

AOML

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Keynotes

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Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory

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Harris B. Stewart Honored

They came from far and near, old friends and former associates reunited after many years to honor a man held in high esteem: Harris B. Stewart, Jr. The achievement of establishing an oceanographic research institute, perhaps faded after 25 years, was brought back to life as they gathered to reminisce about their memories of the days of Harris B. Stewart's AOML.



It was his vision, leadership, political savvy that took the concept of AOML from the realm of mere creative potential to full-blown reality—a dream manifested. His integrity and encouragement that motivated others to put forth their best efforts. His ability to bring people together, make them feel a part of something important and special, indeed, that they were special, that earned him their respect.

“Everybody owes so much to Stew because he has done so much for all of us. He is a man who would stick his neck out for you.” (George Keller)

Despite the passing years, they never forgot him or the influence he had upon their lives. Returning to Miami, to AOML, was their opportunity to look back with appreciation and finally say to the man that made it all possible: “thank you, job well done.” To celebrate the creation and founding of AOML is to celebrate the man who made it happen, Dr. Harris B. Stewart.

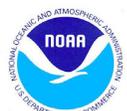
AOML Celebrates 25 Years

The staff of the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory proudly commemorated 25 years of operating at its Virginia Key location by hosting a “Silver Anniversary celebration” on March 2-4, 1998. Months in the planning stages, AOML's celebration program was jointly developed by a “Silver Anniversary Committee” chaired by George Berberian and Director Kristina Katsaros. More than 250 guests attended festivities that honored past achievements, considered the present, and addressed plans for new scientific directions.

Providing a retrospective of AOML's history at afternoon ceremonies on March 2, 1998, Founding Director Harris B. Stewart, Jr., presented an entertaining view of AOML's inception and early years. Former Acting Director Donald V. Hansen and former Director Hugo F. Bezdek also contributed to the retrospective, speaking of their experiences and years of leadership. Dr. Katsaros presented highlights of ongoing research and discussed future directions of the Laboratory's activities, as well as the “new paradigm” of oceanic and meteorological science for the 1990s and beyond. Today's research planning includes an active dialogue with the public. Much of AOML's research is linked to a growing awareness of our vulnerability to weather and climate changes, as well as sensitivity of local and global ecosystems to man's activities. The Mayor of Key Biscayne, AOML's very own John Festa, proclaimed March 2, 1998 as “AOML Day,” as did the Mayors of Miami and Miami-Dade County. The ceremonies concluded with the unveiling of Dr. Stewart's portrait, now displayed in the AOML lobby. Later that evening, AOML's former directors were presented with gifts at the Silver Anniversary dinner held at the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science.

On the morning of Tuesday, March 3, 1998, a question and answer session between AOML staff and representatives from the Environmental Research Laboratories and the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research was held. Short presentations outlining current research were made by AOML's four division directors as an introduction to a lively poster session where AOML research was presented in greater detail. An afternoon panel discussion explored possibilities for future scientific directions; the need for collaboration amongst diverse scientific disciplines emerged as the general consensus.

A chance to relax, reminisce, and visit with co-workers and old friends was enjoyed by guests and staff on Wednesday, March 4, 1998 at an all-you-can-eat barbeque picnic. This very congenial final event seemed to personify an important underlying theme evident throughout the Silver Anniversary: while the premise for hosting the celebration was to honor AOML's building dedication 25 years ago, in the end it was the people, past and present, AOML's extended family, that made the Silver Anniversary a successful and memorable event.



Director's Note

The 25th anniversary celebration of the existence of the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory on Virginia Key required enthusiastic preparations by a large number of people. This labor of love was orchestrated by a committee consisting of:

George A. Berberian, Chairman
Terry A. Nelsen, Co-Chairman
Evan B. Forde
Jack W. Kofod
Dennis A. Mayer
John R. Proni

Everyone in the Laboratory made a contribution, but, in particular, we recognize:

Gail Derr and helpers—communications
Gregory Banes and crew—facilities
Jack Stamates and *Avalon*—music
Alejandra Lorenzo and the Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Committee—preparation of the All Hands Picnic.

CAPT David H. Peterson and his crew, assisted by LCDR Kristie Miller of the NOAA Corps, graciously provided an open house reception aboard the NOAA Ship *Ronald H. Brown* during the ship's port call in Miami on February 25, 1998.

Thanks to all who worked so hard for the success of our Silver Anniversary celebration. It was an absolutely wonderful time. I am proud to be a part of this organization with members who are so accomplished, congenial, and dedicated to their work and craft. I salute you!

Kristina Katsaros

Silver Anniversary polo shirts, t-shirts, and a few mugs are still available for purchase. Contact Yolanda Rivera (361-4318) for more information.



