

The Lazarette Gazette

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NEWS FROM

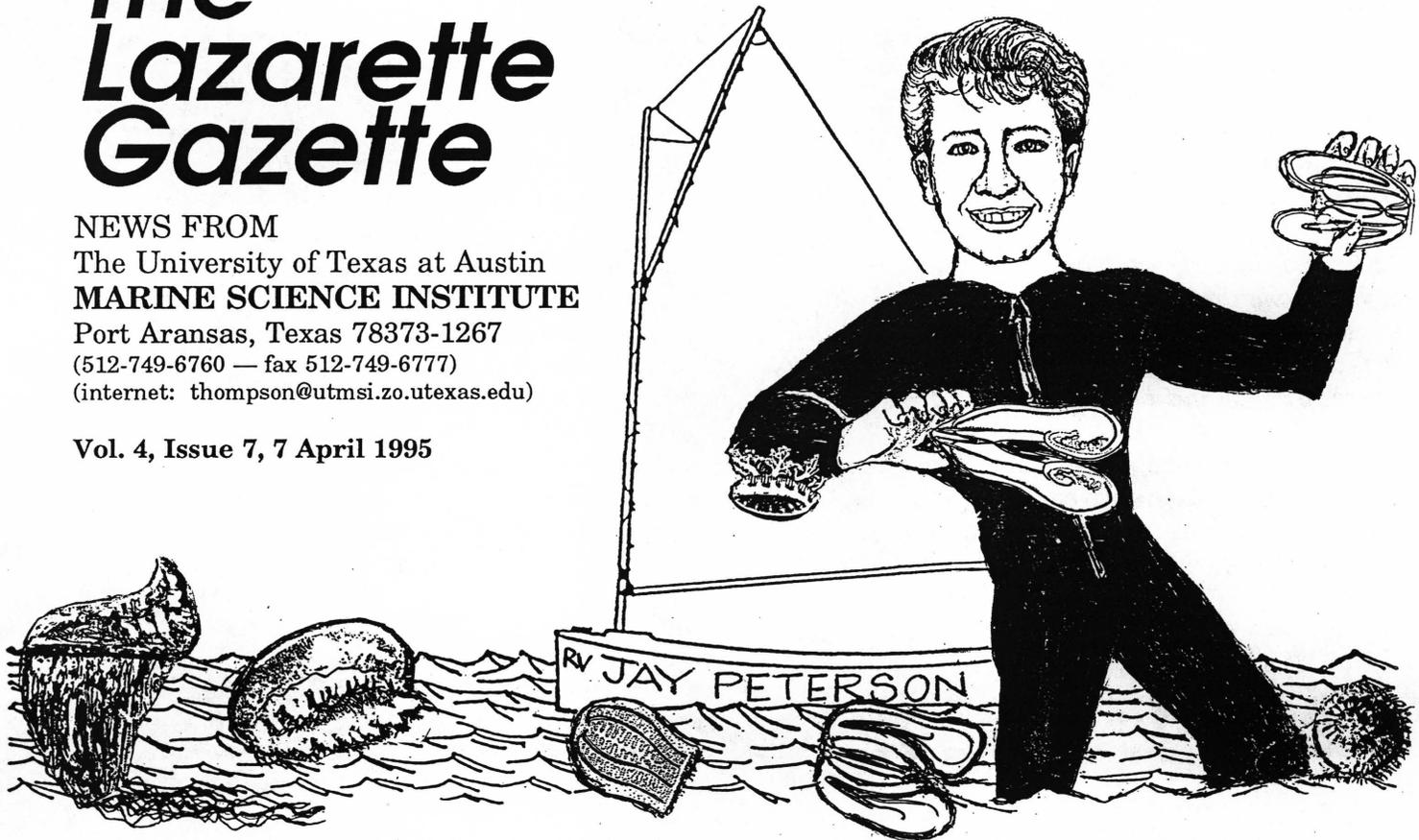
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Students

