
The Marine Technology Society: Highlights of 25 Years of Service

Gilbert L. Maton, et al.

*Tracor, Inc.
Arlington, Virginia*

From November 1962 to September 1963, the Marine Technology Society was launched. Taking the lead was Chairman Pro Tem of the Foundation Committee, Gil Maton, assisted by Secretary Richard E. Munske and Treasurers Robert B. Abel and Harris B. Stewart, Jr. The Committee was formed to establish the name, objectives, character, and basic policies of a professional society for scientists, engineers, and others interested in marine affairs. In February 1962, Gil Maton urges his Committee to attend a Saturday meeting: "I do not think it is presumptuous to suggest a society such as we envision can contribute to the national welfare."

On 12 June 1963 the deed is done; papers of incorporation are approved by the state of New York. On 1 July, the existence of the Society, its purpose, program, and anticipated contribution to the marine field are announced. The name "Marine Technology Society" wins out over eleven other contenders. On 24 September, the Bylaws prepared by Parliamentarian Jamie Bush are ratified and committee assignments made.

In addition to the officers, the Foundation Committee consists of Bernard Bernstein, John H. Clotworthy, Charles W. Covey, Lucian H. Cullen, Howard H. Eckles, Rene L. Engle, J.R.R. Harter, Lee M. Hunt, Frederick F. Koczy, Edward A. Link, K.W. McLoad, Boyd E. Olson, Dimitri Rebikoff, Robert K. Salin, J. Eugene Smith, Athelstan Spilhaus, Edward C. Stephan, Richard C. Vetter, and Allyn C. Vine. Steve Anastasion, Gene Dare, and Jim Fitzgerald also assisted.

The first issue of the first Society newsletter, the MTS Memo, boasted 276 members as of 19 September 1963. Dues were \$10 and the address was a post office box in Washington, D.C. Gil Maton was writer-editor. By June 1964, MTS' first charter year closed with membership at 900.

November 1963 marks a big announcement: the time and place for the "1965 National Conference/Convention/Exhibit"—the still-to-be-completed Washington Hilton, 15-19 February. In March, an update: The meeting will be in June, with the American Society for Limnology and Oceanography as co-sponsor. Ocean Science and Engineering is the theme and Dr. James Wakelin, Jr., formerly Assistant Secretary for the Navy for Research and Development, is named chairman.

The June 1965 conference will be a successful debut both for the Hilton and for the MTS annual conference. The Washington Post is favorably impressed with the architecture and the VIP handling of guests. Conferees

are impressed with the technical program; MTS will record 400 new members.

The first MTS conference, however, was devoted specifically to buoy technology. "This may well be the bench mark for technology in this field for some time;" these were the words of keynote speaker Athelstan Spilhaus at the International Buoy Symposium. Through the Symposium, Spilhaus hopes that "The Society will really start to demonstrate that it can make real contributions in fostering progress in the marine sciences for the benefit of mankind."

This March 1964 Symposium was held at the Statler Hilton in Washington, D.C. Dr. Harris Stewart and Dr. Jamie Bush headed the effort. Cost to members for the two-day meeting was \$25, which included morning, afternoon, and evening sessions, transactions, two lunches, and one social hour; non-members paid \$35.

The first MTS election of officers installed RADM Edward C. Stephan, USN (ret.) (Union Carbide Corporation) as MTS President. Concerning the role of the new Society, Stephan issues a directive, "Whether the Society should in any way . . . procure passage of legislation. My conclusion is very clear. It should not." For the record the MTS: "It is not the Society's intention now, or in the future, to promote the interest of any person, member, association, industry, party, or similar organizations."

Should MTS have a scientific publication? Debate ensues concerning the publication of a technical journal. Dr. Art Maxwell of the Office of Naval Research recommends a publication plan for Society implementation. In January 1965, the Council approves, and Dr. Thomas P. Meloy (Allis Chalmers) is appointed Editor.

The next step is a Call for Papers for the "Ocean Engineering Journal." Editor Tom Meloy urges contributors with a challenge and a warning: "The first two issues of the journal are very important because they are the basis by which the journal and the society are judged." Art Maxwell is concerned with the larger question, "What is now needed is the establishment of a comprehensive publishing policy for the Society and a practical means of carrying it out. This is most important, as the Society will, in the long run, be judged by the quality of its publications."

