



THE BUZZARD

U.S. Coast & Geodetic Survey Heritage Society

August 2006

Annual Picnic – September 16, 2006

The Society's annual picnic will be held on Saturday afternoon, **September 16, 2006**, at the Woman's Club in Washington Grove, Maryland. Starting time is 3:00 p.m. The price is only \$12.00 per person. Come and join the crowd for an afternoon of fun. The picnic will be held "rain or shine" since there are indoor and outdoor facilities available. See the Picnic information on the back page for reservations and directions. Please RSVP by September 9 !!!

Geomagnetic Center Celebration at Corbin, VA



Leroy Pankratz behind Jack Townshend, Gilbert Mitchell, Steve Randall

The Society was well represented at the May 23 celebration of 50 years of excellence at the Fredericksburg Geomagnetic Center. A collection of speakers shared recollections and perspectives for the work and support of science that began at this facility under the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey in 1956, and has continued as cooperative efforts of the U.S. Geological Survey and NOAA. Society members Jack Townshend, Leroy Pankratz, Jack Dunnigan, Dave Zilkoski, and Charlie Challstrom spoke at the event. The celebration activities included an unveiling of a commemorative marker, a new partnership sign for the facility, and the raising of NOAA and USGS flags on new flag poles to note the sharing of the property between the two agencies.



Scholarship Announcement

The Society is accepting applications for the 2006 Clem Arens Scholarship Award. Last year the Board of Directors approved an increase in the award amount to \$750. The Board also approved the option of making multiple awards in any year depending on the number of applications received, evaluation scores, and recommendation of the Society's Scholarship Committee. Application forms and instructions are available in the most recent U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey Heritage Society Organizational Directory and Roster Book. All applications submitted must be postmarked no later than **September 30, 2006**, and mailed to Charlie Kearse, 16643 Killdeer Dr, Rockville, MD 20855-1955. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Charlie at 301-948-5872 or by email at ckearse@juno.com.

2006 Officers and Board of Directors

President	Charlie Challstrom
Vice President	Albert Theberge
Secretary	Betty Mason
Treasurer	Don Spillman
Director	Steve Barnum
Director	Charlie 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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2006 Committee Chairs

ACO Liaison	Don Spillman
Audit	Vacant
Awards	Diana Lewis
By-Laws	Charlie Kears
History	Skip Theberge
Marketing	Steve Barnum
Membership	Diana Lewis
Nominating	Skip Theberge
Photographer	Vacant
Scholarship	Diana Lewis
Merchandise Sales	Betty Mason
Special Events	Betty Mason and Donnie Marth
Sunshine	Diana Lewis
C&GS 200 th Anniversary	George Leigh



President's Message

The Board has met several times since the last edition of The Buzzard, with continued focus on preparations for the 200th Anniversary. We now plan to sponsor an evening reception in Silver Spring during the next Heritage Week – **February 5-14, 2007**. And we are pleased to provide support for the exciting Seattle events as well (see below). We've had updates on the papers and projects underway for the Anniversary as well as input on suggestions for Top Ten nominations under the categories of History Makers, Breakthroughs, Historic Events, and Foundation Datasets and/or Products. And the Board has approved expenditure for neckties and scarfs incorporating a 200th Anniversary logo. All this preparation while also working to expand the awareness of the Society at a number of events reported in this edition. With all this activity and planning, the Board has decided to meet every month for the next few months. So look for more updates, and we really appreciate the suggestions and input for The Buzzard.

Come Celebrate the C&GS 200th Anniversary in Seattle!

The C&GS 200th Anniversary Celebration committee in Seattle has been busy securing the hotel, planning meals, and working on an exciting agenda for the celebration to be held **September 13-17, 2007**. In order to not miss out on this fun event, you are encouraged to get these dates on your calendar NOW.

We have negotiated a special price (\$109 per day) for 40 rooms at the Hotel Nexus (formerly Ramada Inn) for anniversary guests on a first come basis. To secure a room early, call the Hotel Nexus at 1-800-435-0754. In the fall Buzzard we plan to have complete information about the hotel web site and event registration form for this special celebration.

Our touring will include a bus tour of Seattle; a boat trip to Tillicum Village on Blake Island (which is named in honor of George Smith Blake, a U.S. Coast Survey officer) for an authentic Indian Salmon BBQ; Seattle Aquarium and waterfront; NOAA Facility at Sandpoint; Historic Ivar's Salmon House; and the Pacific Marine Center and Ship RAINIER. Sunday will be a free day to kick back and relax, visit friends, or tour your choice of the many attractions in the Seattle area.

This historic celebration will include transportation to and from events, five nights of lodging with 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. So 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!

