

**ARGONAUTA**



**The Newsletter of the Canadian Nautical Research  
Society/Société canadienne pour la recherche nautique**

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## **ARGONAUTA**

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### **The Canadian Nautical Research Society**

#### **Executive Officers**

President:	Maurice Smith, Kingston
Past President:	Paul Adamthwaite, Picton
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2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President:	Chris Madsen, Toronto
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Councillor:	Barbara Winters, Ottawa
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Annual Membership including four issues of *ARGONAUTA*  
and four issues of *THE NORTHERN MARINER/LE MARIN DU NORD*:  
Within Canada: Individuals, \$65.00; Institutions, \$90.00; Students, \$20.00  
International: Individuals, \$75.00; Institutions, \$100.00; Students, \$30.00  
Our Website: <http://www.cnrs-scrn.org>

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**Editorial**

As new editors, we are delighted with recent articles sent to us by members of the CNRS and we hope our members will continue to favour us with their submissions.

We enjoyed meeting old and new members at the 2011 conference here in Ottawa and we hope that many of them will submit their papers to *Argonauta* or *Northern Mariner* for future publication. We also welcome summaries of all conference papers so that those members who were not able to travel to Ottawa may have a taste of the excellent fare offered at *HMCS Bytown*. Our special thanks to Richard Gimblett, our out-going past President, who organized this conference for us.

Paul Adamthwaite, our out-going president, will continue to provide us with his wisdom and guidance as he serves the Society as a Past President and manages the CNRS website. Paul has undertaken many voluntary tasks for the CNRS and will be organizing the forthcoming 2012 conference on the War of 1812 in Picton Ontario.

Our new President, Maurice Smith, is well-known to all of you, and one of the founding members of CNRS. The rest of the new slate is listed on the inside front cover of *Argonauta*. We would also like to pass along our thanks to all those who served on the past Council. A call has gone out for members to consider the possibility of organizing the 2013 conference elsewhere in Canada. More details on the 2011 conference and the Annual General Meeting will follow in the summer issue.

In this issue, West Coast member Frances Welwood, who is known to many for her museum work, has provided us with a brief article describing the 201<sup>st</sup> crossing of the *Lusitania*. Frances has also published in *BC History*.

We have the second segment from a French article entitled "*Et si les Allemands envahissaient le Québec? Le Saint-Laurent, les rumeurs, la propagande et la mobilisation des Québécois lors de la Grande Guerre, 1914-1918*". The article analyses rumours of a possible German invasion of Quebec during the First World War. This piece by Mourad Djebala, a post-doctoral fellow at McGill, will continue to appear in serial form in consecutive issues of *Argo* and will also be placed on the CNRS website.

We anticipate that current issues of *Argonauta* will soon be available on the CNRS website and hope that those who were unable to attend the conference here in Ottawa will join us next year in Picton, Ontario.

Fair winds.

Isabel and Colleen.

### **President's Corner by Paul Adamthwaite**

The last three years would not have been kind to the Canadian Nautical Research Society in this period of economic recession without the dedication of our executive council. As I reach the end of my three years as the Society's president I wish to thank, formally and sincerely, the officers and councillors who have guided our actions and decisions, and with whom it has been a pleasure to work, plan and move ahead.

Looking back over the last three years, I have to be a little disappointed on two fronts. A "President's appeal" for fundraising was just not possible given the economic conditions. Perhaps more significantly, my hopes to increase our francophone participation were not fruitful. Je ne peux qu'espérer que ceux et celles parmi vous qui peuvent influencer et accroître nos adhésions dans ce secteur qui est intrinsèque dans notre pays vont faire de votre mieux.

On the other hand, we have progressed in a number of areas. Despite difficulties, our membership numbers, both institutional and individual,

have been remarkably resilient and Faye Kert has done a remarkable job catching up with late payments. Our awards have been discerned to very worthy recipients, and while the MA theses presented to us have been slightly wanting, I believe that the new award in digital media named in honour of Bill Schleihaufer will increase our visibility amongst the younger generation.

Our publications have continued to progress; some aspects - such as the presentation (thanks to our new editorial team) and shipping of Argonauta - are quite visible while the very tangible cost savings are perhaps less visible but very real. One major aspect is that, as I announced at the Annual General Meeting we have signed an electronic publishing agreement with Abscond allowing greatly expanded availability and visibility in the academic world. And, of course, our relationship with our sister organization, NASOH, continues on a most solid basis.

We have also completely redesigned our website <[www.cnrs-scrn.org](http://www.cnrs-scrn.org)> and I trust that you are all finding the new format more adapted to our role; at least on this point we have achieved a great measure of bilingualism.

Lastly, I am most happy to mention our recent conference in Ottawa. Following on Quebec and Victoria, Rich Gimblett organized what I believe was one of the most diverse and entertaining events of recent years, while maintaining an intellectual richness that will be hard to surpass.

I look forward to passing the torch to our new president, Maurice Smith, and would like to again express my sincerest thanks to all who have served on executive council for the last three years. It has been a pleasure and an honour to work with them. And finally my gratitude must be extended to you, the Society's members, without whom none of our progress would have been possible.

Paul Adamthwaite

Picton, May 2011

## Obituaries

We mourn the passing of David Sinclair Kidd, who died peacefully at Credit Valley Hospital on Thursday April 7, 2011 in his 86th year. Many of you know Dave Kidd as an instrumental person who saved *HMCS Haida* from the ship breakers in 1964. *HMCS Haida*, one of the Canadian Tribal class destroyers, is now serving as a national historical site at Hamilton Harbour.

## Conference Announcements

### **CNRS Conferences:**

Next year's conference will be in Picton, Ontario and the theme will be the "War of 1812." More details to be announced.

### **NAOSH Conferences:**

This year's conference on 12-15 May was held at the Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA. The theme was maritime history research at the beginning of the 21st century. Panels addressed the relationship of maritime history to new historical sub-disciplines such as environmental or Atlantic-world history and whether traditional maritime history still make sense as well as the role of specialized museums and archives for future maritime history.

Next year's conference will be in Alpena, Michigan at the NOAA Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary.