R/V Ronald H. Brown Hosts Open House

An open house aboard the NOAA Ship *Ronald H. Brown* (R104) was held February 25, 1998 at the Port of Miami. The event marked the first scheduled activity of AOML's Silver Anniversary celebration and was attended by staff, friends, and family members from AOML and the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science. More

than 100 guests visited the *Brown* and were welcomed aboard the 274 ft. vessel by Commanding Officer CAPT David H. Peterson and his crew.

Open-house guests were given broad access to tour and inspect the *Brown's* facilities. Directions and well-placed signs enabled visitors to independently explore the *Brown's* bridge, main deck, and five accompanying levels, learn about its sophisticated instrumentation and data-gathering capabilities, and catch a glimpse of life lived aboard ship.

The *Brown* is the newest addition to NOAA's fleet of oceanographic research vessels. It features state-of-the-art meteorological and oceanographic technology, including a Doppler radar system to study storm dynamics at sea, and replaces both the *Malcolm Baldrige* and *Discoverer*, older NOAA ships recently decommissioned after many years of service. Department of Commerce Secretary William M. Daley stated at the *Brown's* commissioning ceremony in Charleston, South Carolina on July 19, 1997 that "the *Ronald H. Brown* is among the most technologically advanced seagoing research platforms in America today."

Our appreciation is extended to CAPT Peterson and the crew of the *Ronald H. Brown* for providing guests the opportunity to become acquainted with this unique research vessel and for creating such a cordial atmosphere in which to begin AOML's Silver Anniversary celebration.



CAPT Peterson and guests aboard the NOAA Ship *Ronald H. Brown*.



CAPT Peterson and AOML Director Kristina Katsaros prepare to serve dessert to open house guests.

Curious about El Niño? AOML's web site now features a "Frequently-Asked Questions about El Niño-Southern Oscillation" page. Access it by clicking on the thumbnail SST map at the lower-left side of the AOML home page or at URL http://www.aoml.noaa.gov/general/enso_faq/.



Outreach Activities

The MAST Academy extends its heartfelt appreciation to AOML staff members who participated in their student selection process by interviewing students during February and March. A near-record 559 students applied for approximately 120 vacancies available for MAST's 1998-1999 incoming freshmen class.

Evan Forde served as moderator for the Florida regional competition of the National Ocean Sciences Bowl (NOSB), co-sponsored by Harbor Branch Foundation and the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science. The MAST Academy's team won the State competition and will represent Florida at the national competition held in Washington, D.C. in May 1998. NOAA donated approximately 105K to help sponsor the National Ocean Sciences Bowl in celebration of the Year of the Ocean.

MAST Academy's annual career fair was held on March 11, 1998. Several AOML employees graciously volunteered their time to staff the AOML display booth and speak with students about potential careers in marine and atmospheric science. AOML participants in the career fair were Shari Yvon-Lewis, Gustavo Goñi, Dennis Mayer, Peter Dodge, and Evan Forde.

Travel

Christopher Landsea participated in the University of Miami's El Niño Media Conference on March 18, 1998 and presented a lecture entitled "Atlantic Hurricanes and El Niño."

Gustavo Goñi was invited to serve as a member of student Joaquin Trinanes' doctoral thesis committee and to assist in the defense of his dissertation at the University of Santiago de Compostela in Spain on March 23, 1998. Dr. Goñi also presented a seminar at the University on uses of satellite altimetry to study mesoscale ocean processes.

Christopher Landsea will attend the National Hurricane Conference in Norfolk, Virginia on April 8-10, 1998 and present a lecture entitled "Atlantic Hurricanes: Past, Present, and Future."

Sim D. Aberson will attend the XXIII General Assembly of the European Geophysical Society in Nice, France on April 20-24, 1998. He will present two papers: the first regarding ensemble forecasting of hurricane tracks and the second regarding targeted observations to improve hurricane track forecasts.

Kristina Katsaros, Peter Black, Frank Marks, Jr., and Christopher Landsea will attend the Fourth International Workshop on Tropical Cyclones in Haikou, China on April 21-30, 1998. The meeting is co-sponsored by the World Meteorological Organization and the International Council of Scientific Union.

Welcome Aboard

Arthur C. Gleason joins the Physical Oceanography Division to assist with web page design, organization, and internet data distribution for some of PhOD's products.

UPCOMING INFORMAL RESEARCH REPORTS*

Date	Division	Speaker	Title of Report
April 7, 1998	HRD	Dr. John F. Gamache	A variational Doppler wind analysis applied to various meteorological situations.
April 9, 1998	PhOD	Dr. David B. Enfield	The tropical Atlantic heat capacitor: How climate signals are stored in the Atlantic and later affect climate of the Americas.
April 14, 1998	HRD	Dr. Robert W. Jones	Study of linear vortex motion with a two-layer baroclinic model.
April 16, 1998	PhOD	Mr. W. Douglas Wilson	TBA.
April 21, 1998	HRD	Mr. Michael L. Black	Recent observations from the hurricane eyewall: Complex and unusual structure.
April 23, 1998	PhOD	Dr. Molly O. Baringer	Preliminary results from the repeat hydrographic 24°N cruise.