Charles Townsend, Planning Committee Chairman

cctowns@yahoo.com

809 NW 180th St.

Shoreline, WA 98177

206-542-6948

USC&GS 200th Anniversary Commemorative Items For Sale

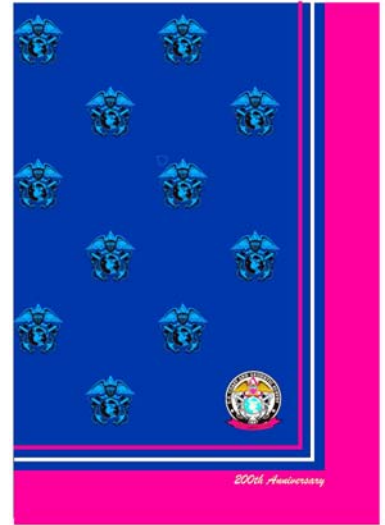


The Society is proud to offer 200th Anniversary commemorative neckties and scarfs for sale. These are navy with red and gold stripes.

Both carry the USC&GS logo and a red banner with the words "200th Anniversary". Both items are \$15.00 each, plus \$4.00 shipping, and will be available in the near future.

Makes checks payable to USC&GS Heritage Society and send orders to:

Betty Mason
12006 Duley Station Road
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772



Scarf size: 12 x 54 inches

Nominations for Heritage Society Awards

Nominations are being sought for the 2006 USC&GS Heritage Society Awards. These awards are presented annually for deserving individuals who have contributed according to the criteria set forth for each award and listed below. If you know of someone who meets the criteria, please take a few minutes and send a note to the Awards Committee Chair, Diana Lewis.

Society Annual Award – A USC&GS Heritage Society member in good standing for at least 1 year prior to nomination who has demonstrated outstanding services during the past 12-month period to the Society, or to his/her community, or in the workplace. Elected Officers and Board Members are not eligible, nor are previous winners who have received the award within the last 5-year period.

Exemplary Service Award – To honor and recognize individuals who have made significant contributions in their field of endeavor. Persons from all walks of life will be considered including, but not limited to, persons in public service, private industry, and community service organizations who share a relationship with the former USC&GS and/or the current corresponding elements of NOAA.

Distinguished Service Award – A USC&GS Heritage Society member in good standing who has been a member for at least 5 years and is recognized for significant contributions to the Society over an extended period of time. Previous winners are not eligible for at least a 5-year period after receipt of this award.

Please submit your nominations to Diana Lewis, 12704 Found Stone Road #302, Germantown, MD 20876, or by email to dddinah55@yahoo.com. In addition to the names of the individuals, also submit a written paragraph as to why the person is being nominated for the particular award. Nominations are due by October 30, 2006. A committee that consists of the Awards Committee Chair and at least two members appointed by the Board of Directors will evaluate nominations. Recipients will be announced at the Annual Meeting.

Society Cooks at NOAA Fish Fry



The Society participated again with a booth at the annual NOAA Fish Fry on June 7 to increase awareness of the Society among old and new friends. Society representatives were guest chefs, cutting almost 30 pounds of tilapia filets into strips, dipping the strips in Cajun fry mix with red pepper and sesame seeds, frying each batch for 2 ½ minutes, and serving a multitude of guests. This year's event celebrated all the delicacies the seas have to offer with a focus on the Gulf of Mexico. Society "chefs" included Dan Bella, Skip Theberge, Don Spillman, Charlie Challstrom, and Dave Zilkoski.

(Dan Bella and Dave Zilkoski in photo)

Marine Operations Center-Pacific Damaged by Fire

First Report:

After the July 5th fire at NOAA's Marine Operations Center - Pacific (MOC-P) in Seattle, OMAO employees were working in temporary offices at NOAA's Sand Point facility, teleworking, or conducting damage assessment and equipment inventory at MOC-P. NOAA Ship McARTHUR I is temporarily at Lake Union Drydock's pier and ASSERTIVE is temporarily berthed at Sand Point. Both ships sustained external heat damage, with the damage to McARTHUR less severe. A damage assessment of McARTHUR was performed on July 5th and July 11th and determined that the damage is mainly confined to burnt or sooted paint on the outside of the ship. No evidence of internal damage was found with the exception of some sooting inside the pilot house and the damage to paint inside the port side chain locker. A damage assessment of ASSERTIVE is planned to be completed as well.

NOAA is presently exploring options for temporarily berthing McARTHUR, ASSERTIVE, and the four ships that are out to sea. NOAA has received preliminary offers from the United States Coast Guard, Naval Station Everett, University of Washington, and private entities to temporarily berth some ships. Costs and schedules are yet to be determined.

Occupancy of the main administrative office building can occur once power and other utilities are restored to the facility. Clean up of the electronic engineering/warehouse building is progressing, as well as damage assessment and inventory of the technology and equipment inside that building. Environmental clean up of the overall site, including the waters in and around the pier, is proceeding with the help of private contractors.

The Seattle Fire Department has concluded its investigations into the cause of the fire at MOC-P. The Office of NOAA's Chief Administrative Officer began an internal investigation of the fire on Tuesday, July 18th.