### **The Asian Academy for Heritage Management Inaugural conference:**

This new conference on Asia-Pacific Regional Conference on Underwater Cultural Heritage will be held on 8 to 12 November 2011 in Manila, The Philippines. The Asian academy hopes to disseminate information about underwater cultural heritage in Asia and the countries of the Indian and Pacific Oceans and to publish the proceedings both online and in print and disseminate to a wide audience. They welcome papers at this pioneering event in underwater cultural heritage management. See the web-site: <http://www.apconf.org/> for further details.

We welcome conference announcements from all our members. Space allowing, they will be included in forthcoming issues.

**Minutes of the Executive Council Meeting of the CNRS/SCRN at  
The Victory, 205 Main Street, Picton, Ontario, Saturday, 5 March  
2011.**

**Present:** (9 members of Council)

President: Paul Adamthwaite  
 1st Vice President: Roger Sarty  
 2nd Vice President: Maurice D. Smith  
 Treasurer: Errolyn Humphreys  
 Secretary: Robert L. Davison  
 Membership Secretary: Faye Kert  
 Past President: Richard H. Gimblett  
 Hon. Councillor: James Pritchard  
 Councillor: Christopher Madsen

**Absent:**

Chair of the Editorial Board: Bill Glover  
 Hon. Councillor: W.A.B. Douglas  
 Councillor: Chris Bell  
 Councillor: Isabel Campbell  
 Councillor: Dan Conlin  
 Councillor: Richard O. Mayne

**1. Welcome and Opening Remarks.**

The President, Paul Adamthwaite, called the meeting to order at 1050 hrs. He welcomed the members of Council to Picton and The Victory. He expressed the hope that the meeting would be concluded by 1730hrs and graciously invited members of council to dinner at his and Betty Ann's home for 1830 hrs. The President apologized for delays in dealing with Society business due to personal matters since October of last year. The last issue of The Northern Mariner was, unfortunately, late. The new website is delayed but should be ready to go in a week or two as delays were encountered in completing the French translations. The President's Appeal has been postponed due to the current economic climate since it is unlikely that the Society would be able to reach its fundraising goals at present. Overall, the Society is doing well. The President called Council's attention to the addition of NASOH's five additional members to the editorial board for The Northern Mariner. Also, Faye Kert, the Membership Secretary, now has an assistant to help with the editing of book reviews. The President also expressed satisfaction with The Northern Mariner's international reputation.

**2. Agenda.**

The agenda of the meeting reviewed by the members of Council and was accepted.

**3. Draft Minutes of the previous Executive and Annual General Meetings at Halifax on Saturday, 19 June 2010.**

Councillor Chris Madsen expressed concern with the wording of the minutes. He disagreed with the section asserting that all members of Council had agreed to make a substantial pledge of support for the President's Appeal.

Chris felt that not all members had been consulted and felt the record should be altered to reflect that lack of unanimity. This alteration of the minutes was approved. There was also the issue of financial issues left over from the conference in Halifax. Revenues were reported to be over \$30,000 during the AGM. The Treasurer, Errilyn Humphreys, recommended changing that figure since \$12,000 of that amount was for conference fees much of which went against costs. The conference in Halifax was, in the final analysis, revenue neutral. The Treasurer thought it important not to raise the expectations of the membership seeing as the revenues were inflated.

Unfortunately, the draft minutes had been published in Argonauta and an errata notice will have to be posted in the next issue of the newsletter. The President thought that to avoid issues of this kind it would be advisable that the minutes should be approved before they are published. Such approvals could be done electronically. It was moved by Past President Rich Gimblett and seconded by Faye Kert that the edited minutes be approved. CARRIED.

#### **4. Treasurer's Report.**

The Treasurer gave her report on the Society's financial position. She noted that the net income of the society has fallen and there has been a drop in revenues realized from membership dues from over \$16,000 to over \$13,000. Expenditures will also be down in part due to that the conference in Halifax was organized by Dalhousie University. The printing costs incurred for printing The Northern Mariner had not yet been recorded and while some funds will be refunded from NASOH it might be still be at a net loss. The Treasurer also stated that due to Faye Kert's efforts to remind members of past membership dues the amount of money in the accounts receivable column has been reduced from \$7000 to \$2000. Errilyn Humphreys wondered whether it might be best to write off some of this as a bad debt. Faye Kert has agreed to mount another drive to reduce the amount in the outstanding accounts still further. In regard to the reserve account, the Treasurer noted that there had been a slight increase in the value of the Society's investments to about \$13,500 and that the assets of the Society have increased by about \$300.

The Treasurer asked for a policy decision in regard to outstanding accounts receivable in the event that it seemed unlikely that any more funds could be recovered. The President suggested that the \$2000 currently outstanding ought be set up into a doubtful account and after 12 months be written off as bad debts. The Treasurer also mentioned that one of the Society's bank accounts, with a balance of about \$5 has been declared inactive and two signatures were required to transfer the balance to the active accounts. Paul Adamthwaite agreed to cooperate by providing his signature.

In regard to the 2011 budget, the Society has obtained a good price for the printing of Argonauta as Myprint is charging about \$400 for 300 plus copies of the newsletter. Rich Gimblett has estimated that the cost of the conference in Ottawa would run to about \$5000 but should be, at the end of the day, revenue

neutral. As in past years the chief expense for the Society is postage. The President indicated that due to the current economic climate the President's Appeal is deferred but definitely not cancelled. Chris Madsen inquired as the funds made available for the MA prize considering that the Cartier prize was not awarded in 2010. The Treasurer indicated that the funds rolled over into the general fund and the funds do not carry forward as a liability on the Society's account. The 1st Vice President, Maurice Smith, made the observation that the financial statement showed \$0 under Donations. Maurice felt that the optics of this reflected badly on the Society. This was especially the case if the Society was planning to attract outside donations. The Treasurer explained that normally zero values are not printed. The President indicated that the Society realized no income for advertising in 2010. Rich Gimblett, seconded by Hon. Councillor Jim Pritchard, moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. **CARRIED.**

#### **5. Outreach to educational/academic institutions.**

The President noted the Society for Nautical Research's centenary issue's article on the state of maritime history written by Skip Fischer. This piece offered, in his opinion, a brilliant on background on maritime history and why the sub-discipline is not expanding. The President held that the key was outreach to schools and universities. Book publishing at the top of the profession was still strong but there seemed to be a lack of graduate students doing MA and PhD theses on maritime subjects. The question then was: What can we or should do anything? If so what?