The technical committee structure dates back to the Society's inception. Committees originating during its formative years and their founders are Undersea Vehicles (Elliot Rhian, Philco Corp.), Education

and Careers in the Marine Sciences (RADM Edward Stephan, USN ret.), Oceanographic Data and Information (Bernard Bernstein, United Electrodynamics, Inc.), Mineral Resources (John Crawford), Corrosion and Fouling (Hugh L. Hamilton, Ocean City Research Corp.), Oceanographic Instrumentation (S.P. Ramsey, Ramsey Engineering Co.), Underwater Photography (Dimitri Rebikoff) and Marine Biology (Earl Herron).

Who are MTS' early corporate members? The earliest are General Dynamics Corporation, Geodyne Corporation, McKiernan-Terry Marine Division, Mission Bay Research Foundation, Oceanographic Engineering Corporation, Raytheon Company, and Research Manufacturing Corporation.

They are joined soon after by Hydro-Space Systems Corporation, Rebikoff Oceanics, Inc., Sanders Associates, Inc., Western Gear Corporation, Reasoner, Davis and Vintner. The next group of early sponsors is Columbia Rope Company, Van Camp Seafood Company, T.H. Giff & Associates, Southeastern Drilling, Inc., Reynolds Sub-Marine Services Corporation, Sippican Corporation, and Warco, Inc.

1966-68

The year 1966 begins with interesting questions for the oceanographic community. Preparations are being made to equip future manned Earth orbiting spacecraft with remote sensors for oceanographic research. A request for information is published in the MTS Memo, asking "What is the nature of the phenomena you would want to be measured from an Earth orbital spacecraft?" Richard Robson will compile returns and make the results known to the appropriate government agencies.

MTS President RADM Edward Stephan reports that MTS has established a reputation for willingness and ability to work with other societies. Membership nears 2000 at the close of two years.

The date 27 June 1966 marks the publication of Volume 1, No. 1 of MTS' Journal of Ocean Technology. President Stephan writes in the journal: "It is hoped that this first edition will encourage you who are interested in exploring and exploiting the ocean's resources to submit appropriate and timely articles for future publication, so that our Journal can grow and reflect the tremendous impact that many facets of marine technology are having on our civilization."

Regional sections begin to form in these years in Chicago (Cdr. O.D. Hughes, Office of Naval Research Branch Office), New York (Cyrus Adler), New England (William R. Hutchins, National Company, Inc.), San Francisco (Elmer P. Wheaton, Lockheed Missiles and Space Co.), and Delaware Valley (John C. Gelhard, General Electric Co.)

The close relationship between technical committees and conferences continues as the "Man's Extension into the Sea" conference is the site of organizational meetings for three new committees: Law, formed by Paul

Bleecker and Mark Frey; Undersea Cables by Robert Klein; and Man's Underwater Activities by H. William Gillen, M.D.

The corporate ranks continue to swell with the addition of the following early supporters of MTS: Bunker-Ramo-Eastern Technical Center, Callahan Mining Corp., D.B. Milliken Co., Sylvania Electronic Systems, Air Reduction Co., Inc., The B.F. Goodrich Co., The Philadelphia Insulated Wire Co., Southwestern Engineering Co., Colt Industries, Inc., Edo Western Corp., Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory, U.S. Steel Corporation, Bolt Beranek & Newman, Inc., Rochester Ropes, Inc., and W.J. Voit Rubber Corp.

1969-71

The 1969 MTS annual conference in Miami Beach promised to focus on "The Decade Ahead." The anticipated high spot of the meeting turned out to be the opposite instead. Attendees, expecting an upbeat message from the Nixon Administration to be delivered at the banquet by Vice President Spiro Agnew were surprised by a gloomy, pessimistic assessment of the future with no promise for growth in marine affairs or in response to the Stratton Commission report.

A brighter note at the conference was a "first ever," the recorded telephone conversation—via satellite no less—between Astronaut turned Aquanaut Scott Carpenter deep in the Pacific Ocean in the Tektite habitat and Jacques Yves Cousteau deep in the Mediterranean Sea in Conshelf II.

A year of change: 1970. MTS' first Executive Secretary Manley Simon steps down and is replaced by Robert Niblock, formerly editor of Undersea Technology magazine. Thomas Meloy, founding editor of the journal, leaves after nearly five years. Managing Editor Cynthia Riggs Stoertz leaves to participate in a press excursion to Antarctica.

