

VOICETPIPE

Issue 63

July 2014

The Newsletter of the BIO-Oceans Association

“Competent, Dependable, Creative, and Energetic”



Andrew Cogswell, Chair of the BIO-OA Beluga Award Committee, presents the 2014 Beluga Award to Claudia Currie (photo: K. Bentham).

Claudia Currie was presented with the 2014 Beluga Award in a ceremony in the William Ford Auditorium at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography on 28 May 2014 in the presence of her family and a capacity audience of her co-workers and BIO-OA members.

Breaking with tradition, not unusual when Claudia is involved, several testimonials were given led by Sherry Niven, one of Claudia's nominators and a

**ANNUAL BIO-OA
POTLUCK BARBEQUE
13 AUGUST 2014
2:00-6:00 pm
121 Crichton Avenue, Dartmouth**

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TODAY!!!**

Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| “Competent, Dependable, Creative, and Energetic” | 1 |
| BIO-OA Annual General Meeting | 4 |
| FROM THE PRESIDENT | 5 |
| ORDER YOUR COPY OF THE 'VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY' | 5 |
| Forever 'Bluenose' | 6 |
| Leaving our kids an incredible mess | 7 |
| Following Hillary's Footsteps; exploring the eastern Himalayas of Nepal | 8 |
| BIO staff at World Oceans Day on the Waterfront | 11 |
| Editor's Keyboard | 12 |
| About the BIO-Oceans Association | 12 |





Photos clockwise from top left: Patrick Potter singing *La Mer* for Claudia; Charles Schafer applauding; Tom Sephton; Bill Brewser (left) and Bruce Anderson (right); Sherry Niven; Bob Murphy; Claudia celebrating after receiving the award, and Kristie Hickey who spoke of her time living with the Currie family (photos A. Sherin).

received their peers' recognition with the Beluga Award. Jackie Dale, the first woman to receive the Award in

former Beluga Award winner herself (2010). Indeed, Claudia is one of only three women that have re-

ceived the Beluga Award. In her acceptance remarks, Claudia mentioned Jackie as an important mentor to her in her early days at BIO.

Charles Schafer described Claudia as "CDCE: competent, dependable, creative and energetic".

Ruth Jackson told the story of how Claudia saved the day for an important conference on the Arctic that was



Photos clockwise from top left: Claudia's family - husband Randy, son Kyle, brother Raymond Powell, sister Karen Miller-Dewolf, brother-in-law Dave Dewolf and, mother-in-law Joyce Currie who also directed the BIO 50th Anniversary Gala Choir; BIO cafeteria supervisor Cindy Conrad and the buffet; luncheon participants (from left) - Steve Blasco, Brian MacLean, and Ruth Jackson; past Beluga Award recipients - Jackie Dale (left) and Brian Beanlands (right) (photos A. Sherin).

to be held at BIO but there was no power. Claudia found out that the Ramada Inn in Burnside had power and the conference was saved.

Gordon Fader introduced himself as Claudia's personal pianist and lauded her as 'a herder of cats'. He had his own acronym for her 'CPHW': consistent, persistent, and hard working.

Bill Brewser and Bruce Anderson (2009 Beluga Award recipient), in their funny hats, noted Claudia's persistence. You gave in to her request they said, because when she asked the next four times it would "nauseate you".

Tom Shephton said Claudia had "an idea every hour". Some were fantastic, some never got off the ground but "things happened"!

Bob Murphy told the story of how Claudia's efforts with the Parker Street Food and Furniture Bank started small, only 85 Christmas packages delivered, and grew to de-

livering packages to between 1,200 and 1,300 households with the help of the staff at the Halifax International Airport. Bob described her as "ferocious", a team player, and a leader.

She saw both the "big picture" and the details. She makes you feel that "you are the only person that can do the job".

Patrick Potter said Claudia was all about teamwork and saw the work environment through a team lens. Patrick finished his testimonial in French with a moving rendition of the song by Charles Trenet, *La Mer*, that ends with the words "une chanson d'amour, la mer a bercé mon cœur pour la vie (with a love song, the sea has rocked my heart for life)".

