

TCS ANNUAL REPORT 1997-1998

MEMBERSHIP STATUS

January 1, 1996	212
January 1, 1997	232
January 1, 1998	203

FINANCIAL STATUS

January 1, 1996	\$22,682
January 1, 1997	\$19,586
January 1, 1998	\$12,695

MAJOR ACTIVITIES IN 1997-98

16th Biennial Conference

Much of our activity this past year has been spent in the planning for TCS16 in Williamsburg. Mo Lynch and his Steering Committee have done an excellent job in carrying forward the traditions of innovation and topicality that have characterized TCS meetings. Notable among these innovations is the evolving thread of "Vision 20/20", the seeds for which were planted at the TCS 15 meeting in Seattle and which became the theme for a session at CZ97 in Boston and a presentation at the NOAA Coastal Manager's meeting in Washington, D.C. in March of this year. This theme continues with the opening plenary session in Williamsburg, "Minding the Coasts with Vision 20/20: Whose Business is it Anyway?"

Relations with Allied Organizations

As we noted last year, President Orbach attended the Eurocoast Littoral 1996 meeting in Portsmouth, England, as a representative of TCS. This involvement with other organizations outside of the U.S. has continued through a cooperative arrangement which is being negotiated with CZ Canada 98 under which the two organizations will cooperate in the funding of activities of mutual interest. We hope to increase our interaction with other coastal organizations internationally.

Administrative Issues

The Board of Directors met four times in 1997 and three times to date in 1998, operating under the revised committee structure where all Board members are committee members and each of the major committees - Education, Membership, Nominations and Special Projects - is chaired by a Board member. This new structure was instituted to stimulate more Board involvement in all of the TCS activities, and has worked well. The Bulletin publication schedule is stabilizing, with one double issue published in 1997 and two issues published in the first half of 1998. The first of these 1998 issues, essentially a double issue in itself, dealt with the Year of the Ocean with articles by Dr. James Baker, the Administrator of NOAA, Senator Ernest F. Hollings and others covering local, state, national and international issues. The second issue was created as a 'prep' for Williamsburg, with articles dealing with the subjects of the plenaries in a manner intended to both stimulate interest and link the different parts of the meeting together. Thanks in particular to Linda Maxson and Laura Cantral for these efforts. To lend a greater sense of continuity in the leadership of TCS, President-Elect Megan Bailiff will be installed as President at the end of the Williamsburg meeting.

Membership

Membership Committee Chair Darrell Brown and his committee worked hard to reassess our approach to recruitment and retention of members, and will be soliciting advice from all the attendees in Williamsburg on this issue. With the significant assistance of Treasurer Tina Bernd-Cohen and Executive Director Judy Tucker, the committee published a TCS Membership Directory which will be distributed at TCS 16. The issue of membership, especially the recruitment of new, young members, is a critical one and we look forward to your comments.

Michael K. Orbach
President

June, 1998

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE COASTAL SOCIETY

The mission of The Coastal Society is to serve as a forum for coastal resource professionals and interested individuals to come together to promote the better understanding and stewardship of our coastal resources.

GOALS OF THE COASTAL SOCIETY

1. Foster cooperation and communication among government agencies, professionals, citizens and related groups.
2. Promote conservation and responsible use of coastal resources.
3. Advance public education and appreciation of coastal resources.

4. Support the education of TCS members and students.