.

I believe it is fair to say that the BIO-OA Executive agrees on a number of points. Firstly, that there is a vast amount of knowledge available in the OA related to ocean sciences. Secondly, that there is a sense of responsibility for many retired scientists to

Give the Newsletter a New Name

To mark BIO's 50th Anniversary Celebrations we are asking for suggestions for a new name for the BIO-OA Newsletter. We will start using the new name in the January 2012 issue. Send your suggestions with a brief rationale for your suggestion to: Andy Sherin, Editor oanewslettereditor@gmail.com

KUDOS to BIO scientists!

Robert (Bob) J. Keeley was presented with the International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) Achievement Award on 21 March 2011. This award expresses special appreciation for the experts who contributed to the development and growth of the IODE global network of data and information centres.

Dr. John Loder was awarded the J.P. Tully Medal in Oceanography on 8 June 2011 by the Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (CMOS). John was recognized for providing the community with enhanced understanding and knowledge of fundamental physical processes in both coastal and deep ocean regions, and for providing exemplary scientific leadership and management in the face of reduced support for government laboratories.

Dr. Allyn Clarke, an Emeritus Scientist with the Ocean Sciences Division at BIO, recently received international recognition as a 'Guest of Honour' at a scientific symposium organized by International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) and Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO). Dr. Clarke was one of six 'Guests of Honour' who were acknowledged for their contributions to enhancing our understanding of the marine environment, and recognized as leaders and long-time contributors to the study of environmental variation in the North Atlantic and effects on biota over many decades within ICES and NAFO.

make their expertise available to decision makers. It is also the case that a considerable commitment of time and resources would be required for the OA or any group to take on an effective advocacy role. There was no one in the OA Executive who was prepared to champion such an initiative.

We would like to hear your views on this issue. Should the OA Executive explore the development of an advocacy role? If so, should it be a role for the OA or should the OA Executive encourage the formation of a separate group? Are there members or non-members who would be interested in the development of an advocacy role or the formation of a separate group for this purpose?

Please send your comments to me or any other OA Executive member to help us decide on a path forward.

Paul Keizer

World Oceans Day on the Waterfront

World Oceans Day, a global annual event was celebrated on the waterfront of Halifax on 3 June 2011. The waterfront event is one of the longest-running World Oceans Day events in the world. The waterfront around the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic was noisier than usual as children, tourists and delegates to the Canadian Federation of Municipalities (who were meeting in Halifax) milled through the displays set up by non-governmental organizations and provincial and federal government departments. A strong contingent from DFO and NRCan at BIO were on hand. The displays were enjoyed by all!



Photo captions (clockwise from top right): Tony Henderson demonstrates HARV, a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) on the waterfront (see inset); Andrew McMillan (left) and Megan Best host the Mysteries of The Gully display; Stephanie Brown uses her mythical persona, Mermaid Raina, to reach children and make them more interested in the ocean and the environment; Warren Joyce shows a set of mako shark jaws to two prospective young marine scientists.

My Road to B.I.O

By Bosko Loncarevic [at BIO 1963 – 1995]

In the fall of 1960, a letter arrived in Cambridge, England from F.R. Hays, Director of Institute of Oceanography at Dalhousie University (IODAL), to Professor Maurice N. Hill, Cambridge University:

“Dear Maurice: Canada's expanding National Oceanographic Research requires new scientists. We need new staff to train Marine Geophysics students. Any bright stars among your students who will be completing their PhDs in the near future?”

Professor Hill wrote back the next day: “Dear F.R.: Yes, we have three students in Marine Geophysics who will be finished next year. Two of them are Canadians. They are all interested in hearing more about your programme.”

At the time I was planning a short visit to North America and volunteered to find out more. After Christmas in Toronto, I arranged my return flight with a stopover in Halifax, my first visit there since landing at Pier 21 in 1951. I had written to Dr. Hays informing him of my proposed visit, but when I got to Dalhousie University he was not available to see me and so, I talked to Dr. Carl Boyd, a marine biologist. It did not take long to realize that I was at the wrong place, as I was primarily interested in having easy access to ships and good support for design and construction of instruments. I wanted to visit Bedford Institute of Oceanography (BIO), not IODAL.