Jay Peterson soon to join ranks of UT Marine Science graduates — By next month Jay Peterson plans to finish up his thesis and depart MSI and Port Aransas. The purpose of Jay's research work has been to quantify the ability of larval ctenophores to utilize micro-zooplankton at high concentrations typical of Texas bays during times of peak production. Computer-aided image and motion analysis were used to analyze ctenophore swimming behavior in the presence and absence of food, and growth and grazing rates were calculated for a range of food concentrations to determine peak grazing rates. His thesis title is: *Behavior of the ctenophore Mnemiopsis mccradyi in a patch food environment.*

Jay was born and raised in Madison, Wisconsin and did his undergraduate work at the University of Wisconsin. His interest in marine science came from many years of learning about marine life while maintaining salt-water aquaria as a hobby. His interest in ctenophores and other zooplankton came from a summer at the University of Oregon Institute of Marine Biology where he took classes on marine invertebrates.

Jay: I have thoroughly enjoyed my stay here in Port A (the ocean view is a little better than we get up North). Living in Port A gave me a great appreciation for the grass, forests and rolling hills I left to come down here though. I like the relaxing life of living in a small town, and enjoyed the diversity of things to do here in Port A.....soccer, volleyball, kayaking, fishing, and just walking down the beach looking at the diversity of animals, vegetables and minerals which wash up on shore. Working here at MSI under Dr. Buskey gave me the opportunity to go on several interesting research trips as well; from our trip to Karachi, Pakistan to participate in a 10-day cruise on the Arabian Sea, to several trips to Belize to study copepods. There is a good group of students, faculty and staff to interact with here at the Institute and I hope this place continues to grow and be recognized.

After finishing his thesis, Jay would like to gain further research experience in marine science and then start a Ph.D. program in a year or two. He says that if no immediate jobs turn up he may spend time in Wisconsin soaking in freshwater and lying in the shade of a hardwood forest....*without having to worry about fire-ants or stickerburrs.*

Egabrag Wocs

BOB JONES REMEMBERS HERMAN MOORE — *(Editor's note: Bob Jones sent the following story to the LazGaz in response to the editor's many pleas to him and others for Herman Moore stories. Robert S. Jones, Director of the Marine Science Institute from 1985 to 1993, was a student at MSI over 30 years earlier.)*

What do I remember about Herman Moore?

Ok, I'll take a shot at that. Captain Moore was short, of medium build, had a grin like Gabby Hays, with his choppers out, and laughed like Walter Brennan. When he laughed, he would actually say "hee hee!" In fact, Herman looked like a cross between those two actors. He talked like Gabby and fit Walter's character in the old John Wayne classic, *Rio Bravo*. Fact is, when I would see John Thompson and Herman coming across the parking lot together, I could not help but smile and think of the good Marshall Chance and his Deputy, *Stumpy*, patrolling the streets of Rio Bravo.

Herman always wore the white bib overalls of a house painter and a gimme cap. The uniform never varied, and he looked like anything but a professional boat captain. Herman not only ran the various small boats of the UTMSI fleet, but was also a carpenter, one of the best wood butchers I have ever seen. His corners, *didn't let no light thru*. His speech was South Texas to the max. I always enjoyed his stories about hurricanes and their effect on boats like the *R/V VAGABOND*. *Ya should'a seen what that hairykin done to the old Vagybond.*

Captain Moore's right hand was permanently curved and could hold, with equal dexterity, the old-fashioned spoked wheel of the good ship *LORENE*, a coffee cup, hammer, or paintbrush, but, most commonly, the coffee cup. The fingers of his left hand were stained yellow with nicotine and permanently shaped to hold his inevitable cigarette.

Going to sea with Herman (circa 1962-63) was literally a trip. First of all, the old *LORENE* must have started life as one of those antique, round bottom bath tubs with the lion's feet on the corners. Some naval architect just amputated the feet and built a wheel house, and cabin on the thing. As an afterthought, a mast, boom, and some other hardware was added aloft for the primary purpose of providing a little snap to *LORENE's* roll in the Gulf. The other interesting aspect of these cruises was that only Herman and I were aboard and were taking samples in the open Gulf between midnight and about 4:00 a.m. Picture a pitch black night with big dark swells swishing by, the boat rolling like a bitch, the aft deck awash, and one guy in rubber boots running around like a one-armed paper hanger trying to manage a one meter plankton net, wire winch, bathythermograph (yeah, it was a long time ago), and every other damned thing imaginable under a single flood light. It was cold too, and Herman stayed in the warm, smoke-filled wheel house and plodded along. Well, why not! He was the Captain. I had a cheater bar and would bang on the winch when I wanted to stop for a sample, then bang it again when it was time to move on.

