

Global Fisheries History Network



<http://www.fimus.dk/GFHN/gfhn.htm>

Newsletter

No. 3, September 2006

Editorial

A recent report by the FAO Sub-Committee on Aquaculture states that forty-three percent of all fish for human consumption comes from aquaculture. This compares to just nine percent in 1980. Perhaps this should not surprise us, as the status of the world fisheries is possibly changing faster than ever before. Understanding complexity and interrelatedness are substantial challenges for contemporary observers of fisheries development. Those of us with an eye to the past appreciate that it was ever thus, and notions of a simpler 'golden age' offer no great security or insight. As ever, the only sure means for any research community is to foster the exchange of ideas and international collaboration.

To do this, a community must continually renew and reinvigorate itself. Hence, it was especially gratifying to welcome so many new young researchers to the field at the recent NAFHA conference in Bremerhaven. Attending the young researchers sessions was very inspiring, as papers drew upon notions of the social construction of scientific knowledge, nation and identity, and coastal culture to extend the classical boundaries of fisheries history.

We offer our thanks to Ingo Heidbrink and his colleagues at the German Maritime Museum for a most hospitable and inspiring event, which has undoubtedly encouraged us all back to the archives and reading rooms with renewed vigour.

As in preceding editorials, we encourage you all to share your thoughts with the GFHN, possibly by contributing information for the newsletter or reviews of "classics" for the website, or simply thoughts on fisheries history more generally. We are always happy to hear from you and help develop the community.

Finally, some readers perhaps remember that we hoped to offer some further information on the Network's 'drive to maturity' in the present newsletter. Much progress has been made and we hope to put forward some proposals in the near future: like wine and

whiskey, we hope our ideas will benefit from a period of maturation before we offer them to our friends. Cheers.

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Global Fisheries History Network

Call for Papers: International Perspectives on Fisheries Markets

The Editors of the Global Fisheries History Network invite contributions to a Forum on the International Perspectives on Fisheries Markets, to be published in the *International Journal of Maritime History*. The Journal, the leading field publication in maritime history, has an established international reputation for publishing high quality research in fisheries history.

The topic is both pertinent and timely. While the growth of international trade in fisheries commodities has been one of the characteristic features of historical fisheries development, it has received less concerted analysis than other 'engines of growth' that lend themselves more naturally to national, regional, or international interpretations. However, it is clear that networks of exchange have grown in scale, scope, and complexity, and their influence has had an increasingly pervasive effect upon both national cultures of consumption and attitudes towards the exploitation of marine resources.

In addition, technological change and market innovations have transformed marine resources into a myriad of consumer and industrial products, a process accelerating under the influence of globalisation. Recent research has suggested a growing interest in the historical development of post-harvest preservation, transformation, distribution and consumption of fisheries commodities, drawing upon a variety of historiographical traditions and methodological insights. The Roundtable aims to draw together several of these emerging streams in a comparative context as part of the network's efforts to foster greater dialogue and debate between fisheries history communities.

Themes for consideration could be: sustainability and trade, merchants and intermediaries, creating value and choice, trade policies and food security, evolving cultures of consumption, product development, and the growth of marketing.

The editors welcome contributions that address all aspects of the internationalization of fisheries markets and its consequences, irrespective of temporal and geographical

orientation, or disciplinary orientation. Papers should reflect upon the national, regional and international origins of the chosen theme, and how they contribute to our understanding of fisheries history in the broadest context.

Deadline

Authors wishing to contribute to the Symposium should submit an abstract (in Word or PDF format) not exceeding 500 words to the Editor by the 1st of December 2006. Submissions should give the author's name and contact details.

Please submit your proposal to: Global Fisheries History Network, editor: Morten Karnøe Søndergaard at mks@fimus.dk

IMEHA2008

5th IMEHA International Congress of Maritime History

Monday, 23 to Friday, 27 June 2008

Call for papers

The Organising Committee appointed by the International Maritime Economic History Association invite proposals for papers to be presented at its 2008 5th International Congress of Maritime History. The Congress will be hosted by the Greenwich Maritime Institute, University of Greenwich, UK and held in the Old Royal Naval College, Greenwich.

