

## **View from the Helm**

### **January 2007 *Marine Technology***

#### **“Flourishing in Ft. Lauderdale”**

(Impressions of the SMTC&E/SPS October 10-13, 2006)

The Society’s **2006 SNAME Maritime Technology Conference & Exposition and Ship Production Symposium (SMTC&E/SPS)** was held in Ft. Lauderdale convenient to all types and sizes of water craft, power and sailing yachts, cruise ships and ocean-going commercial ships. There was something for everyone, and this was abundantly clear when looking out the windows of our host hotel, the Ft. Lauderdale Grande Hotel and Yacht Club. It was just across the street from the Broward County Convention Center where the technical program, committee meetings and the Exposition were located. This was our first of two years in Ft. Lauderdale as a trial to attempt to ease Headquarters’ planning burden, and to “brand” the location and time of year thus improving industry awareness and potential for attendance.

#### ***The President’s Reception***

The Annual Meeting began with the Executive Committee meeting Tuesday night. The following morning there were numerous standing committee meetings, two accredited technical courses and the Council meeting, all conducted prior to the President’s Reception located that evening outside under the stars overlooking the ever-changing boat traffic navigating the Intra-coastal Waterway. There was ample opportunity for socializing and networking with fellow members, friends, colleagues, students and young members at this event, and throughout the week at the Expo, the SNAME Banquet and the alumni dinners. In fact, it was hard not to run into a student, as they attended in record numbers (153) this year from colleges and universities all over North and South America and Europe.

#### ***The Keynote Session***

The Keynote Session, which started promptly on Thursday morning, was opened by President Roger H. Compton who introduced Roger Marshall, our Keynote Speaker and President of Roger Marshall, Inc. Mr. Marshall provided us with a fascinating account of the development of ‘super’ and ‘mega’ yachts and their place in the world today from design to materials to construction supplemented by slides of yachts in various stages of construction and operation.

The 50-year Golden Membership Certificates were then awarded to those members in attendance, Naresh M. Maniar and James R. Wilkins, Jr., followed by the Distinguished Service Awards presented to Dr. Richard C. Boutwell and Michael T. Martin. President

Compton then introduced the Chairman of the Papers Committee, Dr. Christina Wang, who presented the American Bureau of Shipping – Captain Joseph H. Linnard Prize for the best paper presented at the previous annual meeting. Award certificates were presented to Peter G. Noble, Lars Ronning, John R. Paulling, III, Rong Zhao, and Hoseong Lee for their paper entitled, “A Novel LNG Tank Containment Design for Large LNG Carriers.”

President Compton then called on Jaideep Sirkar, Chairman of the Technical & Research Committee, to present the Admiral E. L. Cochrane Award for the best paper published in *Marine Technology* to Wilhelm Magelssen for his paper “Operation of Ships in Cold Climates with Emphasis on Tankers and New Requirements.” Mr. Sirkar then presented T&R Certificates of Recognition to Thomas Lamb and Charles H. Piersall for their outstanding service in the Society’s Technical and Research Program. Chairman Sirkar also recognized the Chairs of the ten T&R Technical Committees for their individual contributions to the program over the past year.

President Compton announced the names of the newly elected Fellows of the Society in 2006: Cengiz R. Ertekin, Alexander C. Landsburg, Apostolos Papanikolaou, David R. Pedrick, Dracos Vassalos and Preben T. Pedersen.

The session was concluded with Past President Jose Femenia, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, stepping forward to present the Honorary Member Certificate to President Compton. Immediately following, Dr. Compton delivered the President’s Annual Address citing the progress made over the last year, and the new and exciting initiatives to modernize and expand the Society’s website, the annual meeting and the T&R Program to provide enhanced relevance to our expanding membership both domestically and internationally. Upon completion of the Society’s Annual Business Meeting the Keynote Session concluded and all delegates were escorted to the first floor for the grand opening of the SNAME Expo by a spirited and lively mariachi band.

### ***The SNAME Expo***

The SNAME Expo numbered 147 booths and afforded event-goers an opportunity to network, meet potential partners or clients and examine new products and emerging technology in the boat construction, shipbuilding, design, technology and production segments of the industry. For the second year in a row the schedule for the Innovation Sessions, short informative sessions on emerging technology in the marine industry, has been filled and the sessions have been well attended. These have proven to be popular for members, students and visitors and the exhibitors have found a way to reach an even larger targeted audience.

### ***The Technical Program***

The technical program was developed with small craft and yachts in mind, and included the popular Ship Production Symposium, technical sessions incorporating energy transportation, environmental effects, high-speed craft and ferries, LNG ship design and technology, and small craft development. Specific events drawing considerable attention featured a Super Yacht panel, a Small-Craft Technical Session, a panel on International Ship and Port Security (ISPS) in Southeast Florida, the Alternative Energy Session and a presentation on the planned expansion of the Panama Canal.

Three, day-long accredited technical courses were prepared for Wednesday and Friday: “A Review of Basic Naval Architecture” by Bill Garzke, “Introduction to the Design of Floating Offshore Oil and Gas Facilities” by Dr. Robert Randall, and “Seakeeping” by Dr. Edward Lewandowski [cancelled on Friday due to a medical emergency].