Construction of the BIO building had just started and was not to be completed for another year and a half (1962). The first dozen of staff were located in temporary war-time buildings on Terminal Road, near the Nova Scotian Hotel in Halifax, but there was no time for me to visit them. Carl Boyd could not tell me anything about the plans for geophysics research at BIO. It seemed my visit was a waste of time until I saw a wall of the lecture room in the old Forrest building covered with the construction drawings of BIO's new ship *Hudson*. I could not believe my eyes! Here was a ship two to three times larger than any other research ship I knew of, with half-a-dozen dedicated laboratory spaces and accommodation for 26 scientific staff. This was going to be big-time oceanographic research and I felt an immediate yearning to be a part of that program.

In the summer of 1961, two days after submitting my dissertation, Mike Keen, the other Canadian marine geophysics student at Cambridge, and I flew back to Canada. Mike had accepted a position at IODAL and I was going to Toronto to marry Carol Stone. Our honeymoon was at a family cottage near Algonquin Park and before returning to Toronto we made a side trip to Ottawa, to meet the boss, Dr. William Cameron, to learn more about the plans for BIO.

My visit turned out to be a job interview with an immediate offer of a Research Scientist position at BIO. The initial salary offer was good, but I felt I had nothing to lose by asking for more. We soon found a middle ground with a salary about 40% above Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory's offer and more than twice my post-doc stipend at Cambridge.

In previous correspondence, I had explained to Dr. Cameron my commitment to participate in the *Indian Ocean Expedition* and he readily agreed that I should take that opportunity to widen my knowledge of global oceans. I told him that I would be available only late in

1962, and he accepted that too. Then I told him that I had had three other offers and would have to weigh various ‘pros’ and ‘cons’ and he understood that too.

Back in Cambridge from the *Indian Ocean Expedition* life, I was settling into a pleasant routine of a post-doctoral fellow. The main task for the next 12 months was to process the mountain of gravity observations and measurements collected on the *Expedition*.

Early that summer (1962), I received a firm offer of a job at BIO and was given a few weeks to accept it. I still remember sitting in the bathtub one evening and deciding that the moment for decision had come. Next morning I wrote to Dr. Cameron accepting the offer!

Somewhere in the mid-Atlantic my letter crossed with one sent by Dr. Cameron retracting his offer. With sincere disappointment he informed me that the Diefenbaker Government of the day had declared a hiring freeze in order to cope with the looming budget deficit. I believe that it was the first time in the history of the Canadian Public Service such a measure was implemented.

At that point, Mike Keen came to the rescue of the Canadian Government. He was concerned that the longer I stayed in Cambridge, the more favourably I might look at the alternatives to employment at BIO. To make sure that I stayed committed to BIO, he made arrangements for me to come to Dalhousie University as a visiting scientist for the month of October 1962.

After the crowded conditions in Cambridge, (and Europe in general), it was a revelation to experience the emptiness of Canadian space. The Physics and Geology Departments at Dalhousie University were housed in the recently completed Dunn Building where a large number of offices were empty. Across the harbour in Dartmouth, the virtually empty new building of BIO was being readied for the official opening.

My main task was to think about the research program in Marine Geophysics that could and should be undertaken at the BIO. I discussed the subject many times with Mike Keen, and also talked quite a lot with Ewart Blanchard and Reg Gilbert.

The opportunity to present my plan came during the official opening of BIO on 23-24 October 1962. I met with Drs. Cameron, English and Mann for about an hour, and outlined my thinking. I suggested that, at least initially, we would work closely with IODAL and complement each other's efforts. Mike had already done one marine seismic experiment and I was glad to leave seismic work to Dalhousie. BIO's effort would concentrate on under-way observations (gravity and magnetics) to make full use of the available ships and close cooperation with the Canadian Hydrographic Service.

