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SAVE  
ONTARIO  
SHIPWRECKS

# SOS NEWSLETTER

May 2008



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May 2008 Issue

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Deadline submission for next issue is July 1, 2008.

*From Toronto Star - May 14th, 2008*



**B U L M A N ,**  
George "Jody" Age 40, passed away suddenly but peacefully in his sleep in Ottawa on May 6, 2008. Born in Quebec City, Jody was raised in Dartmouth, NS, but spent most of his adult

life in Toronto where he was employed by Canada Post. Jody had a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Manitoba and was currently enrolled in a Master's program in Underwater Archaeology at the University of Flinders in Australia. An avid outdoorsman, his pursuits included scuba diving, sea kayaking, and sailing. He was a member of the Canadian Forces Naval Reserve for many years in Halifax and Toronto, and in recent years he served in the Army Reserve in Toronto. Jody is survived by his parents, Kenneth and Doreen Bulman of Halifax; sister, Jill of Edmonton; brother, Marc of Toronto. His ashes will be placed in the ocean at a future time, and a memorial service will be announced. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving). Words of condolence and memories of Jody can be e-mailed to: [Bulman\\_family@Hotmail.com](mailto:Bulman_family@Hotmail.com)

*Date Posted: 2008-05-14*

***The mission of Save Ontario Shipwrecks  
is the preservation and promotion of marine heritage  
through research, conservation and education.***

## **The View from the Bridge**

*Please Note: this official report was accepted at the AGM before Jody passed away.*

# **SOS President's Report 2007**

I am pleased to submit the President's report for the year ending 2007. It's been a very busy year throughout the province and its numerous chapters with much progress to be noted.

It was disappointing to hear of Erika Laanela's departure from the Ministry of Culture to pursue her PhD. It was great working with her over the past years - she will be missed. We wish her luck in her new endeavors and hope to see her helping out in Ontario in the future. We have sent a letter of concern and been in discussion with the Ministry to ensure that the position gets filled quickly. It has been three quarters of a year and it was finally posted and closed March 25th, 2008. Now the review of the applicants is taking additional time; a potential offer and getting up to speed if someone does accept will all take more time. Thus the work of SOS is so much more important with no one in Provincial government focused on Marine issues for almost a year. The position was vacant for three years when Peter Engelbert left; let's hope it progresses faster this time. Last minute news is things are progressing with nine applicants from around the world.

A big announcement in 2007 was the formation of a group called EOARA (Eastern Ontario Artificial Reef Association) with plans to sink the Terra Nova (sister ship to the Gatineau – previous sinking by KARA that fell through). The approved location is 8 Km west of Brockville, 3 Km east of Browns Bay National Park. SOS supports the efforts of EOARA because it will help to take a lot of diving pressure off the more fragile wrecks.

Case in point is the deterioration to the Robert Gaskin in 2007 (See page 2). Erika Laanela and I did a personal dive on the Gaskin after the NAS 1 in June 2007. We discovered two large chunks of the starboard side (one at the bow, one at the stern) fell from the top rail areas to the river floor about 5m (15 feet) below. Three weeks earlier in May 2007, the wreck was largely as it has been for many years.

TRAINING & EDUCATION in 2007 consisted of NAS 1 programs in the 1000 Islands, Goderich and Quebec. Some symposium programs were signed off by the Ministry of Culture as credit for NAS level 2. Erika Laanela taught the 1000 Islands class on her 2nd last day at the Ministry.



*Robert Gaskin – Bow before*



*Robert Gaskin – Bow after*

*photos courtesy of Warren Lo Photography ©2007*

SOS DIRECTOR'S ACHIEVEMENT AWARD was presented to Joyce Hayward (for the second time) at her home in Ohio in June 2007 as well as an Honorary Membership in SOS for her dedication to our common goals and shared resource.

OUT REACH in 2007 consisted of several events. SOS had a staffed booth at the Toronto Outdoor Adventure show with approximately 31,000 people attending over the 3 day event. In addition, the Central Region display was set up by Hamilton chapters at Shipwrecks in Welland with approximately 600 in attendance. Scuba in the Park was organized by the 1000 Islands chapter; attendance was up in 2007 with approximately 125 attending due to the better weather. The display had an extended showing for the summer at the London Museum of Ontario Archaeology. Everyone visiting the museum and all those at events were able to learn about SOS. The display was also present in Port Colbourne for Canal Days and was setup for the Archaeology Society meeting in Toronto.

The new membership brochure initiated by Jim Hopkins was used at all functions this past year. SOS now has a total of 8 field guide slates, with 2 more (Kinghorn, Keystorm) being produced in 2007 thanks to the continuing work of Marg Barker and those from Chapters submitting the data needed.

Jody Bulman, a former Toronto chapter member, now moved to Ottawa, has done a great job of the newsletter and is making ongoing improvements. A milestone in the history of SOS was made with the publishing of the first colour newsletter. The primary consideration for spending extra on colour

was the SOS Ottawa plaque project and the SOS Quebec memorial stone project. This is a critical outreach role and we appreciate Jody's enthusiasm and commitment to meeting the publishing deadlines.

Bernie Roy has continued to be the membership chair for 2007. This job is getting more complex with the growth SOS. We have Hardcopy and we have E-Copy newsletters, electronic event announcements, special mailings for renewal, and we also have required mailings for events like the AGM. We have OUC insurance and membership payments as well. Bernie has been working on the membership database to port it to MS Access. This will provide a much improved interface and flexibility with the hopes of making it web-based with controlled and restricted access. Thanks Bernie for your ongoing support. We recognize this as a key role in our outreach program and want you to know all you do is much appreciated.