Effective 1 July, MTS revamps its organizational structure, establishing five Professional Divisions, each with its own Vice President: Research and Education, Exploration and Ocean Operations, Facilities and Education, Resource Utilization and Economics, and Resource Management and Law.

Professional committee transitions include the formation of a Coastal Zone Marine Management committee, and Bob McGratten replacing John Pritzlaff as chairman of the Undersea Vehicles committee. William S. Beller (Department of the Interior), chairs the new committee and announces plans for a conference.

Conferences in 1971 include the seventh annual conference, the MTS Law committee seminar on "The Law of the Sea—A Year in Crisis," and the Los Angeles Region section's Work-in-the Sea symposium held on the Queen Mary.

1972-74

The American Nuclear Society joins with MTS Palm Beach section as a sponsor of the 1972 conference, "The Ocean, Nuclear Energy and Man." Other key conferences: Buoy Technology at Woods Hole, Diving Safety in Morgan City, Louisiana, and in Columbus, Ohio with 11 other sponsors—International Symposium on the Application of Marine Geodesy.

In 1973, Sen. Ernest F. Hollings becomes the first recipient of the MTS Special Commendation. Sen. Hollings played a key role in the passage of such legislation as the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, the Marine Protection and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, and the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972.

What should be the scope of the *MTS Journal*? The MTS Council wants a more interdisciplinary approach, and ten issues annually instead of six. The goal is a journal more representative of all the marine disciplines.

A Student Patron category is established whereby members can designate students for membership. Life and Emeritus membership categories are also instituted.

The Tenth Annual MTS Conference and Exposition in '74 carries the theme, "National Needs and Ocean Solutions." Among the highlights, Capt. Jacques Cousteau presented the Monday night address. Athelstan Spilhaus presents the first MTS Honors Lecture in recognition of the 15th anniversary of the National Academy of Sciences' report on oceanography. Conference Chairman was Dr. Abel, program chairman, Steven Anastasion.

1975-77

The January 1975 news is the success of the Food and Drugs from the Sea conference at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez. The MTS meeting is held at the invitation of the Department of Natural Resources of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Ten major pharmaceutical companies helped to make the meeting a success.

In a tragic turn, Dr. William S. Richardson was lost with his crew and ship in the Gulf of Maine during the first week in January. The RV Gulf Stream had been under contract to NOAA to investigate ocean currents off the New England coast.

The years 1976 and 77 mark the critical work of the Blue Ribbon Committee (BRC) to study all facets of the Marine Technology Society: its purpose, organization, membership, and activities. More than 100 MTS leaders are involved in the 18-month study, recommended by then-President Phil Eisenberg, and commissioned by President John Calhoun. Gil Maton chairs the Committee, which consists of eight panel chairman and nine at-large members. Panel chairmen and their respective panels are Stewart Nelson (Publications), E.H. Harlow (Technical Activities), Charles B. Bishop (Membership),

Steven N. Anastasion (Local Sections), Charles Matthews (Finance), James Wakelin (Organization), Bud Burke (Headquarters), and Leonard T. Lynch (Bylaws).

At-large members of the Committee are Joseph Vadus, Jack Boller, Roy Gaul, Elmer Wheaton, James P. Walsh, Feenan Jennings, Leatha Miloy, Louis Jobst, and Edward MacCutcheon.

Copies of the 22-page BRC report to President Jim Rickard are made available to all MTS members upon request. Leonard Lynch is asked to write new bylaws reflecting BRC recommendations. Chief among the findings: "(1) The objectives of the Society are valid and proper. They merit wider recognition, acknowledgment, and distribution. (2) The Society should retain the title of Marine Technology Society." The 34 recommendations include the organization of the MTS officers into its present arrangement.

Oceans 76—the second annual combined conference with the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, chaired by Joe Vadus—was a highly international and very visible part of our nation's bicentennial celebration. The importance of the year's conference was pointed up by congratulatory messages from President Gerald Ford and from Democratic candidate Jimmy Carter. The conference opened with a plenary session moderated by NOAA Administrator Dr. Robert M. White, which featured top-level representatives from eight countries. The USSR delegation, delayed in transit, made a dramatic entrance in force after the session began to the relief and delight of all attending. Secretary of State Elliot L. Richardson spoke at the luncheon which followed and outlined a challenge: "Our job is to shape a more cooperative world that advances the common interest of all, that recognizes our common purpose and destiny."