The President felt that much more could be done. Chris Madsen agreed and felt that the best means was helping faculty members at universities to encourage students to pursue maritime topics. Unfortunately many senior scholars are retiring and are not being replaced. Chris held that personal contact was the best means to build the sub-discipline. Maurice Smith pointed to the irony of Canadian shipping companies getting bigger and possessing major fleets at the same time there has been a decline in maritime history. Rich Gimblett attended a maritime "Age of Sail" conference at UBC last Thanksgiving where he noticed a large number of papers were given in disciplines other than history and noted that history departments should not be the sole focus of the Society's attention as economists, political scientists, for instance, write extensively on maritime affairs. Chris Madsen indicated that the crucial area to focus were students completing MA theses. This is the lowest level where original research was being carried out. Maurice Smith noted that Skip Fischer's paper was originally published ten years ago albeit with substantial revisions. Maurice felt that the sub-discipline is not in as much trouble as readers of Skip's paper might be led to believe. There are plenty of good programs doing research particularly in the UK.

Jim Pritchard pointed out that part of the problem with MA theses was the reality of funding graduate work as the universities seem focused on getting students in and out quickly. Perhaps a possibility would be to push the prize up

to the Ph.D. level since very few MA theses are being produced. Chris Madsen thought it very important that the prize ought to be for MA theses because, unlike Major Research Papers (MRP), they are evaluated by an examination board. The 2nd Vice President, Roger Sarty, stated that there are still a number of students doing MA theses. He has supervised 25 MRPs and 10 MA theses. At Laurier MRPs are tested by examination boards but at other universities that may not be the case. The President clarified the position of council of retaining a completed MA thesis as a requirement for the Cartier Prize.

The President continued discussion of how the Society can assist in the development of maritime history at the graduate level. Chris Madsen pointed out the key was developing contacts at the sharp end: university faculty. Paul suggested drawing up a list of maritime historians serving in universities. Rich suggested getting a start on the list over lunch and dinner. Chris Madsen suggested the possibility of a Facebook account for the society. Errolyn Humphreys agreed that a Facebook account would be easy to set up and offered good opportunities to enhance the Society's visibility. The President indicated the importance of electronic communication as he had noticed that the hits on the CNRS website had doubled since he had posted an entry for the Society on Wikipedia, he expressed concern about Facebook's privacy issues. Errolyn indicated that the steps could be taken to depersonalize a Facebook page to defuse those concerns.

Getting back to maximizing the profile of the Society Maurice Smith commented that it seemed to him there were two questions. First was intellectual survival and the second was economic survival. In terms of the former it was important to get at the younger demographic. However, it was also important to realize in the case of the latter that the older demographic has the economic wherewithal and the sustained interest to keep the Society in the black. In any case, people in the older demographic also use electronic resources and they are no means the preserve of the young.

A consensus developed among members of council to establish a Facebook page that as Chris Madsen mentioned a basic page could be started with minimal effort but the issue would be the continual monitoring and posting content. Roger Sarty suggested the possibility of hiring a graduate student to run the page and monitor its content. Faye Kert mentioned that recruiting graduate students to write book reviews was an important way to build interest. Since the meeting on 5 March, a Facebook page has been established for the Society.

At this point the members of council adjourned for lunch.

## **6. Committees**

### **Membership.**

The Membership Secretary, Faye Kert, presented the membership report (see Appendix 1). She reported that no notices for membership renewals have been sent out. In regard to institutional memberships the Society has had one

cancellation and is down to 59 members. Over half of these are in Canada and most of the remainder are in the United States and the United Kingdom. Currently, the Society has 191 individual members and in the past year has lost six through cancellations, one has passed away and two have been deleted for non-payment. So far only nine members have renewed their memberships for 2011. Over 74% of the members are Canadian, 16% American and the rest are overseas. In total there are 250 members plus 17 complimentary members that includes award winners etc. She noted that some of the student members have not renewed. As a result of the Society's arrangement with NASOH the Society has lost eight members since they will be taking The Northern Mariner by virtue of their membership in NASOH. Rich Gimblett, seconded by Roger Sarty, moved that the Membership Secretary's report be accepted. **CARRIED.**

Paul Adamthwaite a suggestion that the Society could find some way to offer a reduced membership fee to members who did not wish to receive copies of The Northern Mariner as they might belong to an organization that already takes the journal. The President cited his own case as an example where the Archives and Collections Society takes a journal and it seemed a waste (not that he by any means wished to have a reduced membership fee for himself) to take personal copies as well. Chris Madsen argued that there ought to be just one membership rate and it would be awkward to administer a split membership list. Members of Council agreed with Chris.

### **Prize Committee.**

As the Chair of the Editorial Board, Bill Glover, could not attend and sent his regrets, Roger Sarty presented the report. Bill had sent out mail-outs to publishers to solicit for entries for the Matthews Prize for the best book and so far five submissions have been received. It was hoped that new submissions for the Cartier Prize would be submitted this year. In regard to the Panting Prize, a notice had been included with the general conference posting and so far there had been no applications. Roger said that he would spread the word around Laurier and work to spread the news around other universities. Sam MacLean, who won last year, might apply again this year. Chris Madsen questioned whether the award any one person should win the award more than once. Both Rich Gimblett and the President felt that every year should be a clean slate but need to encourage others but taking into account the fact that an applicant had won the prize previously. Faye Kert moved, seconded by Errolyn Humphreys, that the Prize Committee's Report be accepted.

**CARRIED**

At this point, Chris Madsen suggested an additional prize that would be named in honour of Bill Schleihauf. The prize would be offered to a young person under the age of 25 for the best project in digital media or graphic design related to maritime affairs. Chris said there were three options for the

proposed Bill Schleifhauf Prize. First, a stand-alone annual prize of around \$200 could be offered. Second, the prize money could be pooled with the existing Cartier prize. The prizes would then be offered in alternating years. Third, the prize could be funded through funds raised through the President's Appeal. Chris felt that a prize this one could be used to attract a younger and different demographic and got the idea from a contest run by DND for the Navy centennial. Further, such a prize would help deal with lag in applicants for the Cartier Prize over the last number of years. He also indicated that it would be very appropriate to have such a prize be named in honour of Bill Schleifhauf who had made great contributions to the success of the Society. All members of council readily agreed to Chris Madsen's proposal.