The initial thinking of the Cameron-English-Mann team was of a marine geophysics program consisting of 2-3 scientists with a minimal technical support, engaged mostly in paper studies and tagging along as part of other more comprehensive cruises. My ‘bravura’ performance (as I thought of it at that time) shocked them when I presented funding estimates: a staff of 20-30 with a capital budget of \$100-200,000 per year until all the instrumentation was acquired. I had a grand vision that required fresh thinking on their part. For the time being, it was all theoretical, as the freeze on staffing was still in place.

The opening of BIO was an important event, a culmination of the first phase of the federal government's effort to build up ocean sciences in Canada. As a special guest, I had lunch onboard CSS *Baffin* with Mr. Robert Stanfield as my table companion. We had a pleasant chat without a mention of the "Cuban Missile Crisis" then unfolding offshore Cuba. Later I learned that we had just lived through the point of closest approach in the 'Cold War' brinkmanship. With no television in Halifax, and so many other things on our minds, we had paid no attention to world news and I was unaware of this crisis.

In February 1963 came the letter announcing that some staff positions were unfrozen. We started serious preparations to relocate back to Canada.

Letters flew across the Atlantic, and Dr. English agreed that my first task at BIO was to implement a technique of underway gravity measurements at sea. Large ships available at BIO (CSS *Baffin* and soon to be delivered CSS *Hudson*) were ideal platforms for gravity measurements. I had worked with British hydrographers in the Indian Ocean and was aware that gravity measurements could be easily incorporated into any hydrographic survey program, thus collecting valuable geophysical information at no additional ship costs. Finally, this was my field of expertise and it made sense to start with a project that I was familiar with.

It was also agreed that the Bedford Institute would acquire a sea gravimeter as one of its most expensive single instruments (\$70,000 in 1962 dollars!). There were two sea gravimeters on the market and a question was which one we should select for BIO. The first instrument, favoured by the Gravity Division of the Dominion Observatory was developed by Dr. Lucien LaCoste in Texas, USA. The second one was developed by Dr. A Graf of Germany. I had already had experience with the Graf sea gravimeter and had used it on several cruises, including a major survey of the Indian Ocean. To be fair and insure that BIO had the best instrument available, I proposed that our first operation should be a comparison of the two instruments, operating side-by-side on the same ship and thus experiencing identical accelerations and navigational uncertainties.

In late April 1963, I boarded a freighter in Liverpool as that was the cheapest way to ship a few items of furniture and mountains of books. The ship docked in Halifax on the 5 May and later that day, Carol flew in, on the same flight with George Needler and his family. George was also joining BIO as the first member of the Theoretical Oceanography group. Reg Gilbert met us and we had our first dinner in Nova Scotia with his family at his home. There was much talk about BIO and as we parted, Reg said:

"I'll give you just one bit of advice. BIO is not Cambridge and you can't show up late in the morning in time for a coffee break. This is a Government Lab and you are expected to be there by 8:30."

For the next 33 years I remembered this and tried to follow Reg's dictum.

Tell us about your journey to BIO!

Tell us your story about your journey to BIO. We will publish the stories in the issues we publish in 2012, BIO's 50th anniversary year. So we can publish as many as possible, please keep your story brief and send them to oanewslettereditor@gmail.com



HMCS *Sackville's* Oceanographic History:

A new website available soon

By Keith Manchester

The BIO Oceans Association decided a few years ago decided they would assemble the data describing the *Sackville's* oceanographic history as a Canadian Navy Auxiliary Vessel. The Canadian Naval Memorial Trust agreed to install this information on their planned web site update. I agreed to collect the *Sackville's* oceanographic history which was completed a couple of years ago. Due to many delays, the existing HMCS *Sackville* web site was not updated as planned, but it is now finished. The new version was shown at the Canadian Naval Memorial Trust annual meeting on 8 July 2011. The new web-site will be available soon at: www.hmcssackville-cnmt.ns.ca

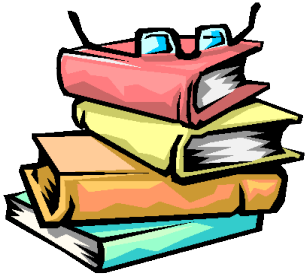
I would like to thank the following persons who helped me assemble the data and pictures, and contributed articles and information used in the what will be on the new web site describing the almost 32 year history of the *Sackville's* oceanographic research cruises: Neil Campbell, Carl Cunningham, Don Gordon, Mike Latremouille, John Lazier, Doug Loring, Dave McKeown, Don Peer, and Betty Sutherland.