I always wondered what would happen if I fell overboard. Would Herman end up in Isla Mujeres while waiting for me to bang on the winch again? I asked him one time if he ever looked back aft where I was working. He said, *Shore, once't in a while.* I said, *You know Herman, I could get washed overboard and Sally might hold it against you for coming back without me. Doubt it,* he said. *Any woman who'd make a man's san'wedgeds and leave the cellophane on the boloney (sic) probably wouldn't miss ya.* (That being one of B. J. Copeland's favorite stories.)

The smoke in the wheel house was indeed Herman's trademark (along with the bib overalls) and he took great delight in its effect on young students. He was sorely disappointed when I did not react as others had. What he didn't know was that a crusty old Navy Chief broke me in as a new Ensign long before Herman got his hands on me. I had just come on watch in a gale off Cape Hatteras and was trying to stay cool during the 15 to 20 degree rolls. As I stepped on the bridge, the old Chief said, *Mr. Jones you better look at this radar contact.* I walked over and stuck my nose and face firmly in the radar boot and inhaled a snoot full of cigar smoke that the Chief had so thoughtfully deposited there for my benefit. I spent the rest of my watch on the leeward bridge wing, hanging over the side. I found it difficult to see through my binoculars until I realized that someone had barfed in the eye cups.

Back to Captain Moore. I always suspected that Herman would doze at the wheel while waiting for my signals. I once conducted an experiment and hammered on the winch between stations, the throttle came back so I could deploy the net. But this time, I waited only about 10 seconds and hammered on it again. Away we went to the next station, without missing a beat, or getting the net over.

Concern about falling overboard was one thing, but navigation was another. One night, I heard the loud hoot of an electric airhorn and looked up as *LORENE* cleared a towering gas production platform with about ten feet to spare. Think that was funny? Hah! On another night we were headed back to the barn and I was washing down the net and other gear on the aft deck under that flood lamp. I am not sure I remember, correctly, the range light pattern on the channel through the Port Aransas jetties, but I believe it was green on green in mid channel and red on red (or amber on amber) left and right of center. I looked up once from my hosing operation and saw green on green. The next look was red on red, *Well he is drifting a little left,* I says to myself. *Probably wants to go down along the inside of the South Jetty to avoid the wind.* Ten minutes later I looked up and could see waves breaking on the end of the South Jetty dead ahead. Hoses were going off everywhere as I scrambled forward to hold reveille on my distracted partner. We careened back into the channel and nothing further was said. Back at the dock, I was loading up the samples down in the *lab*. The wheelhouse door slid open and Herman peered down at me. He gave me a smile and said, *Thanks,* and the hatch slid shut again, leaving behind a small cloud of cigarette smoke.

I close with a day when we were picking up the dropnet with the *LORENE* in Corpus Christi Bay over by the Naval Air Station. Captain Moore could be sharp as a tack when it was needed. He must have had some kind of premonition. I don't know if John Thompson heard it or not, but Herman yelled *watch out* just as the support wire parted between the boom and mast. That iron boom fell like a guillotine and nearly decapitated old JT, but he got safely overboard, possibly as a result of Herman's warning. On the way back to Port Aransas, I was in the wheelhouse with Herman. He looked over at me, gave me a Gabby Hays grin, a Walter Brennan *hee hee!* and said, *Never seen old John move that fast afore.*

Yeah! I remember Herman, and fondly too.