As she usually did at events like this, Claudia accompanied her acceptance remarks with a slide show, not without some groans from the audience. Afterwards, someone remarked that she included almost everyone in the audience in her pictures. In the show she included a slide defining a 'catalyst'. It is worth repeating here since it describes Claudia's contribution to BIO to a 'T'.

"Cat.al.y.sis [kuh-tal-uh-sis], noun - the increase in the rate of a chemical reaction (aka a BIO project) of two or more reactants (people on committees) due to the addition of an additional substance called a catalyst (Claudia). Unlike other reactants, the catalyst is not consumed by the chemical reaction. With a catalyst, less free energy is needed to reach the transition state (committee goals), but the total free energy from reactants to products does not change. A catalyst may partic-

ipate in multiple chemical reactions (BIO projects). The effect of a catalyst may vary due to the presence of other substances known as inhibitors, or poisons (government rules and regulations), which reduce the catalytic activity or promoters which can increase the activity (Tom Sephton and Richard Eisner). The opposite of a catalyst, a substance that reduces the rate of a reaction, is an inhibitor. (Take whatever meaning you want from that one)."

Traditionally, the Beluga Award recipient is taken to lunch by the BIO-OA to a restaurant of their choice accompanied by their family and BIO-OA members. This time, Claudia chose to have the BIO cafeteria cater the luncheon. The lower cafeteria was set up with tables and tablecloths and a delicious buffet was served.



Photos: BIO-OA members engage in conversation between the AGM and the Beluga Award Ceremony, top from the left, Iris Hardy, Tim Lambert, Paul Kaiser, Gordon Fader and Keith Manchester; bottom, BIO-OA President Mike Hughes gives the 'thumbs-up' signal (photos A. Sherin).

BIO-OA Annual General Meeting

The 2014 Annual General Meeting of the BIO-Oceans Association was held in the William Ford Auditorium at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography just prior to the Beluga Award Ceremony on 28 May 2014. The meeting highlighted a report on the status of the *Voyage of Discovery* completed in its digital prepress form and its imminent dispatch to the printers. Printed copies of the book should be available by late August at BIO. Mike Hughes, BIO-OA President, thanked the editors for their diligence in preparing such a remarkable book. Francis Kelly was also recognized for his faithful execution of the layout of the book, much of it done on his own time. Paul Kaiser, Past President, indicated that the nomination committee had again been unable to identify a person to take on the position of First Vice-President. A vigorous search is needed to find someone who wants to become the next President. Anyone interested is invited to contact Mike Hughes for details.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

My first year in office has passed very quickly. It will be interesting to see what the next year brings. I hope everyone survived 'Arthur' without too much stress. Probably the best news right now is that the 'Voyage of Discovery' manuscript is now at the printer (Friesens Corporation), and bound copies are scheduled to arrive at BIO late August or early September. Hats off to David Nettleship, Don Gordon, Mike Lewis and Mike Latremouille for their perseverance in seeing this project to the end. Special mention goes to Francis Kelly for the personal time he has spent working with the editors to ensure that the book was completed. If any BIO-OA members have not already ordered a copy, I strongly encourage you to do so. An order form is included in this issue of the 'Voicepipe'. An announcement on the official launch date of the 'Voyage of Discovery' will be made in the near future.

Claudia Currie received the Beluga Award this year. We all wish her well this summer as she competes in the Senior World Water Skiing Championships.

An interesting article in this issue is a report on a speech given by the Right Honourable Paul Martin at the Coastal Zone Canada Conference held in Halifax in June. Mr. Martin stressed that "Canada should be placing a priority on funding marine research".

One BIO-OA summer event is scheduled to date.

A pot-luck barbeque will be held on 13 August 2014 at Don and Joleen Gordon's home at 121 Crichton Avenue in Dartmouth from 2-6 pm. This is a good way to keep in touch and reminisce with good food and drink. We are always looking for suggestions of events that may be of interest to BIO-OA members. Any suggestions should be sent to the Events Coordinator, Claudia Currie.

