

The Lazarette Gazette

NEWS FROM
The University of Texas at Austin
MARINE SCIENCE INSTITUTE
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bulletin: Bolt from the Blue — Bob Bermuda Bound

Dr. Robert S. Jones, Director of the Marine Science Institute and Chairman of the Department of Marine Science, has resigned effective June 1, 1993. His February 1 announcement to MSI/DMS personnel follows —

It is with sincere regret that I advise you that I have submitted my resignation as director of the MSI and chairman of the DMS, effective June 1, 1993. We have accomplished a great deal working together over the past 8+ years and should all be pleased and proud of how far we have come with the Institute and the Department. However, I believe that each individual who accepts a leadership position has a finite amount to give to the good of an organization and, after that time, new blood is needed to take it to the next energy level.

I am not leaving UT because of any disappointments or problems, in fact, things could not be better for me. However, I received an unexpected offer to serve as Deputy Director and Director of Education of the Bermuda Biological Station for Research, Inc. (eat your heart out, Hayden). This represents an opportunity to give up some of the responsibility I have been carrying at three different marine labs over the past 25 years. Sally and I have discussed for some time a reduction in the constant stress of administration, but, rather than quit cold turkey, the BBSR opportunity allows me to make a decompression stop before surfacing for the last time from the depths of administration.

I will be involved primarily in teaching and the teaching enterprise in my new job. It also takes me back to the clear water and coral reef fishes I love so much. As I told Dr. Fonken, that environment is my area of specialization and has given me the greatest pleasure in

my career, and I would like to blow a few more bubbles before getting too old to strap on the gear. Sally and I have not the slightest idea what we will do after Bermuda, but we are excited about the new adventure and realize that it is our last chance to be unorthodox with our lives.

Provost Fonken and Dean Boyer will be coming down in mid-February to appoint an acting director and an acting chairman. They will also form a search committee to locate my successor.

In the meantime, this is not yet goodbye. We will be working together until the summer, and there are a few more projects for us to complete before I take departure from Port Aransas. You have all been wonderful to work with and I am most grateful to each of you for your support.

—Robert S. Jones

Publications

- THOMAS, P. 1993. Effects of cadmium on gonadotropin secretion from Atlantic croaker pituitaries incubated *in vitro*. *Marine Environmental Research* 35:141-145.
- THOMAS, P. and J. SMITH. 1993. Binding of xenobiotics to the estrogen receptor of spotted seatrout: A screening assay for potential estrogenic effects. *Marine Environmental Research* 35:147-151.
- CAMERON, J.N. and P. THOMAS. 1992. Calcitonin-like immunoreactivity in the blue crab: tissue distribution, variations in the molt cycle, and partial characterization. *Journal of Experimental Zoology* 262:279-286.
- THOMAS, P. and M.J. JUEDES. 1992. Influence of lead on the glutathione status of Atlantic croaker tissues. *Aquatic Toxicology* 23:11-30.
- COPELAND, P.A. and P. THOMAS. 1992. Isolation of maturational gonadotropin subunits from spotted seatrout (*Cynoscion nebulosus*) and development of a beta subunit-directed radioimmunoassay for gonadotropin measurement in sciaenid fish. *General and Comparative Endocrinology* 88:100-110.
- WHITE, R.B. and P. THOMAS. 1992. Adrenal-kidney and gonadal steroidogenesis during sexual differentiation of a reptile with temperature-dependent sex determination. *General and Comparative Endocrinology* 88:10-19.
- WHITE, R.B. and P. THOMAS. 1992. Whole-body and plasma concentrations of steroids in the turtle, *Trachemys scripta*, before, during, and after the temperature-sensitive period for sex determination. *Journal of Experimental Zoology* 264:159-166.
- WHITE, R.B. and P. THOMAS. 1992. Stimulation of *in vitro* steroidogenesis by pituitary hormones in a turtle (*Trachemys scripta*) within the temperature-sensitive period for sex determination. *Biology of Reproduction* 47:952-959.
- KHAN, I.A. and P. THOMAS. 1992. Stimulatory effects of serotonin on maturational gonadotropin release in the Atlantic croaker, *Micropogonias undulatus*. *General and Comparative Endocrinology* 88:388-396.
- SELLMAN, P.V., A.J. DELANEY, E.J. CHAMBERLAIN, and K.H. DUNTON. 1992. Seafloor temperature and conductivity data from Stefansson Sound, Alaska. *Cold Reg. Sci. Tech.* 20:271-288.
- DORTCH, Q. and T.E. WHITLEDGE. 1992. Does nitrogen limit phytoplankton production in the Mississippi River and nearby regions? *Cont. Shelf Res.* 1293-1309.
- REID, B. and C.R. ARNOLD. 1992. The intensive culture of the penaeid shrimp *Penaeus vannamei* Boone in a recirculating raceway system. *Journal of the World Aquaculture Society* 23(2):146-153.
- CHIN-LEO, G. and R. BENNER. (in press). Enhanced bacterioplankton production and respiration at intermediate salinities in the Mississippi River plume. *Mar. Ecol. Prog. Ser.*
- SUTTLE, C.A. (in press). Inhibition of photosynthesis in phytoplankton by the submicron size fraction concentrated from seawater. *Marine Ecology Progress Series.*
- SUTTLE, C.A. and F. CHEN. (in press). Mechanisms and rates of decay of marine viruses in seawater. *Applied and Environmental Microbiology.*

