

# NEWSLETTER

WOODS HOLE  
OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION



AUGUST 1994

## AGOR-25 Keel Laying Held

August 16, 1994 was an historic day for the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. In ceremonies at Halter Marine, Inc. in Moss Point, Mississippi, the keel was laid for WHOI's new research vessel, AGOR-25. The keel laying finally signals the beginning of the construction of this ship, which will enter service in about two and one-half years.

WHOI Director Bob Gagosian, along with Deputy Chief of Naval Research Dr. Fred Saalfeld, officiated at the keel laying ceremony. Also present were RADM George Davis, VI, Oceanographer of the Navy, and RADM Paul Gaffney, the new commander of the Naval Meteorological and Oceanographic Command, as well as senior representatives of the Naval Sea Systems Command. WHOI Associate Director for Research Jim Luyten and Marine Operations Manager Joe Coburn also attended the ceremony.

"AGOR-25 completes the Navy's academic fleet modernization program begun in 1984," Associate Director for Marine Operations Dick Pittenger notes. "This enlightened program to provide the country's ocean scientists with robustly capable, modern ships from which to conduct global ocean research included the extensive conversion of WHOI's Research Vessel *Knorr* and the Research Vessel *Melville*, operated by the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, and construction of a new class of ships, designated the AGOR-23 class, based on requirements put forth by the research community."

In his remarks at the keel laying ceremony, Bob Gagosian noted the importance of this long-term Navy commitment to oceanography. "The Navy has played a major role in providing the facilities, instrumentation and ships for oceanography," he said. "I'm convinced we would not have accomplished what we have accomplished in ocean sciences today without these facilities and support. It is a major reason why this nation leads the world in ocean sciences. WHOI is honored to be selected as the operator of this important addition to the fleet. We look forward to providing quality service to the community throughout the expected thirty years of service of AGOR-25 well into the 21st century."

As part of the ceremony, Bob Gagosian and Fred

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## WHOI Signs Agreement with British Research Lab

Directors Bob Gagosian of WHOI and John Shepherd of the Southampton Oceanographic Center (SOC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) August 3 in ceremonies at Meteor House, formalizing a longstanding relationship and encouraging increased collaboration between scientists and engineers at the two labs.

The two-page MOU notes "the mutual benefits that can arise from collaborative scientific and technological efforts combined with open exchange of ideas and informa-

*Continued on page 2*

Photo courtesy Halter Marine, Inc.



Left to right Deputy Chief of Naval Research Fred Saalfeld, Halter Marine President John Dane, and Director Bob Gagosian following the keel laying ceremony.

## MOU Signed

*Continued from page 1*

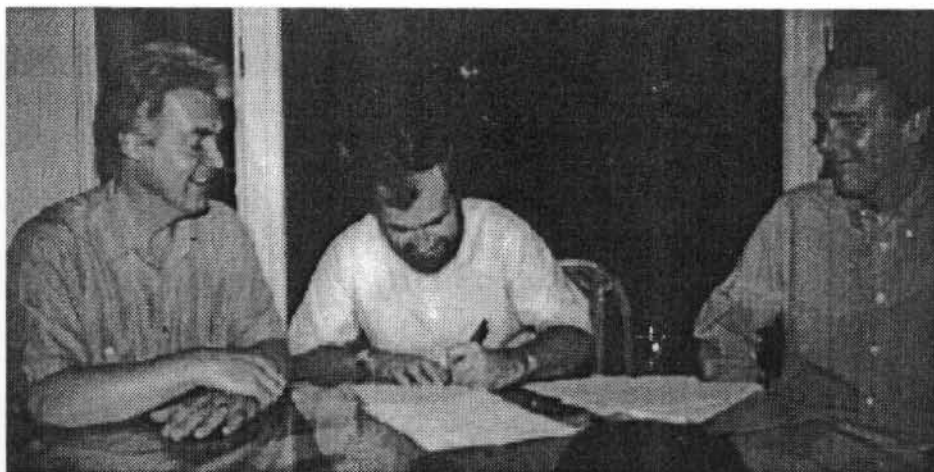
tion," and states that both organizations seek the further development of joint research activities in oceanography and marine technology.