Oceans 76 is also remembered for a televised panel discussion on ocean affairs. Headed by Rep. Leonor K. Sullivan, the ensemble consisted of Representatives Charles A. Mosher, Thomas N. Downing, John B. Breaux, William V. Alexander and Phillip E. Ruppe. Dr. Robert Frosch, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, moderated and Dr. Don Walsh, Director of the Institute for Marine and Coastal Studies, University of Southern California, and also editor of the Marine Technology Society Journal, served as rapporteur.

Commander George Keith Gowans effects his retirement from the Navy and takes over the top MTS staff position. Commander Gowans had been Chief of Staff, Naval Deputy to the Administrator to NOAA. He takes over from Edward MacCutcheon, who had graciously served as interim Executive Director.

1978-80

The MTS Annual Meeting for 1979 is held in New Orleans. It is the first since 1974 that is not sponsored jointly with IEEE. The focus for "Marine Technology 79" is Ocean Energy. Over one thousand attend. A two-day

short course for graduate credit from the Louisiana State University is held in conjunction with the conference.

The Plenary session was dedicated to the various forms of energy available—oil and gas, thermal, waves, tides, currents, etc. Assistant Secretary for Environment, Department of Energy, Ruth Clusen spoke of the ecological effects of ocean thermal energy conversion (OTEC)

Seafloor Engineering (Adrian Richards) and Undersea Physics (Kurt Stehling) are added to the roster of professional committees in 1979.

The Washington D.C. section of the Marine Technology Society joins with the American Oceanic Organization to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the record dive by Don Walsh (then a Navy lieutenant) and Jacques Picard to the bottom of the Marianas Trench (10,911.84 m) off of Guam in the bathyscaphe Trieste.

Representatives from MTS and IEEE meet during the 1980 Offshore Technology Conference in Houston to sign an agreement reinstating the co-sponsorship of the "Oceans" conference. Signed by Lloyd Z. Maudlin, President of the Council on Oceanic Engineering of IEEE and William J. Hargis, President of MTS, the agreement provides the basis for continued joint sponsorship beginning with Oceans 81. It is expected that these joint conferences will establish a broader platform which will enhance the participation of all sectors of the ocean community, industry, academia, and government by providing a single focal point for ocean-related programs and exhibits each year.

1981-83

In 1981, the Offshore Technology Conference scores a high watermark as attendance tops 100,000. The Conference—as it has been throughout its history—is a group effort: a collaboration of eleven professional societies representing every technology associated with the exploration and production of ocean resources and environments. The Marine Technology Society is one of the original sponsor societies of the international conference and exposition.

Bob Wernli (NOSC) survives chairmanship of the first Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROV) conference in 1983 despite attendance at twice the best estimates. Eleven ROVs are on display in the exhibit hall. Wernli is impressed with the quality as well as the quantity of the participants, noting that they are "a Who's Who in the ROV industry."

MTS adds three technical committees: Ocean Pollution (R. Lawrence Swanson), Marine Recreation (Tal Morash), and Moorings (Rick Swenson).

1984-86

In 1984, the Offshore Technology Conference is not held, but it was still a big year for MTS conferences.

"Arctic Ocean Engineering for the 21st Century" was the topic of the First Spilhaus Symposium, held in Williamsburg, Virginia in October 1984. Conceived of and presented by the Marine Technology Society, the Spilhaus Symposium series takes its name and its "practical visionary" spirit and energy from Dr. Athelstan Spilhaus, outstanding engineer, scientist, writer, and Humanist. Based on the Gordon Conferences in the Sciences, the meeting was loosely structured to provide participants, in Technical program Chairman Ben C. Gerwick's words, "to allow imagination to range freely into the future." Art Maxwell was responsible for the symposium concept; Gil Maton and Harris Stewart led the conference committee.

In Honolulu, the Pacific Congress on Marine Technology (PACON) makes its debut. Jack Harmon and Narendra Saxena co-chair.

Some 2500 attendees pack ROV 84. Technical Program Chairman Jack Jaeger reports, "ROVs are opening new frontiers."

