



NASOH 2008 PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

“DEFINING THE MARITIME EDGE”



IN THIS ISSUE

From the Quarterdeck.....page 2
Cold War Gallery.....page 3
Recent Projects.....page 4
News and Notes.....page 5

John Lyman Book Awards.....page 6
Upcoming Conferences.....page 7
Call for Papers.....page 8
2009 NASOH Conference.....page 9

FROM THE QUARTERDECK

Dear NASOH Members,

This has been a great spring for NASOH. Our meeting in Pensacola was an absolute success thanks to the hard work of Amy Mitchell-Cook and her local arrangements committee (John Jensen, Vic Mastone, and Bill Thiesen), and the program committee; and all those who participated. Meeting jointly with CAMM provided opportunities to interact with colleagues from an allied field.

The first Clark G. Reynolds Award for the best student paper was presented to John Mitcham from the University of Alabama. The title of the paper is “Patrolling the White Man’s Grave: The Impact of Disease on Anglo-American Naval Operations Against the Slave Trade, 1841-1862.”

Gene Smith has expanded the NASOH website adding links to *The Northern Mariner*, information on the Reynolds Prize, the list of 2007 John Lyman Book Prize winners, and the call for papers for our 2009 meeting in Vallejo.

Planning for that conference is well underway. The key committees, local arrangements and program, are in place and the preliminary plan presented at the meeting in Pensacola looks very inviting. See page 9 for further information.

Our information has been updated in the American Historical Association’s *Directory of Grants, Fellowships, and Prizes* and its *Directory of Affiliated Societies*. The AHA has also added a link to *The Northern Mariner* to its *Directory of History Journals*: <http://www.historians.org/pubs/free/journals/browse.cfm?group=mtor>.

NASOH appears to be sailing quickly before the wind (or steaming steadily, if you wish to be more modern) in the past couple months. We have recovered in numbers the membership we lost last year and with this base we can look forward to solid growth in the coming year. Membership terms have changed from a calendar year to a rolling year based on the date one pays their member dues. If a member fails to pay between the time their membership ends and an issue of *The Northern Mariner* is mailed, the “missed” issue will not be mailed. This policy is necessitated by our printing and posting agreement with our co-sponsor, the Canadian Nautical Research Society.

If you are the member of another professional organization and want to organize a panel that NASOH can be credited with co-sponsoring, let me know and I will try to help. If you are interested in presenting a paper at the Society for Military History’s meeting at Middle Tennessee State University 2-5 April 2009, please let me know and I will see if we can form a panel.

Bill Dudley is chairing a committee to develop a business plan and outline programs for NASOH as a preliminary to launching a development campaign.

James C. Bradford, *President*

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Naval Historical Foundation Seeks Support for Cold War Gallery

The U.S. Navy is expanding its flagship museum at the Washington Navy Yard to include an exhibit gallery entitled “The U.S. Navy in the Cold War: Korea, Vietnam, and the Soviet Confrontation.” Here the Navy will recognize its heroes and tell the stories of its operations during the Cold War (1945-1990) as it expands its educational outreach efforts to the nation’s schools. In recent years, the Navy has dedicated nearly \$6 million to refurbish an existing historic building to house the gallery and to underwrite the exhibit design work. The new gallery, located in the former David Taylor Model Basin building, is situated near Building 76, “The Navy Museum,” containing exhibits about the history of the U.S. Navy from its creation in the Revolutionary War through World War II.

The Navy has now demonstrated its commitment to the project through its active support of the Navy Museum. In response, Admiral James L. Holloway, III, Chairman of the Naval Historical Foundation, volunteered, on behalf of the Foundation, to raise funds from the private sector to build and install the exhibits for the Cold War Gallery. The Foundation has initiated a \$10 million capital campaign, the proceeds of which will be devoted almost entirely to the construction and installation of exhibits. It is estimated that 93 cents of every contributed dollar will go into the galleries. More importantly, donors will be contributing to exhibits, not to buildings. These exhibits will depict all facets of the Navy’s story: the equipment, technology, and Sailors of the many Navy communities who served in the Cold War.