*All reports begin at 3:00 p.m. in the first-floor conference room.



Earth Day April 22, 1998

The first Earth Day occurred in 1970 as the result of Senator Gaylord Nelson's efforts to draw national attention to the state of our environment. Begun as a small grassroots movement, Earth Day is now celebrated worldwide. Here are a couple of Earth Day events happening in the Miami area:

April 22: Earth Day Sunset Canoe Trip. Join naturalists from the Miami-Dade Parks and Recreation Department on a leisurely journey along the mangroves of Key Biscayne and catch a glimpse of marine birds such as double crested comorants, black crowned night herons, and brown pelicans as they return at sunset to roost along the shoreline of Biscayne Bay. Call 662-4124 for information about where and when to meet.

April 24: Miami-Dade County Earth Day Festival (9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.). Celebrate Earth Day in downtown Miami's "Dropped Bowl Park" located on the west side of the Stephen P. Clark Center. Sponsors include environmental organizations, businesses, and government agencies. Ride MetroRail to the Government Center exit, which is right next to the Earth Day Celebration.

News Briefs

Dr. Jesse Ausubel, Program Director for the Human Environment at Rockefeller University and Program Officer for the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, met with Kristina Katsaros, Judy Gray, and David Palmer on February 4, 1998 to discuss the ocean acoustics aspects of a possible Sloan initiative to conduct a worldwide "census of the fishes." By undertaking a global census of the fishes, the initiative would address two grand challenges: (1) determine the patterns of animal life in the ocean and the mechanisms by which they are maintained; and (2) determine how much life the ocean can sustain. A census is estimated to require 10 years and \$500 million to complete. More information is available at web site <http://phe.rockefeller.edu/Fish/>.

Dr. Silvia Garzoli hosted a meeting for Atlantic Circulation and Climate Experiment (ACCE) principal investigators on March 25-27, 1998 to develop a plan for attaining coordination of individual modeling and observing components of ACCE in order to fulfill large-scale program objectives.

Sim Aberson is a member of Commerce GLOBE, an officially sanctioned government employee organization for Gay, Lesbian, Or Bisexual Employees. Contact Sim for information about membership, newsletters, or activities. The web site of the Federal GLOBE can be found at <http://www.fedglobe.org>. Sim is also a board member of the National Association of Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Scientists and Technical Professionals, and chairs the Atmospheric Scientists Caucus. Contact Sim for more information or visit web site <http://www.noglstp.org>.

Ginger Garte leads an aerobics class on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the first-floor conference room. The hour class is divided between box aerobics and body sculpting. Contact Ginger (361-4430 or garte@aoml.noaa.gov) if interested in attending or if you would like to participate in a walking or rollerblading group that will meet on Tuesday and/or Thursday during the lunch hour.

Dr. John Gould has been appointed Director of the International CLIVAR Project Office, located in the United Kingdom at Southampton Oceanography Centre (SOC). CLIVAR studies climate variability and predictability and is the central component of the World Climate Research Program (WCRP). Dr. Gould will also continue in his role as Director of the International Project Office for the World Ocean Circulation Experiment (WOCE) until the year 2002 when the project is scheduled to complete its final phase.

Transit Corner

- The last day to use the RSMAS shuttle is April 24, 1998. The shuttle is scheduled to resume service when the next fall semester begins.
- For a listing of bus and rail schedules and other helpful information, visit the Miami-Dade Transit Agency's (MDTA) web page at <http://www.metro-dade.com/mdta>.

GeoCORE

The University of Miami/RSMAS GeoCORE GIS (geographic information systems) and Remote Sensing Facility is hosting an open house on Thursday, April 30, 1998 and Friday, May 1, 1998 from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. AOML staff members are invited to visit this state-of-the-art facility to learn more about GIS and how it can be used to support coastal and oceanographic research. For additional information, visit the facility's web site at <http://geocore.rsmas.miami.edu/> or contact Genevieve Healy at 361-4886.



Secretaries Day: April 22, 1998



Keynotes is published monthly by the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory. Contributions are welcome and should be submitted prior to the last week of each month to ensure inclusion in the following month's edition. Please address all correspondence to Ms. Gail Derr, Office of the Director, 4301 Rickenbacker Causeway, Miami, FL 33149. Contributions may also be submitted by fax at (305) 361-4442 or by email (derr@aoml.noaa.gov). If you have comments, questions, or suggestions, feel free to send them along as well; we're always interested in hearing from you.

Editor - Kristina Katsaros
Publishing Editor - Gail Derr

The deadline for submitting material for the May issue of *Keynotes* is Monday, April 20, 1998.