Speaking of reminiscing, 16 August 2014 will mark the 40th anniversary of the grounding and eventual sinking of the MV *Minna* on Resolution Island, NWT. She was a ship, chartered by BIO, carrying out a multi-disciplinary survey (hydrography, gravity, magnetics and seismic reflection) in the Labrador Sea, Davis Strait, and Lancaster Sound. Many of 'the survivors' are now gone, but a few of us are still around to tell the story.

The BIO-OA is now on Facebook. This is another way for members to stay in touch. BIO-OA members are the only 'friends' that are allowed to join. Hopefully the number of 'friends' will continue to grow.

Enjoy your summer. *Mike Hughes*

VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY

Fifty Years of Marine Research at Canada's
Bedford Institute of Oceanography

Edited by

D.N. Nettleship
D.C. Gordon, C.F.M. Lewis
and M.P. Latremouille



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Photos: top, hull of 'restored' *Bluenose II* is launched in Lunenburg Harbour, (photo M. Doucette); bottom left, Ron Crocker, author of '*Forever Bluenose: A Future for a Schooner with a Past*'; bottom right, Peter Kinley (front), President of the Lunenburg Industrial Foundry & Engineering Limited, addresses the audience, Mark Doucette (back), official photographer of the *Bluenose II* restoration project for the Lunenburg Shipyard Alliance (photos: A. Sherin).

Forever '*Bluenose*'

Ron Crocker, author of '*Forever Bluenose: A Future for a Schooner with a Past*' presented a lecture on 1 May 2014 in the William Ford Auditorium at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography. He spoke about the *Bluenose*

in the context of Nova Scotia's history of building remarkable wooden sailing vessels. Mr. Crocker's lecture was accompanied by Mark Doucette's wonderful photographs of the *Bluenose* restoration. Mr. Doucette was hired by the Lunenburg Shipyard Alliance (LSA) at the start of the project to document the entire construction in photographs. <http://www.mdphoto.ca/>

Around the time of the lecture the controversy about the cost and technical difficulties of the *Bluenose* restoration were starting to immerse in the media. Alan Hutchison, President of the Covey Island Boatworks, one of the partners in the Lunenburg Shipyard Alliance and Peter Kinley, President of the Lunenburg Industrial Foundry & Engineering Limited, another partner in LSA, were present at the lecture and answered questions about some of the issues such as the use of exotic wood and a steel rudder.

Leaving our kids an incredible mess

by Andy Sherin

The Right Honourable Paul Martin addressed the closing plenary session of the Coastal Zone Canada Conference held at the World Trade and Convention Centre in Halifax on 19 June 2014. Mr. Martin argued that to fund applied science at the expense of discovery and basic science is a misunderstanding of curiosity, the evolution of our species, and the origin of new technologies. He supported his argument by referencing Margaret Thatcher, a chemist, who as Prime Minister of Great Britain supported funding of the acquisition of fundamental knowledge. In her speech to the Royal Society in 1988 she said “It is mainly by unlocking nature's most basic secrets ... that we have been able to build the modern world. The nation as a whole must support the discovery of basic scientific knowledge through Government finance.”

Mr. Martin went on to say that the new dollars for scientific research announced by the Government of Canada were a “failed effort to play catch up” after the earlier cuts to funding for science. He contrasted the present situation with the reinvestment in science the government had made through the Canadian Foundation for Innovation while he was Finance Minister. Canada should be placing a priority on funding marine research, he said, because it has the longest coastline in the world, because of the importance of the fishery to the economy and to society and because of the opening up of the north to tourism, development, and marine transportation.

In his address, Mr. Martin reviewed his role as a Commissioner for the Global Ocean Commission. The Commission's objective is to formulate politically and technically feasible short-, medium- and long-term recommendations to address four key issues facing the high seas: overfishing, the large-scale loss of habitat and biodiversity, the lack of effective management and enforcement on the high seas, and the deficiencies in governance of the high seas. The high seas represent 45% of the ocean and on the high seas the ocean is borderless.

The Global Ocean Commission, at the time of his speech to the Coastal Zone Canada Conference, was scheduled to release a report in New York the following week and so he did not cover the recommendations presented in the report. The report entitled “*From Decline to Recovery: A Rescue Package for the Global Ocean*” is now available at <http://missionocean.me/>.