Once this new website is up and running, it can be added to if additional information becomes available. One of the real valuable future additions could be more pictures taken on the many CNAV *Sackville* cruises. Surprisingly, photos have been hard to come by. If anyone has pictures or more information that could be added in future updates, please contact me: Keith Manchester, 861-3509; k.manchester@ns.sympatico.ca.

In Memoriam

William Bruce (Billy) Fiander, died 5 July 2011, DFO.

Gore Elliott Joseph, died 19 June 2011, ship's cook.



NOTEWORTHY READS: BOOK REVIEWS IN BRIEF

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. Most books listed are available at local bookstores and public libraries. Book prices are regular retail in Canadian funds, but discounts of 20-30% are normally available on line at: e.g., amazon.ca or chapters.indigo.ca. Contributions of book reviews to 'Noteworthy Reads' are welcome – send via e-mail to David Nettleship: dnnlundy@navnet.net (phone: 902-826-2360).

SPECIAL DVD RELEASE:

POSITIVE ACTIONS FOR RECOVERY OF ATLANTIC COD

Blanchard, Kathleen. 2011. Cod: Renewing a Bountiful Catch. DVD Video, Intervale Associates Inc., Doyles, NL. 20 minutes duration, \$18.00 including taxes and postage (contact: Intervale Associates, P.O. Box 172, Doyles, NL AON 1J0; ph: 514-378-8256; e-mail: kblanchard@intervale.ca; www.intervale.ca). – In this carefully crafted short documentary, educator and conservationist Kathleen Blanchard, has produced a valuable educational tool directed towards the general public for purposes of encouraging dialogue about the recovery of Atlantic Cod. The overall aim to deliver information on the past and present status of cod in Newfoundland waters is attained, though reasons for the collapse and closure of the fishery in 1992 and changes that have taken place over the last two decades are largely ignored. Mismanagement and overexploitation are implied through the total landing statistics presented – rapid decline from 800,000 metric tons in 1968 to annual catches of 257,000 in the 1980s and 19,900 in 2009 – but not dealt with in a meaningful manner in explaining the demise of cod populations. Regardless, this general overview of events should help to better understand the cod tragedy and hopefully promote useful discussion on what positive actions can be taken to increase the likelihood of cod recovery in Atlantic Canadian waters. It will also go a long way in ensuring that today's younger generation as a whole, in schools and universities, fully understand and appreciate the cod abundance that once existed and its importance to humans worldwide. This video production should be shown to audiences far and wide to inform the public on the importance of safe-

guarding the health of our ocean waters and the consequences of failing to do so. Intervale and Canada's Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk are to be commended for producing such an important conservation message.

GENERAL REVIEWS

Danson, Ted and Michael D'orso. 2011. Oceana: Our Endangered Oceans and What We Can Do to Save Them. Rodale Books, New York, NY. 304 pp. Hardcover, \$37.50 (ISBN 978-1605292625). – From the celebrity actor of 'Cheers' Ted Danson and co-author Michael D'orso comes a successful summary of the state of health of the world's oceans and what needs to be done to save them from total destruction. From a revealing preface that sets the scene for what follows, the reader is taken through broad review topics entitled 'Tough Oil', 'The Silent Tsunami', 'Jellyfish Soup', 'An Illusion of Abundance', 'The Last Frontier', 'Convenience', 'Blue Revolution', and 'Living Blue'. Unknown to most people, Danson has spent the last 25 years advocating marine conservation with the goal of reducing the ongoing destruction of oceanic ecosystems and major commercial fisheries. Today, he is one of the most influential oceanic environmental activists and helped found 'Oceana', the largest marine conservation organization in the world. Altogether, the book goes a long way in the identification of the major marine problems we face, possible solutions to correct them, and the immediate need for drastic action by governments and agencies responsible for the health of the oceans. Not to do so will be catastrophic to life on the planet including our own. A timely and very useful summary work to draw the public's attention to this all important global crisis.