—Robert S. Jones

Seminars

■ Dr. David A. Brooks, Professor and Head, Department of Oceanography, Texas A & M University, College Station, *Modeling coastal shelf seas: Some examples from TAMU*, Friday, April 7, 3:45 p.m. in the seminar room.

synopsis: *The world's shelf and coastal oceans affect people's lives in many ways, both good and bad. Because of practical interests and concerns, it is becoming more important to understand how physical factors such as tides, winds and river runoff influence the water motion in coastal bays and estuaries, in marginal seas, and over the continental shelf. In recent years, computer technology has made it possible to apply hydrodynamical circulation models to such regions, with increasingly realistic results. — I will provide a "sampler" from shelf and coastal modeling projects presently underway at Texas A & M. The talk will present examples from a broad shelf with small tides (Texas), a marginal sea with large tides (Gulf of Maine/Bay of Fundy), a macrotidal estuary (Cobscook Bay), and the Kara Sea of the Arctic Ocean.*

—Dave Brooks

■ Rainer Amon, Graduate Student, Department of Marine Science, The University of Texas at Austin, *Microbial and photochemical degradation of dissolved organic matter in aquatic ecosystems*, Monday, April 10, 3:45 p.m. in the auditorium.

Facilities & Equipment

FAML roofing project — Easley Roofing Company of Victoria has recently completed reroofing buildings at the Fisheries and Mariculture Laboratory campus. The project cost \$98,600 and the University's supervising engineer was Pat Sullivan of Physical Plant's Department of Architectural and Engineering Services.

Research shop moves — MSI's research shop has moved, but not far. The research shop has moved across the hallway to an area of the same size which was formerly occupied primarily by two large aquaria display tanks (all the saltwater aquaria displays will now be in the Visitors Center) and storage. The area vacated will be the location for Marine Technical Services. As such, it will continue to be used as a staging area for field trips and the *R/V LONGHORN*. The to-be-hired Marine Technician will hang his/her hat in this area and shared-use shipboard scientific equipment will be stored and serviced there. It is also planned that the new Marine Technician will utilize the research shop, at the same time being assigned the duty of improving, maintaining, and overseeing research shop use.

Irish Pennants

ELUSIVE APPARITIONS SIGHTINGS SEPTEMBER THROUGH MARCH — 1995*

<i>Apparition</i>	<i>Sep</i>	<i>Oct</i>	<i>Nov</i>	<i>Dec</i>	<i>Jan</i>	<i>Feb</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
Abominable Snowman (<i>Yeti</i>)	0	0	1	0	3	1	0	5
Bigfoot (<i>Sasquatch</i>)	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	3
Elvis Presley	1	3	1	2	3	2	4	16
Loch Ness Monster	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	4
MSI Scientist X	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
Rosa Lopez	2	3	2	1	3	3	1	15

*as reported to the LazGaz by МЫ НЕ ЗНАЕМ

Personnel

Steven Wilhelm — Steven has recently arrived at MSI to work in Curtis Suttle's laboratory. He has most recently been a research associate and instructor of aquatic ecology at the University of Western Ontario (London, Canada). He obtained his BSc. from UWO in Honours Genetics and his Ph.D. in 1994 is also from the University of Western Ontario in the Department of Plant Sciences with Professor Charlie Trick. The title of his thesis is *Ecological Aspects of Iron Acquisition in Synechococcus spp. (Cyanophyceae)*. His interests are in the factors that regulate primary productivity and carbon flux in aquatic systems, particularly interests in trace metals and microbial communities. In his work as a Postdoctoral Fellow with Curtis Suttle, he is examining the fate(s) of viral particles in marine systems, as well as the regulation of membrane associated viral receptor sites on host cells.

Markus Weinbauer — Markus came to MSI in September, 1994 to work in Curtis Suttle's lab on the paradox that the abundance of infectious viruses can be high in surface waters, although the decay of viral particles and infectivity is rapid. The DNA of some viruses is in a dormant stage in the host genome (these cells are called lysogenic cells). The formation of mature viral particles (viral DNA coated by a protein capsid) can be "induced" by a couple of factors including ultraviolet radiation. It was assumed that this lysogenic virus production induced by ultraviolet B radiation could be an explanation for the high abundance of infectious viruses. However, he has found that lysogenic virus production is not very important and only a few percent of the bacteria are lysogenic. Markus is continuing to try to resolve the paradox. Markus obtained his Master's degree in 1991 at the University of Vienna (Austria), where he was working on the morphology and population dynamics of gorgonian corals (field work in Corsica). He switched to microbial ecology and obtained his Ph.D. in 1994 (Thesis: *Role of planktonic viruses in the northern Adriatic Sea*). Markus: *A lot of people are astonished when they learn that there is marine science going on in Austria. However, Austria is leading in Marine Sciences, when the number of marine scientists (about 30, I think) per mile of shoreline (zero) is used. This number is infinity for Austria!*