Mr. Martin suggested that the development of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) would mitigate problems on the high seas and increase the resilience of its ecosystem. He

chastised Canada for its lack of progress in establishing MPAs. Canada ranks 10th in the world behind China, Russia, and the United States.

Mr. Martin spoke about the consequences of overfishing, the increasing fleet capacity and use of technology in the high seas fishing fleets. It is a “race to the bottom”, he said.

He criticized the subsidization of the fishing industry in many developed nations and how their fishing fleets took advantage of the poorest countries in the world, by plundering their fish stocks, that they are unable to protect, often through illegal and unreported fishing.

He suggested the mandatory use of vessel tracking and closing markets to illegal fish, essentially monitoring the food chain from ship to fork would reduce overfishing and the plundering of fish stocks of southern nations.

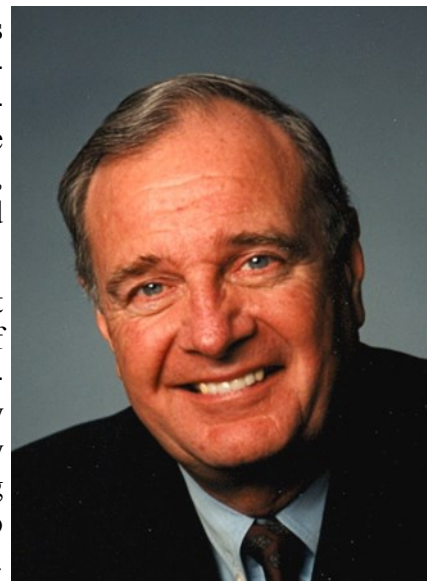
Mr. Martin then turned his focus to marine pollution, particularly to plastic debris and microplastic particles. He suggested that society should treat plastic wastes as hazardous substances.

He went on to note that ocean acidification and climate change is going to have a very negative impact on communities reliant on ocean resources and a “sustained attack on climate change” needed to be a priority.

All of the issues mentioned above require decisions to be made as part of the political process, he said. Mr. Martin quoted a recent survey conducted by the Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada that suggests that half of the scientists working for Environment Canada felt that their science was not being incorporated into government policy. The best science is needed to deal with a changing climate and the other issues impacting the oceans.

Mr. Martin suggested that scientists were “not prepared to speak out.” He called upon scientists to speak up and explain their work to Canadians.

He told the audience of the illegal exploitation of the tropical forest in the Congo Basin in Africa, and how the



Former Prime Minister Paul Martin.

forest was important for its biodiversity, CO₂ uptake and the generation of oxygen. He remembered that it received a high public profile because it was couched in the notion that forests, especially tropical forests, were the ‘lungs of the world’. Mr. Martin reminded the audience that it is actually the oceans that are better described as the ‘lungs of the world’.

“How should we proceed?” he asked.

Firstly, Mr. Martin suggested we need to strengthen existing institutions. Since 1944 and the creation of the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Trade Organization, it is no longer popular to build international organizations. He suggested looking to the example of the G20 which after the financial crisis of 2008 formed the Financial Stability Board to provide

oversight of the stability of the world’s banking systems. It has been a huge success mostly by stealth. It has a small staff and can’t impose its will, but works with banking regulators.

His suggestion was to establish an institution with a limited initial mandate that can be built upon. It would have a small staff and bring in scientific institutions and universities with the objective of convincing the world to cooperate to holistically protect the ocean. Canada with the longest coastline could lead.

Mr. Martin suggested people were desperate for institutions they could look to. Universities, non-governmental organizations and scientists were still trusted. If we don’t act, we will be “leaving our kids an incredible mess.”

Following Hillary’s Footsteps: exploring the eastern Himalayas of Nepal

by Peter Wells

Last fall (late September to late October 2013), a dream came true, an opportunity to experience some really big ‘hills’. I was in Nepal for a trek in the eastern Himalayas with my friend and colleague David (Griff) Griffiths, also of Dalhousie University. For hikers and climbers, this is a magical country, having the world’s highest, breathtakingly beautiful, rugged, largely inaccessible or accessible only by trails, and highly glaciated mountain ranges – for us, a walker’s paradise. October is generally a good time for trekking in this region, coming between the monsoonal rains and winter snows, but as we experienced in buckets, weather suffers its own vicissitudes.

