

# The Northern Mariner / Le marin du nord

## Volume XXVIII, Number 1 (Winter/Hiver 2018)

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## From the editor

Friends of this journal were all saddened to learn early in the year of the death of “Skip” Fischer. He spent his professional career at the Memorial University of Newfoundland, where he was a member of the history department and the Maritime History Research Group. Sometimes one gets the sense that academics, and especially “senior professors” may be inclined to overlook their students. Skip never did. His tireless activity in the broader field of maritime history was in addition to his teaching and research. Skip was an early and ardent advocate for the establishment of an academic refereed journal alongside the newsletter, *Argonauta*. With Olaf Janzen and Gerry Panting he was one of the founding editors, and remained an editor until a bout of serious illness around 2000. Skip was also instrumental in establishing the *International Journal of Maritime*

*History*, originally published by the International Maritime Economic History Association. And of course he was closely associated with the Research in Maritime History series produced by the Maritime History Research Group. And as if that was not enough, he was active with the International Commission for Maritime History. Skip was indeed a great friend of maritime history, and his loss will be felt around all points of the compass.

This issue is six months late, and it is “thin.” While I regret both facts, I am unable to apologize for them. The reason is a lack of material. A refereed publication cannot be produced without suitable submissions. I would encourage everyone working in our subject area to assist in the recruitment of articles.

The two articles in this issue are both by old friends. Walter Lewis is currently our production editor. He creates the final form that goes on to the publisher. Having once done that task myself, I cannot say how grateful I am for Walter’s assistance. His article about early lighthouses of Upper Canada is both welcome and fills a gap in the literature.

Olaf Janzen was a founding editor of this journal and for many years the book reviews editor. He continues as a member of our editorial board. His work there is characterized by comprehensive and balanced reports that can only be of great assistance to authors. His article about the work of James Cook in Newfoundland, unknown by most Canadians, and how it was instrumental in his later career, is a reminder of the CNRS need to continue to do everything it can to raise the awareness of Canada’s maritime heritage.

By the time this issue is in the mail our annual conference will be over, and appointments to the editorial board will have been made. Therefore allow me here on your behalf to thank Michael Crawford and Christopher Magra, both NASOH nominees, for their very helpful contributions. In their place Christopher McKee and Lincoln Paine who will both be known to many of you, are joining the board. After many years of being associated with the journal, Andrew Cook is stepping aside. His place as an international member is being taken by Roy Fenton, well known in UK merchant shipping historical circles. To our departing members, thank you, and to our new members, welcome.

Bill Glover  
June 2018