

## Secretary's Report for the year 2013



### Headlines

The steady succession of EMH activities in 2013 provided a reminder of how dependent our organisation is on its volunteers, and of occasional pressures on their availability. We maintained important contacts with various EU institutions and with Europa Nostra, the International Council of Maritime Museums (ICMM) and Sail Training International (STI). EMH was active in the worldwide panel IHTS and participated in a wide variety of events and congresses.

### The year round

The Executive Committee met in Aabenraa (DK) and had some teleconferences. Members attended conferences or events in Amsterdam (STI appointment with the trustees), Stockholm (STI congress), Greenwich and Cascais (International Historic & Traditional Ships Panel (IHTS)), Lloret del Mar (AMMM forum), Vannes (Semaine du Golfe), Orleans (Festival de Loire) and Chalkida (Forum of Proteas in Greece). At the beginning of the year in January the Working Group met in Amsterdam and was hosted by the Scheepvaartmuseum. The Safety Council met in Amsterdam in conjunction with the STI congress and was active in seeking a resolution of the Danish/Dutch situation. Plans were made for our Congress to be hosted in Lübeck in 2013, but the proposed host organisation later had to withdraw its invitation. The triennial Congress was postponed to May 2014 in Aabenraa and Flensburg. The Inland Waterway Council is waiting what for the official texts from Strasbourg for discussion. The Cultural Council did not meet during 2013.

A new communication strategy was discussed. No Newsletter was printed during 2013, but topical events were announced on the Website, which is still of great benefit as a source for news, forthcoming congresses and maritime events. EMH contributed to social media.

The contact list has grown to 1860 addresses in 49 countries. The EMH newsletter can be distributed to 1200 contacts by email and 660 by post. Work continues to find out email addresses instead of postal addresses to reduce the post costs. Next year distributing only by email is the goal. Marianne de Zwart assisted with office tasks till January and stopped her help because of other work. She was all the years a very good help and anchor in the organisation. Many office tasks, like regular and financial administration are done by the ExCom members.

### The contributors in 2013

Seven National members (Denmark, Finland, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and United Kingdom) and two regional members (Galicia and Greece) formed the base of our work.

Sixteen Advisory members supported the EMH. The maritime museums in Antwerp, Paris, Bremerhaven, Klaipeda, Amsterdam, Enkhuizen, Rotterdam, Seixal, Stockholm / Karlskrona, Barcelona and San Sebastian.

The Skibsbevaringsfonden of Denmark supported our work and two Ship Preservation Centres in Norway from Bredasholmen and Norheimsund. We welcomed the Port-Musée de Douarnenez (France) as advisory member.

There were eleven Associate members: Albaolo, the Basque Maritime Heritage Society, Sammenslutningen af Mindre Erhvervsfartøjerne (SME) of Denmark, the Estonian Association of Historical Ships, Portuguese Association for Maritime Heritage (APPM), Icelandic Association of Maritime Museums, Forbundet Kysten from Norway, STS General Zaruski from Poland, Sail Training International (STI), Baltic Sail/Hanse Sail Rostock (including 6 Baltic port/event organisers) and Goélette Gross-Île from Canada. We welcomed NP "Flagman-AS" as a new associate member from Russia.

EMH continued its membership of Europa Nostra, International Congress of Maritime Museums (ICMM) and Association of Maritime Museums in the Mediterranean (AMMM).

Timo Schubert is still the EMH EU strategic advisor in Brussels (ADSInsight)

EMH is still working to recruit more active members in the South of Europe. The situation is not the same as in the North and many yachts are not involved in our workfield. This year EMH received more questions about ways for financial grants or support and what to do with ships leaving the homeport and disappearing to other countries or continents. Some accidents with traditional ships gives still a reason to discuss how maritime heritage can survive by operating in the modern time. EMH is an NGO where the work is done by volunteers in an international professional organised playground. Thanks to all these people EMH is still playing an important role in the European and even worldwide heritage and transport scene.

The Secretary  
Andijk, May 2014