



THE BUZZARD

U.S. Coast & Geodetic Survey Heritage Society

April 2006

Westward Ho - September 2007!

Come celebrate the USC&GS 200th Anniversary with the Seattle chapter of the USC&GS Heritage Society September 13-17, 2007 in Seattle, WA! You won't want to miss the five days of special events and socializing being planned for this once-in-a-lifetime, fun-filled celebration of renewing friendships and stories of the past.

Special presentations of West Coast USC&GS history of Charting & Hydrography, Ships, and Geodesy, as well as a review of current NOAA programs, will be integrated into the schedule.

On the day of arrival (Thursday), we're planning a special welcome reception with wine tasting and heavy hors d'oeuvres at the Northgate Ramada Inn (our host hotel with special rate including breakfast each morning). One afternoon/evening we will travel by boat from the scenic Seattle waterfront to Tillicum Village on Blake Island (named in honor of George Smith Blake, a U.S. Coast Survey officer) for an authentic Indian salmon BBQ including tribal Indian dancing for entertainment.

A tour of Seattle will include Hiram Chittenden Locks, Pike Place Market, Pacific Science Center and many other Seattle "must see" highlights! Another evening meal will be at Ivar's Salmon House located on Lake Union featuring seafood cooked over an open fire of alder wood. Ivar's has a large collection of Native American art and a vista of Lake Union and the Seattle skyline. The NOAA Pacific Marine Center is planning a tour of the NOAA Ship RAINIER and high-tech nautical charting demonstrations. And last but not least, our Monday night farewell dinner will be chocked full of delicious food and entertaining activities.

In order for you to personalize your Seattle visit, Sunday will be a free day and advance information will be provided on at least the following:

1. Travel to Victoria, BC for the day aboard the "Clipper"
2. Tour the Museum of Flight at Boeing Field
3. Visit the Bavarian Village in Leavenworth
4. Tour the new Boeing "Future of Flight Aviation Center" at Everett

This historic celebration will include transportation to and from events by plush, air-conditioned busses, five nights of lodging, breakfast each morning, four days of activities, six special meals, mementos of the occasion, and a nightly hospitality room with refreshments and time for reminiscing-- all for less than a \$1000 per couple.

Mark your calendars for September 13-17, 2007, tell your Coast Survey friends, and join us for this once-in-a-lifetime event in Seattle!

Although invitations will be mailed out in early '07, the "Planning Committee" would like a heads up if you are planning to attend. Contact Charles Townsend, cetowns@yahoo.com or 809 NW 180th St., Shoreline, WA 98177.

Dues Notice

It's that time of year again. A dues notice for 2006 is enclosed with this issue of The Buzzard. Dues are \$10.00 for all members except seniors who are only charged \$5.00 per year. A senior member is defined as anyone 80 years or older as of January 1, 2006. If you meet the senior criteria, please enclose a note with your dues payment and adjust your payment accordingly. Look for the dues notice that is attached to a pre-addressed envelope. For those members who have paid in advance, the 2006 notice will show a \$0.0 payment balance. Likewise, in those few cases where members are in arrears, the full amount owed is provided. If you have any questions about your dues status, please contact Diana Lewis, by email at dddinah55@yahoo.com or telephone at 301-528-7383, or at the address in the updated Roster Book.

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2006 Officers and Board of Directors

President	Charlie Challstrom
Vice President	Albert Theberge
Secretary	Elizabeth G. Mason
Treasurer	Don Spillman
Director	Steve Barnum
Director	Charles D. Kears
Director	George Leigh
Director	Diana Lewis
Director	Donnie Marth
Director	Larry Mordock
Director	Roger Parsons
Advisor	Charles Burroughs
Advisor	Melvin Gineau
Advisor	Harley Nygren

Northwest Chapter – Seattle

President	Larry Mordock
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2005* Committee Chairs

ACO Scholarship	Don Spillman
Audit	Charlie Challstrom
Awards	Diana Lewis
By-Laws	Charlie Challstrom
Buzzard Editor	Vacant
Assoc Editor	Charles Burroughs
Future of the Society	Harley Nygren
History	George Leigh
Marketing	Vacant
Membership	Diana Lewis
Nominating	Charlie Challstrom
Photographer	Vacant
Scholarship	Maurice Ringenbach
Merchandise Sales and Special Events	Elizabeth G. Mason
Sunshine	Donald Denion
C&GS 200 th Anniversary	Albert Theberge

* Note: 2006 Committee Chairs are not yet finalized. The Board will address this at our next meeting in May. If you're interested in helping in one of these areas, please contact Charlie Challstrom, by telephone at 301-926-4498 or by email at chacha4498@yahoo.com.