Agreement in principle having been reached, discussion shifted to the details as to eligibility and format of entries. It was thought that the details would be hammered out by the Prize Committee but there was a consensus that digital media that combined audio-visual materials with text in the form of websites and/or graphic design of museum quality would be considered. Rich Gimblett stated that such material could be put onto the CNRS website and could attract attention to the society's online presence. All materials submitted to the prize would become the property of the CNRS in order to alleviate any copyright concerns. Chris felt that in regard to the individuals eligible to the prize that they should be under 25, be either Canadian or a non-Canadian working on a project related to the maritime history of Canada. In other words, the eligibility should be same as for the Cartier prize. In regard to offering the prizes, Paul Adamthwaite thought it important to have prizes available each year and he agreed to consult with Bill's widow in regard with naming the prize in his honour.

The members of council agreed that the new Bill Schleifhauf Prize should be offered for a new prize to digital media design and graphic design projects of museum quality completed by a young person under 25. The prize will be \$250 a year and have the same qualifications as the Cartier. The first award will be given in 2012. Chris agreed to compose the details and volunteered to serve on the prize committee. Chris Madsen made a motion that the new prize be established and was seconded by Rich Gimblett. **CARRIED.**

### **Nominating Committee.**

Rich Gimblett said that there was no report other than that Maurice Smith has agreed to succeed Paul Adamthwaite as President. The issue of Vice Presidents would need some consideration. While Roger Sarty was willing to continue as 2nd Vice President the problem was replacing Maurice. The Nominating Committee was to continue to consult with members of council for possible candidates. In regard to candidates to serve as councillors there will be two or three vacancies and Rich said he would keep council apprised of developments.

**Editorial Board.**

Reporting on behalf of Bill Glover, Roger Sarty stated that there were no serious issues requiring the attention of Council. The President indicated that the Society needs to work to ensure the active participation of the NASOH members on the editorial board.

**7.Publications****The Northern Mariner.**

Roger Sarty reported to council in regard to progress with The Northern Mariner. Roger was pleased to report that the journal has a good supply of papers in the pipeline the issue is getting papers through peer review and prepared for publication. There have been some complaints about the inordinate time it has taken some papers to get through this process. In the case of one paper, however, it received one positive and one negative review and it was difficult to track down a tie-breaker. Generally, however, authors have been very patient and many have been grateful for editorial assistance. On the other hand some papers have gone from presentation to press very quickly. Ken Hanson's piece went from presentation in June to publication by October 2010. Also, The Northern Mariner has been receiving five or six unsolicited submissions a year through the good offices of John Hattendorf. Jim Pritchard asked if peer review was restricted to the editorial board. Roger responded that if anything he tends to under use the board as a list of specialists from Olaf Jansen has been extremely useful and there are ten or so scholars who have been especially helpful in obtaining reviews. Jim Pritchard thought that it might be necessary to pressure reviewers to return their evaluations in a more timely fashion. Roger has found that generally reviewers have been very responsive about responding to his reminders. Having no set format and completing reviews by email has assisted in speeding up the process. Roger also agreed to send a welcome the new editorial board members.

**Argonauta**

Isabel Campbell sent her regrets in being unable to attend but Rich Gimblett presented her report. Isabel reported that she and Colleen McKee have things well in hand and thanked Maurice Smith for his assistance in smoothing the transition. The work on the 2011 issues is in process and new pieces are coming forward. Back issues of the Argonauta are to be relocated to The Victory. Isabel has encountered some issues in relation to some of the longer articles for Argonauta. One new piece, written in French, would probably work best being cut into sections and serialized. Perhaps after the last installment is published, the complete article should appear on the CNRS website. Maurice Smith, seconded by Faye Kert, made the motion to accept the report.

**CARRIED.**

The President took the opportunity at this point to offer the official thanks on behalf of Council and the Society to Maurice Smith for his work in editing Argonauta.

Paul Adamthwaite commented that while there is plenty of space at The Victory for the back issues of the newsletter, the Society is not selling very many of them. He asked members of council about the eventual disposal of excess copies. Many of them were useful giveaways at conferences. Jim Pritchard suggested either pulping or giving them away. The President has offered to give sets of back issues to libraries and other institutions if they would pay the cost of postage.

Maurice Smith worried about the fate of some of the quality work in Argonauta since it preceded The Northern Mariner by some seven years. He thought it advisable to index the newsletter and publish some of the articles on the Society's website. Rich Gimblett suggested expanding Isabel's notion of posting long serialized Argonauta articles on the website, to simply posting the entire newsletter on the site immediately it is available, which would also ensure time-sensitive information is made available to members. Citing issues of privacy in some parts of the newsletter, the President suggested setting up a committee to go through Argonauta to tag the valuable pieces and then digitize them. Rich Gimblett suggested that the previous concerns over privacy have been surpassed in that we no longer print news of a personal nature and that with the passage of time anything previously appearing no longer meets the privacy criteria; the newsletter is a publication of great intellectual merit and that it would save time to put the back issues up verbatim. Further the issue of indexing and making Argonauta searchable could be revisited if there was a demand for it. Rich Gimblett, seconded by Roger Sarty, made a motion to thank Isabel Campbell and Colleen McKee for their efforts. **CARRIED.**

#### **Electronic publishing and website.**

The President reported that negotiations had been completed with EBSCO to have The Northern Mariner accessible online in exchange for a nominal annual fee. While the President assured council that the CNRS would continue to own the copyright the agreement, there will be no lag time between publishing hard copies and the articles being available electronically on EBSCO. The President hoped, without success, to obtain a free EBSCO subscription in the agreement. The President urged members of council to check the digitized versions of The Northern Mariner articles for accuracy. Paul Adamthwaite, seconded by Chris Madsen, moved that the previously circulated and verbally outlined EBSCO agreement be accepted. **CARRIED.**

### **8. Annual Meetings and Conferences.**

#### **Ottawa 2011**

Rich Gimblett, the 2011 Conference Organizer, reported that plans for the Conference and AGM in Ottawa are proceeding satisfactorily. The Conference will be held at HMCS Bytown. This location will have enough space for meetings of 40-50 people and has lunch and dinner facilities. There are plans

to have a meet and greet at a nearby pub on the Wednesday night and have conference sessions at Bytown on Thursday through Saturday morning. The AGM will be held on Saturday afternoon. The Conference banquet will be held at Bytown on Friday at a modest cost. Rich calculated that the conference fee would be in the range of \$125-150 including venue, banquet and lunches and he required no funds upfront. The President suggested that perhaps dinner reservations could be made on the Thursday evening at a nearby restaurant to enhance the social aspect of the conference.