- YOON, W.B. and R. BENNER. (in press). Denitrification and Oxygen Consumption in Sediments of Two South Texas Estuaries. *Mar. Ecol. Prog. Ser.*
- SUTTLE, C.A. and A. CHAN. (in press). Marine cyanophages infecting oceanic and coastal strains of synechococcus: abundance, morphology, cross-infectivity and growth characteristics. *Mar. Ecol. Prog. Ser.*
- WEBB, D.G. and P.A. MONTAGNA. (in press). Initial and subsequent degradation of sedimented phytoplankton: relative impact of macro and meiobenthos. *J. of Exp. Mar. Biol. and Ecol.*
- GONZALEZ, J.M. and C.A. SUTTLE. (in press). Grazing by marine nanoflagellates on viruses and virus-sized particles: ingestion and digestion. *Mar. Ecol. Prog. Ser.*
- FUIMAN, L.A. (in press). Development of predator evasion in Atlantic herring (*Clupea harengus*). *Animal behavior.*
- FUIMAN, L.A. and D.R. OTTEY. (in press). Temperature effects on spontaneous behavior of larval and juvenile red drum and their implications for foraging. *Fishery Bulletin.*
- BARRY, T.P., P. THOMAS and G.V. CALLARD. (in press). Stage-related production of 21-hydroxylated progestins by the dogfish (*Squalus acanthias*) testis. *Journal of Experimental Zoology.*
- SINGH, H. and P. THOMAS. (in press). Mechanism of stimulatory action of growth hormone on ovarian steroidogenesis in spotted seatrout, *Cynoscion nebulosus*. *General and Comparative Endocrinology.*
- SPRINGER, A.M., C.P. MCROY and T.E. WHITLEDGE. (in press). The paradox of pelagic food webs in the northern Bering Sea: III. Patterns of primary production. *Cont. Shelf Res.*
- HANSELL, D.A., T.E. WHITLEDGE and J.J. GOERING. (in press). Patterns of nitrate utilization and new production over the Bering/Chukchi Shelf. *Cont. Shelf Res.*
- ARAUJO, M., S. CRAIG, A.L. LAWRENCE and C.R. ARNOLD. (in press). Evaluation of fatty acid extraction methodologies for tissues and oils from aquatic animals. *Journal of the World Aquaculture Society.*
- CRAIG, S.R., G.J. HOLT and C.R. ARNOLD. (in press). The effects of enriching live foods with highly unsaturated fatty acids on the growth and fatty acid composition of larval red drum (*Sciaenops ocellatus*) Linnaeus. *Journal of the World Aquaculture Society.*
- GWO, J.-C. and C.R. ARNOLD. (in press). Cryopreservation of Atlantic croaker spermatozoa: Evaluation of morphological changes. *Journal of Experimental Zoology.*
- LEWIS, D.H., W. WENXING and C.R. ARNOLD. (in press). Immunization of red drum (*Sciaenops ocellatus*) with cell culture derived *Amyloodinium ocellatum* dinospores. *Journal of Aquatic Animal Health.*
- KOEPFLER, E.T., R. BENNER and P.A. MONTAGNA. (in press). Variability of sediment porewater DOC in seagrass bed and unvegetated sediments of a southern Texas estuary. *Estuaries.*
- BENNER, R. and M. STROM. (in press). A critical evaluation of the analytical blank associated with DOC measurements by high-temperature catalytic oxidation. *Mar. Chem.*
- BENNER, R. and J.I. HEDGES. (in press). DOC in ultrafiltered isolates from the Amazon River: Comparison of a Shimadzu TOC and a Carlo Erba CHN analyzer. *Mar. Chem.*
- HEDGES, J.I., B.A. BERGAMASCHI and R. BENNER. (in press). Comparative analyses of DOC and DON in natural waters. *Mar. Chem.*
- OPSAHL, S. and R. BENNER. (in press). Decomposition dynamics of senescent blades of the seagrass *Halodule wrightii* Aschers in a subtropical lagoon. *Mar. Ecol. Prog. Series.*
- SUTTLE, C.A. and M.T. COTTRELL. (in press). Production of axenic cultures of *Micromonas pusilla* (Prasinophyceae) using antibiotics. *J. of Phycology.*