We arrived in the capital, Kathmandu, mid-day on a Sunday, jet lagged after the 36-hour journey through London, England and Qatar. Over a day and a half, we met our expedition’s logistics guru, Sirdar, and our guide, Jagat, sorted gear several times. We packed and rested at our hotel, an old royal palace with a delightful inner garden. There were just the two of us.

Our 22-day trek, called the ‘Hillary Footsteps’, started from the village of Jiri, east of Kathmandu and followed most of the route of the famous 1953 British Mount Everest Expedition of Hillary, Tensing, and Hunt fame. That expedition of over a dozen climbers, with hundreds of porters carrying their food and equipment, marched eastwards across the foothills, low mountains and valleys of eastern Nepal, then north up the Dunh Koshi Nadi river gorge to Namche Bazaar, the capital of the Khumbu district and homeland of the Sherpas, and then



View of highest Himalayan Mountains: Ama Dablam, 6,856 m (on right), and tip of Everest, 8,848 m (on left) (photo: P. Wells).

northeast to the massifs of Everest, Nuptse and Lhotse. This was our route, eight days longer than if starting from Lukla, where most hikers start, but chosen to ensure fitness and acclimatization to the altitude.

The first excitement was travelling to Jiri for a few hours on a fully loaded local bus, carrying passengers and cargo inside and out. The trip was along a very curvy, narrow and at times hair-raising highway. There were lots of stops in local villages, and many wonderful views of the terraced hills, forests, farms, and river valleys, and long bridges across the milky, glacier fed rivers. Local people walked along the highway too, carrying goods and farm produce on their backs. The highway ends in Jiri where we met our porters and cook, and set up the first camp in an Inn’s garden. The following morning, we all loaded up in the rain and set off east-



The Dunh Koshi Nadi river valley (photo: P. Wells).

wards into the misty hills and mountains.

Our trek was in four parts: walking eastwards across the grain of Nepal (the rivers flowing south and the forested ‘hills’ as high as 3,500 meters) to the spectacular mountain valley of the Dunh Koshi Nadi; clinging to the mountain sides and following the river gorge north in the Khumbu region to the Sagarmatha National Park and Namche Bazaar; after a rest for acclimatization, trekking northeast towards Everest and our destination, the Everest base camp; and then, walking back on mostly the same route through Namche to Lukla and a flight to Kathmandu. We were supported by a large team.

We walked each day for 6-9 hours, with light (<20lb) day packs, always led by Jagat, our amiable guide. The amazingly strong porters carried the tents, food, baggage (our duffle bags with clothes and sleeping bags) and other supplies. Soon, due to the terrain and rocky or muddy condition of the trails, we learned to walk at a Nepalese pace – slowly, methodically and carefully, with regular stops for a short rest and water. The trails were well used but often narrow with exposure (if you fell off a trail, you might disappear!). Often, we had to give way to other porters and a few other travellers, especially children bouncing their way along, to and from school.

For the first few days, as we went up and down the hills, it rained a lot due to a storm centred in the Bay of Bengal, so trail conditions were often hazardous – wet, sticky mud, and rocks. They were also relentlessly up and down, up over

high passes (the first one was >3,000m), and down to rivers and bridges. We walked through valleys with forests of rhododendrons, banana trees, sugar cane, other semi-tropical trees and mixed conifers, reflecting the changes in altitude. We passed lots of small villages and many terraced farms, farm animals, crops of many types (maize, grains, potatoes) and vegetable gardens – a land lived in for hundreds of years and thriving with produce. We went up and down all day and camped almost every night, after being fed nutritious dinners. On our fourth night, we were treated to an Inn so we could dry out – the first few days were mostly relentless rain. It is spectacular country – on this leg of the journey, we crossed three high passes (one was 3,530 m), and rugged, largely rocky trails. No roads – the trails are the Nepalese highways.