### **Future Dates**

The President reported that he is in the process of arranging the 2012 Conference and AGM to be held at Picton in late May next year. The conference would probably include 1 or 2 days in Kingston. For 2013 there is the possibility of having a joint conference with NASOH but they are discussing New Orleans as a possibility. If there will be no joint conference some members of council suggested moving the conference out of central Canada, perhaps to the prairies. Other members suggested Newfoundland or Sydney, N.S. The problem, as usual, was getting a local organizer. Chris Madsen suggested the possibility of a joint conference with NASOH at either Windsor or Niagara Falls that would enable American participants to have good access to transportation links.

### **9. International Congress of Maritime History (ICMH).**

The next ICMH congress is to be held at Ghent, Belgium in July 2012. The President indicated his willingness to attend and represent the CNRS. Rich Gimblett said he is putting together a paper with an Australian scholar and would have the budget to attend. In regard to the membership dues in the ICMH the Society has received a request to pay dues in five year installments rather than annually. There was considerable resistance to complying with the request as it would complicate accounting. It was decided that fees would continue to be paid annually.

### **Adjournment.**

Being no further business to conduct the Secretary, Rob Davison, seconded by Faye Kert, put forward a motion to adjourn the meeting. **CARRIED.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Robert L. Davison, Ph.D.  
Secretary

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**Appendix 1**  
**Membership Data - as of Mar. 5, 2011**

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS			ADDRESSES	
Comp: (13 copies)	12			
2007 Not Renewed	2	50 % Canada	29 (2 Comp)	
2008 Not Renewed	8	35 % USA	21 (5 Comp)	
2009 Not Renewed	13	6.7 % UK	4 (1 Comp)	
2010 Not Renewed	8	6.7 % EUR	4 (3 Comp)	
2011 Renewed	28	AUS	0 (1 Comp)	
TOTAL 59 + 2 comps		59 + 12 comps		

Decrease of 1 over Feb. 2010 – 1 institution cancelled. NB: Complimentary memberships include the National Library, 6 exchanges and 5 US historical societies for mailing purposes.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS			ADDRESSES	
Complimentary	5 (inc. Matthews, Panting)			
2007 Not Renewed	9 (Cdn)	74% Canada	142 (4 Comp)	
2008 Not Renewed	19	16% USA	31 (1 Comp)	
2009 Not Renewed	26	5% UK	11	
	NASOH 4			
	Students 3	1.5 % EUR	3	
2010 Not Renewed	112	1% Other	4	
	NASOH 6			
	Students 3			
2011 Renewed	8			
	(New 1)			
TOTAL 191 + 5 comps		TOTAL 191 + 5 comps		

Down from February 2010 = 9. (6 members cancelled memberships, 1 deceased and 2 deleted.) While the percentage of non-Canadian members remains stable among institutional members, among individual members, American membership has increased 2% and other overseas membership is up slightly. NB: 8 complimentary memberships inc. 1 Life member, 2 Matthews Awards for 2009, 1 Panting Award, 1 Auditor.

TOTAL membership: **250** plus 17 complimentary subscriptions.

Renewals for 2011 are low because the renewal forms have been delayed pending delivery of 2010 journals.

NB: This figure represents a decrease from June 2010 of 5 members in total but also includes 1 new member for 2011.

### **“The Lusitania” Her 201<sup>st</sup> Crossing by Frances Welwood**

Sarah Annie Hallam Beckworth, 56 year old widow and grandmother, was returning to Vancouver BC after a short visit to her English homeland. Mrs. Beckworth had followed her daughter and son-in-law to Western Canada in 1909 and Vancouver was now her home. On April 17, 1915 Sarah Beckworth boarded the glamorous Cunard liner R.M.S. *Lusitania* at Liverpool and sailed for New York City.

Britain was at war and German U-boats patrolled the North Atlantic. However the *Lusitania* sailed without naval escort. The vessel's speed of 18 knots was considered much greater than the speed which contemporary submarines were capable of obtaining. Authorities remained only mildly concerned of any danger.

Mrs. Beckworth, an experienced continental traveller, enjoyed the comfort and sociability of her second-class accommodation. Into her luggage she tucked several mementos of her voyage.

Mrs. Beckworth's voyage proved to be the next-to-the-last crossing for the *Lusitania* and the ship's last sailing from Europe to North America.

