



03-01

January 19, 2001

- ◆ SCAA's Board of Directors conducted a scheduled conference call this week. Highlights from the conference call include:
 - 1.) The SCAA Steering Committee was discussed, along with its short-term goals. **Attention Members:** *A survey is being prepared by the Steering Committee, which will be sent to the membership and non-members alike. When you receive the survey, please complete and return it promptly! The survey is intended to provide the Steering Committee with information that will help chart the course of the Association in coming years, and your input is essential!!*
 - 2.) We are pleased to announce that an undergraduate scholarship in environmental sciences will be established in memory of Dr. Tom Dalton. The endowed scholarship is intended to provide financial assistance to third and fourth year undergraduate students enrolled at Cook College of Rutgers - The State University of New Jersey, and majoring in Environmental Sciences. The name of the scholarship is "The Spill Control Association of America Undergraduate Scholarship in Environmental Sciences in Memory of Dr. Tom Dalton", and we will be initiating a campaign to fund the endowment via tax-deductible donations from members and non-members. ***We will be sending a letter to the membership discussing the scholarship and asking for pledges, and trust that everyone will give generously! If you have any questions on the scholarship or would like to submit a pledge before receiving the letter, please contact us at 1-313-849-2649 or send us e-mail to mpcenvir@aol.com.***
 - 3.) SCAA's annual meeting was discussed. The meeting will begin on Thursday, March 29 with a luncheon, followed by programs for the rest of the day. The meeting would continue for half the day Friday, March 30, concluding in the early afternoon. Also, a golf outing is being planned for Saturday, March 31 for those interested in participating. **Attention Members:** *Your suggestions for topics, formats, and other programming ideas for the Annual Meeting are welcome! Send them to us via e-mail (mpcenvir@aol.com) or facsimile (1-313-849-1623), or give us a call at 1-313-849-2649.*
- ◆ Several years ago, the issue of the Coast Guard's dumping of navigational aid batteries in waterways until the early 1970's came about. At the time, the Coast Guard formulated a plan to locate and recover these abandoned mercury batteries. The agency has come under criticism lately that it hasn't done enough in this regard. To answer the criticism, the Coast

Guard intends to launch a web site and marketing campaign aimed at fishermen, diving groups, and conservationists to inform them of their progress on recovering the batteries during the past six years. To date, dive teams have searched 85% of the 13,000 active sites for used batteries. The Coast Guard recently began the more difficult task of locating batteries from navigational aids that were replaced, relocated, or abandoned. (Source: *Clean Water Report*)

- ◆ ***Did you know . . .*** That 1/3 of all U.S. businesses are currently on the web? More than 8 billion e-mails circulate the Internet every day, Internet sales are expected to top \$1.1 *trillion*

by 2002, and the U.S. Internet Council predicts that there will be 1 billion Internet users by 2005. In this cyber-environment, new terms have arisen, such as e-liability, techno-torts, and cyber-crime. The explosive growth of the Internet and e-commerce has also given rise to new liability claims and litigation. Key issues include (1.) privacy and data security; (2.) intellectual property; and (3.) jurisdiction/choice of law. Because litigation arising from the Internet and e-commerce remains largely uncharted territory, it should be very interesting to see how the courts address e-liability issues in the months ahead. (Source: *CM Report*)

- ◆ Last month, the Washington State Department of Ecology (“WSDE”) released its report to the state legislature on the Neah Bay rescue tug. The report concludes that the rescue tugs that are stationed near the Strait of Juan de Fuca have proven effective at preventing groundings and resulting oil spills. It also recommends that the government provide the bulk of the funding needed for a permanent rescue tug, with the shipping industry providing the remainder of the monies. While a recent Coast Guard report concluded that the current voluntary International Tug of Opportunity System (“ITOS”) was adequate for the associated risk in the area and more cost effective than a dedicated rescue tug, the report from the WSDE seems to conclude otherwise. For a complete copy of the report, go to the following web site: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/0008023.html>. The Coast Guard’s report on the ITOS can be found at <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/pscbl.pdf> (Source: *Maritime Items*)
- ◆ The Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”) has \$120.8 million in fiscal year 2001 for its consolidated Emergency Management Performance Grant Program, of which \$119.6 million is earmarked for the states. State awards range from \$10 million (California) to just over \$1 million (Vermont). In addition, \$16.4 million of the \$16.6 million FEMA has for its Terrorism Consequence Management Preparedness Assistance program (which is 100% federally funded) has been allocated to the states. State awards range from \$667 million (California) to \$175 million (Wyoming). (Source: *Emergency Preparedness News*)
- ◆ **Jones Act in the news . . .** A waiver of the Jones Act is being demanded by terminal operators that represent more than 80% of heating oil distribution in the New England states to counter potential supply problems through winter. As you know, the Jones Act prohibits foreign flag vessels from transporting oil and oil products between U.S. ports. The Independent Fuel Terminal Operators Association formally requested the waiver, citing a possible shortage in the availability of vessels to carry fuel from the gulf coast to the northeast. Industry sources also noted that there was an increase of \$0.11 per gallon for fuel during the month of December, largely due to the shortage of vessels and pipeline capacity. (Source: *Lloyd’s List*)
- ◆ **Work/Life/Health:** According to a survey of corporate managers that was conducted by the American Society for Quality Control, most managers believe they face ethical problems. Other survey findings include: (1.) Most managers believe that they, and their employees, should be more ethical. (2.) Managers are more ethical with their friends than with acquaintances and strangers. (3.) Some managers lower their ethical standards to meet job requirements. (4.) Most managers are aware of unethical practices in their companies and in their industries. (5.) Business ethics can be influenced by management and by the company environment. (Source: *Positive Leadership*)
- ◆ **Quote of the Week:** “A strong and well-constituted man digests his experiences (deeds and misdeeds all included) just as he digests his meats, even when he has some tough morsels to swallow.” – Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche (1844-1900), *Genealogy of Morals [1887]*, essay 1, aphorism 9