Eventually, as we neared the big river valley, we started to pass or be passed by donkey trains carrying all manner of supplies. The donkeys made great photo ops – long sad faces and big floppy ears! On this leg, we crossed numerous high, well-built suspension bridges, donated by international groups and agencies. Then we crossed the Dunh Koshi Nadi on a very large bridge and turned northwards, towards the towns of Bupsa, Lukla, Phakding, and Namche Bazaar. The paths became much steeper and in places much more hazardous. But the weather improved, the sun and sunscreen came out, and it was hot as we traversed many mountain ridges high above the river gorge. Every few kilometres, we would enter a village with well-built stone houses, guest lodges, shops, and terraces, all very well cared for and very colorful with countless flower gardens. All along the trails in this region, we passed many mani stones, chortens or gompas, and prayer wheels, all dedicated to Buddhist prayer and meditation.

At Phakding, a pleasant village just above the river and with a large swaying bridge, we bade (and paid) some of



Photos: left, Decorations in the Tengboche monastery; right, a chorten, its shape represents the Buddha (photos: P. Wells).



Namche Bazar, the main village of the Sherpas in the Khumbu region of Nepal at an elevation of 3,440 m) (photos: P. Wells).

the porters goodbye, and switched to five yaks, along with yak herder, to carry the gear. We were also now a party of three as our third member, Marty Goldberg from Toronto, joined Griff and I. After Phakding, the trail became more challenging, quite often narrow and crowded. We crossed the river several times on high bridges, one quite long and intimidating (don't look down was our mantra!). The trail then really steepened as we relentlessly switch-backed up a huge ridge through fir and pine forests, eventually reaching the Sherpa village of Namche Bazaar.

Namche, the economic centre of the Khumbu region, sits snugly in an ancient cirque on the mountain side, at 3,440 m. It is surrounded by spectacularly high mountains, such as the Kongdi Ri (6,187 m). We encamped high above the town center for two nights in good weather, to acclimatize, dry out, rest, shop, and in Marty's case, do a short conditioning hike. We even had showers, the first of the trek!

Then it was onto Khumjung (3,780 m), a village above Namche, where Hillary built the first of his "school houses in the clouds" in the early 1960s. Enroute, we visited the very modern and lavish Everest Hotel, built by the Japanese and offering a superb view of Everest and surrounding mountains. In Khumjung, we visited the monastery and the school with its bronze bust of Hillary, the much loved hero of the region. We were getting high now (>3,500 m), and close enough to Everest that we could see the top daily when it was clear. We were close to the Tibet border, up in the subalpine zone, immersed in high mountains on both sides of the valley that we were now following. The pyramidal mountain,