The Foundation is actively seeking the support of all those who value American maritime and naval history. Your donation, no matter what size, will make a difference. There will also be ample opportunities for donor recognition, including naming of halls, galleries, and individual exhibits. Admiral Gary Roughead, the Chief of Naval Operations, has recently sent a supportive message to the Foundation stating his thoughts on the importance of the Cold War Gallery: *“It is imperative that we pay tribute by telling the stories of the brave men and women who served and sacrificed during this significant time in our history.”*

To get further information on any aspect of the campaign or the new gallery, call Dr. David Winkler, the Naval Historical Foundation Capital Campaign Director, at (202) 678-4333. The Naval Historical Foundation is an IRS-designated 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. If you would like to help, please make out a check to the “Naval Historical Foundation” and send to: Naval Historical Foundation, 1306 Dahlgren Avenue, SE, Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374.

Submitted by Dr. Bill Dudley.

RECENT PROJECTS

The *Vasa* Beakhead Recording Project

By David J. Stewart, Assistant Professor, Program in Maritime Studies, East Carolina University

Through a partnership between the Swedish Statens Maritima Museer (National Maritime Museums) and the Program in Maritime Studies, several graduate students and I had the honor of working on one of the world's iconic maritime sites. Built by King Gustav II Adolph, *Vasa* sank on her maiden voyage in Stockholm harbor on August 10, 1628. Raised in 1961, *Vasa* now forms the centerpiece of the most popular museum in Sweden. Although the vessel has been studied for more than four decades, and has yielded numerous insights into seventeenth-century maritime life, the ship itself has never been completely recorded or published. To correct this gap in knowledge, the Statens Maritima Museer is producing a series of volumes that will provide the definitive overview of *Vasa* research. Volume I, which covered the history of the ship, its raising, and excavation, has appeared recently (Cederlund 2006). The second volume, which will discuss rigging and sailing, is scheduled to go to press later this year. For this book, researchers need accurate plans of *Vasa*'s beakhead.

Under the direction of Dr. Frederick Hocker, Head of *Vasa* Research, and David Stewart, the ECU team spent three weeks documenting *Vasa*'s beakhead. The part of the beakhead on which the crew worked consists of an open framework, which served as a platform for sailors working the headsails. We soon learned that the beakhead is much more complex than it appears at first glance. The outboard ends of the framework fasten to stringers that are supported by ten pairs of head frames, the lower ends of which are bolted to a longitudinal timber that runs forward from the stem. This timber, along with another larger one below, functions as the backbone of the beakhead assembly. Essentially, the longitudinal timbers act as "keels" for the beakhead, providing its principal structural strength. The beakhead keels are fastened to the main hull with four massive cheek knees, two each for the upper and lower keel. Bolts fasten the upper cheek knees to the hull at the level of the lower gundeck, while the bolts of the lower cheek knees enter the hull at the level of the orlop deck. We documented not only the beakhead structure itself but also the features that attach it to the hull.

Recording methodology involved a combination of traditional hand drafting and computer documentation. For the most part, we followed procedures which Hocker had previously devised to record other parts of the ship. A network of control points were chosen for their significance in defining the shape of the beakhead structure. All points were marked with 1-cm reflective target markers, cataloged, and then shot with the museum's Leica total station. In all, a total of 655 points were recorded in this manner. The resulting "point cloud" was imported into the Rhinoceros computer drafting program, where it will form the basis of a 3D computer model of the beakhead. As sophisticated as these computer methods are, however, they cannot replace drawings done by hand. While the total station data provided a highly accurate plan of the beakhead's shape, we used traditional hand drafting methods to record the details of individual timbers. Using the tried-and-true method of tape measure, pencil, paper, and clipboard, students produced more than 80 measured drawings documenting individual timbers, structures, and fastener details. Data from these drawings can be imported into the computer model, or used to make pen-and-ink drawings of individual features.

In the end, our students learned both traditional and advanced methods of recording ship timbers, along with how to set up and conduct a recording project on a complex structure. In the future, we hope to return to Sweden to assist in the ongoing efforts to document *Vasa*.