All International Maritime History Congresses (1992 Liverpool UK, 1996 Amsterdam The Netherlands, 2000 Esbjerg Denmark, 2004 Corfu Greece) have adopted as wide a concept of maritime history as possible as an interdisciplinary area covering all historical periods. The aim is to promote and disseminate research into all aspects of humankind's relationship with the sea from past to present, with an emphasis on the international and trans-national character of maritime history.

Papers will be welcome on a wide range of research areas reflecting the role of the surface of the sea, the undersea domain, the coastal zone, and as a cultural resource.

The sea's surface is a medium for transport: seaborne trade, ports, maritime labour, ships and navigation, shipping companies and shipping-related institutions, such as insurance, finance and international classification companies. The surface of the sea has also been used for power projection, corsair activity and piracy, naval power (including strategy) and technological experimentation. Much of this has also been influenced by the policies adopted by various governments.

The undersea domain includes fishing and related activities, fishers and fishing communities, and the exploitation of the seabed. The maritime environment also involves scientific topics, such as oceanography and meteorology, and is conditioned by government policies regarding marine science and technology in an historical perspective.

In the coastal zone, the interaction of sea and land has been investigated in relation to the development of port cities and their hinterlands, as well as island/port communities. The sea is also the site for leisure activities: tourism, the sea and coast as regenerative environments and the zone as a focus for recreation and sport in an historical perspective.

Finally, the sea has served as an inspiration for culture and ideology, including literature, the visual and performing arts and concepts of national identity.

Proposals details:

Deadline is 1 December 2006

Participants are invited to submit a short proposal in English indicating the scope of their intended paper, together with a summary of their CV. (One side in total, please.)

Papers from the Congress will be considered for publication by the International Maritime History Association in the International Journal of Maritime History or the accompanying series "Research in Maritime History".

Proposals should be sent in hard copy or by email to:

IMEHA Congress Academic Secretary

Greenwich Maritime Institute

Old Royal Naval College

Park Row

Greenwich

London SE10 9LS, UK

IMEHA2008@greenwich.ac.uk

Call for Papers

"Northern Navigation", Churchill, Manitoba, 2-7 August 2007

The Canadian Nautical Research Society will host its annual conference for 2007 in Churchill, Manitoba, on the theme of "Northern navigation." Topics may include exploration, trade, war, ships, individuals, indigenous peoples, and any other topic related to the practice of navigation in high latitudes. To provide comparisons, papers examining similar subjects in the high latitudes of the Antarctic are also invited.

For more information, or to submit a proposal for a paper or a session, contact either:

Dr William Glover williamglover@sympatico.ca or Professor Barry Gough

bgough@wlu.ca

Call for Papers / Appel de communication

Quebec / Québec 1608-2008, Four Centuries of North Atlantic Crossings / Quatre siècles de voyages transatlantiques, 06 - 09 August 2008

To celebrate the quatercentenary of Samuel de Champlain's founding of Quebec, the Canadian Nautical Research Society will host its annual conference for 2008 in that city.

Papers topics may include exploration, trade, war, ships, individuals and any other topic related to marine activity in and around Quebec and the North Atlantic over the past four centuries. Proposals should be directed to:

Professor Serge Durflinger
CNRS 2008 Conference Program Chair
History Department
University of Ottawa
Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 6N5
Telephone: 613-562-5800, x1277
e-mail: sdurflin@uottawa.ca

Call for Papers

Fourth Conference of the European Society for Environmental History

The European Society for Environmental History invites proposals for panels and posters for its upcoming 4th conference in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 5-9 June 2007.

Environmental historians increasingly work on a global scale, addressing global issues or comparing local and national experiences with other locales. Given the interconnectedness of all parts of the planet in matters ecological, this makes excellent sense. Europe has had longstanding relationships with the rest of the world from the beginning of historical time, causing both enrichment and deprivation of biodiversity and habitats. Lively exchanges of men and other biota, and of environmental ideas, techniques and practices, existed with Asia and Africa already from Antiquity onwards, with the Americas, Australia and New Zealand from the end of the Middle Ages onwards. The Netherlands, a country with a long tradition of global exchange, was one of the first nations to foster environmental awareness.

The challenging theme for the 4th conference of the European Society for Environmental History in Amsterdam, hosted by the Vrije Universiteit (Free University) in Amsterdam is therefore 'Environmental connections: Europe and the wider World'.