Egabrag Wocs

Islanders called him Shorty, and with good reason. If his legs had been any shorter, the muzzle of the large revolver which hung in a holster from his wide belt would have been dragging the ground. In normal times Shorty was the good natured fellow usually available, because he had no regular employment, to fix your screen door or other odd job. All the islanders knew Shorty, and he knew them by name, and most of their life histories. And that was why Shorty was the Harbor Island policia, gendarme, bobby, carabinieri *in charge* at the ferry landing August 5, 1970.

On August 3 the eye of Hurricane Celia had passed right through Port Aransas. While the storm surge had been nothing much—as least as hurricanes go—the winds had been horrendous, with dozens of mini-tornadoes carving paths through town. The next morning Jane and I dodged the debris and ignored the highway closed signs, and made it from Corpus Christi to the ferry landing where the *Lady Lorene*, a P A head boat, was giving free rides across the channel, complicated by running on only one engine and that with no reverse. On foot we toured the town, finding: our sailboat safe at her mooring, while larger boats all around were sunk, laying across walkways, and impaled on pilings; the MSI in fair shape with only the boy's dorm and pier having severe damage; our house missing a roof (the flat roof had sailed off like one huge 1200 square foot sandwich—rafters in the middle, sheetrock below, builtup roofing on top with gravel still on, to land hundreds of yards away, where the South end of the school's track is today).

But it was now August 5, and a ferry was running. We had returned to Corpus to pick up the MSI truck and large whaler, which I had taken off the island *just in case*. The *law* had returned and was organized. Shorty, because he knew everyone in PA, had been deputized, and was at this moment *the man*. He was assisted by a young officer who met each vehicle, turning away many. Jane was in the lead in our Bronco with Hound Dog, and was quickly waved aboard. But, as I followed, the young officer waved me down. I was in the state's vehicle with the state's small boat—both identified as such and clearly marked Port Aransas, and young Matt Dillon said I could not go into Port Aransas (little did he know we had already been there before he himself had made it back) because *I did not have any essential reason for returning to Port Aransas*. Jane and Hound Dog were already aboard, and he began waving others past. I was about to get *really mad* when Shorty came to the rescue. I got a warm feeling as vindication approached; my important status as official representative of the marine science research institute of the flagship educational institution of the Lone Star State was to be revealed; I sat a little taller in the pickup; the *Eyes of Texas Are Upon You*, bluebonnets, Longhorns, remember the Alamo! Shorty gave me a quick glance, then looked up at the young officer and said, "aw, let him on; he's o.k.; *he's married to Vera Fortson's niece*."