The Western region, at the urging of Regional Vice-President Bob Wernli, convenes a one-day retreat for MTS Section chairmen within the region in San Mateo, California. The purpose of the meeting is to compare notes on activities, problems, successes, and failures. Participants include Bill Hulburd and Frank Simpson (San Diego), Sam Kelly (Los Angeles), Dennis Douglass and Don Selle (San Francisco), Norm Miller (Puget Sound), Bob Sparks (British Columbia), and Chuck Gertner (Hawaii). Executive Director Hal Palmer represents Headquarters.

It was a year of recognition for Bob Wernli and the San Diego section: He received the MTS Special Commendation, and San Diego (Bill Hulburd, chair) was the first-ever MTS Section of the Year. The awards are presented, to great applause, in San Diego in conjunction with Oceans 85.

A year of expansion and retrenchment: 1986. Overseas membership and interest in MTS grows as the ROV 86 conference takes the MTS banner to Aberdeen, Scotland. The Society for Underwater Technology, based in London, co-sponsors the event and international technical publisher Graham and Trotman publishes the proceedings. In Washington D.C., staff cutbacks are made at Headquarters as MTS moves to reduce the costs of operations.

Kevin Hardy (Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UCSD), editor of San Diego's *Literal Drift* newsletter, proposes Society-wide distribution for the San Diego newsletter. The result of ensuing discussions: Kevin Hardy takes over as Editor of *Currents*. Key goals are to beef up the technology content and enhance communications from, as well as, to members.

1987-88

The Oceans conference leaves the country. Halifax, Nova Scotia is the gracious host for Oceans 87.

The Gulf Coast section and the Cables and Connectors committee are honored by the Marine Technology Society at Oceans 87 as section and committee of the year for their outstanding conferences—Marine Data Systems for the section and the annual Cables and Connectors workshop led by Al Berian for fifteen consecutive years.

The year 1988 marks a major membership drive. MTS realizes a 50% increase in members with the Japan, Houston, and San Diego sections as the leading recruiters. Dr. Kenji Okamura (Ryowa Ocean Engineering) of the newly organized Japan section is celebrated as the individual sponsoring the most new members. The membership drive is headquartered in San Diego with Charles B. Bishop as Chairman. He is assisted by George Shaefer; office space is generously donated by Inter Ocean Systems and ad space contributed in Sea Technology magazine by Publisher Charles Bussmann.

After a two-year hiatus, Richard M. Shamp rejoins the MTS Executive Committee as President-Elect after a special election necessitated by the resignation of D. James Baker.

Martin J. Finerty, Jr. replaces Michele Elrod as MTS General Manager on 6 June after a national search.

MARINE TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY PRESIDENTS

RAAdm. E.C. Stephan USN (Ret.)	1964-66
James H. Wakelin, Jr.	1966-68
Paul M. Fye	1968-69
Elmer P. Wheaton	1969-70
Donald L. McKernan	1970-71
John P. Craven	1971-72
William E. Shoupp	1972-74
Robert B. Abel	1974-75
John C. Calhoun, Jr.	1975-76
Phillip Eisenberg	1976-77
James A. Rickard	1977-78
William J. Hargis, Jr.	1978-80
Arthur E. Maxwell	1980-82
Gilbert L. Maton	1983-84
John E. Flipse	1985-86
Ronald L. Geer	1987-88

ANNUAL SPECIAL COMMENDATION AND AWARD

This award is made to individuals or groups in management and public service or the social service field. It may be given in recognition of outstanding action, service or accomplishment through individual or team management—Congressional, foundation, institutional

or governmental service which leads to significant advances in marine affairs.

Recipients

- 1966— Navy Research Lab Team under leadership of C.I. Buchanan (for the location and recovery of the *Thresher* and H-bomb)
- 1967— Dr. Richard B. Kershner
- 1968— Dr. Glenn A. Flittner and Capt. Paul N. Wolff
- 1969— Dr. Julius Stratton
- 1970— Deep Sea Drilling Project (National Science Foundation)
- 1972— Dr. and Mrs. F.G. Walton Smith
- 1973— The Honorable Ernest F. Hollings
U.S. Senator from South Carolina
- 1974— Naval Undersea Center's *CURV III* Team (Cable Controlled Underwater Recovery Vehicle)
- 1975— The Three United States Coast Guard Strike Teams of the National Strike Force
- 1976— Dr. David S. Potter
- 1977— Dr. Robert M. White
- 1978— The Honorable Claiborne Pell
U.S. Senator from Rhode Island
- 1979— Rear Admiral J. Edward Snyder, Jr.
- 1980— Mr. Charles D. Matthews
- 1981— Dr. Robert Frosch
- 1982— Marine Board of the National Research Council
- 1983— Mr. Larry I. Booda
- 1984— Captain Donald R. Wells
- 1985— Robert Wernli
- 1986— Richard M. Shamp
- 1987— RADM J.B. Mooney, Jr., USN (Ret.)
- 1988— Charles H. Bussmann
Joseph R. Vadus

Compass Distinguished Achievement Award

For significant contributions to the art and science of oceanography and marine technology.

