

IN THE WAKE OF THE QUEST SPRING 2008



Spring is here and all of us at Quest Marine Services are looking forward to another season of science and engineering, as well as continuing work on our own archeological and ocean exploration projects.

A lot has taken place since our last communication and with this newsletter we would like to tell you a bit about what has been happening at Quest Marine Services lately.

SHIPYARD NEWS

The R/V Quest underwent some extensive shipyard work last fall and has emerged a more capable research vessel as a result. Some of the work included the installation of new and larger windows in the pilothouse and a complete paint job of the hull and deckhouse. All of the vessel's safety equipment has been upgraded and serviced. A new stainless steel spreader bar designed for the recovery of small to mid sized AUV's was fabricated at Quest Marine's maintenance facility in Fairhaven.

The most important upgrade however were changes made to the vessel's electrical system. Over the past year or two it had become apparent that the electrical load requirements of our clients was increasing. With that in mind we began the search for a ship's service

diesel generator that would meet the electrical load requirements of our clients and at the same time provide the clean AC power that today's modern scientific equipment requires. The generator we finally decided on was a Westerbeke 5.5 KW electronically controlled diesel generator. The new Westerbeke represents the latest in generator technology. Power output is nearly sine wave, which was previously not possible before the advent of electronically controlled diesel engines. Noise abatement is excellent; the generator is equipped with both isolation mounts and a water-silenced muffler, which reduce both structure and airborne noise dramatically. The new generator and the pure sine wave inverter can be run simultaneously providing a total of 8.5 KW of clean AC power to meet all of our clients needs.



WEB SITE

In 2007 we launched a brand new web site for Quest Marine Services, www.questmarineservices.com . With the help of our friend and web master Ethan Gordon of Gordon Multimedia, we put together a web site that accurately depicts all of what we do and presents the information in a fresh and exciting manner. New information that can be found on the site includes vessel specifications, including offsets for all instrument mounts aboard the R/V quest.

We are very excited about the addition of the Ocean Exploration section of the website, something the old site did not have. With the addition of the Ocean Exploration section we are able to introduce the public to some of the archeological and exploration projects we have been working on. As these projects evolve, this section will be updated. The

image gallery will also be updated frequently. We invite you to visit our new web site today, or use it as a reference for information regarding our services.

TRAINING

Over the winter Quest Marine Services personnel attended maritime professional training sessions at MITAGS, the Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies in Linthicum Maryland. www.mitags.org Courses of study included; Advanced Ship handling and Simulator Training, Bridge Resource Management and Maritime Business Strategies.

RECENT PROJECTS



Quest Marine has been busy providing support for our regular clients including engineering testing and demo cruises for Benthos of North Falmouth MA and Farsounder of Warwick RI, as well as survey work for Atlantic Frost Seafood's. We have also been assisting SPT Offshore LLC / Northeast Gateway LNG in conjunction with Cornell University with the placement and maintenance of moored and bottom mounted acoustic sensors in Massachusetts Bay. Last summer saw the completion of a large project involving the State of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries and Applied Signal Technology of San Diego CA, to develop a synthetic aperture side scan sonar integrated with a MacArtney Focus II towed vehicle.

OCEAN EXPLORATION



The past year or so has been a busy one filled with some exciting discoveries and progress made on some of our long term projects. As we write this our exploration field season is just beginning.

Progress was made on our North American project in 2007. This year we plan to continue our work at the wreck site on the edge of the continental shelf. The long-term goals on the North American project are to gain enough still photographs and video images to enable us to produce a documentary film about the ships history and its current state on the sea floor. A great deal of interest in the ship has been generated recently particularly in the Great Lakes region. As such we have heard from a number of former crewmembers as well as former passengers. All are very interested in our project.

An interesting discovery was made last year while working with our partners in exploration, Northern Atlantic Dive Expeditions Inc. The location and initial exploration dives on a wreck believed to be the schooner barge Yemassee.

The Yemassee was originally built as the wooden steamship Santo Domingo for the Clyde Line, in Philadelphia in 1879. In 1907 the ship was converted to a schooner barge. While on a voyage from Philadelphia to Boston with a cargo of 2000 tons of coal, the Yemassee sank east of Boston on the night of December 29th 1916, in 250' of water. The ship remained hidden for 91 years, until our dive team touched down on the bow in July of last year.



MOTN / WHOI EVENT

The Marine and Oceanographic Technology Network, MOTN will be holding the annual meeting and dinner event on Tuesday May 27, 2008. This year's event will be held at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution's Quissett Campus, on the 5th floor of the Clark Conference Room and Foyer. Our guest speaker this year will be Dr. Susan Avery. Dr. Avery officially took the office of director of WHOI on February 4th 2008. An atmospheric physicist, Dr. Avery comes to WHOI from the University of Colorado at Boulder, where she was the interim dean of the graduate school and vice chancellor for research.

We are very excited to have Dr. Avery as our guest speaker at this year's annual meeting and dinner. Everyone is welcome to attend, members and nonmembers alike. For reservations and information contact MOTN Vice President Eric Takakjian at info@questmarineservices.com or visit the MOTN home page at www.motn.org



Success of any project is directly dependent on the dedication, commitment and professionalism of all concerned. With that in mind we would like to take this opportunity to thank our loyal clients for their support and our dedicated crewmembers for their professionalism and dedication to the job.

All of us a Quest Marine Services look forward to working with you on your next project!