—John Thompson

Personnel

Arjun Biddanda arrives February 6 — Bopi and Kavitha Biddanda are the proud parents of a baby boy: Arjun Biddanda, weight 5 lbs. and 3 oz. Mother and baby are doing just fine (no report on Bopi).

Rick Tinnin bags rare trophy — Rick shot a 75 pound hog during a recent South Texas hunting trip and then, on his way back to his pickup truck, noticed an even larger hog in the brush. Rick didn't hit the hog, but he did wound his pickup. He scored a direct hit on a tire. Rick says it makes a great trophy but it is awfully hard to hang his hat on.

Trip Reports & Travel

January 31—February 12 Travel—

- *Bob Jones*, February 2—5, Key Largo, Florida, attend a SECURE meeting advising on the programs of the National Undersea Research Center, University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

- *Terry Whittedge*, February 1—3, Miami, Florida, attend Nutrient Enhanced Coastal Ocean Productivity (NECOP) workshop.

- *Terry Whittedge*, February 4, Houston, as delegate for UTMSI Director, attend meeting of Galveston Bay National Estuary Program, scientific and technical advisory committee.

- *Ed Buskey*, February 1—3, Gloucester Point, Virginia, present seminar *The trophic role of microzooplankton in Texas coastal bays* at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science.

- *Ron Benner*, February 1—3, Miami, Florida, attend planning meeting for the Nutrient Enhanced Coastal Ocean Productivity program.

- *Rick Tinnin*, February 5—7, South Padre Island, to conduct elementary teacher workshop.

- *Curtis Suttle*, February 8—10, Gloucester Point, Virginia, present seminar *Viruses in a coastal system* at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science.

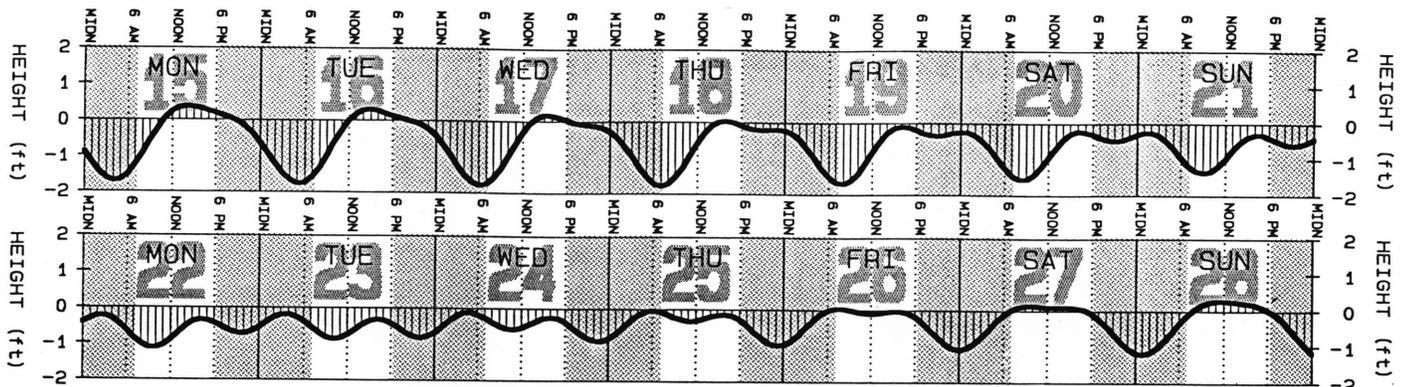
- *Terry Whittedge*, February 9, Houston, attend meeting of the Houston Ship Channel Oversight Committee for the city of Houston and EPA.

Tony's Tidings...