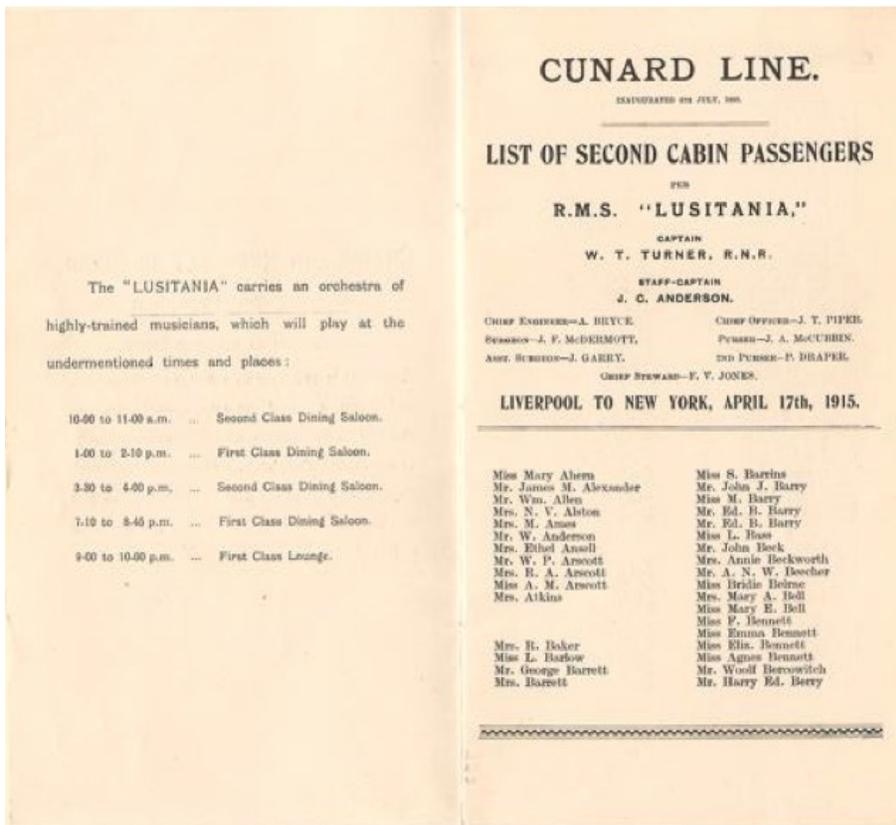
On April 22<sup>nd</sup>, one day before the vessel bearing Mrs. Beckworth docked in New York, the German government issued a warning to the American Embassy that Americans should not sail on the *Lusitania*. Little if any heed was paid to this forewarning and on May 1<sup>st</sup> the liner sailed as scheduled from New York, destined again for Liverpool. *Lusitania's* passengers and crew bid farewell to the Statue of Liberty, blithely unaware of any escalation of danger in the War Zone of the eastern North Atlantic Ocean.

Friday May 7<sup>th</sup>, within sight of the Irish coast, a German U-boat twice torpedoed the liner. She sank in 18 minutes with the loss of 1,195 lives.

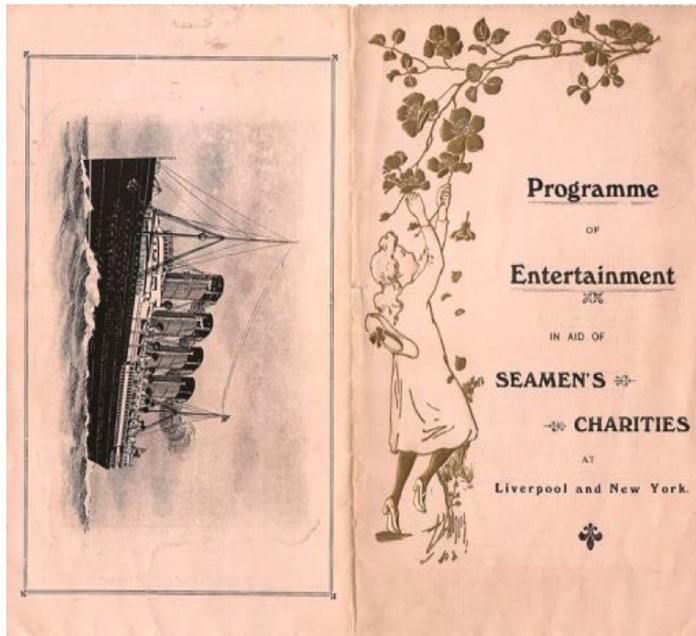
The sinking of the *Lusitania* and the loss of 123 American lives contributed to a movement and change of public opinion that ultimately led to United States participation in World War I.

The small tokens collected by Mrs. Beckworth on the ship's 201<sup>st</sup> crossing became items of sentiment and symbols of patriotism revered by five generations of her Canadian family. Today they are rare and historic documents and artifacts. Their connection to this wonderful Edwardian vessel and one of the era's greatest war-time and civilian tragedies have made them family keepsakes and personal memorials to the crew and passengers of the *RMS Lusitania*.

Mrs. Annie Beckworth's *Lusitania's* Passenger List



Programme of Entertainment on board RMS Lusitania



## **New Exhibit at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic**

### **Hello Sailor! Gay Life on the Ocean Wave**

Temporary Exhibit Maritime

Museum of the Atlantic, Halifax, May 19 2011 to November 2011

This summer the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic in Halifax is exploring the lives on gay and lesbian mariners in this special exhibit, believed to be the first such museum exhibit in North America. Entitled "Hello Sailor!", it combines an exhibit adapted from National Museums Liverpool in England with Canadian content created by the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic. The Liverpool exhibit explores the unique subculture created by gay men working as stewards on British ocean liners in the 1950s and 60s. The Canadian component compares that experience to the lives of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Intersex mariners in Canada up to the present day.

The poster on the opposite page features RMS Queen Mary crew members dressing up, with "Jane" (centre), a steward from Liverpool, parading as the pin-up of one of Merseyside's football teams c. late-1950s.

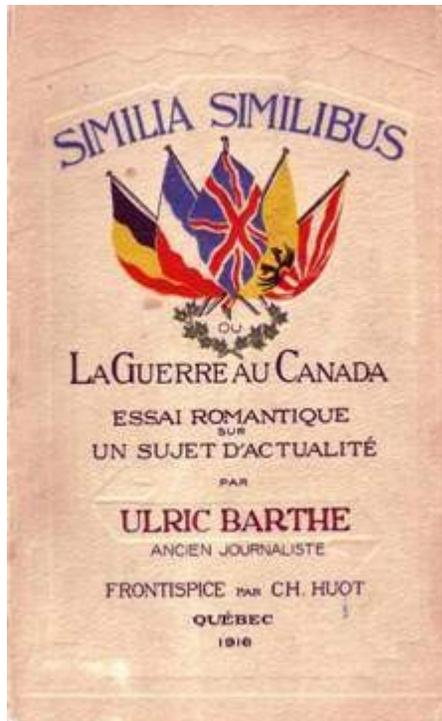


Photo credit: courtesy of Oral History Archive at Southampton City Council/Ocean Pictures/Cunard, adapted from an exhibition created by National Museums Liverpool.