The Program in Maritime Studies would like to thank the Statens Maritima Museer for the honor of working on *Vasa*. In particular, Björn Varenius, Magnus Olafson, and Klas Helmersson made this project possible and enjoyable. Special thanks to Fred Hocker for asking us to participate and for his guidance. At ECU, Gerry Prokopowicz and Larry Babits deserve thanks for their support. We are also grateful to the Coastal Maritime Council at ECU for providing funding to help defray student expenses. Finally, the chief reason for the success of this project is due to the hard work of the ECU grad students: Peter Campbell, Theresa Hicks, Amy Leuchtmann, Eric Ray, and Elizabeth Wyllie.

NEWS AND NOTES

The Edward S. Miller Research Fellowship in Naval History. The Naval War College Foundation intends to award one grant of \$1,000 to the researcher with the greatest need and can make the optimum use of the research materials for naval history located in the Naval War College's Archives, Naval Historical Collection, Naval War College Museum, and Henry E. Eccles Library. Further information on the manuscript and archival collections and copies of the registers for specific collections are available on request from the Head, Naval Historical Collection. E-mail: evelyn.cherpak@nwc.navy.mil

The recipient will be a Research Fellow in the Naval War College's Maritime History Department, which will provide administrative support during the research visit. Submit detailed research proposal that includes a full statement of financial need and comprehensive research plan for optimal use of Naval War College materials, curriculum vitae, at least two letters of recommendation, and relevant background information to Miller Naval History Fellowship Committee, Naval War College Foundation, 686 Cushing Road, Newport RI 02841-1207, by 1 August 2008. For further information, contact the chair of the selection committee at john.hattendorf@nwc.navy.mil.

The Theodore and Franklin D. Roosevelt Naval History Prize was awarded to William Still for his *Crisis At Sea: The U.S. Navy in European Waters in World War I*. The Theodore and Franklin D. Roosevelt Naval History Prize honors an outstanding work on American naval history, and is awarded each year by the New York Council of the Navy League in cooperation with Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute and the Theodore Roosevelt Association. The prize commemorates the contributions made by Theodore and Franklin Roosevelt while serving as assistant secretaries of the navy and their support of the navy during their presidential administrations.

On June 5th at a luncheon in the New York Athletic Club, Dr. William Still received the Roosevelt Prize for as the best book in naval history for 2007. (You may remember that he received the John Lyman Award for this book at the NASOH meeting last year). The prize of \$5,000 was presented by a panel representing the New York Council of the Navy League of the United States, the Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt Institute, and the Theodore Roosevelt Institute. The Prize is presented annually to a book which, in the opinion of the judges, most usefully illuminates the role of seapower or maritime history within the ambit of American history. For further information go to: www.feri.org



The First Clark G. Reynolds Award for the best student paper was presented to John Mitcham of the University of Alabama for "Patrolling the White Man's Grave: The Impact of Disease on Anglo-American Naval Operations against the Slave Trade, 1841-1862." Mitcham argued that efforts to prevent disease in antislavery squadrons projects had mixed results. Through 'trial and error' analysis, both navies eventually secured a relative degree of good health. Conditions continued to improve so that by 1859, Admiralty officials felt safe to order their officers to avoid all rivers and inlets, but "never to lose sight of the coast, if possible, and to cruise from point to point." Yet these achievements came at a great loss in both operational efficiency and human lives. Many deaths inevitably resulted as antislavery squadrons continued to perform their duties in the insalubrious climate, lending credence to Lawrence's characterization of Africa as "that baleful, and most deleterious of all regions, that most pestilential bowers from which so few white men return that are induced to visit it—or if they return, they only reappear as phantoms of their former selves." For additional information on the award, or how to contribute to its endowment, please go to www.nasoh.org

2007 JOHN LYMAN BOOK AWARDS

In order to encourage quality in the field of maritime history, NASOH presents the John Lyman Books Awards to authors and editors whose books contribute significantly to the understanding of the maritime and naval history of North America, its rivers and lakes and adjoining oceans. Awards are given in the following six categories: Canadian naval and maritime history, U.S. naval history, U.S. maritime history, science and technology, reference works and published primary sources, and biography and autobiography. Books published during the previous year or bearing a copyright date of the previous year qualify for consideration. The announcement and presentation of the awards, named in honor of the late Professor John Lyman of the University of North Carolina, are a highlight of the annual meeting.