IN MEMORIAM — PROFESSOR JAMES ROBERT MOORE

Dr. James Robert Moore died March 25, 1995 at his home in Austin after a lengthy illness. Dr. Moore first came to The University of Texas in 1979 as Director of the Marine Science Institute and Chairman of The Department of Marine Science (then Marine Studies). At that time the Marine Science Institute consisted of both the Port Aransas Marine Laboratory and the Galveston Geophysics Laboratory, with Dr. Moore and the Marine Science Institute administrative office located in Austin. Dr. Moore resigned the positions of Director and Chairman in August of 1982, continuing as a Professor in the Department of Marine Science. Dr. Moore was born in Temple, Texas and served in the U. S. Navy during World War II in anti-submarine warfare in the North Atlantic. He received his MA from Harvard in Marine Geology and his Ph.D. from the University of Wales in Geology-Oceanography. His research in underwater mineral resources and exploration took him to the waters of the Bering Sea, Great Lakes, Irish Sea, Gulf of Mexico, Southeast Atlantic and the Central Pacific. Immediately before coming to The University of Texas, he was Director of the Institute of Marine Science of the University of Alaska and before that was for many years a Professor of Geological Oceanography at the University of Wisconsin. At The University of Texas, Professor Moore taught undergraduate courses in Marine Mining, Exploration and Exploitation of the Sea, Seafloor Mining, Marine Geology, and graduate courses in Marine Geology and Ocean Mining. He initiated the MSI Marine Minerals Program in the summer of 1980. His research most recently focused on developing exploration guidelines for locating and evaluating commercial-size marine placers of gold, platinum group metals and rare earths.

Recruiting for Marine Technician — Recruiting is underway for a Marine Technician. This is a new position to provide marine technical services to MSI's *R/V LONGHORN*. The position requires high school graduation or GED (associate degree in marine technology/instrumentation or bachelor's degree in marine science preferred); four years of experience in maintenance and repair or in operation of scientific equipment and instrumentation used aboard research vessels (shipboard experience as a marine technician preferred); experience with shipboard computers, CTD, rosette samplers, salinometers, xbts, box corers, trawls and plankton nets. The position involves going to sea aboard the *R/V LONGHORN* on all voyages.

Tony's Tidings...

Weather Report for March 20 — April 2

20 - 26 MAR 1995	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MEAN
DATE	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
AIR TEMP . . . HIGH	72.3	--	73.5	74.6	75.9	75.5	74.8	74.4
AIR TEMP . . . LOW	65.8	--	66.0	66.0	67.4	67.2	69.6	67.0
SEA TEMP . . . LOW	67.6	--	--	65.6	--	67.6	--	66.9
RAINFALL TOTAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<hr/>								
27 MAR-2 APR 1995	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MEAN
DATE	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	
AIR TEMP . . . HIGH	71.7	69.6	63.6	63.6	67.2	68.0	71.9	67.9
AIR TEMP . . . LOW	64.5	57.0	53.9	53.0	59.7	58.6	61.8	58.4
SEA TEMP . . . LOW	69.5	--	66.5	--	64.6	--	65.2	66.5
RAINFALL TOTAL	0.04	0.28	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.44

—Chuck Rowe

Letters to the editor

■ *Kudos to Tony and Rick T. on their video which aired the other day on local access TV. I got considerable "next to greatness" brownie points from my kids (who watched it with me) for knowing the two "movie stars". Nice show. Good points. Congratulations to those two for doing such a good job. Sorry to hear that Don Gibson was leaving. Good guy. Good Captain. He'll be missed.*

(Joe Morgan, M.A. 1975)