President's Message

A new slate of Officers was elected for 2006, and I am honored to serve as the new President. Other officers include: Vice President Skip Theberge, Secretary Betty Mason, and Treasurer Don Spillman. The Society's Board of Directors thanks Charlie Kears for his leadership and continued participation as a member of the Board. The Officers and Board of Directors really are an enthusiastic group and enjoy getting together for our meetings every other month, generally on the third Wednesday. Consider it an open invitation for anyone would like to come to any of our meetings.

We will be celebrating the 200th Anniversary in the upcoming year, and more details are being worked out for events starting in February 2007. Thanks so much to the Townsends for putting the "Westward Ho" package together for September 2007. My wife, Mary, and I look forward to joining everyone in Seattle for the great fun.

With the upcoming celebrations, it's a good time to reinforce our heritage as part of the oldest Federal scientific agency, the role and accomplishments of the past, and the outlook for the future. Our nation has a fascinating collection of instruments and publications related to the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, and we have the opportunity to enrich the legacy with personal recollections of the valuable work and contributions of our colleagues.

USC&GS 200th Anniversary

At its March meeting, the Society's Board received and endorsed proposals to engage Society members with the upcoming celebration of the USC&GS 200th Anniversary. Tom Lapointe described the 200th Anniversary Web Site and reported on the NOAA-wide focus of the anniversary events as approved by the NOAA Executive Panel. The involvement of the Society was proposed for three areas: Oral Histories, Top Tens, and Vision Essays.

Society members are invited to contribute oral histories for the web site, and two pages of draft guidance are available, including six questions that can assist with relaying an oral history. Society members are invited to nominate Top Ten individuals, breakthroughs, and historic moments for recognition on the web site. And Society members are invited to suggest those who could prepare 1500-word essays looking forward to challenges and opportunities for the next decade.

These opportunities for the Society are part of a collection of activities to increase public awareness of NOAA and to celebrate the vibrant history of the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey and its relevance to the nation's economy. The Society has endorsed NOAA funding for a short film documentary on the USC&GS history as well as NOAA funding for a traveling exhibit which would circulate to a multitude of venues throughout the United States during the 200th anniversary celebration. The film and the traveling exhibit would rely on the oral histories and expertise identified by Society members. Those members wishing more detail on the opportunities and available guidance are invited to contact Charlie Challstrom.

Annual NOAA/C&GS Luncheon in Phoenix, Arizona



*1st row (seated): Connie Bondelid, Marji Barbee, Sam Baker, Janet Baker.
2nd row (standing): Gene Taylor, Bill Barbee, Dee Poor, Denise Guth,
Sandy Bossler, and Marty Mulhern.
3rd row (standing): Carol Townsend, Charles Townsend, George Poor,
Diane Canafax, Jack Guth, John Albright, John Bossler.*

March 15, 2006 seventeen retirees gathered on a beautiful, warm Phoenix day at the Fish Market Restaurant for a social hour, good food, and tall tales. Though it wasn't billed as such, the event turned into a "roast" for Boyce Watkins who passed away this last year. Favorite stories/memories were shared for the one who was responsible for beginning these annual luncheons in Tempe. Everyone was appreciative of the efforts George and Dee Poor have made to continue this tradition.

This year Jack and Denise Guth tried to organize a weekend at Ft. Tuthill (near Flagstaff) the weekend before the luncheon for some extra visiting and sightseeing. Mother Nature had other plans and it had to be cancelled. However two couples from Florida--Gene & Connie and John & Sandy--were determined to see the Grand Canyon and after flying in to Phoenix, drove up to Flagstaff (encountering delays due to snow) where they had to wait a day before driving over to Williams and finally taking the train to the Grand Canyon. They said it was truly worth it as the snow added a lot to the ride up

and didn't mind having to purchase a "few" warm clothes for the trip! They were able to join with the Barbees & Townsends (who spent the weekend in Cottonwood) for a pizza party at the Guth's in Jerome. There was still snow on the ground at Jerome and everyone was eager to head back the next day to Phoenix and warmer weather!

Sam and Janet Baker looked younger than ever and have enjoyed twenty years at their Scottsdale home and fifty years together. Sam is now working on a book about his life. John and Sandy Bossler were welcomed to the Phoenix group for the first time—she keeps busy with quilting and church activities and putting together their new condo in Florida. John retired in '86 and began his own business and retired again in '97. He does some consulting, has written several books and enjoys traveling. He's been active at their church in Dublin, Ohio, has been trying out various avenues of volunteer work, and enjoys playing golf.