BUOYS in 2007 were deployed and removed with the required notification to the Canadian Coast Guard NOTSHIP desk. Toronto Chapter installed lights and radar reflectors on their three buoys in the Toronto Harbour this past summer to help improve visibility. However, the three buoys were not able to be removed because the Humber Park boat ramp was closed, apparently for the first time and without notice. The Buoy for the Morrison in Lake Simcoe was reviewed with no concerns from Transport Canada, but did not get deployed as the anchor block installation was delayed till the end of the season. Everything is set for the 2008 season. One SOS buoy was erroneously placed on a non-approved site in the 1000 Islands. It was removed within 4 days of discovery mid-summer. This site has been submitted to Transport Canada for review and they responded that they had no concerns.

ADMINISTRATIVE progress has been made with the formulation and adoption of the SOS Code of Ethics policy spearheaded by Jonathan Ferguson. He also researched and drafted the updated and formalized Policy for Privacy which was worked on extensively in 2007 and adopted in February 2008. The Calendar of SOS administrative events was updated as was the SOS private use area of the website.

CHAPTERS of SOS were reduced by one this past year with the closing of the Ohio Chapter. Joyce Hayward was awarded the SOS Director's award in 2007 for the second time in her 20+ year span of Chapter Chair. Ohio now has a similar organization to SOS called MAST. With Joyce's ongoing health issues, we regretfully accepted her resignation and wish her the best of strength and health. Windsor chapter is back up and running thanks to Roy Pickering and a dedicated few. All Ohio members will be grouped in with Windsor.

## SURVEY WORK AND PROJECTS

SOS Quebec did a great job on their first projects which included the Memorial Stone on the J.B. King, the Lines at Lock 21, and the NAS level 1 with Parks Canada in Montreal.

1000 Islands continues to do survey work on the prop of the Muscallonge which is right in the middle of the seaway shipping channel – a challenging site. They held a NAS1 with 8 students and Scuba in the Park with ~125 attendees and ~35 people volunteering to run the event. They held a symposium in conjunction with the Brockville Historical society where long time SOS member Lorne Joyce gave a talk on the Lloyd Tanker Fleet and other ships of the seaway. There were 34 in attendance.

Hamilton did more research at the National Archives in Ottawa as well as running a side-scan course in conjunction with CHAA (Canadian Harvard Aircraft Assn).

Sarnia chapter also helped with the NAS 1 in Goderich. The bank account was closed because the monthly fee at the TD Bank had depleted all the funds.

Toronto chapter is continuing with a 5 year monitoring project on the Sligo with 36 datum points watching 100 different measurements for movement. Toronto took it upon themselves to upgrade buoys to have lights and radar reflectors. SOS Toronto is a big help every year with the Outdoor Adventure Show. Volunteers work the booth at the show while we have an all day board meeting on Saturday.

Manitoulin members made an interesting discovery of a debris field near Clapperton Island in the North Channel of Lake Huron.

Port Dover's Jim Murphy has purchased an Imagenx side scan in 2007 and hopes to get out in 2008 to use it. They are still involved with the Port Dover Marine Museum.

Ottawa did work on the Twisted Sisters project in 2007 using charter boats which logistically simplified things considerably. SOS Ottawa donated \$1000 to a film project on the Lost Villages called "Submerged". Three sold-out shows were held at a Cornwall Cineplex Theater. Ottawa attended the Heritage Riverfest event at Phiney's Point, brought the display, and also spoke about projects such as Twisted Sisters. Of most important note was the installation of two land based Heritage Plaques at the Conestoga and the Rothesay sites. These were published in the first colour newsletter.

Windsor Chapter deployed the buoys and had 4 meetings. They did a little local diving over a debris field found in one of Dave Trotter's side scans.

Huron Shores actively sought new members through radio interviews, newspaper ads and posters with good success. With active members, they did a search of the local archive for information about shipping accidents. Then they worked with the Goderich Marine Heritage Committee using side-scan sonar under license. One buoy was deployed on the "Labour Day Wreck". They had a booth at the local CPS Boating Safety day and gave away door prizes. There were 50 names in the draw. Further, they held a NAS1 with 7 students, 2 from Ohio.

FUNDRASING overall had a total cost for all Chapters of \$3144 and revenue at \$6597. A portion of that was from Ships Stores sales, which showed that slates are the things people want. Chapters that sold them made a great profit. Ships stores sales were primarily in the Eastern region, with some in Toronto and Hamilton (during shows). With slates made for the Toronto and/or Hamilton sites in 2008, it is hoped that they will take advantage of this revenue stream. Items ordered by and sold to dive stores directly will be credited to the local chapter. Overall, chapters have a total bank balance of \$10,931 to support projects and activities in 2008. In 2007, chapters received \$11,040 in revenue and spent \$17,680 of which an average of 6.4% (7.8% in 2006) was administrative expense versus money spent on outreach - a 1.4% improvement due largely to the land plaque project by Ottawa. Donations were minimal. NAS courses raised \$1056 in 1000 Islands, Huron Shores and Quebec.

OVERALL, it was a busy year with three new province wide team members: Scott Fuller – CD PowerPoint Project, Steve Mombourquette – Historical Document Project, Tom Wilson – Web database work. All pitched in to help us improve visibility. The SOS website had 12, 218 visits with 37, 235 page views in 2007. Membership dropped in 2007 by 29 people. Head Office continues to be in Blenheim ON with Roy and Judy managing the mail, bookkeeping and general office duties. OUC insurance payment issues have been resolved with a more concise membership form and online FAQ.