Trip Reports & Travel

Travel ending between March 25 and April 7

- ✦ *Rick Tinnin*, March 21—25, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to attend National Science Teachers Association conference and present paper, *Disappearing drops*. To attend National Marine Educators mid-year board meeting as board member.
- ✦ *Feng Chen*, March 21—25, Washington, D.C., present paper *DNA polymerase reflects genomic relatedness among algal viruses* at the General Meeting of American Society of Microbiology.
- ✦ *Ken Dunton*, March 22—26, Townsend, Tennessee, to attend OAI/ARCSS Biological Initiative in the Arctic: Shelf-Basin Interactions Workshop.
- ✦ *Terry Whitley*, March 22—26, Townsend, Tennessee, to co-chair National Science Foundation Workshop: Biological Initiative in the Arctic: Shelf-Basin Interactions.
- ✦ *James Kaldy*, March 23—25, Lafayette, Louisiana, to attend Estuarine Research Society Meeting and present paper, *Photosynthetic parameters and carbohydrate content in Thalassia testudinum seedlings from South Texas*.
- ✦ *Kun-Seop Lee*, March 23—25, Lafayette, Louisiana, to attend Estuarine Research Meeting and present paper, *Effects of insitu light reduction on maintenance, growth and the carbon budget of Thalassia testudinum in Corpus Christi Bay, Texas*.
- ✦ *James Kaldy*, March 26—27, Port Isabel, Texas, to participate in research in Lower Laguna Madre.
- ✦ *Ron Benner*, March 26—April 2, Anacortes, Washington, to conduct field work at the Shannon Point Marine Science Center.
- ✦ *Terry Whitley*, March 27—29, Irvine, California, to attend Ocean Studies Board of National Research Council meeting on Arctic Research Vessels.
- ✦ *Terry Whitley*, March 29—30, Corpus Christi, Texas, to attend Gulf of Mexico Symposium, present paper, *The biological effects of freshwater releases in Nueces Bay*.
- ✦ *Rick Tinnin*, March 29—April 1, Corpus Christi, Texas, to attend Gulf of Mexico Symposium, make three presentations, lead jetty field trip.
- ✦ *Ed Buskey*, March 29—April 1, Corpus Christi, Texas, to attend Gulf of Mexico Symposium, present paper, *Can zooplankton grazers be used as a biological control agent for brown tide?*

Attaboys

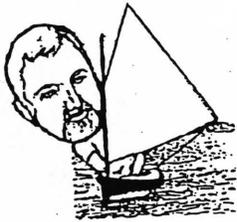
■ The Physical Plant crew did a splendid job on the remodeling of the Fiscal Office receiving section. We have already told everyone involved how pleased we are with the results they achieved, but want to make it a matter of official record.

John Shaw, Mike Horn, Chuck Pearson, Ollie Bandy, Veril Barr, John Garlington (and doubtless others we did not see) gave a nice demonstration of how to work together: they were efficient, skillful, quick, and good-humored. As the project had to be carried out virtually right in the midst of our uninterrupted paper-pushing activities, we were able to watch it all happen: planning & pondering, pushing & pulling, planing & pounding, piping & powering, plastering & painting!

We love the result!

(To John Thompson from Lynn Amos)

Editor's Note



This was issue number seven of Volume IV. Eagle-eyed readers may have noticed that the last issue was erroneously numbered *five* (because the previous issue was already number five). Which reminds me about the e-mail letter from Joe Morgan. I left out the part Joe sent me which forwarded a really terrific and funny story for the *LazGaz* about some folks in Oregon blowing up a whale with dynamite—a story we have already run in *LazGaz*. I completely omitted that part from Joe's letter as I didn't want to embarrass Joe by letting everyone know about his mistake. Especially since Joe continues being very helpful to our marine operations by aiding us with his expert advice on marine electronics and purchasing contacts. E-mail letters to the *LazGaz* are becoming more frequent. I hope that those here at MSI will also utilize e-mail to send news items for the *LazGaz*. Thanks to Bob Jones for a terrific *Herman Moore* story. Following the great *Herman* story last issue from Neal Armstrong, we are really getting a good picture of MSI's first Boat Captain. We still need to hear from some more people on Herman. And it is about time for some *Elgie Wingfield* (the next MSI Boat Captain) stories. The folks who only date back 20 to 25 years can contribute on this one. Thanks for contributions and help with this issue of the *LazGaz* to Steven Wilhelm, Markus Weinbauer, Jay Peterson, Joe Morgan, Linda Yates, Chuck Rowe, Tony Amos, Lynn Amos, JoAnn Page, Kathy Quade, and Patty Baker.

—John Thompson