"This agreement strengthens our already substantial and long-term interaction with colleagues in oceanographic research in Great Britain," Bob Gagosian said. "WHOI and SOC are among the major marine labs in the world, and by expanding our collaborations we hope to make an even greater impact and contribution to ocean sciences and engineering."

The MOU states that the two labs wish "to promote channels of communication and cooperation that encourage the exchange of scientific information" prompted by "the existing spirit of mutual cooperation as 'sister' organizations." WHOI and SOC agreed "to develop cooperation further so as to foster an increased level of interchange of ideas to the mutual benefit of both organizations, and to strengthen further the goodwill and cordial relations that already exist between them."

In signing the document, WHOI and SOC specifically agreed to "promote joint conferences and/or workshops on selected topics, with the aim of leading to the development of proposals for joint research, instrument development and cruises; to organize or encourage

Photo by Claire Reid



*Director Bob Gagosian signs the Memorandum of Understanding with the Southampton Oceanographic Center (SOC) August 3 at Meteor House. SOC Director John Shepherd is at left and WHOI Associate Director for Research Jim Luyten is at right.*

the organization of joint research projects, with or without third parties as appropriate; encourage exchange visits to widen the ideas pool and broaden the experience of individual scientists and technologies."

Progress under the MOU will be monitored by the Director and senior management of each organization. No financial obligations are implied by the agreement, which will be in force for five years from the date of signing, or until August 3, 1999. It can be terminated at any time by either party upon 90 days written notice to the other party.

Shepherd and Colin Summerhayes of SOC spent several days at WHOI meeting with staff in various departments.

## Mike Bacon to Chair MC&G Department

Senior Scientist Michael Bacon will assume the duties as chair of the Marine Chemistry & Geochemistry Department December 1.

Current chair Geoffrey Thompson has asked to step down at the end of September. During the transition months of October and November, Associate Scientist Mark Kurz will serve as Acting Chair.

In announcing the change Director Bob Gagosian noted Geoff Thompson's "long and productive career" and his "extraordinary service" both to his department, which he served twice as chair, and to the Institution. "His sage advice and wise counsel, as well as his ability to encourage others' attention on the important issues will be missed," Bob Gagosian said. "But we hope to prevail upon Geoff on occasion."

"All three have stressed that they will work together during this period to ensure that there is continuity in hiring, promotions, evaluations and in ongoing activities of the department office," Bob Gagosian said. "In addition, I want to give special thanks to both Oliver Zafiriou and Edward Sholkovitz for their willingness to serve as Acting Chairs for the department during the past few months."

The Newsletter is published monthly for employees, students and members of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution community. Copy deadline is the 25th of the month. Ideas for stories, photos, and items of interest to the community are welcome and should be sent to: Editor, Newsletter, News Office, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, MA 02543. Telephone 508-457-2000 ext. 2270 or 3340.

Editor: Shelley M. Lauzon  
Staff Support: Kathleen Patterson

## Bi-Tech System Implementation Moves Forward

The long process leading to the implementation of the Bi-Tech software is about to become reality. Institution staff had an opportunity to hear the progress on the implementation August 11 at presentations in Clark and Redfield. Within weeks, employees will notice the first visible outcome of the new system, a different paycheck. The new paycheck will be an 8-1/2 by 11-inch sheet of paper listing detailed payment and deduction information.

"We have run two parallel payrolls correcting minor errors in the process," Payroll Manager Laurie Murphy said. "We are in the process of completing a third parallel of the August 26th payroll. We should be error free at that point."

At the same time, the implementation teams are hard at work getting prepared to cut over the General Ledger system, as well as Accounts Payable, Purchasing and Accounts Receivable, to Bi-Tech. Training classes have been underway in Clark 181 for weeks, familiarizing the staffs of the Controller's office, Procurement, Payroll, and Computer and Information Services who will use the system daily. Cut-over date of the core financials has been set at October 31.