2008 will see further progress and focus placed on:

- Asset tracking, Buoys, Equipment, Inventories
- Membership – everyone please call past members
- Ships Stores and Slates – everyone please order and sell
- Donations – need more of these!!!
- Working with the new provincial marine archaeologist



- SOS and members being certified as a NAS tutors
- Web development of our past Marine Heritage Database, membership database
- Historical document project – All Newsletters on line
- PowerPoint Presentation – General SOS presentation
- New SOS display grant application – Replacing our 20 year old displays

Thank you to everyone for all you have done in the past year; it is very much appreciated and has set us up well to move ahead in 2008.

*Respectfully Submitted, Brian Prince, SOS President*

## SOS Hamilton – 2007 Annual Report

For 2007 the Hamilton’s committee focus was on providing the membership learning opportunities through classroom courses along with gaining hands-on experience participating in an actual search that required archival research, planning a search area along with training in the use of sonar equipment. We also focused on reducing our expenses which were mainly the room rentals by changing the frequency of our meeting from monthly to quarterly as we looked for a new location to host our meetings. Thanks to one of our members we are now able to hold monthly meetings at “Float & Flag” dive store at no cost to the committee.

In March of 2007 members of our committee travelled to Ottawa to conduct research at the National Archives of Canada in a joint venture with the Canadian Harvard Aircraft Association. The purpose of the trip was to learn how to use the Finding Aids to obtain information about the marine history in our area. Based on the information gained on this trip we have applied for a search licence from the Ministry of Culture for the Hamilton shoreline.

In June members had an opportunity to take in a Side Scan Sonar course sponsored by the Canadian Harvard Aircraft Association (CHAA) along with participating with a trial sonar search of the Hamilton Harbour area. A second trial was done under licence along the Hamilton shoreline turning up some interesting views of the lake bottom.

For 2008 some of our challenges will be in attracting new members along with finding ways to raise funds for projects. We are still committed to publishing a quarterly chapter newsletter that will keep our membership



and the public informed of our activities, historical information of the area and activities of other related groups. The committee is active in research, searches and participating with dive related events. Some of this year's projects include a second trip to the archives in Ottawa, an organized sonar search along Hamilton's shoreline while offering opportunities for others to participate in Side Scan Sonar and ROV Operations courses offered by CHAA. Members from Toronto and Hamilton committees are also working together to create NAS courses giving members an opportunity to earn credits towards their NAS III.

All meetings are currently being held at the Float & Flag Dive Store 7:30 PM on the first Thursday of each month. For more information on our committee please visit on the web at [www.soscentral.ca](http://www.soscentral.ca)

*Respectfully submitted, Walther Irie, Chairman, SOS Hamilton*

## Bylaw Committee Report for 2007

The Bylaw Committee had a quiet year, with no modifications to the by-laws being made. I think this confirms that By-law #2 is serving us well and will continue to for many years to come.

*Respectfully submitted, Gordon Dewis*

## OUC Chair Report for 2007

The OUC insurance fee increased for 2008. This is because it was agreed at the OUC AGM last November to increase the liability coverage from \$2M to \$3M. OUC aims to break even on this insurance policy and the new rate is based on the new premium and last year's membership numbers. OUC has to re-negotiate the policy every November and it is for this reason that members can sign up for just one year. Pleased do not complicate Bernie's life by sending in more than one year's OUC membership and insurance.

SOS is required to have insurance to run NAS courses. Hence all those involved in any way in running NAS are required to be OUC members and have paid the insurance fee. Note students on these courses do not have to join OUC. This liability insurance covers SOS and all those on any SOS sanctioned dive or event. This includes member to member insurance. There

is an extensive discussion of this insurance in the February 2007 Newsletter available on the SOS web site. Further information is available on the OUC web site [www.underwatercouncil.com](http://www.underwatercouncil.com) under membership/club membership where there is an extensive FAQ.

*Respectfully Submitted, David Taylor*

## Presentation Project Chair Report – 2007

I was able to separate SOS materials from my personal library and provide those for scanning and archival use.

I was also able to separate a large number of books and references on underwater archaeology and donate them to Parks Canada just before Xmas and I am still working on separating other donations to the Canadian Police College Forensic Sciences collection, the Royal Military College library and the University of Ottawa library. This activity has overgrown from the simple task I saw it to be into an inventory of my collections.

The good news is that I have located a number of photos and will shortly mail one or two to you to use on the SOS website.

The other good news is that I just acquired a new version of PowerPoint on my office computer and am gaining confidence in using it. I have also just been able to study the material that you sent me earlier and have started work on a “story-board” for an SOS PPT presentation.

*Respectfully Submitted, Scott Fuller*

## SOS Huron Shores – Project Report 2007

### **Introduction**

The Huron Shores Chapter of Save Ontario Shipwrecks had an exciting and active year in 2007. Since the Chapter had been dormant for a number of years, many former Chapter members were eager to come out and get things going again. Despite a few organizational snags (which were to be expected since our Chapter Committee had no experience), we managed to successfully complete a number of projects during the year.

## Reorganization

As the Chapter was getting up and running early in the year, we used the local media to spread the word about SOS. Through newspaper articles and radio interviews, and a few well-placed posters we raised interest in the community and recruited several new members. With a new core of active members, the Chapter held meetings each month to socialize and plan projects.