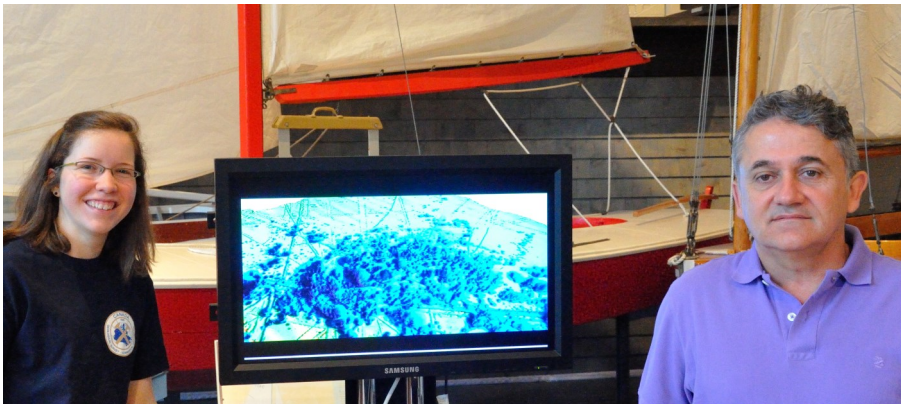
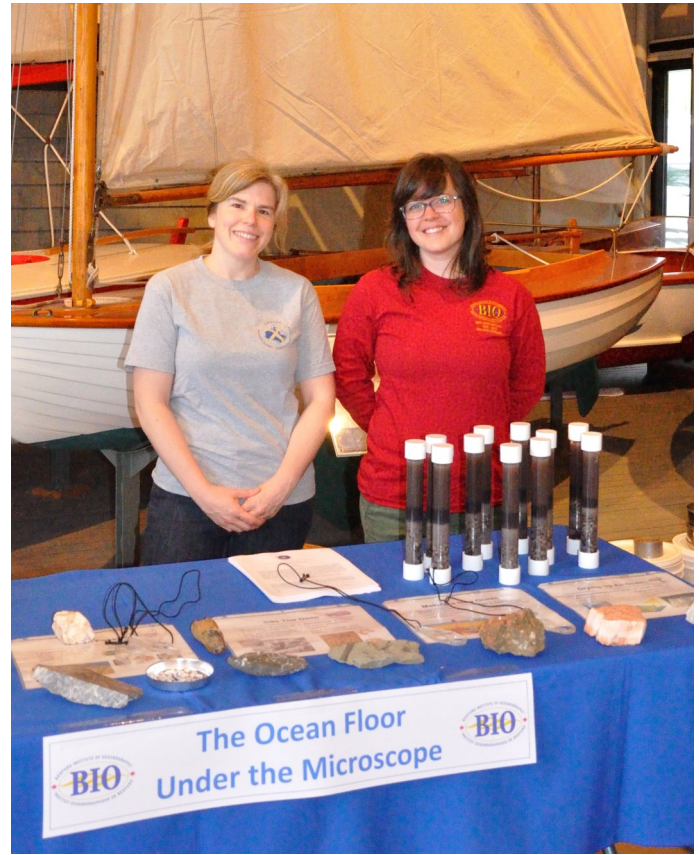
Ama Dablam (6,856 m), was particularly striking.

It was now day 12 of the trek. The weather for the past week had been fine, mostly clear and warm. But then it changed. It rained almost continuously as we walked up the valley of the Imja Khola (river) through to the village of Phortse (3,810m), literally perched on a mountain side. We stayed in Phortse two nights in an Inn due to the downpour. It was too wet and dangerous on the trails to be hiking in such conditions, especially on the increasingly narrow and precipitous trails. When it cleared, we climbed more sharp ridges, negotiated an avalanche across the trail, and walked on to Pangboche (3,930 m) where we camped for two nights to further acclimatize. The weather was clearing, sunny but cold. Marty, Griff and Jagat explored a flank of Ama Dablam while I rested a strained knee for a day.

The weather had changed for the worse for several days now, so we lost valuable time. Hence, we had to change the routing of the trek, choosing the next village, Dingboche (4,410 m), within two days of the Base Camp, as our final destination. Snow and avalanches farther up the trail also impeded progress. Dingboche sits in a glaciated valley, almost at the foot of the south-west side of Lotse. After a challenging hike, including crossing a mud slide, we camped for one very cold night, then turned back for the four-day trek back to Lukla.

The return trek was in fine weather, spectacular, steep, tiring, and unforgettable! We took a different route back down the Imja Khola valley, crossing to the south side on a temporary bridge (the main one having been washed out), walking through deep green forests of conifers, and climbing high to camp in a yak pasture at Tengboche, located on a ridge at 3,860 m. It is the site of a large and famous Buddhist monastery, the sister to Rongbuk Monastery at the foot of Everest in Tibet. As at some of the other monasteries we visited, we went to a service and later explored the magnificent buildings and decorations. This was followed by a challenging hike in the following days, up and down along steep ridges back to Namche, then down the Dunh Koshi Nadi valley, criss-crossing the river, still a challenging walk, but thankfully losing hard-won altitude, and finally arriving at Lukla for the short flight to Kathmandu.

Following 'Hillary's Footsteps' was a trip with many memories, new friends, and an introduction to the landscape, culture, people and opportunities of a wonderful country. A return trip is being planned.



Photos clockwise from top left: from left, Jessica Corkum, Glen Hurlburt and Jana Aker, BIO/DFO; Lori Campbell and Jenna Higgins, BIO/NRCAN, Jessica Corkum and a young future biologist; Maria Elvira Murrazzi and Alexis Pacey, NAFO; Bryn Huxtable and Walter Regan, Sackville Rivers Association; and Lynn Dafoe and Gordon Cameron, BIO/NRCAN (photos: A. Sherin).