The next change WHOI staff will notice after the new paycheck sheets appear will be the replacement of OARS with a new system that will provide current data on cost centers and projects. Details are being worked through for that system.

"We plan to cut over the general ledger when we are sure that all of our existing data has been successfully converted and the new reporting features have been fully verified and audited," Controller Maureen Nunez said. "We are getting close. When we are ready, after running old files and conducting the same kind of verification for the financial status reports as with Payroll to be sure there are no problems, the cut over will happen."

To ease the transition to the new software system, Module Implementation Teams (MITs) have been formed for general ledger and related activities, payroll, procurement, human resources, and grants administration. Each MIT has, as a minimum, a team leader and someone from the "home" work area, someone representing the broader user community, and someone from Computer and Information Services (CIS) to provide technical support.

Members of the MITs are:

*General ledger and related activities* - Dave Rudden (team leader), Stacey Yarish, Larry Flick and Beverley Harper;

*Grants Administration* - Claire Reid (team leader), Susan Casso, Maurice Tavares and Ellen Levy.

*Procurement* - Patty Duffy (team leader), Karen Carmichael, Susan Kadar, Mike Sawyer, Lynn Ladetto and Bruce Cole.

*Human Resources* - Kathy LaBernz (team leader), Nancy Hickey, Judy Kleindinst and Carol Hampton.  
*Payroll* - Laurie Murphy (team leader), Kathy LaBernz and Carol Hampton.

The Business Systems Implementation team (BSIT), which is comprised of project leader Larry Ladd, project manager Joe Agius, training coordinator Melissa Roberts Weidman, the leaders of each MIT, and CIS team leaders John Krauspe, Andy Maffei and Sue Volkmann, meets each week to discuss progress in each function area.

Melissa Roberts Weidman said that once the business operations staff who will use the Bi-Tech system daily have been trained, tests are complete and the system is phased in, a pilot group of "master trainers" will be trained. That group will expand as staff within each Institution department or group are trained to serve as the local experts within that department or group. Training will continue until it includes everyone who has access to the system.

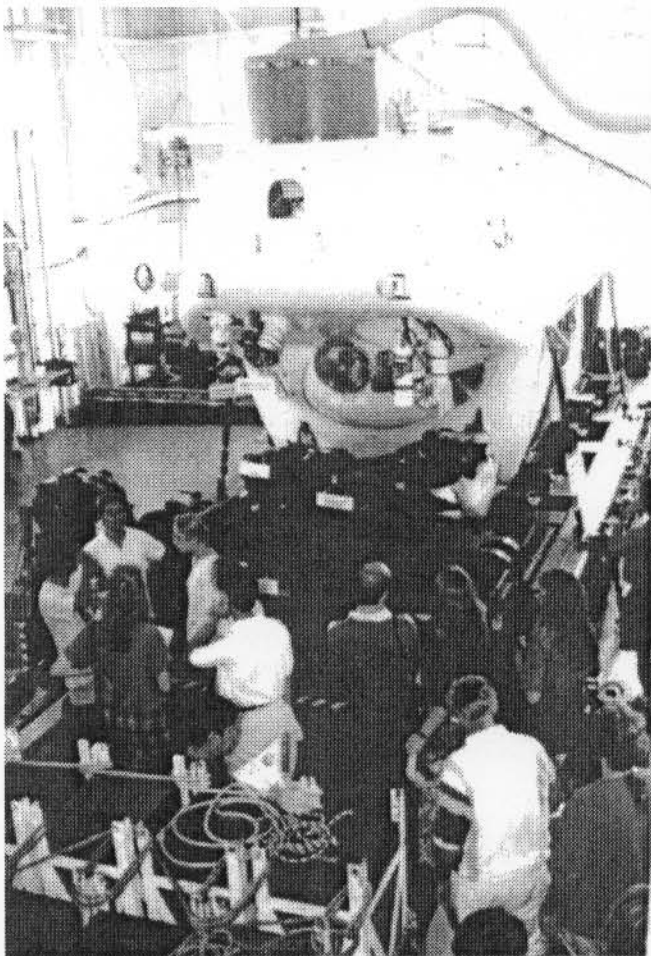
Bi-Tech staff have been coming to WHOI to conduct classes, usually 3-5 days in length, for WHOI staff working in the various modules, Joe Agius said. Once all the basic modules are on-line, maintaining and updating the system will be done. Agius said Bi-Tech's contract with WHOI requires Bi-Tech to provide certain services, including updates and enhancements to the system that are developed for other clients. The firm must also make sure, at their expense, that the software runs on the NCR (now AT&T) hardware WHOI has purchased.