## Projects

Almost as soon as the Chapter got going again, we had a number of project ideas for the 2007 season. With the long-term goal of discovering and documenting shipwrecks, SOS Huron Shores partnered with the Goderich Marine Heritage Committee to begin researching the microfiche archives of newspapers, such as the Goderich Star, that served the Port of Goderich and contained much information about the ships and the shipping industry that thrived along the shore of Lake Huron. Specifically, we were looking for information about storms and shipping accidents: clues that might lead us to the whereabouts or identities of shipwrecks in our area. The newspapers also provided interesting details about the ships themselves: construction details, lists of repairs that were being made, crew and passenger lists, cargo manifests, routes and times of arrival and departure at different ports of call, and countless other minutia. Copies were made of any articles that seemed relevant to our search for shipwrecks, and by the end of the year, we had a dozen or so articles to help us in our investigations (and we had only finished the papers up to the 1890's). This project will continue into 2008, and possibly longer, until we have finished going through the newspaper archives at the Goderich Library. There is also talk of expanding the project to other local libraries and archives in the small communities along the lakeshore.

Another project for which we teamed with the Goderich Marine Heritage Committee was searching for shipwrecks using side-scanning sonar. The GMHC owns SportScan equipment from Shark Marine, and has knowledge of the potential whereabouts of shipwrecks in the area. SOS Huron Shores was happy to provide the people to work on such an interesting project. The project was reasonably successful, considering that everyone was new to the technology and to the methods of survey using side-scanning sonar. I was also new to the process of applying for an archaeological licence, but Erika Laanela (then Marine Archaeologist with the Ontario Ministry of Culture) provided much guidance throughout. Over the 2007 season, we were able to pinpoint the location of an elusive wreck just north of the

Goderich Harbour (known locally as the “Labour Day” wreck). We also learned from our mistakes and hopefully will be able to carry out our surveys more effectively in the future. This project was carried out under Licence No. 2007-021 from the Ontario Ministry of Culture. We hope to renew this Licence for the 2008 season.

SOS Huron Shores deployed one heritage buoy this season, to mark the location of the “Labour Day” wreck, and to prevent anchor damage to the site. For 2008 we are looking into better hardware and larger anchor blocks for our buoys, and we will have a dedicated team of Chapter members taking care of deployment, maintenance, and retrieval.



*Talking to the public at Boat Safety Day.*

## **Outreach**

On Saturday, June 9, the Goderich Power and Sail Squadron invited us to take part in their annual Boat Safety Day at the Maitland Valley Marina in Goderich. This event was a huge success for our Chapter in terms of getting the word out to the public about SOS and what we will be doing locally.

Almost 50 people entered our draw to win one of seven prizes! SOS Huron Shores member Paul Carroll was quite generous in donating two copies of his book “The SolSean Chronicles”, about his adventures sailing from Goderich to the Florida Keys. Paul also donated a set of note cards featuring his watercolour paintings of light houses. Sheila Barker, in addition to working the booth for a good part of the day, also donated a draw prize: a boat safety kit. One prize that caught everyone’s attention was an autographed copy of Don Bamford’s new book “Freshwater Heritage – A History of Sail on the Great Lakes”. To round out the prize table, we also had two SOS golf shirts.

Many Chapter members volunteered their time to work at the SOS Huron Shores booth and this made the day a great success. Not only did we spread the word about SOS and our Chapter to the public, but we also had a number of people interested in learning more and possibly becoming members of SOS! After getting a tally from each volunteer, we estimate that around 80 people visited our booth that day. We hope to participate in this and other local events in 2008.

## NAS 1

SOS Huron Shores hosted an NAS 1 course July 6-8, 2007. We had five students (including myself) from all over Ontario, and two students all the way from Ohio. Marine Archaeologist Erika Laanela was a great teacher, and after cramming our brains full of knowledge about wooden ship building, the history of marine archaeology, and the basics of surveying, she took us to practice what we had learned on artificial “wrecks” set up outside the classroom and in the swimming pool.

The course finished on Sunday with the students putting their new skills to the test on a real shipwreck: part of an unidentified wooden hull in the Goderich “Boneyard”. By the end of the day, SOS had produced seven new NAS-trained divers, eager to get out there and document Ontario’s marine heritage.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, 2007 was a very full one for SOS Huron Shores. We spent this first year out of “dormancy” holding meetings, organizing, and recruiting to get the Chapter back on its feet. Our core of dedicated members participated in projects and outreach activities, and everyone is anticipating another great year in 2008, and are in fact encouraging an increase in our Chapter activities! As the Chapter continues to expand, and as the leadership of various projects is delegated to the Chapter members, 2008 is beginning to look quite promising for SOS Huron Shores.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Krissy Nickle, Committee Chair, SOS Huron Shores*

## Save Ontario Shipwrecks Ethics Committee 2007 Report

Save Ontario Shipwrecks has seen three important developments in its ethics portfolio over the 2007-8 corporate year: the coming into effect of our Code of Ethics, the adoption of a Privacy Policy, and communication with the federal government regarding the UNESCO treaty that protects underwater cultural heritage.