The Awards Committee is composed of Gene Allen Smith, chair (TCU), James P. Delgado (Institute of Nautical Archaeology), James M. Morris (emeritus, Christopher Newport University), and William H. Flayhart, (Delaware State University).

2007 WINNERS:

Canadian Naval and Maritime History

Barry Gough, *Fortune's River: The Collision of Empires in Northwest America* (Madeira Park, BC: Harbour Publishing Co., Ltd.)

U.S. Naval History

Lisle A. Rose, *Power at Sea*: vol. 1. *The Age of Navalism, 1890-1918*; vol. 2. *The Breaking Storm, 1919-1945*; vol. 3. *A Violent Peace, 1946-2006* (Columbia: University of Missouri Press)

U.S. Maritime History--Co-Winners

Eric Jay Dolin, *Leviathan: The History of Whaling in America* (New York: W.W. Norton and Company)

Donald G. Shomette, *Shipwrecks, Sea Raiders, and Maritime Disasters along the Delmarva Coast, 1632-2004* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press)

Biography and Autobiography

Stephen Fox, *Wolf of the Deep: Raphael Semmes and the Notorious Confederate Raider CSS Alabama* (New York: Alfred Knopf)

Science and Technology

Larrie D. Ferreiro, *Ships and Science: The Birth of Naval Architecture in the Scientific Revolution, 1600-1800* (Cambridge, Mass: The MIT Press)

Primary Source Materials, Reference Works, and Guide Books

John B. Hattendorf, Editor in Chief, *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Maritime History* (New York: Oxford University Press)

Honorable Mention

Deidre Simmons, *Keepers of the Record: The History of the Hudson's Bay Company Archives* (Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press)

UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

9-13 July, *The Arctic Convoys: A Lifeline Across the Atlantic*, Reykjavik, Iceland, is a conference commemorating the Arctic Convoys which, during the Second World War, brought food, munitions, and other goods from Europe and North America through Iceland to the Soviet Union, making a significant contribution to the Allied forces' defense against the Axis Powers in Europe. The Arctic Convoys were a vital life-support to the defense of Russia when the Nazi assault had led its army deep into the country.

The conference will be attended by veterans of the convoys (both naval and merchant seamen), historians and other academics, students, journalists and others interested in the Arctic Convoys, the Second World War and its relevance for modern times. For further information: <http://www.hugvis.hi.is/page/Convoys>

6-9 August, *Four Centuries of North Atlantic Crossings / Quatre siècles de voyages transatlantiques*

To celebrate the quatercentenary of Samuel de Champlain's founding of Quebec, the Canadian Nautical Research Society will host its annual conference there in 2008. The conference venue is the Auberge Saint-Antoine, very near the site of Champlain's original « *Habitation* ». Located on an important archaeological site, in 300 year-old buildings, the Auberge Saint-Antoine offers a unique introduction to New France. Artfully displayed artifacts throughout the hotel provide a fascinating glimpse into the life of Quebec's first inhabitants. The Auberge Saint-Antoine has created a succession of 94 stunning rooms, many offering a view on the Saint-Lawrence River, others of Quebec's renowned fortifications or the Musée de la civilisation. A block of rooms is reserved for "CNRS 2008", Auberge Saint-Antoine, 8, rue Saint-Antoine, Québec, QC G1K 4C9 (418) 692-2211 Fax : (418) 692-1177 <http://www.saint-antoine.com>.