"We paid a fixed amount for the software, plus an annual maintenance fee which covers updates to the software," Agius explained. "Any enhancements made are available to us annually. In addition, Bi-Tech will convert all the old data from ROSS to the Bi-Tech system."

The objective of Bi-Tech is to have information accessible and on-line as much as possible, reducing paper-work and cost and making it easier in the long term to conduct the Institution's daily business. Several features of the software will be phased in over time. For example, on-line purchase requisitions and reimbursements for VISA and travel will not be available to end users right away, although the Procurement Team will be using the Bi-Tech system on their end.

"We are about to take a major step forward in the Bi-Tech implementation with the distribution of the new paycheck stubs," Director Bob Gagosian said. "The Payroll staff - Laurie Murphy, Tariesa Lemmon and Brenda Kulvete - have worked very hard for months to get the system up and running. We will soon see a small part of their effort. The commitment they have made to this process serves as a good role model for the other functions undergoing restructuring."





*The Shinkai 6500 attracted crowds all week*



**Research Vessel *Yokosuka/Shinkai*  
What a Week It Was.**



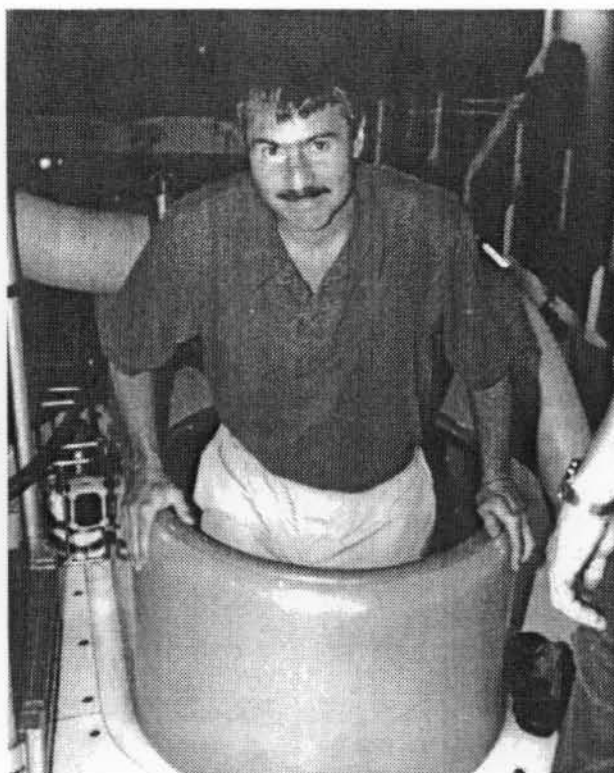
*The final count for the July 26 Open House: 1,270.*