Weather Report—January 25—February 7

| 25 - 31 JANUARY 1993 | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT | SUN | MEAN |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| DATE | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |
| AIR TEMP HIGH | 56.6 | 58.4 | 60.4 | 65.8 | 60.9 | 59.9 | 60.8 | 60.4 |
| AIR TEMP LOW | 46.2 | 39.9 | 46.7 | 53.7 | 49.8 | 45.3 | 48.7 | 47.5 |
| SEA TEMP LOW | 58.7 | — | 58.2 | — | 59.3 | — | 57.3 | 58.9 |
| RAINFALL TOTAL | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.14 | 0.11 | 0 | 0 | 0.25 |
| 01 | | | | | | | | |
| 07 FEBRUARY 1993 | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT | SUN | MEAN |
| DATE | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | |
| AIR TEMP HIGH | 61.8 | 62.9 | 65.1 | 63.3 | 57.3 | 59.9 | 60.9 | 61.6 |
| AIR TEMP LOW | 55.9 | 58.2 | 59.7 | 57.0 | 49.6 | 45.3 | 47.3 | 53.3 |
| SEA TEMP LOW | — | 59.3 | — | 60.1 | — | 58.7 | — | 59.4 |
| RAINFALL TOTAL | 0 | 0.20 | 1.17 | 0 | 0.11 | 0 | 0 | 1.48 |
| —Andi Wickham | | | | | | | | |

Tide Predictions—February 15—28 (For tidal heights at the tide tower, South Jetty, the Aransas Pass. Heights are in feet above or below mean sea level. The shaded area is nighttime. Remember, this is tidal height, not tidal current. Slack water is when the wiggly line crosses the MSL line, not at peaks and valleys, where the tidal current will be a full flood or ebb.)



MSI Herbarium Receives Valuable Algal Collection

The University of Texas Department of Botany recently transferred their entire algal herbarium collection to the UTMSI algal herbarium. The transfer of the collection, which has yet to be thoroughly catalogued by phycologist Ken Dunton and his students, consists of thousands of pressed specimens, some of which date to the mid 1850's. Of particular value are many volumes of *Phycotheca Boreali-Americana*, a bound collection of freshwater and marine algae collated by three turn of the century phycologists: F.S. Collins, I. Holden, and W.A. Setchell between 1895 and 1919. In addition, the collection appears to contain over 4000 specimens donated by Dr. Michael Wynne, an internationally known algal systematist now at the University of Michigan (Mike Wynne was a professor in the Department of Botany and taught summer courses in Port Aransas in the 1970's). The curator of the herbarium in the Department of Botany, Dr. Billie Turner, transferred the collection to Port Aransas following discussions with other faculty in Botany and Ken Dunton concerning the use and maintenance of the collection. In recognition of Dunton's active research with seaweeds and the strong undergraduate and graduate programs that have developed in Port Aransas, it was agreed that the best location for this valuable collection would be in Port Aransas. The transfer of the herbarium is timely, since Ken Dunton is currently teaching a graduate course in marine macrophytes and will offer the undergraduate marine botany course this summer. A thorough inventory of the 14 boxes containing this exciting collection has begun and is likely to continue for the remainder of the year.

—Ken Dunton

Letters to the editor

■ *I have enjoyed the Gazette a lot, especially the issue with the alums list. It has allowed me to find a few people I've lost touch with. I wanted to update my information so I'll be sure to get future issues. I moved from Denver to Houston to Oklahoma where I am now: Geoscience Database Specialist, International Division, Phillips Petroleum Company, 1460 POB, Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74004*

—Thanks, Dr. Roderick J. Harwood

(Roderick J. Harwood, Ph.D., 1980)

■ I've been meaning to send my thanks to the Lazarette Gazette for being on the mailing list. I've really enjoyed keeping up with UTMSI and seeing where all the old timers are now living and what they're doing. Please pass these comments along to the Editor. Your column about Halloween brought back many fond memories of many great parties during my time in Port Aransas (1976-83). Here are a few photos from the past that you may or may not be able to use. The upper left is a 1979 "Awards Party" with the Master of Ceremonies, Neil Smatresk, and his companion "Peanutta". The others are from the famous 1982 Halloween party on the beach. Upper right is Peanut's Personal Services\$ with Dog Ollie dressed up like a prostitute. Lower right are the Tinnin Triplets (when there were just three) and Dick Scalan in his punk Mohawk hairdo. Lower left is Nancy Rabalais in her famous White-Out outfit. Chase used to call me President of the Vigilantes in my capacity as GSA chair, but was always eager for me to call forth the next celebration. My whereabouts, for those who may not know: Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium, 8124 Hwy. 56, Chauvin, LA 70344.

