



The Goose Gazette

The newsletter of the *Wild Goose Association*,
the international loran radionavigation forum.

Volume 91-3 - News of the Summer, 1991

The President's Message

My two-year tenure as your President is coming to a close. The gavel will be passed at the Technical Symposium in Williamsburg. Through the dedicated efforts of a hard working few, we have accomplished quite a lot even though we did not achieve all the Goals I set forth in Hyannis.

We have increased our participation in the international loran arena by joining IALA and contributing to the ongoing efforts of the European loran community. A Soviet delegation from the Interradionavigation Committee (IRC) has attended our last two Symposia and a Soviet paper will be presented at Williamsburg. IRC has become a member of WGA. Our 1982 Technical Symposium is scheduled to be held in England and John Beukers, who has relocated there, will be coordinating the plans and the Symposium agenda.

We reduced the number of Special WGA Committees and added Loran Technologies and Applications to the list of Standing Committees. This has permitted us to better focus our volunteer committee members on user and technical issues. I believe we have a better handle on the land user community now and the new Technologies and Applications group is bringing together a number of long standing loran technical issues which have been brushed aside in recent years.

The Constitution and By-Laws have been updated by that committee and have been processed through the Board and Membership. They will be reprinted soon. We did not double our membership but did manage to realize a steady increase due, in most part, to our successful post-card response program.

The professional management of WGA has moved forward and the entire management system including computers and ancillary hardware, has been successfully transferred to NavCom Systems, Inc., Manassas, VA. John and Marilyn Beukers did a great job in putting together the system, preparing documentation, organizing files and procedures, and moving and installing the system at NavCom. While Dave is still struggling to get everything back the way John and Marilyn were doing it, he is doing a super job and recently hired part-time assistance. This management system makes us more responsive to the membership and permits us to handle the volume of business that accrues with increased membership and participation in worldwide loran matters. My hat is off to John, Marilyn and Dave for handling this project and to Zeke Jackson, President of NavCom Systems, Inc. for permitting us to establish our business home under his roof.

There is one issue that has been before the Board which the Association should pursue with vigor. That is the matter of aggressive GPS advertising and marketing which has been untruthful regarding the demise of loran and the performance of the GPS system itself. WGA, while being a loran advocacy association, is NOT anti-GPS. We believe strongly that there is a place for both terrestrial and space radio navigation systems and support the "radionavigation mix" of the Federal Radionavigation Plan (FRP). We do not subscribe to the reported overzealous and inaccurate claims that are being made by partially informed people that result in the broad user public becoming misinformed and making costly and unnecessary decisions as a result. If you want to learn more about some of the

problems this activity has caused, talk to Ed. McGann at Megapulse, Inc. (617) 275-2010.

During the Banquet at the coming Symposium, I will turn the leadership of WGA over to Bob Lilley. He comes to this office well qualified for the job having served as our highly successful Editor of the Goose Gazette for several years and by actively working with aviation loran technology for a number of years at Ohio University.

I want to thank everyone for their support to me over the past two years and ask that you now provide that support to Bob Lilley. He has some super ideas for moving ahead, but members have to get involved to make things happen by signing up for committees and running for office as Directors.

My congratulations to Bob Lilley and the newly elected Board of Directors and I am looking forward to seeing each of you in Williamsburg.

**See inside for the
latest word
on the 1991
WGA Technical
Symposium,
October 1-3, 1991
in Williamsburg, VA!**

The Goose Gazette is an official publication of The Wild Goose Association (WGA). Period of publication is quarterly, with cutoff dates of 1 March for the Winter issue, 1 June for the Spring issue, 1 September for the Summer issue and 1 December for the Fall issue.

Readers are encouraged to submit material for publication. Materials should be sent directly to the Editor. All other correspondence for the WGA should be addressed to the Association address:

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WGA and the Future

*A letter from Capt. Hery Marx,
Landfall Navigation*

It is becoming very apparent to me that the marine users of electronic navigation are fast losing interest in Loran C, and are turning to the "new" GPS receivers.

By their own admission, the Loran C manufacturers are focusing their R&D and marketing efforts on the GPS market and have downgraded their emphasis on their Loran C products.

What does this mean to our organization - The Wild Goose Association?

I am concerned that as our manufacturers and technical members are forced by the market place to turn to GPS, and that as increasing budget constraints reduce the role of the U.S. Coast Guard in the WGA, that we will decline in membership, financial support, and in the quantity and quality of the attendance and papers at our annual symposium.

What can we do about this? I feel that if the WGA were to expand it's horizons and invite into membership, the GPS manufacturers (many of whom are already members) and the user community - and become the International Electronic Navigation Forum - that we could infuse new blood, new ideas, and new technology into our group and once again grow as an organization.