(1) After much research, discussion and four drafts, the Save Ontario Shipwrecks Code of Ethics was formally adopted by the Board of Directors in a meeting with Chapter Committee Chairs in Toronto on February 24th,

2007. This document was then presented to members for discussion at the Annual General Meeting in London on April 14th, 2007. While the adoption of this document will not change the current day-to-day activities of SOS or its chapters, it provides guidance and clarity on matters of archaeological and community ethics. The Code of Ethics is available for public viewing at: [http://www.saveontarioshipwrecks.on.ca/code\\_of\\_ethics.htm](http://www.saveontarioshipwrecks.on.ca/code_of_ethics.htm)

(2) Save Ontario Shipwrecks respects the privacy of its members, sponsors and donors, and so in 2007 the Ethics Committee set itself to drafting a Privacy Policy to protect the personal information handled by SOS. Following a process similar to the creation of the Code of Ethics, the SOS Privacy Policy was drafted through consultation with the Board of Directors, our Honourary Counsel and Chapter Committee Chairs. The resulting document was approved by the Board of Directors in a meeting in Toronto on February 23rd, 2008. A copy of our new SOS Privacy Policy will be circulated to the membership with the notice for the 2008 Annual General Meeting in order to facilitate its discussion at that meeting in Kingston. This important new document will ensure SOS members' confidence in our organization's handling of their personal information.

(3) Save Ontario Shipwrecks was consulted during the drafting of the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage, adopted by UNESCO in 2001. However, the Government of Canada has inexplicably resisted becoming a signatory to this international treaty. On November 26th, 2007, the Ethics Chairperson wrote on behalf of SOS to Prime Minister Harper, his ministers of Heritage, Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, and Canada's Ambassador to UNESCO. While SOS commends the federal government for its recent creation of the Lake Superior National Marine Conservation Area, we encourage the speedy ratification of the UNESCO convention. Canada's missing signature is especially glaring, since the treaty's logo is the "San Juan," a Canadian shipwreck! Copies of our letter have since been forwarded to the Minister of the Environment, and SOS will keep tabs on Ottawa's action – or inaction – in ratifying this important convention.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Jonathan Ferguson, Vice-President and Ethics Chairperson*



# SOS Financial Statements

## SAVE ONTARIO SHIPWRECKS STATEMENT OF OPERATING FUND OPERATIONS AND CHANGES TO FUND BALANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

	2007	2006
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Grants - Ontario	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Sales - ship's stores	3,204	2,768
Membership	5,065	4,929
Donations	3,976	-
Interest	474	756
	<u>27,719</u>	<u>23,453</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>26,918</u>	<u>33,736</u>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (EXPENDITURES)</b>	<u>801</u>	<u>(10,283)</u>
<b>FUND BALANCE, beginning of year</b>	<u>30,807</u>	<u>41,090</u>
<b>FUND BALANCE, end of year</b>	<u>\$ 31,608</u>	<u>\$ 30,807</u>

## SAVE ONTARIO SHIPWRECKS SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

	2007	2006
<b>EXPENDITURES (Operating fund)</b>		
Buoy project costs to date	-	500
Cost of sales - ship's stores	2,143	2,175
Courier	371	491
Donations	3,928	805
Exhibitions and events	1,045	2,276
Insurance	1,053	2,060
Membership, programs and general	1,599	1,043
Newsletter	1,479	2,764
Office	986	737
Postage	843	1,187
Professional fees	1,280	4,565
Publicity and administration	6,616	6,317
Travel and related expenses	5,575	8,816
	<u>\$ 26,918</u>	<u>\$ 33,736</u>



SAVE ONTARIO SHIPWRECKS  
 BALANCE SHEET  
 AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2007  
 ASSETS

	2007	2006
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Cash	\$ 25,464	\$ 21,222
Short term investments (Note 4)	18,000	18,000
Accounts receivable	-	833
Accrued interest receivable	456	-
Inventory	4,604	4,910
Income taxes recoverable	1,186	809
Prepaid expenses	133	133
	<b>\$ 49,843</b>	<b>\$ 45,907</b>

**LIABILITIES**

<b>CURRENT</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 1,998	\$ 1,575
Prepaid membership fees	4,850	4,150
	6,848	5,725
<b>DEFERRED INCOME</b>	7,500	7,500
	14,348	13,225

**FUND BALANCES**

Operating fund	31,608	30,807
Heritage fund	3,887	1,875
	35,495	32,682
	<b>\$ 49,843</b>	<b>\$ 45,907</b>

"The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement"

# SOS Historical Chair Report

Over the past year, SOS was approached by many individuals or groups regarding information pertaining to wrecks or other marine heritage issues in the Province. Research conducted ranged from such basic information as potential wreck sites in the Pancake Bay area of Lake Superior to research conducted for a Windsor family who own a watch that has been passed down through the generations from a relative who was believed to be a victim of the sinking of the *Asia* on Georgian Bay. Family lore had the watches owner being the last victim to die in the lifeboat that carried the two survivors to safety, could this be so?

Throughout the year the Historical Chair also worked on articles for the SOS Newsletter, the goal of which is to make the Newsletter an informative and valuable part of SOS. Regular articles such as “It Happened 100 Years Ago” documenting the histories of ships that sank 100 years ago and Yesterdays News, transcribed newspaper articles going back to the 1800’s documenting unique stories on the Great Lakes were prepared. Also this past year a most valuable series of articles began, The History of the Iron Ore Trade. This extensive article that first appeared in the 1910 Annual Report of the Lake Carriers Association documents not only the ore trade, but also the evolution of the ships, canals and dock facilities to handle this commodity that was so influential in the development of the Great Lakes region. Broken down into a series of articles, the History of the Iron Ore trade will run in the SOS Newsletter for the better part of two years.

*Respectfully submitted, Jim Hopkins, Historical Chair*



# SOS Manitoulin Annual Report

In 2007 SOS Manitoulin diver Ian Morley made a most interesting discovery, a debris field in the waters near Clapperton Island in the North Channel. Through archival research it is believed the debris field may be the site of the first sinking of the wooden Steamer City of Owen Sound. The City of Owen Sound (C 71181) was built at Owen Sound by John Simpson and was launched in 1875.