### *The SNAME Annual Banquet*

Following a lively pre-banquet reception on Thursday night, the Grand Ballroom was the site for the 2006 SNAME Banquet. Again this year, Susan Giver, SNAME’s Director of Marketing and Communications, ably led us in the singing of the American and Canadian National Anthems. Dr. Roger Compton followed by thanking the Banquet’s sponsors and acknowledging the Southeast Section Chairman, Lee Dana, for his support of the 2006 SMTC&E/SPS. President Compton called on Jaideep Sirkar, Functional Vice President of Technical and Chairman of the T&R Steering Committee, to present the 2006 Elmer L. Hann Award to Robert G. Keane, Jr., Howard Fireman and Daniel W. Billingsley. He continued with the presentation of the 2006 William M. Kennedy Award to Tim Colton.

Following dinner Dr. Compton called on Dr. Alaa Mansour to present the Davidson Medal for outstanding scientific accomplishment in ship research to Dr. Preben Terndrup Pedersen. R. Keith Michel then presented the Vice Admiral ‘Jerry’ Land Medal for outstanding accomplishment in the marine field to Mr. Peter G. Noble. Lastly, President Compton presented the David W. Taylor Medal for notable achievement in naval architecture and/or marine engineering to Mr. Edward N. Comstock.

President Compton then introduced our principal speaker for the evening, Mr. Halsey C. Herreshoff, President of Herreshoff Designs. Mr. Herreshoff treated the filled-to-capacity banquet hall guests with a slide-supported anecdotal account of notable events in the history of the America’s Cup as well as the historical significance of his illustrious family, the Herreshoff’s of Bristol, RI, early yacht designers and builders. His entertaining comments highlighted the brilliant career of his grandfather, Capt. Nathanael G. Herreshoff, one of this country’s foremost and innovative power and sailing yacht designers and builders from the last two centuries.

### *The Student Program*

On Thursday during the Student Congress in the Expo Hall a number of awards were made prior to the judging of the Student Design Competition. Gathered for the award presentations were members, students and numerous observers.

First, the 2006 Graduate Paper Honor Prize was awarded to Robert K. M. Seah for his paper, "Resonant Modes of Rectangular Twin Hulls," presented to the Northern California Section on February 15, 2006. The Graduate Paper Award was presented to Matthew L. Unger for his paper, "An Upgrade of the MIT Towing Tank," presented to the New England Section on February 9, 2006.

The 2006 Undergraduate Paper Honor Prize was presented to Michael J. Stanway, Peteris Augenbergs, Heather Brundage, Lauren Cooney, Bridget Downey, Timothy Pennington, Taaddeus Stefanov-Wagner and David Tobias for their paper, "Design of an Acoustic Autonomous Surface Vessel" presented to the New England Section on February 9, 2006. And lastly, the 2006 Undergraduate Paper Award was presented to Seth R. Kruger for his paper, "Developing a Safe and Efficient Surface Maneuvering Envelope for Submarines," presented to the Chesapeake Section on April 30, 2005.

First and third prizes for the 2006 Dr. James A. Lisnyk Ship Design Competition went to student teams from the University of Newcastle upon Tyne for their winning entries, "Design of a Trimaran Liquid Hydrogen Tanker" and "SeQuest ERV" (Liquified CO<sub>2</sub> Tanker), respectively. Second prize was awarded to a team from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology for its entry, "Angier Cruises (Cruise Ship Design).

The 2006 International Student Offshore Design competition (ISODC), first prize was awarded by Tom Johnson, co-chairman of the design competition, to a student team from the University of Michigan for its winning entry, "Singapore FONGPSO." Mr. Johnson announced the second through fifth place awards to teams from Texas A&M University with entries, "Design of a Floating Production, Storage and Offloading Vessel for Operation in the South China Sea," "Design of a Floating Production, Storage and Offloading Vessel for Offshore Indonesia," "Design of a Floating Production, Storage and Offloading Vessel for Offshore Qatar" and "Design of a Floating Production, Storage and Offloading System Design for Offshore Nigeria," respectively.

Lastly, first and second prizes were awarded for the 2006 International Workboat/Small Craft/Yacht Design Competition to student teams from the University of Michigan for their winning entries, "220' Trimaran" and "Multi-Mission Patrol Boat," respectively. Third prize was awarded to a team from SUNY Maritime College for its winning entry, "LNG Assist/Escort/Emergency Response Tug."

A highlight for the nearly 530 registrants and visitors in attendance was the focus on students and young members who participated in a first time "icebreaker" social event, the popular Job Fair, and the Student Steering Committee meeting to elect new officers for 2007. Over 100 students participated in the Student Congress and Awards Lunch, held on Thursday, with a "design and build" competition created by young members from

the Student Steering Committee, which called for development of a “Trans-Pac” sailboat by the eight teams in a little over an hour. The sailboats, previously constructed from simple materials provided, were tested on Thursday for stability and righting moment as well as their ability to sail downwind in a straight line in the “official” test pool. A panel of five judges, made up of industry professionals, scored the teams based on performance, design, and teamwork. When the scores were tallied one team dominated with an outstanding point total of 89 out of 100, earning the first prize consisting of \$500 in cash divided among the team members.

Friday was designated exclusively for the Student Technical Paper presentation track, and, new this year, the Student Technical Poster Session, which was well-received and impressed members and visitors alike.

### *The Student Summit*

The Student Summit, in its second year, was held on Saturday, with over 80 members and students in attendance to discuss changes to benefit student participation in SNAME and new ideas to promote more student interest for future conferences. One idea, suggested by the students called for their own student forum on the SNAME website. Within two weeks following the SMTC&E, the forum was “up and running” for members and students to begin using.

In conclusion, Ft. Lauderdale was a terrific new venue and all agreed that being surrounded by abundant boats and ships of all types and sizes provided much inspiration for the 2006 SMTC&E, and the expectation by those who attended that next year in the same location will be even more successful.