5-7 September, *Ninth North Sea History Conference* brings together academics from all over the world to discuss North Sea Issues. Such questions include: Who were, and are, maritime people in the North Sea region? In what ways, and why, have their lives and work changed over time? To what degree have the fortunes of maritime people differed in different areas of the North Sea region? How have nation states and transnational connections shaped the work and welfare of maritime people? This year's host is the Stavanger Maritime Museum, Musegt. 16, N-4010 Stavanger. Phone: +47 51842700 Fax: +47 51842701 www.stavanger.museum.no Additional information can be found at: <http://www.northseanetwork.com>

13-14 September, *Weather at Sea: Climate Change and its effects on the Maritime World*

Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies, University of Exeter. The 42nd Maritime History Conference seeks to explore the history of the effects climate change on the maritime world. Topics include but are not limited to: History, climate change and the tropical Atlantic in the age of sail; The digitization of historical ship logbooks for Atmospheric Circulation Reconstructions over the Earth; Measuring climate change: getting global temperature change from marine weather observations; Royal Navy deck logs and the climate of World War II; Storms and submarines: the influence of weather on the battle of the Atlantic in the Second World War; Meteorological pathfinders of the sea in the nineteenth century; and Climate change and its effects on British Arctic whaling. For further information go to: <http://www.centres.ex.ac.uk/cmhs/conferences/index.htm>

17-18 October, *Gender and Society: Explorations, Discoveries, and Revelations in a Gendered World*

The 33rd annual Great Lakes History Conference, sponsored by Grand Valley State University, will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, on October 17th and 18th, 2008. All fields of history as well as other disciplines are invited to submit proposals related to this year's theme: Gender and Society: Explorations, Discoveries, and Revelations in a Gendered World. Scholars from a wide range of fields and disciplines to exchange ideas and research on this topic are invited, as are panels on innovative ways of teaching this year's theme to students at every level. Contact Dr. Craig Benjamin at benjamic@gvsu.edu or Dr. Scott Sabler at Stablers@gvsu.edu.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Twelfth North Atlantic Fisheries History Conference, August 2009 in Norfolk, VA (USA).

The North Atlantic Fisheries History Association (NAFHA) and the Department of History at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA invites you to participate in the 12th North Atlantic Fisheries History Conference. This meeting is designed to stimulate scholarly exchange between researchers at all levels and all disciplines which relate to the long-term development of fishing activity and its impact on the marine environment.

Proposals for papers and sessions relating to any aspect of the history of the North Atlantic fisheries are welcome. However, contributions addressing the special theme of the conference - Fisheries Management in a Historical Perspective - are especially encouraged. Session proposals should include an outline of the theme, a short description of the thematic scope and a list of participants already contacted by the session organizer. For further information, visit www.hull.ac.uk/nafha. Proposals and requests for further information should be submitted to Dr. Ingo Heidbrink, -NAFHA Presidency-Associate Professor - Department of History, Old Dominion University - Norfolk, VA e-mail: nafha2009@odu.edu or iheidbri@odu.edu

The Seventeenth New Researchers in Maritime History Conference, managed by the British Commission for Maritime History and sponsored by the Society for Nautical Research, will be hosted by the National Waterfront Museum, Swansea on Friday 13th and Saturday 14th March 2009. The Conference provides an opportunity for those who have recently become engaged in research in maritime history (broadly defined) to present a paper of twenty minutes duration and then answer questions from a supportive audience. Proposals should take the form of a 200-word abstract and a one-page CV. Your CV should have details of your degrees or other qualifications; your current student or employment status; and your publications (if any). Proposals (email attachment preferred) should be sent by 7 November 2008. For information, contact: Dr Graeme Milne, School of History, University of Liverpool, 9 Abercromby Square, Liverpool, L69 7WZ. Email: g.j.milne@liv.ac.uk

International Congress of Maritime Museums, Biennial Congress, Annapolis, 28 September to 2 October 2009. ICMM hopes to follow up on the theme explored in Malta – *Reaching New Audiences*. This year they plan to focus on the messages that maritime museums are sending, and not the media that they use. Not everyone understands or appreciates just how important the sea and our maritime cultures have been and, more importantly, continue to be, in shaping all our lives. Maritime museums around the world all have an important part to play in getting this message to existing and to new audiences. The conference hopes to present some of the new directions and new partnerships that have opened up thus far. ICMM is currently looking for ideas, thoughts and recommendations for the 2009 program. Speaker ideas, workshops, and topics are all welcomed. Send an e-mail to Stuart Parnes at sparnes@cbmm.org or to any member of the Program Committee. <http://www.icmmonline.org/pages/conferences.htm>. Congress plans must be finalized by November 2008.