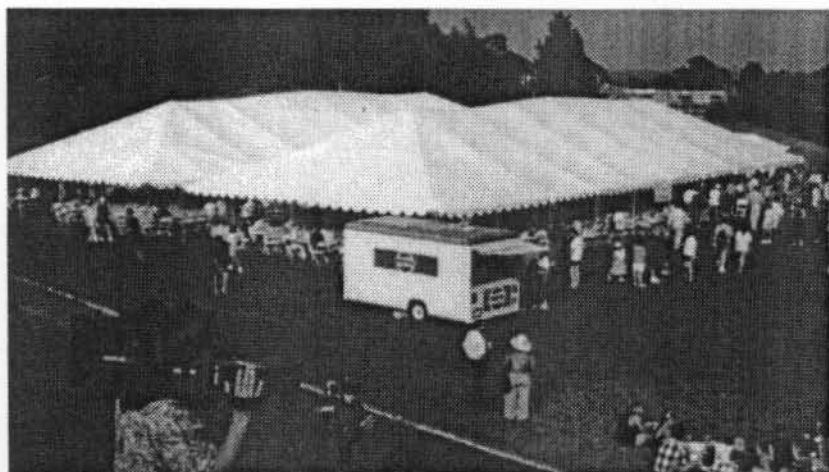
*Marty Kleinrock (right) spoke with Reuters wire service reporter Tom McNiff following a science briefing and ship tour July 27 for invited guests and the media.*



*The Alvin and Shinkai 6500 groups shared information during a shipboard tour and informal get-together July 25.*



*Dan Fornari of G&G and the Deep Submergence Operations Group got a close look inside Shinkai 6500. More than 1200 attended the barbecue (below) which followed the open house.*



*Director Bob Gagósián and JAMSTEC President Mitsugu Ishizuka exchanged gifts at the July 26 barbecue under tents on the Clark ballfield.*



## Halloween Haunted House Planned

The Employee Capital Campaign Committee (ECCC) will sponsor a Halloween Haunted House Saturday and Sunday nights, October 29 and 30, at one of the Institution housing units. The public will be invited to attend, with a small admission fee for children and adults.

The committee is looking for donations and/or loans of items which could be used in the decoration and set-up of the haunted house. Items needed include sheets, mannequins, cauldrons, spiders, skeletons, old mirrors and other spooky decorations, sinister music, costumes and other Halloween theme props. The committee is also looking for volunteers who are willing to donate their time and talents to create the haunted house, and volunteers willing to work on the nights of the event.

If you are interested in donating items or helping in any way, contact Mary Jane Tucci at ext. 2389, Ann Jessup at ext. 2447, Mary Zawoysky at ext. 2347 or Amy Donner at ext. 3319.

## Any Interest in a WHOI Cookbook?

The Employee Capital Campaign Committee is considering producing a WHOI cookbook if sufficient interest in the project exists within the staff and WHOI community.

If you are interested in volunteering for the cookbook committee, or simply support the idea, please let Mindy Hall in the Physical Oceanography Department know by contacting her at ext. 2599 or via e-mail at [mhall@whoi.edu](mailto:mhall@whoi.edu).