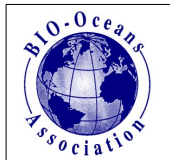
BIO staff at World Oceans Day on the Waterfront

Again this year, BIO staff from DFO and NRCAN participated, along with many other government and non-government organizations, in the World Oceans Day event held at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic on 6

June 2014. This year the DFO exhibit focussed on Marine Protected Areas and the always popular 'dead fish' display. The NRCAN exhibit focussed on the ocean floor and included the 3D model of the bottom of Halifax Harbour. Visitors were mostly young children and cruise ship passengers. It was a great day to network.

Editor's Keyboard: One of Claudia Currie's projects that didn't get a high profile in the testimonials was her role with the Hypatia Project, a project encouraging women in their careers in science. Since I am the father of three daughters, all pursuing science-based careers, this was a highlight for me in Claudia's contribution to BIO. I assisted in organizing the Youth Session at the Coastal Zone Canada Conference which consisted in part of small group sessions with men and women in ocean-related careers mentoring high school and undergraduate students on career paths. The youth also pre-

pared statements for the larger conference in both written and visual forms. Their statements were a call to action echoing Mr. Martin's call for scientists to speak up. One of the presenters from the Youth Session told the audience that she had never experienced a pristine ocean. Are we going to leave our children an incredible mess? The clean up won't happen quickly, so mentoring future ocean scientists is an important role we can play. Speaking up is also essential, individually and collectively, to make the public and politicians aware of the critical roles the ocean plays. *Andy Sherin*



ABOUT THE BIO-OCEANS ASSOCIATION

The Bedford Institute of Oceanography Oceans Association (BIO-OA) 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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hughes@bellaliant.net
donald.gordon@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
keizerp@gmail.com
michaelmurphy@eastlink.ca
jesuther@dal.ca
lcollins@accesscable.net
gordon.fader@ns.sympatico.ca
bob.iris@ns.sympatico.ca
nkoziel@nrcan.gc.ca
tim.lambert@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
bosko@ns.sympatico.ca
jrmacdogall@hotmail.com
susanmerchant@eastlink.ca
dnnlundy@navnet.net
tom.sephton@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

COMMUNICATIONS: NEWSLETTER, PR, AND WEB SITE

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Andy Sherin 466-7965
David Nettleship see above
Betty Sutherland see above
Clive Mason 426-4163
Philip Spencer 426-4465

oanewslettereditor@gmail.com
see above
see above
clive.mason@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
philip.spencer@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca

PR AND MEMBERSHIP
WEBMASTER

COMMITTEES / WORKING GROUPS: CHAIRS

BELUGA AWARD
EQUIPMENT ARCHIVES
GRAPHIC DESIGN
HMCS SACKVILLE HISTORY
LIBRARY ARCHIVES
LIAISON Huntsman
NSIS LIAISON
OUTREACH
EVENT COORDINATOR

Andrew Cogswell 426-1700
David McKeown 477-5887
Art Cosgrove 640-2634
Keith Manchester (contact) 861-3509
Bosko Loncarevic see above
Don Gordon see above
Peter Wells 237-0600
Charles Schafer 861-3145
Claudia Currie 435-4297

Andrew.Cogswell@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
davidmckeown@hfx.eastlink.ca
arthurcosgrove@gmail.com
k.manchester@ns.sympatico.ca
see above
see above
oceans2@ns.sympatico.ca
charlestschafer@hotmail.com
clcurrie@nrcan.gc.ca

PAST PRESIDENTS

Robert Reiniger (1998-2000), Dale Buckley (2000-02), David Nettleship (2002-04), Donald Peer (2004-06), Betty Sutherland (2006-08 and 2010-11), Bob O'Boyle (2008-10), Paul Keizer (2011-13)

Association Mailing address: Bedford Institute of Oceanography, P.O. Box 1006, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4A2.
VoicePipe mailing address: c/o Andy Sherin, 9 Rose Street, Dartmouth, NS B3A 2T4.