The Quinquennial International Commission for Maritime History (ICMH) conference as part of the 21st International Committee of Historical Sciences Congress, Amsterdam 22-28 August 2010. The objectives of the Commission are to encourage and co-ordinate research in a spirit of international understanding. The conference aims to present a broad range of new research from the field of maritime history and related disciplines. Proposals for complete sessions (3-4 papers plus chair) are particularly welcomed. Proposals should be sent to: Rachel Mulhearn, Secretary-General, International Commission for Maritime History, Rachel.mulhearn@liverpoolmuseums.org.uk Deadline for proposals is 31 October 2008. ICMH awards a bursary to support attendance at the Quinquennial conference. Please contact the Secretary-General for further information.

2009 NASOH CONFERENCE

North American Society for Oceanic History, Steamship Historical Society of America and
National Maritime Historical Society

Hosted by the California Maritime Academy, CSU, Vallejo, California

“Ports, Forts and Sports: Maritime Economy, Defense and Recreation through Time and across Space,” the 28th Annual Conference of the North American Society for Oceanic History (NASOH) co-sponsored by the National Maritime Historical Society and Steamship Historical Society of America, will be hosted by the California Maritime Academy in Vallejo, California, May 14-17, 2009. The Conference Program Committee invites proposals for papers and sessions exploring all fields of study related to saltwater or navigable freshwater environments. Suggested areas of research include, but are not restricted to, archeology and anthropology, arts and sciences, history, and/or museum exhibitions. Proposals that identify the unique characteristics and influence of maritime economy, defense and recreation in the Pacific and other ocean regions are especially encouraged.

The Program Committee welcomes the submission of individual papers and full sessions, preferring panels with three papers and a chair. Proposals should include a brief abstract of 500 words for each paper, plus a one-page abstract for proposed panels, and a brief bio of 200 words for each participant, including chairs. Graduate students are strongly encouraged to submit proposals for presentations. Accommodations for PowerPoint presentations will be provided; however, any other requirements, including audio-visual equipment, special outlets, or accommodations for disabilities should be included in the proposal. Scholars interested in chairing sessions are welcome to send a brief bio to the Program Committee Co-chairs. Please note that all participants must register for the conference. Specific questions may be directed to Program Committee Co-Chair, Bill Thiesen at thiesen@earthlink.net. The deadline for submissions is December 1st, 2008.

Send or email submissions to the two Program Committee Co-Chairs listed below:

Victor T. Mastone
Board of Underwater Archaeological Resources
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
251 Causeway Street, Suite 800
Boston, MA 02114
victor.mastone@state.ma.us

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Program Committee:

Timothy G. Lynch, California Maritime Academy, CSU, Conference Coordinator
James M. Allan, Saint Mary's College of California, Co-Chair
Victor T. Mastone, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Co-Chair
William H. Thiesen, United States Coast Guard, Co-Chair
Catherine M. Green, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
C. Douglas Kroll, College of the Desert
Christopher P. Magra, California State University-Northridge
Salvatore R. Mercogliano, Central Carolina Community College
Amy M. Mitchell-Cook, University of West Florida
James M. Morris, Christopher Newport University (emeritus)
Brian J. Payne, Old Dominion University
Warren C. Riess, University of Maine
Gene Allen Smith, Texas Christian University
Kathleen B. Williams, Cogswell Polytechnical College
Channing M. Zucker, United States Navy (ret.)



North American Society for Oceanic History

Mailing Address:
Department of History—TCU Box 297260
Texas Christian University
Fort Worth, TX 76129
www.nasoh.org

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