**Et si les Allemands envahissaient le Québec ? Le Saint-Laurent, les rumeurs, la propagande et la mobilisation des Québécois lors de la Grande Guerre, 1914-1918.**

**by Mourad Djebabla**

Summary: This article examines the role of rumours and propaganda relating to a possible German invasion of Quebec during the First World War. The first part of the article which appeared in the last issue of *Argonauta* drew upon sociology and European history to set up a comparative theoretical framework. This second segment introduces definitions of terms and provides an overview of the presence of enemy aliens in Quebec. The rest of the article will appear in short segments near the end of consecutive *Argonauta*'s.



This poster dramatized the possibility of war in Canada.

(Poster, courtesy of author)

### 1-Définition des rumeurs

Comme nous l'avons avancé en introduction, les rumeurs sont retenues par les sociologues et les chercheurs en communication comme une forme de communication à part entière. Le concept de rumeur se voit d'abord rattaché à une connotation négative dans la mesure où, à la différence de l'information vraie, elle est une forme incertaine, voire douteuse, de l'information. Elle peut ainsi être perçue comme une forme de manipulation de l'opinion en fonction de ce qu'elle veut faire croire<sup>1</sup>. Néanmoins, comme le note la sociologue Mireille Donadini-Rousseau, la rumeur oriente une vision du monde. En effet, au-delà de son approche première négative, la rumeur peut être vue comme un ensemble de récits ayant une réelle signification sociale. En somme, la rumeur peut être retenue comme un moyen de donner sens au monde vécu pour le groupe qui la porte et la diffuse. C'est ainsi que la rumeur est retenue comme un moyen d'appréhender un fait, un événement, en l'absence d'informations précises<sup>2</sup>.

La rumeur a cependant des contours qui demeurent flous dans la mesure où la personne-source n'est pas identifiable. Néanmoins, ce que le chercheur peut retracer, c'est l'élément déclencheur qui appartient à l'actualité<sup>3</sup>. La rumeur est en effet partie prenante du présent. Dans le cadre du contexte de la Première Guerre mondiale, cet élément déclencheur est la présence d'étrangers d'origine ennemie au Québec et au Canada. Aux yeux de la population, ces individus cristallisent à eux les méfaits et les caractéristiques négatives que les discours de propagande leur allouent, comme la fourberie, la violence, et le non respect des lois<sup>4</sup>.

La sociologue Mireille Donadini-Rousseau pose également, au sujet de la propagation de la rumeur dans le corps social : « Le sujet de la rumeur est local [...] chacun se trouve donc concerné par ce que « raconte » la rumeur [...]. La rumeur est sans arrêt relocalisée, grâce à des détails directement issus du contexte dans lequel elle émerge et se diffuse »<sup>5</sup>. Ce qu'il est intéressant de retenir de cette définition, c'est

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1 Mireille Donadini-Rousseau, *op. cit.*, p. 1-2.

2 Christophe Prochasson, *14-18. Retour d'expériences*, Paris, Texto, 2008, p. 74-75.

3 Mireille Donadini-Rousseau, *op. cit.*, p. 26.

4 Christophe Prochasson, *op. cit.*, p. 79.

5 Mireille Donadini-Rousseau, *op. cit.*, p. 23.

que la rumeur se nourrit de l'environnement dans lequel elle évolue. Au Québec, la rumeur d'invasion exploite le Saint-Laurent, partie prenante de la province par son histoire et son intérêt économique et stratégique.

Outre ces différents éléments, il convient d'ajouter qu'un climat de crise est également responsable de la propagation de rumeurs. La rumeur est alors un moyen de rationaliser une situation difficile, comme un état de guerre. Dans ce cas, la rumeur est « une construction collective », une réponse à une situation de crise, à une angoisse collective. De ce point de vue, comme le note le sociologue Pierre Marc, la rumeur est partie prenante du « contexte psychologique qui la sollicite et qu'elle modèle en retour<sup>6</sup>. »

Au niveau de la société, l'impact de la rumeur est varié. Elle peut porter préjudice à des catégories d'individus (les étrangers d'origine ennemie », dans notre cas), elle peut altérer des informations objectives, et elle peut amener à des comportements irrationnels<sup>7</sup>. Pour regrouper ces différentes conséquences dans le cadre de notre démarche, il convient de préciser qu'en temps de guerre, les angoisses se cristallisent facilement sur un objet précis, comme la menace d'une invasion, et l'on peut dire alors qu'il existe une sorte d'unité irrationnelle au sein de la population. Dans ce cas, Marc Bloch permet de préciser combien le contexte du temps de guerre est propice à la propagation de rumeurs en annihilant le sens critique de la société. L'historien note ainsi : « Les raisons pour lesquelles la guerre a été si féconde en fausses nouvelles sont pour la plupart trop évidentes pour qu'il vaille la peine d'y insister. On ne dira jamais assez à quel point l'émotion et la fatigue détruisent le sens critique<sup>8</sup> ». Élément de la psychologie des foules, la rumeur traduit d'abord une peur où la perception et l'émotion des faits l'emportent sur l'information objective.

Ces différentes balises conceptuelles concernant la rumeur nous permettent de mieux appréhender l'un des principaux éléments déclencheurs des rumeurs d'invasion au Québec : les étrangers d'origine ennemie.

## 2-Les étrangers d'origine ennemie

Avec la guerre, la population canadienne, en particulier celle immigrée

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6 Pierre Marc, *op. cit.*, p. 17.

7 Pierre Marc, *op. cit.*, p. 17.

8 Marc Bloch, *op. cit.*, p. 49.

depuis le XIX<sup>ème</sup> siècle, et venant d'Allemagne et d'Europe centrale, se retrouve cataloguée comme relevant du camp ennemi que combattent la Grande-Bretagne, son Empire, et ses Alliés. Or, comme le souligne Jérôme Coutard au sujet du stimulus à trouver pour mobiliser la population : « Pour concevoir la nécessité de se priver, de respecter certains règlements limitant sa liberté sur une longue période, mais aussi pour avoir le désir de participer à la sauvegarde de la nation, un peuple doit se sentir menacé, en état de danger imminent<sup>9</sup>. » En d'autres termes, la question de l'« étranger d'origine ennemie » permet d'importer la guerre au Canada.