Update Report:

Seattle Fire Chief Gregory Dean reported that the fire was caused by an electrical short in a "ship-to-shore" cord providing power to the ASSERTIVE which was docked at the facility. NOAA spokesman Brian Gorman reports that the nearly 40 NOAA employees have returned to the facility which reopened July 17, and that the ASSERTIVE, a former Navy ship, will soon be towed to Everett where it will be converted into a NOAA research vessel.

In Memoriam

Clarence "Pete" Pedersen

At the age of 91, Pete passed away on May 22 in his Ballard, Washington, home surrounded by his loving family. His wisdom, love of books, and historical knowledge made for numerous conversations and stories told. The talent he had for drawing and cartooning was used in every aspect of his life. His 39 years of service started in 1934 with the Geodetic Mountain Triangulation Party with duties as a lightkeeper, truck driver, and recorder. In the spring of 1936, Pete joined the Coast and Geodetic Survey Ship WESTDAHL for hydrographic and triangulation surveys in Alaska. During the Second World War years, Pete saw the Coast and Geodetic Survey vessels armed, and he was engaged in work in Southeast Alaska and along the Alaska Peninsula. Over the years, Pete advanced through Seaman, Quartermaster, Bos'n Mate and Chief Bos'n. After 11 years before the mast, marriage deemed it fitting that Pete cease his wanderings, and he transferred to the Coast and Geodetic Survey's Cartographic Office in Seattle, Washington. The office compiled hydrographic survey records into "Smooth Sheets" which were the final engineering manuscripts from which nautical charts were made in the Washington, D.C., office. In 1957, Pete took charge of the Coast and Geodetic Survey's Seattle Ship Base in Lake Union. During this time, Pete pursued the acquisition of the now famous Pacific Marine Center Totem Pole which was dedicated in 1962. Pete served under many Seattle District Office Captains until he was appointed in 1962 as the Inspector of Construction for the new Pacific Marine Center. Pete was instrumental in helping design the new center and oversaw the move of all the vessels and equipment when the facility was completed. After 39 years of dedicated service, C. E. "Pete" Pedersen retired in 1973. Thanks to Pete's initiative and persistence, Coast and Geodetic Survey personnel were finally recognized for their World War II service by the Department of Defense and were accorded Veterans status in 1991. Pete often remarked that he is only remembered for his cartoons, and not his service to the Coast and Geodetic Survey. The "Old Timers" know better. Please now enjoy Pete's great artwork depicting times and places in his career with the Survey:

http://www.history.noaa.gov/art/pete_pedersen.html



Clarence "Pete" Pedersen

In Memoriam

Harry Parizer

Harry Parizer, husband of Mim and father of Joel and Michael, died suddenly on March 27th from a heart attack. Harry came to the Survey during the War from Brooklyn, N.Y., and he served for over 35 years as an Artistic Engraver in the Reproduction Division. During his retirement, he had a stroke that confined him to a wheel chair which prompted him to take up oil painting. Harry will be remembered by his friends as being a most happy fellow with a smile for everyone.

We are sorry to also report the passing of **William Shearouse, Stephen Yachmetz, James Sunday, Marty Halluin, Aurore Lafrenaye, Lloyd Heffernan, and Catherine Turner.**

Membership Report

Membership Status – 355 Members

We welcome the following new members:

- Andrew Armstrong III
- Ned Austin
- George Higgins
- Shamrock Kelly
- Leroy Pankratz
- Robert Pawlowski
- Daniel Wright

USC&GS Heritage Society Annual Picnic

Saturday, September 16, 2006
3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

The Woman's Club of Washington Grove
Chestnut Road and Miller Drive, Washington Grove, Maryland

Members, Friends, Guests, and Prospective Members are Invited

Menu

(Favorites from Red Hot & Blue !!!)

*Pulled Pork, Pulled Chicken, Bar-B-Que Beans,
Potato Salad, Cole Slaw, Rolls, and Dessert
Iced Tea, Lemonade, Soda, Water, Wine, and Beer*



Cost \$12.00 per person

Directions to Woman's Club -- From the Beltway Route 495, take I-270 to Shady Grove Road (Exit 8). Take Shady Grove Road East toward Route 355. Continue across Route 355, and then get in left turn lane at the third traffic light at Oakmont Ave. Oakmont Ave is just past The Great Indoors (store) and across from the Post Office General Mail Facility. Turn left onto Oakmont Ave and proceed to the first stop sign. Make a right and go across the railroad tracks. A short distance after crossing the tracks turn left on Railroad Street. Take the second right onto Chestnut Road. The Woman's Clubhouse (white building) will be on your right in the third block, directly across the street from the Methodist Church. You may turn up Miller Drive to drop off passengers closer to the building. Parking is available along Chestnut Road.

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Name(s) _____
Name(s) _____
Phone # _____
Number of Reservations _____ Amount Enclosed _____

RSVP by September 9, 2006

*Complete the form above, making checks payable to USC&GS Heritage Society
and mail to: Donnie Marth
15744 Buena Vista Dr
Derwood MD 20855-2656*