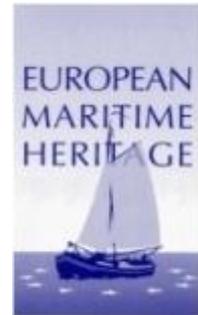


Secretary's Report for the year 2008



Headlines

EMH continued or renewed her connections with EU institutions like EC's Maritime Affairs and Fisheries. Was present at the European Maritime Day in Rome and has supported the Black Flag action in the Baltic region. EMH welcomed her first Regional Member in Galicia.

The year round

The Executive Committee met twice, in Admannshagen and Helsinki.

In October the Working Group was invited by the Skutföreningen Kustkultur i Finland, the Finnish members. On Soumenlinna in Helsinki an attractive program was set up. A visit of the Island and a boat trip through the archipelago effected in very fruitful meetings of the working group and councils.

The Safety Council had one meeting in Helsinki, where Jaap Baalbergen (Netherlands) took over the chair of Jan Fock. Jan Fock contributed from the beginning of this important council. Thanks to his energy and knowledge EMH reached so many success and an important Memorandum of Understanding for traditional ships in European waters.

The Cultural council met in Rotterdam and Helsinki. The rudder was taken over from Arne Gotved through Per-Inge Lindqvist (Sweden). Arne was the founder of the idea of a charter and launched it in Barcelona. This so called Barcelona Charter is a charter for the conservation and restoration of traditional ships in operation and is more and more accepted as a practical guideline for ship owners and institutions. The Cultural Council started up a project for an inventory of traditional ships in Europe.

The Inland Waterway Council, chaired by Dörte Münstermann has tried to nominate more countries in this council, but only Germany and the Netherlands have responded so far. Germany has taken a lead in drafting a response to the Joint Working Group and the Netherlands is invited to give a response.

An application for Associate membership had been received from Associacao Portuguesa do Patrimonio Maritimo in Portugal. Advisory membership was sought by the Ecomuseu Municipal do Seixal in Portugal and the Ship Preservation Centres at Bredasholmen, Norheimsund and Gratangen, in Norway.

EMH's membership of Europa Nostra is accepted.

The EMH Newsletter came out twice and was distributed by post and by email. EMH website is still a tool to communicate. No big changes were made. The contact list has grown to 1700 addresses in 45 countries. Marianne de Zwart assisted in many office tasks, like regular and financial administration.

The contributors in 2008

Eight National members (Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and United Kingdom) formed the base of our work. Eighteen Advisory members supported the EMH. The maritime museums

in Dunkirk, Enkhuizen, Rotterdam and Amsterdam, Antwerp, Barcelona, Bremerhaven, Greenwich, Helsingør, Helsinki, Liverpool, London, Paris, San Sebastian, Seixal, Stockholm / Karlskrona, and the Skibsbevaringsfond of Denmark supported our work and three Ship Preservation Centres in Norway from: Bredasholmen, Norheimsund and Gratangen.

There were five Associate members: Sail Training International (STI), Maritieme Site Oostende (MSO) and the Sammenslutningen af Mindre Erhvervsfartøjerne (SME) of Denmark, Estonian Association of Historical Ships, Baltic Sail/Hanse Sail Rostock and the Portuguese Association for Maritime Heritage (APMM).

Together with all the originations, volunteers and other interested people we keep our traditional fleet in operation.

The Secretary
Andijk, January 2010