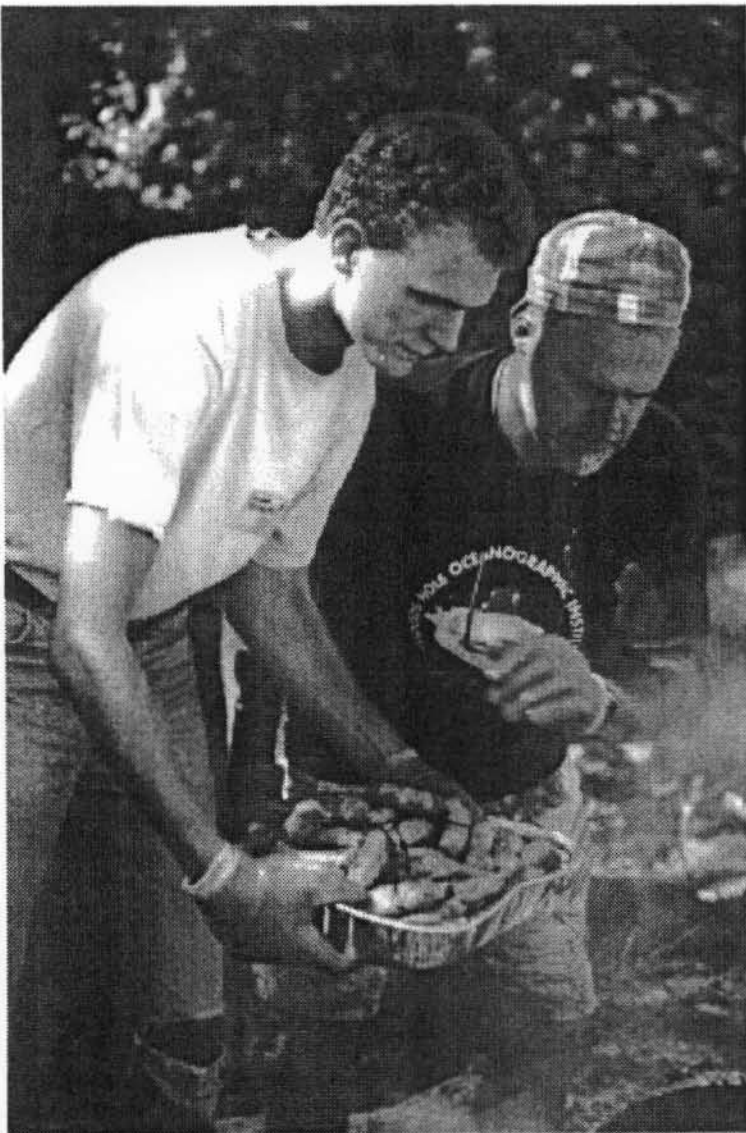
## Clambakes a Success

The two clambakes July 9 and August 6 organized and prepared by the Employee Capital Campaign Committee were a great success based on the comments from many who attended.

The August 6 clambake attracted more than 150, who enjoyed sunny skies, cool temperatures and ample food. More than 130 attended the July 9 clambake.

"Not only did we make some new friends and introduce people to the Institution, but we also had fun," Employee Capital Campaign Committee member Amy Donner said. "The events were also a financial success, resulting in a contribution to the Capital Campaign on behalf of the staff. In addition, retired employee Dean Bumpus made a

Photo by David Mann



*Joint Program student Gaspar Taroncher holds the tray for linguica and sausages as bake master Hovey Clifford searches for more in the steaming seaweed at the August 6 clambake on the McKee ball field. Nearly 300 attended the July 9 and August 6 events, the first to be sponsored by the Employee Capital Campaign Committee.*

spontaneous donation to support the efforts of the committee."

Door prizes raffled off at each clambake included WHOI T-shirts and hats, puppets, books and manganese nodules.

Members of the Clambake Committee were Hovey Clifford, Bruce Lancaster, Dale Leavitt and Jean Whelan. Hovey Clifford and Bruce Lancaster, with guidance from Dale Leavitt, served as bake masters for both events. In addition to members of the Employee Capital Campaign Committee, volunteers at the August 6 clambake were: Ed Dow, Shawna DiPetta, Ellen Gately, Ee Lin Lim, Dorsey Milot, Ann Palm, Ernie Smith, Peggy Stengel, Gaspar Taroncher and Bonnie Woodward.

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## Employee Recognition Celebration Planned

The annual Employee Recognition Celebration will be held September 7 under a tent on the Fenno House grounds. The event recognizes the contributions of all employees but pays special honor to those employees who have (under specific guidelines) completed 10, 20, 30 and 40 years of service to the Institution. The 1994 Vetlesen (individual), Penzance (group) and Linda Morse-Porteous awards (female technician, graded or technical staff) will also be presented.

## Procurement Team Relocating

The Accounts Payable, Purchasing, Receiving, Stockroom and Travel functions were recently combined to form the Procurement Team. To help create a team atmosphere, Accounts Payable and Travel will be relocating to the GEOSECS building on the Quissett Campus. To accommodate this move the GEOSECS building will be closed for renovations August 29 through Labor Day, September 5. It will reopen September 6.

During this time there will be minimal coverage in the areas of Accounts Payable, Purchasing, Receiving, Travel and the Stockroom. While renovations are underway at GEOSECS the Procurement Team will be attending a team training session, "Creating a Culture of Accountability," August 29 and 30. The team will be operating out of the Accounts Payable area in Challenger House August 31 through September 2.