In 1887 while carrying a cargo of corn and fish, the City of Owen Sound grounded and sank in deep water near Clapperton Island. After four years on the bottom, the hulk was raised and allowed to sink again in shallow water. The ship was rebuilt and returned to service, later to be renamed the Saturn in 1896. The final end of the ship came in 1901 when it sank near Owen Sound.

Further research into the ship itself will be completed and further diving will be carried out in 2008 to determine the extent and content of the debris field.

*Respectfully submitted, Jim Hopkins, SOS Manitoulin*

## SOS SARNIA – 2007 REPORT

Sarnia had hoped to conduct a NAS 2 course in 2007 but there weren't enough participants. Instead, I traveled to Goderich, Ontario to help out with their NAS 1 course for both the pool and the Open Water exercises. Our chapter hopes to conduct a NAS 2 course in 2008 season.

On a sad note, one of our members, John Gill, who took the NAS 1 course in 2006 in Sarnia and hoped to continue to NAS 2 in 2008. He died suddenly last September in a motorcycle accident in the Bruce Peninsula. As a group, this chapter would like to place a memorial plaque near the Wreck of the Monarch to honor John as a member of the Sarnia Underwater Club and member of SOS Sarnia. He was a good dive buddy for those who knew him well.

SOS Sarnia hopes to be more active in the upcoming year in order to increase our visibility in preserving our marine heritage.

*Respectfully Submitted, John Charest, SOS Sarnia Chair*

# 2008 Director's Achievement Award

*By Brian Prince*

S.O.S. is pleased to announce that Bob (Robert) Lighthart of 1000 Islands Chapter, Ontario has been presented with the 2008 S.O.S. Director's Achievement Award and a lifetime S.O.S. membership. The plaque is inscribed: "For his 23 years service to the organization in various roles and his dedication to preserving Ontario's marine heritage". The award was presented in Kingston Ontario on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at the S.O.S. AGM by S.O.S. President Brian Prince.

As a retired school teacher, his wife didn't want him around the house, so he founded the Thousand Island Chapter of S.O.S. He started scuba diving and achieved the rating of Master Scuba Instructor, where he enjoyed the love of diving and teaching. With a friend he operated a dive shop in Smith Falls for a while.

He served as an S.O.S. Chapter Chair in the 90's and SOS board member from the late 90's to 2005. He has spread the word of SOS well and as a Regional Representative was successful at getting the Ottawa Chapter out of dormancy and tried to get the Peterborough chapter back up and running as well. So well in fact, the Ottawa chapter is now one of the largest and most active with three of seven S.O.S Board of Directors from the Ottawa Chapter.



*Brian Prince, President of S.O.S., presenting Bob Lighthart the SOS Director's Achievement Award and a lifetime S.O.S. membership.*

*Photo: M. Barker*

# 2008 SOS Marine Heritage Award

*By Brian Prince*

S.O.S. is pleased to announce that Robert Grenier from Parks Canada has been presented with the 2008 S.O.S. Marine Heritage Preservation Award. The plaque is inscribed: “For his lifelong dedication to the promotion and preservation of marine heritage in Canada and around the world”. The award was presented in Kingston Ontario on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at the AGM by S.O.S. President Brian Prince. Robert regretfully was not able to attend in person, so the award was accepted on his behalf by Jonathon Moore of Parks Canada.



*Robert Grenier of Parks Canada*

There are many individuals involved with marine heritage but we recognize that there are a select few whose dedication deserves special recognition. The SOS award is presented yearly to an individual who demonstrates a special effort promoting marine heritage conservation.

The master award, with each awarded person’s name engraved on it, is on display in the SOS Head Office, or other public location and a personalized plaque is given to each recipient. For the foreseeable future, the master award is on display at the Marine Museum of the Great Lakes at Kingston for all to appreciate.

Robert was previously the manager of Parks Canada’s Underwater Archaeology section, and is now representing Parks Canada as an international affairs chairperson. He has also been appointed as an Officer of the Order of Canada. A world leader in archaeology and underwater conservation, he has, among his many other achievements, discovered North America’s oldest heritage wreck off the coast of Labrador. The innovative methods this team developed at Red Bay made the site an international model for scientific research. The 5 volume hardcopy archaeological report of Red Bay was just released (pictured in the background in English and French also see Book Review in this issue). As a great communicator and renowned consultant, he has been associated with a number of films and projects, particularly the protection

of the *Titanic* and the *Empress of Ireland*. Through his many commitments, such as the chairmanship of an international UNESCO committee, he has helped us understand the importance of preserving our underwater heritage.

The S.O.S. Marine heritage award was created in 1981 by Ian L. Morgan, a marine historian and artist. The shipwreck model that forms part of the award is not any specific shipwreck, but an artist's rendition of a shipwreck upright on the bottom. Ian is a well established artist who drew many of the shipwreck diagrams in the S.O.S "A Divers Guide to Ontario's Marine Heritage" as well as other publications.



*Jonathan Moore holding the plaque on behalf of Robert Grenier with the Red Bay 5 volume hardcover archaeological report in French and English versions next to the award. Brian Prince, President of S.O.S. (right) presented the award at the Marine Museum of the Great Lakes at Kingston.*

*Photo: M. Barker*



*SOS Marine Heritage Preservation Master Award*

*Photo: B. Prince*

# SOS Ships Store - CHECK IT OUT

*by Marg Barker*

SOS Ships Store has 55 products listed, all with pictures and descriptions loaded, Coupons for Dive Stores and Chapters. Everyone can order at all levels. Chapter, Retail, Members and the public.

