From the Bridge

Happy Belated New Year to all. I hope the beginning to your New Year was an good adventure.

We are now back to all our usual activities and busy lives. This economic climate has created new challenges at work and home for us all. However, as library and cartographic folk, we are very elastic! We stretch and bend in many ways and get things done.

The preparations for our Annual Meeting in Portland, Maine are underway. I encourage every member and all interested parties to attend. The workshop on scanning is a new venture for NEMO. It should be both fun and informative. We hope that we can continue to offer this type of programming at meetings in the future.

Let’s survive the Winter and I look forward to seeing everyone in Portland in early June.

Lucinda M. Hall
Captain NEMO

Advance Announcement

North East Map Organization
24th Annual Meeting
June 3-4, 2010
Osher Map Library
and Smith Center for Cartographic Education
University of Southern Maine, Portland

Old Maps and New Technologies

NEMO is returning to Maine! Details to follow. Put this on your calendar. The Osher website is: http://www.usm.maine.edu/maps/

The Program Team is hard at work on planning. The theme will be on the melding of old and new, such as the use of historical maps with GIS. The planners also invite other speakers with topics not associated with this theme. The Team is also considering a hands-on workshop on the morning of June 3.

Meeting registration form, program, and directions will be published in the next issue. This will also be on the NEMO website: http://libweb.lib.buffalo.edu/nemo/meetings/nemo2010.html in March.

If you have ideas for presenters, or if you wish to make a presentation, contact Captain-Elect, Thelma Thompson, thelma.thompson@unh.edu.
Discussion of the State of the Organization and Plans for Next Year’s Meeting

The primary concerns raised were the membership and cost of and attendance at the meeting. Specific suggestions follow.

To increase membership and attendance at annual meeting:
- Get information out early.
- Continue use of NEMO website as it is visited often.
- Promote through other map organizations.
- Make personal contacts to spread by word of mouth; have something tangible to hand to prospects – it can be a simple business card or postcard.
- Contact local historical societies in the area of the meeting.
- Include a compelling and/or fun field trip.
- Consider re-instituting the map contest to appeal to students.
- Focus on a theme.
- Include half-day practical workshop.
- Have recipient of proposed small-institution grant return following year to report on project.

To lower cost of annual meeting:
- Seek a venue with student housing available and/or hold in an area where hotels are less expensive.
- Better promote student subsidy.
- Continue to seek sponsors, e.g. TerraGo.
- Find a location where a potluck would be feasible (we determined a restaurant is usually not a cheaper alternative to university food service catering and is less flexible).

Thelma Thompson conveyed the invitation by Yolanda Theunissen of the Osher Map Library and Smith Center for Cartographic Education at the University of Southern Maine to meet there in 2010. Yolanda sent copies of a brochure showing Osher’s renovated space. Dick Gelpke moved and the group agreed to accept Yolanda’s invitation. Paige Gibbs is willing to continue as liaison for facilities and logistics and will work with Yolanda. The program committee membership was finalized after election of officers.

Some preliminary meeting decisions and suggestions include:
- A decision to make the theme use of historic maps with GIS or related technology. Sanborn insurance maps are one possible example.
- Perhaps USM could discuss teaching with GIS.
- We will organize a Thursday morning workshop related to this theme, most likely digitization of maps with special attention to needs of smaller institutions.
- It is possible that DeLorme or TerraGo might be willing to be meeting sponsors.
- In addition to touring Osher’s new facilities, we might visit Maine Historical Society’s newly renovated building.
- If facilities are available, we will meet the first Thursday and Friday of June.

Election of Officers and Determination of Volunteers for Program Committee

Heather Hoffman agreed to serve for an additional term as Treasurer, and was elected.

Lucinda Hall will become Captain at the conclusion of this meeting.

Thelma Thompson volunteered to serve as Captain-Elect if another member were willing to act as Secretary. Anne Graham was elected as Secretary and Thelma Thompson as Captain-Elect.

The 2010 Program Committee will be chaired by Thelma Thompson with other members including Lucinda Hall, Anne Graham, Beverly Presley, David Bertuca, Ronald Grim, and Dick Gelpke.

Old Business

Small Project Grant Proposal

At the 2009 meeting several volunteers agreed to work on a proposal for NEMO to fund small non-profit organizations planning to digitize maps in their collections (or K-12 schools who want to work with these organizations on such projects). NEMO’s goal is to assist those with limited resources and expertise to create better projects that adhere more closely to digitization best practices. Thelma Thompson and David Bertuca presented draft documents outlining the grant program application procedure and evaluation criteria.

Heather Hoffman gave an informal Treasurer’s report indicating that NEMO has about $3000.00, which would enable us to consider a larger grant. Dick Gelpke moved and the membership approved that NEMO proceed with the grant program, stipulating that the grant amount be $500 from NEMO with a $250 matching requirement that could be fulfilled by cash or in kind match. Many other improvements were suggested and will be incorporated into new drafts which will be distributed electronically by David for further comment. David will compile the suggestions. Details of the grant program will be finalized through email.