- 1966 Dr. Henry B. Bigelow
- 1967 Dr. Roger Revelle
- 1968 James M. Snodgrass
- 1969 Allyn C. Vine
- 1970 Willard Bascom
- 1971 Dr. Fred Spiess
- 1972 Butler King Couper
- 1973 Dr. Warren S. Wooster
- 1974 Dr. Kenneth O. Emery
- 1975 Dr. William Nierenberg
- 1976 William Q. Wick
- 1977 Dr. Robert D. Ballard
- 1978 David Wallace
- 1979 Carl H. Savitt
- 1980 Robert Cohen
- 1981 Dr. Athelstan F. Spilhaus
- 1982 Jack W. Boller, USN (Ret.)
- 1983 Hon. Lowell P. Weicker, Jr.
- 1984 Dr. Jerome Namias
- 1985 Phillip Eisenberg
- 1986 James R. McCullough
- 1987 Dr. Robert B. Abel
- 1988 Dr. Robert M. White

Compass Industrial Award

For outstanding contribution to the advancement of the science and engineering of oceanography and marine technology.

- 1966 HyTech Marine Products Division, Bissett-Berman Corp.
- 1967 Reynolds Metal Co.
- 1968 Sippican Corp.
- 1969 Varian Associates
- 1970 Humble Oil and Refining Co./SS Manhattan
- 1971 Perry Oceanographics
- 1972 Hydronautics, Inc.
- 1973 Industrial Nickel Co.
- 1974 Western Geophysical Co.
- 1975 DomSea Farms, Inc.
- 1976 United States Steel Corporation
- 1977 Deepsea Ventures, Inc.
- 1978 Lockheed Ocean Systems Organization
- 1979 Shell Oil Co.
- 1980 Vetco, Inc.
- 1981 Raytheon Ocean Systems Co./Submarine Signal Division
- 1982 Harbor Branch Foundation, Inc.
- 1983 Jet Propulsion Laboratory
- 1984 International Submarine Engineering, Ltd.
- 1985 Ocean Systems Group of America, Sperry Corporation
- 1986 International Underwater Contractors
- 1987 General Instrument Corporation
- 1988 Deep Ocean Engineering

Compass International Award

For outstanding contribution to the advancement of the science and art of oceanography and marine technology.

- 1980 Dr. Kenji Okamura (Japan)
- 1981 Dr. Jacques Piccard (Switzerland)
- 1982 COMEX, S.A. (France)
- 1983 Dr. A.R. Bayoumi (Egypt) and Adm. Yohay Pen Nun (Israel)
- 1984 Japan Marine Science Technology Center (JAM-STECC)

- 1985 Society for Underwater Technology
- 1986 Claude Riffaud
- 1987 Dr. Noboro Hamada
- 1988 Dr. Arvid Pardo

The Lockheed Award for Ocean Science and Engineering

- 1969 Walter H. Munk
Frank E. Snodgrass
- 1970 Johannes A. Kylstra
Francis J. Falveyzyk
- 1971 Lauren M. Donaldson
- 1972 Christian J. Lambertsen
- 1973 William S. Richardson
- 1974 Capt. Joseph P. Kelly, USN (Ret.)
- 1975 John Isaacs
- 1976 Thomas G. Lang
- 1977 Ben C. Gerwick, Jr.
- 1978 Harold E. Edgerton
- 1979 Alfred A. Keil
- 1980 Phillip Eisenberg
- 1981 André Galerne
- 1982 John P. Craven
- 1983 Francis P. Shepard
- 1984 Howard S. Talkington
- 1985 Fred Noel Spiess
- 1986 Willard F. Searle, Jr.
- 1987 Allyn C. Vine
- 1988 James Wenzel