Hamilton, Garry. 2010. Super Species: The Creatures that will Dominate the Planet. Firefly Books, Buffalo, NY. 272 pp. Hardcover, \$35.00 (ISBN 978-1554076307). – Here is a selection of phenomenally successful invasive life-forms -- animals, plants and microbes -- that have spread far from their native habitats, usually as a result of human activities, and are now dominating foreign ecosystems. Journalist Garry Hamilton profiles a sample of 20 'super species' that are impacting natural systems today, organisms ranging from aquatic species such as zebra mussels, jellyfish, and Humboldt squid to American bullfrogs, brown tree snakes, grey squirrels, and Argentine ants. The chief characteristic of all super species is their ability to adapt quickly to new and changing environments with an incredible ability for rapid rates of growth and reproduction. Hamilton reviews the current debate by ecologists as to whether these species are plagues of nature that pose a threat to biodiversity or simply

represent the consequences of human alteration and destruction of terrestrial and aquatic habitats. Regardless of cause, clearly 'super species' represent the current victors in the never-ending process of natural selection.

King-Hele, Desmond (ed.). 2011. Charles Darwin's The Life of Erasmus Darwin. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, England. 194 pp. Softcover, \$40.95 (ISBN 978-0521298742). – Desmond King-Hele, the leading authority on Charles Darwin's grandfather, Erasmus Darwin, presents in this small volume a series of illuminating insights about the life and work of Erasmus extracted from the personal writings of his grandson Charles. First published in 2002, this first softcover edition of the original has been released by Cambridge to commemorate the bicentenary of Erasmus Darwin's death. Overall, a fascinating work that reveals not only Charles' views of his grandfather's books and scientific accomplishments, but the social mores of 19th century Britain as well. An important work to students of the history of biology.

Maeda, Deborah M. (ed.). 2011. Troubled Waters: Asian Carp and the Great Lakes. Nova Science Publishers, Hauppauge, NY. 135 pp. Hardcover, \$87.99 (ISBN 978-1617617669). – Looking for a story of an invasive fish species that can do immeasurable harm to native species and ecosystems far and wide? The history of the Asian carp is a perfect example. They were introduced into the southern United States in the early 1970s to help catfish farmers control the growth of algae in their shallow farm ponds. Flooding in the early 1990s resulted in the overflow of ponds and the escape of the carp into waterways of the Mississippi Delta river basin. Since their escape, the carp have moved north up the Mississippi River and have become the dominant fish in several areas of the river. They have displaced many of the native fish species and pose a considerable threat to the Great Lakes region. This work provides a succinct review of the history and threat of the Asian carp to the Great Lakes Region and the testimonies of concern by government and NGO expert witnesses to the 'Asian Carp and Great Lakes Hearing' before the US Subcommittee on Water Resources and the Environment. Methods to halt the northward migration and invasion of the Great Lakes by this aggressive alien species are outlined and assessed. Overall, an important case study for biologists, managers and policy-makers responsible for the welfare of aquatic systems.

Moffett, Mark W. 2010. Adventures among Ants: A Global Safari with a Cast of Trillions. University of California Press, Berkeley, CA. 288 pp. Hardcover, \$34.50 (ISBN 978-0520261990). – Want something to think about as you lounge about outside during spring or summer? Well,

this new book on ants by biologist-explorer and photographer Mark Moffett is a perfect subject to tackle, one that will grasp and fascinate by its unusual message. The hidden world of ants as revealed by Moffett on a tour around the world is gripping and captivating. Not only is the reader introduced to a wide-ranging diversity of ant types and species, but also to an awe-inspiring respect for the complexity of the social systems that have evolved and their similarities in structure and function to our own, past and present. Moffett's exposé of ant biology and behaviour is exceptionally well written and exciting, a stimulating read with superb photographs of the tiny subjects that quickly come to life. Never will you intentionally step on another ant after reading this thought-provoking book!