Marty Mulhern finally made it down from Boulder, Colorado, and seemed to enjoy all the reminiscing and "tall tales" of which he told a few. He'd served with everyone at the luncheon except George and Jack. He told of serving on board the "Fairweather" when Boyce was commanding officer. Bill and Marji Barbee were looking good after a year of health problems—they keep busy with baseball & football games and attending plays. Marji faithfully volunteers at the Girl Scouts' office and Bill volunteers in the office of Jean Godden (her father was a former C&GS officer) who is a Seattle City Council member. As Bill states "All of us have been blessed with good work, fulfilling lives and "one hell of a retirement!"

Gene Taylor and his significant other, Connie Bondelid, enjoy playing tennis and traveling. They recently spent a month in India (Connie's son is at the embassy) and China. Gene underwent a 4 quad bypass this past year and recommends it to everyone! John Albright and Diane Canafax continue their volunteer work with the Kitsap County Sheriff's office. Besides volunteering at the Kitsap Humane Society, Diane's also working on a pilot program for using dogs as a learning tool for "behaviorally challenged boys". As the boys learn to train and work with the dogs, they are learning anger management and communication skills.

Jack and Denise Guth keep busy with Jerome politics--supporting efforts to keep the "old Jerome" atmosphere from those who want a "newer and improved Jerome". They still operate their gallery that displays Jack's art & other local artists. Jack just completed a large mural for the University of Missouri at Rolla, and Denise continues work on her book as well as promoting Jack and his work. George and Dee Poor report this is their 15th year of snowbirding and love their lifestyle of 6 months in Arizona and 6 months in Seattle. They avidly pursue their love of lawn bowling at both places—Dee has qualified for the US championship games the past two years.

Charles and Carol Townsend enjoy traveling in their motorhome and led a small caravan to Alaska last year. They come south for three months and volunteer at two NOMADS project. Charles is busy pulling together plans for the C&GS 200th Birthday Celebration in Seattle scheduled for September 2007.

In Memoriam

Frederick F. Ceely, Jr.

Frederick F. Ceely, Jr. of Springfield, VA, passed away on February 23, 2006. He is survived by his loving wife of 55 years, Barbara; three sons, George, Gary, and Glenn; six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; and one sister, Gloria Teague.

John J. Smith, Jr.

John J. Smith, Jr. of St. Lucie, Florida, entered into eternal rest on the evening of February 27, 2006. John is survived by his wife, Audrey Rowe Smith; a daughter, Barbara McGrother of Mt. Pleasant, SC; four grandchildren and a great grandchild. John served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II and thereafter worked at the Coast & Geodetic Survey as a Photographer, Cartographer, and Aerial Photographer.

We are sorry to also report the passing of **Julia Bankovsky, Raymond Glaser, Marvin Randall, and Raymond Sheppard.**

Membership Update

Membership Status – 352 Members

Delinquent Dues Removals -- At its March meeting, the Society's Board approved removing from our roster and the Buzzard mailing list the 22 former members of the Society who were 3 years or more delinquent in dues and who did not respond to a recent reminder letter from our Membership Committee chair. We appreciate those who continue to support the Society with prompt dues payments.

Welcome New Members!! We welcome the following new members of the Society:

- Roger Bunting
- Gilbert A. Cole, Jr.
- Jack Dunnigan
- Maureen Green
- Edward Herbrechtsmeier
- George Myers
- Dave Pashinsky
- Diane Platt
- Warren Sherrill
- Gina Stoney
- Kristen Tronvig

NOAA 31st Annual Fish Fry

The NOAA Fish Fry will be held Wednesday, June 7, 6:00-9:00 p.m. in the Courtyard of the Herbert C. Hoover Building. Society members will assist once again with the food preparation; now locking in a recipe and seafood now for perhaps a Cajun-style contribution. Hope to see you there!

Society Email List

We'd like to keep in touch with timely email messages of interest to USC&GS Heritage Society members. There are some email addresses in the Society's Roster Book, and perhaps other Society members want to be added to a list of our members' email addresses. We do not intend to sell or otherwise supply such a list for commercial purposes. We ask that any members who get a copy of our list help to keep it just for communication between our members.

If you would like to be added to the Society email list, please just send a simple request via email to Charlie Challstrom, chacha4498@yahoo.com and your name will be added. Thanks!

Society Merchandise for Sale

Close out specials on current inventory!

Prices on shirts further reduced while quantities last.

- **Golf Shirts with C&GS Society Logo**; white only; sizes -- S and XXL only; now \$10 + \$3.85 shipping
- **Baseball Caps with C&GS Field Service Logo**; one size fits all; now \$10 + \$3.85 shipping
- **C&GS Society Pins**; now \$2 each includes shipping

Please make checks to USC&GS Heritage Society and send orders to:

Betty Mason
12006 Duley Station Road
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-7972