D'après les chiffres du recensement de 1911, pour le Québec, sur une population de 2 millions d'habitants, 1 906 hommes de 21 ans et plus sont originaires d'Autriche-Hongrie, parmi lesquels 652 sont naturalisés, tandis que 969 sont issus d'Allemagne, dont 489 sont naturalisés<sup>10</sup>. La forte part de naturalisation chez les Allemands, selon John Herd Thompson, s'explique par le fait que cette communauté est présente au Canada depuis le XIX<sup>e</sup> siècle, au contraire d'Austro-hongrois parmi lesquels il faut compter une majorité d'Ukrainiens, dépendant alors de l'Empire d'Autriche-Hongrie, et ayant émigré au Canada depuis seulement les années 1890-1900<sup>11</sup>. Ces chiffres montrent combien ces individus représentaient une faible part au regard de l'ensemble de la population. Desmond Morton souligne d'ailleurs qu'ils ne représentaient pas une menace réelle pour le Canada<sup>12</sup>. Toutefois, en dépit du nombre, ou de leurs efforts pour démontrer leur loyauté au Canada en guerre, c'est surtout l'origine qui est la plus « visible » au sein de la société.

Des mesures législatives sont prises par le gouvernement canadien, dès le 28 octobre 1914, à l'encontre des « étrangers d'origine ennemie ». Il s'agit alors de les enregistrer et d'en interner quelques-uns. Les premières arrestations se font le 5 novembre 1914<sup>13</sup>. De décembre 1914 à novembre 1918, le Québec dispose de camps

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9 Jérôme Coutard, *Des valeurs en guerre. Presse, propagande et culture de guerre au Québec, 1914-1918*, Thèse de doctorat en histoire, Québec, Université Laval, 1999, p. 41.

10 Ministère du Commerce. Bureau des Recensements et Statistiques, Rapport spécial de la population née à l'étranger. Relevé des registres du cinquième recensement du Canada, juin 1911, Ottawa, Imprimerie du gouvernement, 1915, p. 24.

11 John Herd Thompson, *Les minorités ethniques pendant les guerres mondiales*, Ottawa, La Société historique du Canada, 1991, p. 4-5.

12 Desmond Morton, « Sir William Otter and Internment Operations in Canada during the First World War », *Canadian Historical Review*, vol. 55, n°1, mars 1974, p. 36.

13 Jean Laflamme, *op. cit.*, p. 7.

d'internement, à Montréal, Spirit Lake, Valcartier et Beauport<sup>14</sup>. En tout, durant la guerre, le gouvernement canadien enregistre 80 000 individus et en interne 8 579<sup>15</sup>. Au Québec, selon Jean Laflamme, ce sont en tout une centaine d'Allemands, une vingtaine de Turcs, de Bulgares, et plus de 1200 Austro-hongrois, dont en majorité des Ukrainiens qui sont enfermés<sup>16</sup>.

Les premières rumeurs qui apparaissent au sujet des étrangers d'origine ennemie sont rattachées à l'espionnage. La question de la peur de l'espion est liée au problème de la présence supposée d'espions ennemis au Canada. Ce « fantasme collectif » s'observe également en Europe<sup>17</sup>. Cette question de l'espionnage est à comprendre suivant deux axes. Tout d'abord, comme le remarque un contemporain de la Grande Guerre, elle est le résultat de la fièvre patriotique de l'été 1914 : « dans cette atmosphère de surexcitation des premiers jours de guerre s'était développé un état d'esprit, une psychose spéciale : l'espionnite qui, telle une maladie contagieuse, se rependit avec une terrible et foudroyante rapidité<sup>18</sup>. » Chez les Alliés, elle est également le fruit d'une réaction populaire face à la force de l'ennemi qui, en quelques semaines, en août-septembre 1914, balaya la Belgique et envahit le Nord-est de la France. Le développement de rumeurs d'espionnage peut alors être interprété comme rendant compte d'une psychose au sein de la société civile, celle de la peur du danger allemand tant décrié dans la presse avec la description d'exactions commises à l'encontre de civils innocents belges ou français. La peur de l'« Autre », défini comme « ennemi », se nourrit d'un constat simple :

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14 *Ibid.*, p. 10.

15 Donald Avery, "Dangerous Foreigners". *European Immigrant Workers and Labour Radicalism in Canada, 1896-1932*, Toronto, McClelland and Stewart Ltd., 1979, p. 66.

16 Jean Laflamme, *op. cit.*, p. 19. ; Pour une étude en droit de la question de l'internement des « étrangers d'origine ennemie », et notamment de ceux d'origine ukrainienne, voir : Bohdan S. Kordan and Craig Mahovsky, *A Bare and Impolitic Right. Internment and Ukrainian-Canadian Redress*, Canada, McGill-Queen's Press, 2004, 96 p.

17 Gundula Bavendamm, « L'ennemi chez soi », in *Encyclopédie de la Grande Guerre, 1914-1918*, Stéphane Audoin-Rouzeau et Jean-Jacques Becker (sous la dir. de), Paris, Bayard, 2004, p. 751-757. ; Voir également : André Loez, « « Lumières suspectes » sur ciel obscur. La recherche des espions et le spectacle de la guerre dans Paris bombardé en 1914-1918 », in *Vrai et faux dans la Grande Guerre*, Christophe Prochasson et Anne Rosmussen (sous la dir. de), Paris, La Découverte, 2004, p. 171. ; Pour la Grande-Bretagne et la place du sujet de l'espionnage dans les pièces de théâtre, voir : L.J.C. Collins, *Theatre at War, 1914-1918*, New York, St-Martin Press, 1998, p. 185.

18 Paul Émil Lettow-Vorbeck, *L'Espionnage et le contre-espionnage pendant la guerre mondiale d'après les archives militaires du Reich*, Paris, Payot, 1934, p. 295.

avec la Première Guerre mondiale, la population civile, quelque soit l'âge ou le sexe, est représentée comme une cible à part entière des armées ennemies. La perception des affrontements, depuis le front arrière, en est alors modifiée : ce ne sont plus seulement les combattants qui sont meurtris par la guerre, mais également les populations non-armées,

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