Mowat, Farley. 2010. Eastern Passage. McClelland & Stewart, Toronto, ON. 320 pp. Hardcover, \$32.99 (ISBN 978-0771064913). – This latest work by Farley Mowat, Canada's writing icon, is the second half of a memoir about his life that reviews the years from 1946 to about 1954, a follow-up to his 2008 memoir 'Otherwise'. Eastern Passage is a personal and exciting read of the early years of his writing career, a time when he was developing his skills as both a writer and activist. The book is gripping, taking the reader through the difficult times of controversy and character assassination from his first books – 'People of the Deer' (1952), 'Lost in the Barrens' (1956), and 'The Desperate People' (1959) – that continued through the decades that followed. Enlightening stories abound in this volume, none dull or boring, that together reveal the why of the author's fascination with the natural world and what led to his environmental activism. Now 89, Mowat has written 44 books including many classics such as 'The Dog Who Wouldn't Be' (1957), 'Never Cry Wolf' (1963) and 'Sea of Slaughter' (1984). Long may he continue to write and keep us thinking about the planet and our place within it!

Smith, Joshua M. 2011. Battle for the Bay: The Naval War of 1812. Goose Lane Editions, Fredericton, NB. 128 pp. Softcover, \$16.95 (ISBN 978-0864926449). – This is an account of three small British ships at war in the Bay of Fundy and the Gulf of Maine during the War of 1812. While naval battles raged on the Great Lakes in 1812, smaller though equally critical encounters took place in the defense of the eastern waters of British North America. The crews of the provincial sloop *Brunswicker*, and His Majesty's schooner *Bream* and brig of war *Boxer* successfully fought both the Americans and the harsh elements of the Bay of Fundy – fierce tidal currents, winter winds and summer fog -- to secure the Bay for Britain. Joshua Smith's work tells the full story of the battle for the Bay, and by doing so fills an important gap in our knowledge of the War of 1812 in the Maritimes.

It's SUMMER and the Reading is Easy!
Here are a few other recommended titles to
enjoy during the months of summer:

Alexander, Becky (ed.). 2010. Natural History: The Ultimate Visual Guide to Everything on Earth. Smithsonian Institution, Dorling Kindersley Publishing, New York, NY. 648 pp. Hardcover, \$55.00 (ISBN 978-1405336994). – This is a book for someone whose curiosities know no bounds. There are more than 5,000 illustrations, and the index alone comprises 24 pages of small type. It catalogues our planet, flora to fauna, phosphate to fruit fly and more – a fun-filled learning experience!

Bird, David (ed.). 2010. Birds of Canada. Dorling Kindersley Publishing, Toronto, ON. 512 pp. Hardcover, \$40.00 (ISBN 978-1553631200). – The latest edition and update of Fred J. Aslop III's 2002 "Birds of Canada" – a beautiful and easy-to-use reference source on Canadian birds.

Boileau, John. 2010. Halifax & the Royal Canadian Navy. Nimbus Publishing, Halifax, NS. 214 pp. Softcover, \$21.95 (ISBN 978-1553631200). – A celebration of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Royal Canadian Navy in 1910.

Costa, Rebecca D. 2010. The Watchman's Rattle: Thinking our Way Out of Extinction. Vanguard Press, Philadelphia, PA. 347 pp. Hardcover, \$29.95 (ISBN 978-1593156053). – With an enlightening foreword by renown evolutionary biologist E.O. Wilson, author Costa presents a thought provoking analysis of the present state of the world and the warning signs that indicate the imminent collapse of our civilization, and how we can reverse the downward spiral.

Graham, Monica. 2010. Bluenose: Stories of Our Past. Nimbus Publishing, Halifax, NS. 128 pp. Softcover, \$15.95 (ISBN 978-1551097930). – A compact overview of a schooner with a large and impressive history, the original S/V 'Bluenose'. An ideal read for anyone interested in the sea, Nova Scotia history, and the iconic ship on the Canadian dime!