Because I do not want our organization to diminish as the international forum and watch dog for the navigating community, I want to see it change with the times. Hopefully this letter will provoke a review of the goals and future of the organization and encourage the membership to GET INVOLVED with the challenge of the future.

Capt. Henry E. Marx

ISTI Announces:

Illgen Simulation Technologies, Inc, headquartered in Goleta, CA, has appointed Jeff Gross as director of ISTI's Fort Walton Beach, FL operations, situated next to Eglin AFB. Jeff was formerly with Harris Corporation and Kaman Sciences Corp.

IALA Benefits

As a result of our institutional membership in IALA, WGA receives a variety of printed material. These items are kept at the WGA administrative headquarters, NAVCOM Systems, under the care of Dave Scull.

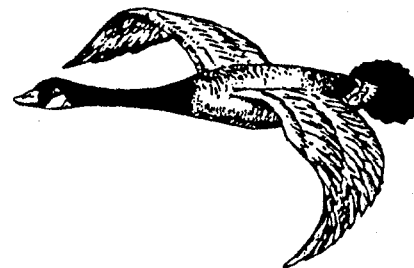
Recent acquisitions:

Report of the XIIth Conference of the International Association of Lighthouse Authorities, June 16-30, 1990.

IALA Bulletin, 1991/1 and 1991/2

List of IALA Publications, January 1991

"The Development of Aids to Navigation During the Year 1989," IALA Bulletin Supplement.



Magnetic Variation

A PRIMITIVE CONCEPT AND ITS HOLD ON NAVIGATION INTO THE 21ST CENTURY

ABSTRACT

Mike Miressi, with the FAA AVN organization at Oklahoma City, prepared a technical paper which may not appear on the crowded agenda at the Technical Symposium at Williamsburg. We asked Mike to provide an abstract for the Gazette, and to bring preprint copies to the Symposium.

Note: The paper will appear at the PLANS conference in March, 1992.

When the magnetic compass was a primary, if not sole, means of navigation the application of magnetic variation was a fairly simple process. True North and Magnetic North are not collocated therefore it is necessary to modify a true heading to obtain a corresponding magnetic heading. The old rhyme "East is Least and West is Best" provided the navigator with a reminder to ensure that the correction was applied in the proper direction. Armed with a map and compass a navigator, be it on land, sea, or in the air, could plot a course as a true heading, apply the local magnetic variation and obtain a magnetic course to travel. The magnetic compass provided a reference to ensure that the desired route was the one that was actually being traveled.

The advent of radionavigation stations did not diminish the hold that the magnetic compass had on navigation. Navigation stations are aligned with magnetic north as a reference thus ensuring that all radial information provided by the station coincide with information provided by the magnetic compass.

The magnetic north pole is not stationary and therefore the magnetic variation is constantly changing for any

given location. This did not seem to be a very significant problem until recently. The advent of sophisticated navigation systems, many of which contain their own magnetic variation models, may not agree with the published flight data.

This paper addresses the application of magnetic variation to components of the National Air Space System. It will examine the determination, application, and the use of magnetic variation. Additionally it will discuss the rate of change and the significance of differences in the amount of variation applied.

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Have you sent your registration for the WGA Technical Symposium? Use the handy form at the right to get on board!

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1991 Election Results

Bob Lilley was elected President, and Frank Cassidy will fill his unexpired term as Director, for one year. Walt Dean, Dave Scull, Laura Charron and Dave Amos were elected to 3-year terms as Director.

Continuing Directors, whose terms expire in 1993, are John Beukers, Mike Moroney, Jim Alexander and Mark Morgenthaler.

Continuing Directors whose terms expire in 1992 are Bill Polhemus, John Illgen, Carl Andren and Frank Cassidy.

Kjell Enerstad, Bruce Hensel and Henry Marx serve as appointed directors, with terms ending in 1991 unless re-appointed.

Registration for All Events

Name: _____
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 Fax No.: _____

Registration Fees*

| | | | |
|---------------------------|--|-------|-------|
| Members: | Pre-Convention (By Sept. 9) At the Convention | \$270 | \$320 |
| | Non-Members (includes one year WGA membership) Pre-Convention (By Sept. 9) At the Convention | \$295 | \$345 |
| Individual Events: | Loran/GPS Interoperability Tutorial | \$295 | |
| | Golf Classic (includes cart) | \$75 | |
| | Spouses' Program (please check, if participating) | \$18 | |
| | Luncheon Oct. 1 (guest) | \$30 | |
| | Banquet Oct. 2 " | \$18 | |
| | Luncheon Oct. 3 " | \$18 | |
| | Total Enclosed \$ | | |

*The registration fee includes attendance at all technical sessions, admission to the luncheons, banquet, hosted cocktail party and WGA hospitality suite, and a copy of the meeting proceedings.

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Please make checks payable (in U.S. dollars drawn on a U.S. bank) to Wild Goose Association, and send them to:

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