—Nancy Rabalais



The above letter from Nancy Rabalais (Ph.D., 1983) was passed on to the Lazarette Gazette by Dick Scalan. It was Dick's Egabrag Wocs story which prompted Nancy to write. We couldn't put in all the photos, but we are including the all time classic liquid paper photo.

—Editor

"letter" from Rod Jackson— Bill Longley (Ph.D., 1976; who was among those at MSI for the meeting to develop an action plan for the Gulf of Mexico Regional Marine Resource Program) handed me a copy of "The Kuwait Newsletter - Vol.1, No.1" which turns out to be from Martha Jackson and new spouse Rod (Rodney G. Jackson, MA, 1971 & Ph.D., 1975) and is about their recent adventures in Kuwait where Martha has hired on as librarian. Naturally we can't reproduce this seven page missive here (I wish we could—its great) but, we are going to give you a few excerpts and Rod's new mailing address: ■ ...The second day, Rod was informed (unsolicited) that he had a 9:00 am appointment with the head of the Environmental Sciences Dept. for introductions, and a chance to visit with researchers to see what projects they are working on — they assume he will want to "help them during our stay...with compensation, of course! Since Kuwaiti nightlife is NIL, we suspect he will want to do something with his time after we settle in; but he hesitates to commit to anything before he feels he has sampled the possibilities. The most likely activity so far involves working with the Mariculture / Fisheries Division.....we've been treated as though George Bush is our uncle....No. 303 can of refried beans costs about \$1.85 but large table shrimp can be bought for \$1.75 /lb. Address: USIS, American Embassy Kuwait, Unit 6900, Box 12, APO AE 09880.

editorial: MSI and MSI folks belong in PA

Port Aransas is a unique place that most either love or hate—few are neutral about Port A. I count myself among those who love it. Most of my life has been spent living and working in PA. Jane and I were married here and have raised our two children on this island. But, even after 32 years, I am—along with everyone else at MSI—nevertheless considered by some to be an outsider. There is a peculiar attitude or negative mind set toward MSI that is puzzling and, at least to me, inexplicable. MSI was established in 1946, and has the largest payroll on the island, but more than a few think of MSI as of no economic importance and its personnel as *newcomers* and *outsiders*.

In this issue *Egabrag Wocs* has a related story. More recently (about two hurricane seasons ago) I had to combat the same thing. The city now issues passes for return to Port Aransas following a hurricane. The city manager was refusing to reissue them to MSI employees, since they didn't *have any real business* to attend to following a storm. We got the passes reissued; but it was more from my persistence than convincing him it would be reasonable for employees to return and salvage the state's buildings, equipment, and research projects as soon as possible.

On the positive side, I have noticed a growing acceptance of MSI and its people by the *real* old time island families. Most of these folks truly care about Port Aransas—not as a site to build more condos or sell more souvenirs—but as a special place worth preserving. They care about kids and are likely to work with Island youth and rub elbows with the many MSI volunteers. They often share the special concern for our environment which is typical of most MSI people. I'd like to think that this is what PA is really about. *Tourism* is fine, but it is not the one and only. People and institutions not engaged in tourism are not necessarily *newcomers* and should never be *outsiders*.
—John Thompson

Facilities & Equipment

Pier Project — Work on the pier laboratory foundation, ramp, and stairway is now complete, and the contractor has moved in the equipment for driving concrete pilings. The few concrete pilings located to the land side (South) of the jetty have already been driven successfully and work has now begun on the pilings in the channel. Bids were opened for the second phase of the project, the pier instrument building and pier laboratory, and were in excess of the funds allocated. There is good hope that some modifications in design and specifications will allow this portion to be quickly rebid and not unduly delay final completion of the project.