Krupnik, Igor, C. Aporta, S. Gearhead, G.J. Laidler and L.K. Holm (eds.). 2010. SIKU: Knowing Our Ice – Documenting Inuit Sea Ice Knowledge and Use. Springer Publishing, New York, NY. 501 pp. Hardcover, \$101.95 (ISBN 978-9048185863). – An exploration of indigenous people's knowledge and use of sea ice that includes the study of social aspects (socio-cultural) of the natural world. A unique and fascinating review.

Long, John A. 2010. The Rise of Fishes: 500 Million Years of Evolution, 2nd revised edition. John Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, MD. 304 pp. Hardcover, \$66.40 (ISBN 978-0801896959). – The second and revised edition of a classic work; profusely illustrated, this scientific and educational tool is also a visual celebration of the glories of biological diversity as seen in the fossil record and is a marvelous addition to the literature of vertebrate paleontology.

MacLeod, Alasdair. 2010. Explorers: Great Tales of Adventure and Endurance. Royal Geographical Society & Smithsonian Institution, Dorling Kindersley Publishing, New York, NY. 358 pp. Hardcover, \$45.00 (ISBN 978-1405346900). – Details the lives of more than 80 larger-than-life explorers destined to travel hard, from Alexander the Great to Robert Scott of the Antarctic. The book brims with maps, photos and fascinating facts about these explorers, all of whom chose to 'stick it out to the end'.

MacLeod, Ray. 2011. Hope for Wildlife: True Stories of Animal Rescue. Nimbus Publishing, Halifax, NS. 176 pp. Softcover, \$19.95 (ISBN 978-1551098173). – A selection of stories that demonstrate the challenges and history associated with the Hope for Wildlife rehabilitation centre established 14 years ago in Seaforth, Nova Scotia, a care facility that presently handles about 15,000 injured animals annually.

McShea, Daniel W. and Robert N. Brandon. 2010. Biology's First Law: The Tendency for Diversity and Complexity to Increase in Evolutionary Systems. University of Chicago Press, Chicago, IL. 184 pp. Hardcover, \$60.00 (ISBN 978-0226562254). – An examination of the principal factors of life on earth -- adaptation, diversity, and complexity – and the role of natural selection in their explanation.

Polaszek, Andrew (ed.). 2010. Systema Naturae 250: The Linnaean Ark. CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL. 300 pp. Hardcover, \$109.95 (ISBN 978-1420095012). – This impressive book is a tribute to the past 250 years of zoological nomenclature from the beginnings of the Linnaean nomenclature system to the present day with DNA sequencing, specimen imaging, and electronic data storage.

Ryan, Christopher and Cacilda Jetha. 2010. Sex at Dawn: The Prehistoric Origins of Modern Sexuality. Harper-Collins, New York, NY. 400 pp. Hardcover, \$27.99 (ISBN 978-0061707805). – A delightful, witty, and entertaining examination of the origins and nature of human sexuality!

Zurawski, Richard. 2011. Media Mediocrity: Waging War Against Science. Fernwood Publishing, Black Point, NS. 192 pp. Softcover, \$24.00 (ISBN 978-1552664007). – A fascinating look at the negative effects television has on people's understanding of science, the most influential medium we have for the transfer of information.

Editor's Keyboard: June saw the initiation of the International Program on the State of the Ocean. IPSO's purpose is "to identify how humankind is changing the capacity of the Global Ocean to support life and human societies on Earth" and "to identify solutions to restore the health of the Ocean." That the ocean needed advocates was brought home to me when not one media person (yours truly excepted) came to the Maritime Mu-

seum's media event for World Oceans Day. The Coastal CURA conference held at St. Mary's recently impressed upon me how essential the ocean was to the health of human communities around the world. Whether the OA becomes an advocate for the ocean and ocean science is for its members to decide, but it is all too clear that the ocean and all the living things that rely on it need advocates to speak for them! *Andrew Sherin, Editor*

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 \$10.00 per year, \$40.00 for five years, or \$150.00 for a lifetime membership.

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