Thelma will work with Eleta Exline, Digital Collections Librarian at the University of New Hampshire, to gather information on digitization suitable for small organizations. This will be posted at the NEMO website.

Heather Hoffman volunteered to compile a list of organizations to which we will publicize the grant once our documents are finalized.

Volunteers to serve on a committee to distribute grant information and evaluate applications should contact Thelma or David.

CUAC Report

Anne Graham attended the Cartographic Users Advisory Council meeting representing NEMO. The meeting was held April 23-24, 2009. Anne reviewed CUAC’s member organizations and its role in working with federal agencies which create or distribute cartographic materials. Agency reports will be available later this summer.
Anne announced that CUAC is interested in finding partners for organizing another national mapping meeting in 2010. The survey of members of various map organizations will be available soon.

Pete Reehling, one of the ALA-MAGERT CUAC representatives, is interested in meeting with CUAC members during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Boston, January 15-19, 2010. Contact Anne if interested.

Anne was elected to another three year term as one of NEMO's representatives. Thelma Thompson indicated that her term as second representative will be up next year and other NEMO members should consider volunteering for this interesting position.

Report on NEMO Newsletter and Website

David Bertuca reported that he is always looking for newsletter content. Examples include summaries of talks given at this annual meeting, interesting web links, reviews of new publications, news of individual members and the like. The next newsletter will be out in July.

The NEMO website continues to lead to a lot of inquiries about NEMO, but not a lot of new memberships. David encouraged those present to submit links to their websites or other sites that would be of interest.

New Business

Osher Map Library News

Thelma conveyed a message from Yolanda Theunissen inviting everyone to Osher's grand opening celebration on October 15-19, 2009. There will be a reception and keynote address, a conference organized by Mathew Edney, Faculty Scholar at Osher Map Library, and various other events.

Yolanda also sent a printout of the panels of an exhibit which Osher will make available to any other institution for the cost of shipping. It is entitled “Mapping the Republic: Conflicting Concepts of Territory and Character of the U.S.A., 1790-1900.” It consists of 21 large panels of map reproductions and text and can also be seen on the Osher website. Anyone interested in borrowing a copy of the printout can contact Thelma. UNH will be hosting this exhibit in the fall of 2009.

Thelma mentioned that she was intrigued by the description in the exhibit of the copper plates for USGS topographic maps that were reputedly distributed to all the states when no longer needed by USGS. She asked that anyone who knew more about this process contact her.

Various Requests

After discussion, we voted that the Treasurer spend modest sums to send flowers to Barbara Weinstein for her 80th birthday and to Angelique Jenks-Brown in celebration of her new baby.

Paige Andrews, although unable to attend this meeting, reported that NEMO had been asked for a donation to be a sponsor at an event. This was not done, but the group agreed that, should such an invitation arise in the future and if the cost were not excessive, this would be an excellent way to promote the organization.

Thanks to Officers and Organizers

Captain Dorrie Nash turned over her responsibilities to Lucinda Hall.

Lucinda Hall, Paige Gibbs and others organizing this meeting received hearty applause for an excellent event.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:00 p.m.

Thelma Thompson, Secretary
New York Harbor Quindicentennial Saluted with Extensive Exhibition Featuring Rarely Seen Maps, Atlases and other Treasures from The New York Public Library Collections

Mapping New York’s Shoreline, 1609-2009

September 25, 2009-June 26, 2010

The New York Public Library celebrates Henry Hudson and Dutch acumen with Mapping New York’s Shoreline, 1609-2009, a comprehensive exhibition featuring rare and extraordinary maps, atlases, books, journals, broadsides, manuscripts, prints, and an animation superimposing historical maps on a three-dimensional Google Earth model drawn primarily from the Library’s Lionel Pincus and Princess Firyal Map Division, and from other New York Public Library collections. Mapping New York’s Shoreline will be on view at The New York Public Library’s Stephen A. Schwarzman Building at Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street from September 25, 2009 to June 26, 2010. Admission is free. In conjunction with the exhibition, performances, lectures, classes, workshops and film/video screenings will be presented at locations throughout The New York Public Library.

For exhibition hours or more information, call 212-ASK-NYPL or visit www.nypl.org. Or visit the exhibit page: http://nypl.org/events/exhibitions/mapping-new-yorks-shoreline-1609-2009.

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NEMO (North East Map Organization) is dedicated to serving as a unifying body for all who use, produce, collect, and market maps and cartographic information in the Northeast; increasing communication between all interested in maps; and working with state, regional, and national organizations and government agencies in dissemination of maps and cartographic information. NEMO’s principal region is CT, DE, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT, and Ontario/Québec.

NEMO Membership is $15 per year. Membership year runs June-May and NEMO Newsletter subscriptions are included with membership. Back issues for the current year are included with new memberships. To join, send a check for $15 payable to North East Map Organization to:

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First Class Mail
Return address requested

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