Remember that Chapters get product at cost for resale, Retail outlets get them at wholesale (Chapter gets credited with the difference). Dive Stores, Tourism Offices etc. can buy from the Chapter or SOS directly. Everyone wins. Chapters can raise funds easily selling SLATES, packs of Divers Guides and there is promotional items as well that Chapters can get to spread the SOS message. Chapters with no bank balance can get credit on the first order to start to build funds.

As a member if you buy the local chapter gets a credit. So sale proceeds stay in your community.

## **Get a high quality SOS Golf Shirt at 1/2 price!**

White or Navy, Mens or Womens

**That's \$11 below our cost!**

Dive to Preserve Logo on the right sleeve,  
SOS Logo on the left chest with 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Yes, SOS has been around for 25 years+ now.  
Something we are all proud of.

*While they last. Not all sizes/colours available.*

The store accepts: Direct money transfers; Email money payments; Cheques; and Paypal. No TAX so that's a 13% saving right there. Many more items soon to be listed (like survey supplies) so visit often.

## **TAKE A LOOK AROUND...**

<http://quartermaster.SaveOntarioShipwrecks.on.ca>



# SOS gets Marine Heritage Database online

*By Brian Prince*

At long last the main portion of SOS Marine Heritage Database created in the mid 1990's is now on line. It consists of ~28,000 records from 25 sources. You can access it through the SOS home page, 3rd button on the left named DATABASE. Originally this DB was designed to run standalone on a PC as a kiosk in a museum. The photos were ported to the website a few years ago and are under the PHOTO GALLERY.

Many thanks to Tom Wilson of Brockville for volunteering his time and talent to work on the project for many weeks to get it going. Through 3 iterations of increased features, functions and testing, I think you will find it easy to use.

Note this database is only a cross reference and quick lookup for the 25 sources. Any research credit is to be referenced to the original source as listed in the items detail record. We recommend that you review the original source if possible to ensure the highest degree of accuracy.

DIRECT LINK:

[http://www.saveontarioshipwrecks.on.ca/Database/MH\\_database.html](http://www.saveontarioshipwrecks.on.ca/Database/MH_database.html)



# Save Ontario Shipwrecks Privacy Policy

Adopted: Saturday, February 23rd, 2008

As a corporation in the Province of Ontario, Save Ontario Shipwrecks and its local chapter committees (hereafter SOS) are subject to the federal Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act. Personal information is information that can be used to distinguish, identify or contact a specific individual (e.g., postal address, phone number, email address). SOS respects the privacy of its members and will treat personal information according to the following privacy policy:

1. SOS collects personal information solely for the purposes of membership services, sponsorships, donations, and in pursuing our mission (e.g., educational program enrolment or record keeping on archaeological projects).
2. SOS may use conventional or electronic addresses to communicate or distribute materials to its members, sponsors or donors (e.g., SOS Newsletter mailings or third party material deemed to be of general interest).
3. Personal information will not be disclosed to third parties other than the Ontario Underwater Council for insurance purposes, unless required by law.
4. Member, sponsor or donor names or photographs may be used by SOS without notice. No contact information will be included. Members, sponsors or donors have the option to withdraw this consent through written submission to the SOS Membership Chair.
5. Data or analyses derived from personal information, member surveys or website browsing (e.g., “cookies”) may be shared with the public or with third parties only as aggregate, non-identifying information.
6. Should you navigate away from the SOS website to any other linked website (e.g., PayPal), the information that you provide to that website will be governed by its respective information privacy policy.
7. Exceptions to this privacy policy will require the express and specific permission of each affected member, sponsor or donor.
8. Changes to this privacy policy will be published in the SOS Newsletter, which will constitute due notice.

# Hamilton and Scourge Condition Survey 2008

*By Brian Prince*

I had the pleasure of boarding the CCGS Griffon at Port Weller ON (Lock 1 of the Welland Canal) along with about 20 others among them Barb and Ian Marshall of Niagara Divers Association and Michael Johnson of the Ministry of Culture. This outing was by special invitation to go out to the Hamilton and Scourge site to see preliminary survey data, meet project people, various presentations and for a memorial service to the 53 men who died at this two sites just a few hundred feet apart.

Barb Marshall of NDA has done a fine job of writing up the events of the day.

## Ghost Ships

*Hamilton and Scourge National Historic Site of Canada*

*By Barb Marshall, Photos by Brian Prince*

The City of Hamilton convened key partners to conduct an underwater Remote Operating Vehicle (ROV) survey of the Hamilton and Scourge wreck site from May 11 through 15, 2008. The survey was to determine the present condition of these wrecks and is being wrapped up with the removal of mooring buoys this afternoon, May 15<sup>th</sup>.

This morning aboard the CCGS Griffon, Ian and I had the great pleasure and privilege of attending a special event to honour the U.S. Navy personnel who died in service and to hear some preliminary survey findings. Members of the media and officials representing the project partners were on board. I will outline below information provided to us, as well as some personal observations. Actual survey images are being forwarded to us and I will provide them to you as they are received.

Partners in this project included the City of Hamilton, ASI Group Ltd., Parks Canada, Canadian Navy/Joint Task Force Atlantic, United States Navy, United States Consulate General, Canadian Coast Guard and the Ontario Ministry of Culture. I have background information on these partners if

anyone has further interest, and for more information about the Hamilton and Scourge National Historic Site of Canada, please visit <http://www.hamilton-scourge.hamilton.ca/>

**BACKGROUND:** The Hamilton and Scourge are two United States Navy War of 1812 schooners that sank in deep waters offshore from St. Catharines in 1813. In 1980, ownership of the wrecks was transferred from the U.S. Navy to the Royal Ontario Museum. The ROM later transferred ownership to the City of Hamilton, and the vessels now comprise the Hamilton and Scourge National Historic Site of Canada. These ships provide an unprecedented insight into life in the maritime community of Lake Ontario, and are the final resting places of more than 50 U.S. Navy sailors and service personnel who died serving their country.



