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"PP"



WILD GOOSE ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

March 1978

PRESIDENTS'S MESSAGE

Dear Members: I would like to take this opportunity to reflect upon you the achievements and disappointments of 1977.

The convention held in Seattle, Washington State was quite clearly the highlight of WGA activities during 1977. It was not without mixed feelings that we planned our annual meeting so far from home for so many of us, but once again the migratory spirit won through and we had an excellent turnout. Working with Fish Expo and the Sea Grant Program we were able to achieve another goal of bringing WGA technologists in close contact with the user community. We are indebted to Red Frederick, our Convention Chairman, Dan Panshin our liaison with the Sea Grant Program and Fish Expo, Tom McCarty for the Technical Program and many other co-workers for making the convention a success.

Your Board of Directors has met regularly during the year and accomplished a great deal. In addition to a rising volume of routine administrative business, the Constitution and By-Laws have been updated and streamlined under the dedicated and talented hands of Vern Johnson and Leo Fehlner. You have approved amendments to our Constitution, one of which provides for appointing directors to allow for user representation by persons that may not be generally known by general WGA membership. This mechanism will enable your board to select individuals to serve who would be unlikely to get elected by the normal voting procedure.

You will have received, and I hope read, the 1977 Radionavigation Journal put together by the outwardly appearing unflustered team of Bill Roland and Bahar Uttam. This annual document is looked upon as an authoritative source of Loran (and Omega) navigation information, our thanks to all including our advertisers who make this a self-supporting and important activity.

We have had our disappointments too. An internal Coast Guard directive concerning Coast Guard individuals serving in controlling positions in non-Government organizations had to be recognized by your board. I therefore regretfully accepted resignations from the board Capt. Jim Culbertson and David Haislip; Capt. Roland's term of three years having run out did not stand for office again. The contributions of these directors has been outstanding and on behalf of the membership I wish to acknowledge their service to the WGA which will continue, but in the capacity of members rather than directors.

Before looking to 1978, one other item in which I have had a personal interest has not done too well, the Loran-C specification for a transmitted and received signal format. We received a letter from the Department of Transportation saying that the publication of the specification in the Federal Register (this is the goal we have been trying to achieve) is to be delayed until the Spring of 1978. We are not satisfied with the priority of this work by the DOT and will continue to press and offer our services to make the publication an accomplished fact.

To 1978. We have selected New Orleans for the site of our convention to coincide with the commissioning of the Loran-C Gulf Chain. Our Chairman is Vern Johnson and he has already recruited a volunteer committee to assist. As soon as we have dates we will let you know so that early arrangements can be made.

The CCIR Study Group 8 of ITU meets in Geneva in January to discuss frequency allocations for navigation in the 70 to 130 kHz frequency band. Let me remind you that through the efforts of the WGA and Institute of Navigation the "Question" was approved by the State Department for forwarding to the ITU. We will probably be called upon during the year to supplement technical inputs to the Study Group, an important task if Loran-C is to enjoy a spectrum free from interfering communication stations.

To run an active 400 member organization requires a considerable amount of administration; membership lists, correspondence, record keeping, preparation and publication, awards and many other tasks. To do an effective job requires considerable time from volunteer organization. Full time paid assistance is out of the question for a small organization such as ours. To overcome this problem of health we are exploring with The Institute of Navigation the possibility of some form of cooperation. We will be reporting to you of our progress and the arrangements that could be made.

And there are the ongoing activities of the Loran-C specifications, the works of the various committees and our regular board meetings, the dates of which are:

February 15th	1978
April 11th	1978
June 13th	1978
August 8th	1978
October	Convention to be decided

normally held in Room 6200, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590. Drop in if you are in the area.

Let me wish you the best in health and happiness in the months ahead.

John M. Beukers
President
1977-1978

CALL ON PAPERS

The Wild Goose Association Seventh Annual Technical Symposium will be held in conjunction with the Annual Convention at the Le Pavillon Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana, 18-20 October 1978. The overall theme of the Convention will be: "Loran-C Comes to the Gulf of Mexico".

The theme of the Technical Sessions will be "Loran-C Update-1978" and will report on important current aspects of Loran-C Programs, Standards, Technologies, Applications and Problems.

You are invited to submit abstracts on subjects related to topics of current interest to prospective as well as established members of the Loran-C community.

Three (3) copies of one page abstracts should be sent to the following address by 1 April 1978:

Mr. James P. Van Etten
Technical Papers Chairman
Itt Avionics Division
390 Washington Avenue
Nutley, N.J. 07110

Notification of acceptance may be expected by 1 May 1978 and papers in final form will be due by 10 September 1978.