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## In Memoriam

The Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution announces with great sorrow the recent deaths of Honorary Trustee Thomas Crowley and Honorary Member Albert Nickerson. Word has also been received of the death of retired employee Delmar Jenkins.

*Thomas Crowley*, chairman of the board and former president and director of Crowley Maritime Corporation, died of cancer July 7, 1994 in California. Educated at Stanford University, Tom Crowley served as chairman of the board of the Ralph K. Davies Medical Center, as a member of the American Bureau of Shipping, and as a trustee of the Transportation Institute. He was the recipient of the United Seamen's Service Admiral of the Ocean Sea Award, the Vice-Admiral Jerry Land Medal, and the National Defense Transportation Award.

*Albert Nickerson*, former chairman and chief executive of the Mobil Oil Corporation (formerly Vacuum Oil) and director and chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, died August 7 of a stroke at age 83. Educated at the Noble and Greenough School, he graduated from Harvard in 1933 and began working for Mobil at a gas station in Brookline, MA. He rose through the ranks to become the company's president, and served from 1958 to 1969 as chairman and chief executive and from 1961 to 1969 as board chairman. He was a director of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York from 1961 to 1966. Among the many organizations he served as a trustee or member were Rockefeller University, Brigham and Women's Hospital and the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

*Delmar Jenkins*, a purchasing agent at WHOI for many years, died January 26, 1994 in Sarasota, FL. Following graduation from Falmouth's Lawrence High School in 1929, he worked for 23 years as an assistant cashier at Falmouth National Bank, leaving in 1951 to begin employment at WHOI as a purchasing agent. He was promoted to buyer in 1974 and retired from WHOI in 1976.

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## Summer Visitors Trade More than a Century Old

*Editor's Note: As we enjoy the last days of another busy summer in Woods Hole, it might be interesting to note that vacationers have been coming to Woods Hole for more than a century. The following article appeared in the July 24, 1972 issue of the WHOI Newsletter.*

"According to Normal T. Allen, author of *A History of Woods Hole*, it all started when the Old Colony Railroad was extended from Monument Beach to Woods Hole in 1872.

Allen points out that Joseph Story Fay, a Boston merchant, was the first person to acquire a summer home in this area during the 1800s. After securing many large pieces of property in Woods Hole, he encouraged his friends to purchase land and build vacation homes. It was the urging of these early summer residents that brought the railroad to Woods Hole.

The railroad offered special summer services beginning in 1886, when a train made up of drawing room cars, and known as the Dude Train, was added to the Boston-Woods Hole run.

Large summer homes were built on Nobska and Juniper Points and two summer hotels were constructed. The active summer resort era in Woods Hole had begun."

Joseph Story Fay owned what is now WHOI's Challenger House. Fay purchased the property (then consisting of 75 acres, two homes, and some smaller buildings) for \$5,000 in 1850. It was christened "The Homestead" and the farmhouse, now Challenger House, served as a summer residence for the Fay family for almost 100 years. WHOI bought the existing property in 1948 (see article on the history of Challenger House in the December 1987 *Newsletter*; copies are available from the News Office, Co-op, ext. 3340).

## Chief Engineer Buzzy McLaughlin Retires

A large crowd gathered on the dock August 11 by Research Vessel *Oceanus* to wish retiring Chief Engineer Barrett "Buzzy" McLaughlin well upon his retirement from WHOI. He began working at the Institution in September 1947 on the Research Vessel *Mentor* and last served aboard Research Vessel *Oceanus*. His last cruise for WHOI brought *Oceanus* up from Jacksonville, FL, in June following the ship's mid-life refit and overhaul.