*The Griffon at the wall below Lock 1 Port Weller*

Teams from ASI Group Ltd. of St. Catharines and Parks Canada conducted the survey from the HMCS Kingston, a Canadian Navy Ship. Along with other team members, Jonathan Moore of Parks Canada was director of the project's underwater archaeological work and Darren Keyes of ASI was project director of the underwater survey team.

This survey project was blessed with both outstanding visibility and weather conditions. A previous survey was completed to determine optimum positioning of the mooring buoys, which were placed on each of the wrecks by the Griffon on Sunday. All indications are that the survey was highly successful and all participants are extremely pleased with the outcome.



*HMCS Kingston tied to specially installed 3 point moorings ...  
they were removed later that day*

We boarded the Griffon at 8:30 a.m. this morning. Following a safety briefing, at 9:00 a.m. we proceeded to the HMCS Kingston, on station above the wrecks.

While en route, we were allowed to tour the Griffon and attended a presentation by Ian Kerr-Wilson, Manager of Museums & Heritage Presentation of the City of Hamilton. He recapped the history and challenges of stewardship of the site, as well as the longer-term goals and work plans. A slide presentation of captured images confirmed the incredible visibility and underscored the skill level of the survey team. Advances in technology will allow for creation of three dimensional images. Exact duplication of images from previous surveys will allow for accurate tracking of changes. Research will also be conducted on the effects of mussels on the integrity of the wrecks, and a longer-term goal will be to map the debris field.

Once on station, a contingent of officers and survey staff were received from the Kingston, and guest speakers addressed the group at the stern of the ship. Ian Kerr Wilson made preliminary remarks and speakers included U.S. Consul General John Nay, Chief Marine Archaeologist of Parks Canada, Robert Grenier, and Assistant Commissioner, Canadian Coast Guard, Central & Arctic Region, Michael Gardiner.



*From the aft upper deck,  
leaving the mouth of the Welland Canal*

U.S. Navy Captain Steven Luce then read the names of the men who had perished on the ship. Even though almost two hundred years have passed, this simple act brought home the reality of the men who died on these ships. A minute of silence was observed, and flowers were dropped into the water as a symbol of remembrance.



*Ian Kerr-Wilson  
showing slides of the ROV imagery*

Following refreshments, the Kingston contingent returned to their ship and we were returned to Lock One. During the ride back, Jonathan Moore was kind enough to show us more images of the survey on his laptop. He will be doing research and analysis of the results.

Let's all keep our fingers crossed – with luck we will have a presentation at Shipwrecks 2009 on the survey project. What a fabulous experience this day was!



*Robert Grenier of Parks Canada saying a few words about the project*



*All of the projects key players*

# BOOK REVIEW by Scott Fuller\*

## **Underwater Archaeology of Red Bay: *Basque Shipbuilding and Whaling in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century***

A comprehensive, highly-detailed technical report and analysis of Basque shipwrecks and whaling activities in Labrador, Canada. A most exceptional contribution to archaeology and a masterpiece of underwater investigation conducted in one of the worlds most severe cold-water climates. The exacting



work pioneered many new tools and techniques for the first time on an underwater archaeological site and directly contributed to achieving the highest number of working hours underwater in any known archaeological “dig” yet conducted anywhere in the world, doing so, without one serious incident or accident. An achievement as yet unmatched and one that sets an entirely new standard in occupational health and safety diving science.

The work of “dig one” (the underwater phase of investigation) and of “dig two” (the laboratory and archival phase of investigation and analysis) is sequentially presented in five volumes (five in English, five in French, each set of 1,500 pages). The book culminates in lessons-learned and scientific summaries of findings, facts, theories, an integrated index, definitions and schematic shipbuilding charts.

The work contains a plethora of photos, schematics, drawings, charts, archival documents and includes perhaps, the most comprehensive bibliographical references yet seen in underwater archaeology.

Edited by three of Parks Canada’s professional underwater archaeologists, the book contains articles authored by several dozen contributing subject-matter-expert writers of note and distinction through the full range of archaeology and archival specialties. It is without question a masterpiece in its content, context and collaboration to say nothing of cooperative, technical-teamwork, project and material management.



The book contributes, in one bold new stroke, a new chapter in Canada's early maritime history, pioneering underwater scientific protocols, proven technical procedures and sound safety standards for emulation by future underwater archaeologists and key information on naval architecture and shipbuilding of the 16<sup>th</sup> century Basques.

Each of its contributors merit national honours for their individual professionalism, and for their most valued contribution to archaeology.

This book is highly recommended as an advance textbook for practicing underwater and marine archaeologists and undergraduates, naval architecture students, shipwreck historians, archivists and researchers.

An exceptional work by exceptional people which will long serve as an example to others in their pursuit of knowledge.

The book is available in 5 volumes\*\*, either in English or in French, at \$140 per 5-volume set plus shipping (in Canada approx \$40) from:

Publishing and Depository Services,  
Public Works and Government Services  
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0S5

Hours of Operation: Mon to Fri 8am-5pm

TEL TOLL FREE: 1-800-635-7943

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(\*\*each 5-volume set weighs 19 lbs)

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