Boat Basin Work — We discovered that the portion of the boat basin bulkhead which is on the corner by the timber walkway (across from the Aransas Pilots) was in danger of being undermined. The water depth near the bulkhead is too great (12 feet) for the bulkhead. MSI personnel are working to fill in and *armor* the area by placing oversize material (the rocks which are screened during processing for concrete gravel) in the area.

Cruise Reports & Boat Operations

Memo from Senior Captain Gibson on Small Boat Operations — The *Lazarette Gazette* reproduces below a memorandum received from Don Gibson. Small boat operators please read. Thanks!

It has been brought to my attention that some operators in the small boat fleet are not following the procedures for boat operators as set forth in the small boat manual. There have been trips run on various small boats with no trip sheets submitted and no entries logged in the log books. There have been authorized trips made but entries were not made in the log books. Also the log book entries have become very brief and often things that were broken, missing, or not working were not listed in the book. Then the next trip operator gets on Mark's case because the boat isn't ready for them. (Can't fix it if he doesn't know it's broke!)

*Trips that are not run on the day scheduled continue to be a problem. Mark has no problem with rolling the scheduled trip sheet a day or two if the boat is not scheduled for use by someone else, but there have been occasions where the approved trip sheet has been rolled, by operator, to the following week. **These should be canceled, not rolled, and a new trip sheet with the proper date submitted.** Small boat trip sheets are cleared weekly, and if the operator rolls his sheet Mark doesn't have one so he doesn't know it's scheduled. **When this happens the boats don't get serviced or refueled, and it causes problems for the next user.***

*We should also remind users that **all gasoline purchases are to be entered in the log book.** Credit card purchases for boats on field trips have not been logged in the log book on numerous occasions, and they should be entered.* —Don Gibson

Small boat use for January —

JET-AIR BOAT — Terry Whitledge, 1 day; Scott Holt, 1 day.

KLEBERG — Paul Montagna, 4 days; Rick Tinnin, 1 day; Terry Whitledge, 1 day.

BIG WHALER — Ken Dunton, 2 days.

JEFFERSON — Ken Dunton, 2 days.

R/V LONGHORN — cruise #93-596 The *R/V LONGHORN* was out on Tuesday, February 9, for a group from UT's ARL (Applied Research Laboratory) under the leadership of Dr. Lewis Thompson. After working dockside Monday, the group took the *R/V LONGHORN* offshore to find some deeper water to test a new ROV (remote operating vehicle—unmanned submarine). The ROV is scheduled to do its chores later on under the Arctic ice.

Editor's Note

We decided to limit our coverage of Bob's resignation to the artwork and reproducing his memo to the staff. There will be plenty of time to get teary-eyed and nostalgic when departure time comes a bit closer. We do have to be sure, before he departs, that he keeps his long-standing promise to write a story for the *LazGaz* about the time he gipped his foot, although this may not be quite number one on his list of priorities. We suspended our rule against fuzzy photos to include the Chase Van Baalen funny hat picture a few issues back and now again for the classic white-out photo of Nancy Rabalais. Lynn Amos has been working with the high tech toys in the image analysis lab, and we will probably have the means to provide better quality photo reproduction soon. Meanwhile, if anyone is anxious to see the picture of Dick Scalan in a Mohawk, I have a fuzzy photo copy available in my office. Concerning the section on travel, maybe you noticed we never have anyone going to Austin; the reason is that these are so routine for MSI personnel that we decided just to leave them all out. Another guideline is that we don't list a trip until it is completed. Thanks for help with this issue of the *LazGaz* to Patty Baker, Lynn Amos, JoAnn Page, Linda Yates, Kathy Quade, Ken Dunton, Tony Amos, Andi Wickham.

—John Thompson