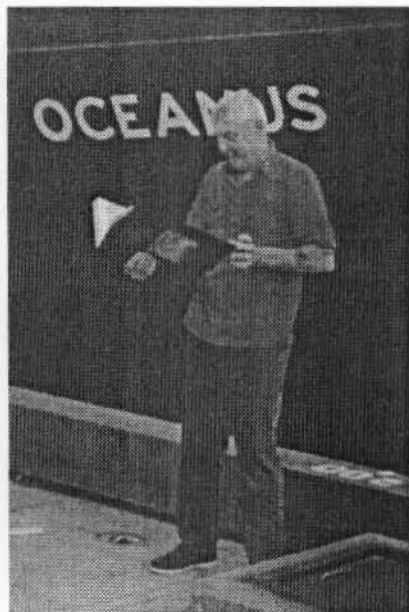
Known to many for his skill at making scrimshaw, Buzzy's long career at WHOI included service aboard the research vessels *Reliance* and *Caryn* in 1948, *Chain* from 1963 to 1970, *Knorr* from 1970 to 1979 and again from February to April 1984 and in February and March 1991, *Atlantis II* from November 1984 to August 1985 and again from June to October 1989. His last ship was *Oceanus*, where he served as chief engineer from April 1991 to June 30, 1994. In between many of these assignments he worked on commercial vessels, always returning to WHOI because of "the great people" who worked with him; both ashore and at sea.

Among the gifts presented to Buzzy was a history of cartography. Congratulations and best wishes, Buzzy!

Photos by Shelley Lauzon



Marine Operations Manager Joe Coburn (photo above, at right) presided at the informal festivities. Among the gifts presented to Buzz (photo right) was a history of cartography and a collection of photos.



## Ship Notes

### ATLANTIS II/ALVIN

R/V *Atlantis II* and DSV *Alvin* are continuing extended Voyage #131 off the west coast of the United States. The vessels departed Astoria, Oregon, August 15 to continue a series of measurements for a long-term study of the variation in deep-sea benthic boundary layer communities over time. Ten *Alvin* dives are scheduled off the California coast. The Autonomous Benthic Explorer (ABE) and Rover will also be deployed, tracked and recovered during the cruise. *Atlantis II* and *Alvin* are due in San Diego, CA, August 30. They will depart San Diego on their next cruise September 10.

### KNORR

R/V *Knorr* departed Woods Hole August 17 for an extended voyage through the Mediterranean Sea to the Indian Ocean dedicated to the World Ocean Circulation Experiment (WOCE). The first port call will be made at Augusta, Sicily, August 31. *Knorr* will depart Augusta September 3 for U.S. Navy tests, arriving in Catania, Sicily, September 18.

### OCEANUS

R/V *Oceanus* remains at the WHOI dock in lay-up status. The vessel will resume its operating schedule in 1995.

### AGOR-25 Keel continued from page 1

Saalfeld donned protective coats, face masks and gloves and, with a Halter Marine welder, took a turn at welding a plate.

Bob Gagosian and Jim Luyten had an opportunity while at Halter Marine to look at the progress on AGOR-24, the *Roger Revelle*, which will be delivered to Scripps in 1996. Bob told the crowd that he was impressed by the workmanship and attitude of the shipyard employees. He also noted that many in the audience never thought they would see the day that these ships would become a reality. Both he and Fred Saalfeld thanked the many people within the Navy during the last decade for their vision and foresight in persevering to get these ships built.

According to Dick Pittenger, AGOR-25 is the essential element in a plan to replace the aging *Atlantis II*, support ship for the Deep Submergence Vehicle *Alvin*. The name *Atlantis* was been submitted by the Institution to the Navy as its choice for AGOR-25, and the Institution is awaiting word on the name selection. *Atlantis II* will be retired from service in early 1996, at which time the 279-foot Research Vessel *Knorr* will be modified to handle *Alvin* and other deep submersibles such as WHOI's unmanned *Medea/Jason* system.

*Atlantis II*, namesake for the Institution's first research vessel, the 142-foot ketch *Atlantis*, joined the Institution fleet in 1963. The ketch *Atlantis* was retired from the WHOI fleet in 1964 after 33 years of service. The Government of Argentina acquired the vessel from WHOI in 1966. Rechristened *El Austral*, it pursues limited research.