Proposals for panels, papers and posters are invited, in particular for the following strands: - history of exchange of biota, i.e. plants, animals and other organisms (both intentional and unintentional) - history of exchange of environmental techniques and practices (in particular regarding water, such as for flood control, drainage, irrigation, preparation of drinking water, cleaning of waste water) - history of climate change - history of environmental ideas, movements and organisations - history of monitoring the resources of the earth

Submission of abstracts: 1 February 2006 - 1 June 2006.

Proposals for panels, individual papers and posters should be submitted through the on-line registration facility provided by this conference website under 'submission'. Panel proposals should include a panel title, names of the participants (including chair), and individual paper titles; a panel abstract of 250 words, three individual paper abstracts of 300 words and short biographies of the participants (150 words). Paper and poster proposals should consist of an abstract of 300 words and short biography of the participant (150 words). For information: ESEH2007secretary@let.vu.nl.

Forthcoming conferences

We are happy to publicise details of any conferences, workshops and seminars that might be of interest to subscribers. Please pass on details to the editors

Seventh Cologne Whaling Meeting

Cologne, Germany

10 – 12 November 2006

The triennial Cologne Whaling Meetings are one of only two regular international conferences on the cultural history of human-cetacean relations, worldwide, from prehistoric times to the present day. In the past, they have attracted between 60 and 80 participants from up to a dozen countries.

Friday evening starts with the traditional “greasy gossip“, a casual warm-up reunion in a Cologne pub, where you can meet old friends and make new ones from all over the whaling world. Saturday will feature an all-day conference programme of eight presentations. There will be a Saturday night dinner (at participants’ own expense), hopefully – as in previous years – followed by a concert of whaling-related music (currently unscheduled: suggestions welcome). Sunday morning will be devoted to four more presentations. The conference will close around 1:30 PM.

As usual, participants can expect to see a specially arranged exhibition. Current plans aim at compiling a pioneering, ambitious exhibition on “Baleen in Art and Artefacts from Seven Centuries“.

Presentations cover the entire range of human-cetacean relations, from mythology, literature, art, archaeology, music, law, technology of whale products and whaling methods, the history and maintenance of whaling collections and monuments, historical strandings, early cetology, whaling history, personal recollections of whaling veterans, to current whaling policy.

Participation, however, is by personal invitation of the organizer only! Request your invitation by sending an application to participate, outlining your specific interest in whaling history, to [barthval at t-online.de](mailto:barthval@t-online.de) <edit if you are not a spammer>. No attachments! The organizer reserves the right to refuse participation.

First-timers may be asked to pre-pay their conference fee upon successful registration by bank transfer or Paypal. Others pay cash upon arrival. The participation fee will probably be in the range of 75 Euros, and will cover break snacks and beverages, as well as the

conference pack including a souvenir. The dinner on Saturday is at participants' own expense.

Full program can be seen at:

<http://www.mail-archive.com/marmam@lists.uvic.ca/msg00471.html>

Klaus Barthelmess

Whaling Research Project

Cologne, Germany

General News

- In Denmark, the *Galathea 3* project (See GFHN Newsletter no. 2, 2006) has now set to sea. In early August, under much festivity, the research ship *Vædderen* departed from Copenhagen to begin investigations in the North Atlantic. After visiting the Faeroese Islands and several towns in western Greenland, the ship has made an about turn for southern seas. On 22 September (at 17.00 hours GMT) the ship was due south of the Azores (longitude 025.25.662, latitude 33.45.475). Details on the project, research findings and latest news can be found at: <http://www.galathea3.dk/uk>
- The 10th NAFHA conference was held in Bremerhaven (Germany) between 7 -11 August. Conference elected a new steering committee, comprising: Ingo Heidbrink (Germany) and Frits Loomeijer (Netherlands), who are acting as co-presidents and also share the position as treasurer. Other members of the committee include: Daniel Thorleifsen (Greenland); David J. Starkey (England); Ernesto López (Spain); Inês Amorim (Portugal); Peter Pope (Canada); Hrefna Karlsdottir (Iceland); Anders Haaland (Norway); Morten Karnøe Søndergaard (Denmark); Erland Viberg Joensen (Faeroese). The overall conference was very successful and a detailed conference report will follow in the next newsletter.
- As mentioned in the last newsletter, *The XIV international Economic History Congress* was held in Helsinki during August 2006. Papers presented can still be downloaded

online in PDF format from the official conference website. In addition to the wealth of papers on general economic topics you will find several papers dealing with aspects of fisheries history. For more information, see: <http://www.helsinki.fi/iehc2006/>

