

## **SPILL BRIEFS**

**09-03**

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**February 28, 2003**

- ◆ It is with a heavy heart that we report on the passing of Capt. Mike Garnett, who died of leukemia last week at the age of 76. One of the pioneers in our profession, Mike was involved in the response to the “Torrey Canyon” while he was a Captain with the British Navy. As you may know, that event was one of the first oil spill incidents to receive worldwide attention and ultimately increased global awareness of potential oil spills from tankers. After a distinguished career with the British Navy, he later became the Technical Director for TOVALOP. In all, Mike was a colorful, well-liked character, and his life force was evident to anyone who was fortunate enough to befriend him. We’re sure he’ll stay in the memory of those who knew him. ***Mike, we salute you!***
- ◆ We wanted to take a moment to thank everyone who attended our 2003 Annual Meeting in Las Vegas. We had a great turnout, and attendees had the opportunity to hear many informative presentations on timely issues, and to participate in some very lively discussions. SCAA presented the *2003 Howard E. Stanfield Distinguished Service Award* posthumously to Jim Weber Sr. (SWS), and the award was accepted by Peggy Weber, Jim Weber Jr., and other members of the Weber family that were in attendance. Also, congratulations to Capt. Dave Westerholm, who was presented with SCAA’s first *2003 Sisyphus Award*, and to Dan Sheehan, who won the acronym contest. ***We hope to have some photos and other information from the meeting posted on our web site ([www.scaa-spill.org](http://www.scaa-spill.org)) in the near future, so be sure to visit the web site often for updates!***
- ◆ Prior to the annual meeting, SCAA’s Board of Directors convened to discuss various association and industry issues. Highlights from the meeting include:
  - 1.) The Board reviewed the slate of nominees for Board positions within the Association, and how the list was developed. ***The ballot will be sent out to all members in good standing within the next few weeks, and we ask everyone to return their ballots promptly!***
  - 2.) Marc Shaye presented a financial report for the Association’s 2002 fiscal year, which included revenues generated from the Inland Spills Conference and 2002 membership dues. In addition, the Board reviewed dues payments that have been received to date.
  - 3.) The Board discussed Don Toenshoff’s proposed “3-in-3” program, and the comments received from various board members in this regard. The program is essentially aimed at generating input on the future direction and goals of SCAA, and what “value” the Association brings to its membership. The “3-in-3” aspect relates to suggesting three goals for the Association that would presumably be accomplished within the next three years. ***We would like to receive input from our membership in this regard. What three goals would you like to see SCAA achieve over the next three years? How do you feel that SCAA can improve its “value” to members? Please send your response to Don Toenshoff at [dtoenshoff@msrc.org](mailto:dtoenshoff@msrc.org) or to Scott Morris at [smorris@msrc.org](mailto:smorris@msrc.org). They can also be faxed to Don or Scott at 703-326-5660.***
  - 4.) The possibility of hosting regional meetings throughout the year as has been done in the past was suggested and discussed.



- 5.) The Board discussed a possible “Workshop-Education-Outreach” program that was suggested. Under the program, SCAA members would conduct technical workshops under the SCAA banner in their own communities. Such a program would serve to showcase member capabilities, increase exposure of the Association, and help to generate revenue for the SCAA members conducting the workshops. The possibility of generating a model program that could be used for this purpose was also discussed.
- 6.) The Exhibitor’s Brochure for SCAA’s “Homeland Security-Great Lakes Region: An Integrated Approach to All Hazards Management” conference (formerly the Inland Spills Conference) is now available. The event will take place August 25-27, 2003 at The Lodge Sawmill Creek Resort in Sandusky, Ohio. More information on this event can be found on SCAA’s web site ([www.scaa-spill.org](http://www.scaa-spill.org)). ***We encourage all of our members to book their exhibition space early – don’t miss out on this timely and informative conference!!***
- 7.) The Dalton Scholarship Fund was discussed. Currently, there is \$12,750 in the scholarship fund, and SCAA will be working with the University of Findlay to award scholarships to students pursuing environmental studies there. Also, in order to perpetuate the scholarship, proceeds received from the golf outing being held in conjunction with SCAA’s upcoming “Homeland Security – Great Lakes Region” conference (discussed above) will be added to the fund.

***Attention Members: We welcome and encourage any comments you have on the topics described above! Please send them to us via e-mail at [mikes@scaa-spill.org](mailto:mikes@scaa-spill.org), or fax them to us at 313.849.1623.***

- ◆ On March 1, 2003, various agencies were officially transferred to the Department of Homeland Security, said agencies including the Coast Guard, Customs Service, Transportation Security Administration, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service, and Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”). With the transfer, President Bush also issued an Executive Order amending various previous Executive Orders. The new Executive Order – among other things – designates the Secretary of Homeland Security as a Service Secretary because of the Coast Guard, and the Secretary also acquires specific authority as regards the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (“SOLAS”), and oversight of FEMA. In addition, President Bush issued a Homeland Security Presidential Directive that directs the Secretary to develop a National Incident Management System designed to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies. Finally, a fact sheet highlighting actions taken to enhance homeland security has been released, and can be found on line at [www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2003/02/20030228-1.html](http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2003/02/20030228-1.html). (Source: *Maritime Items*)
- ◆ ***Work/Life/Health:*** To help set priorities and get more of the most important tasks accomplished, ask yourself three times a day “Is this the best use of my time?” If the answer is “no”, consider switching to a task that’s more meaningful. If it’s a task that must be finished even though it’s low on the priority list, plan something fun or extremely important next. That should help you speed through your workload. (Source: *Customer Service Advantage*)
- ◆ ***Quote of the Week:*** “If someone is going down the wrong road, he doesn’t need motivation to speed him up. What he needs is education to turn him around.” – Jim Rohn