- Álvaro Garrido from the Maritime Museum of Ilhavo has recently uploaded a database entitled "*The Synopsis of the Portuguese Cod Fleet 1835-2006*" on the Museum's website. The database represents an essential research instrument, that not only makes it possible to follow the numerical evolution of the ships throughout the last 170 years, but also to identify and to analyse the specific characteristics of the fleet. The database rests upon information from a wide range of sources, which allows for several types of analysis. Thus, it is possible to observe the composition of the cod fleet through the period and the effective number of ships in activity, grouped for campaigns and subdivided in accordance with the types of fishing and propulsion. Furthermore, it is possible to analyse the original characteristics of each ship (previous to remodelling or conversion). More at: www.museumaritimo.cm-ilhavo.pt
(Technical data: Edited by Ilhavo City Hall/Maritime Museum of Ilhavo, Coordination by Álvaro Garrido, Research by Ângelo Lebre and Hugo Pequeno)

Publishing news

The editors welcome any news on forthcoming books, journal articles, reports, and other information that would be of interest to fisheries historians.

- In September 2006 FAO, as a part of their Fisheries Technical Papers, published a report on the state of world aquaculture (as mentioned in the editorial). The report is downloadable from the FAO site, and is recommendable to anyone interested in what the potential future of world fisheries might look like. More at: ftp://ftp.fao.org/FI/DOCUMENT/t500_advanced/advanced_t500e.pdf
- The conference report from 2004 NAFHA conference in Halifax has now been published as volume eight in the *Studia Atlantica* series. The title is, *The North Atlantic Fisheries:*

Supply, Marketing and Consumption, 1560-1990. Edited by David J. Starkey & James E. Candow, the contents are:

The Scale of the Early Modern Newfoundland Cod Fishery, Peter E. Pope

Opening Pandora's Box: Tradition, Competition and Technology on the Scotian Shelf, 1852-1860, William Leavenworth

Concentration or Disintegration? Vessel Ownership, Fish Wholesaling and Processing in the British Trawl Fishery, 1850-1939, Martin Wilcox

Fishing People's Perceptions of Fish Culling in Northeastern Newfoundland, 1920-1955, Mark Ferguson

Living Standards in Spanish Canning and Fishing Families during the Interwar Period, Luisa Muñoz Abeledo

Fish Promotion in the Netherlands, c.1690-1983, Jeroen ter Brugge

Creating a Demand: The Marketing Activities of the German Fishing Industry, c.1880-1990, Ingo Heidbrink

Fish Consumption aboard Swedish Warships during the Seventeenth Century, Ulrica Söderlind

Salt Fish and Slavery in the British Caribbean, James E. Candow

New Evidence for the Price of Cod in Spain: The Basque Country, 1560-1900, Santiago Piquero & Ernesto López

More details to follow shortly.

- A recent Canadian publication of interest to fisheries historians is M. Brook Taylor, *A Camera on the Banks: Frederick William Wallace and the Fishermen of Nova Scotia* (Fredericton, NB: Goose Lane Editions, 2006). The book examines the life of author Frederick William Wallace, with a special focus on his photographs of the Nova Scotia bank fishery during the years 1911-16. A full review by James E. Candow, will appear in a forthcoming issue of *Northern Mariner*, the journal of the Canadian Nautical Research Society (<http://www.cnrs-scrn.org/cnrse000.htm>).
- British author Ian B. Hart has published *Whaling in the Falkland Islands Dependencies 1904-31* (Newton St. Margarets, Pequena, ISBN 0-9552924-0-9), a comprehensive

history of inshore whaling in Antarctic waters from its inception to the 1931 Depression. This follows Hart's 2001 book, *Pesca - a history of the pioneer modern whaling company in the Antarctic* (Salcombe, Aiden Ellis Publishing, ISBN 0-85628-299-5), which concerned the first whaling company to be based on South Georgia. Both books are very thoroughly researched, and are recommended to those involved in research on the early history of Antarctic whaling.