

## **BACKGROUND: The International Hydrofoil Society Mandles Prize for Hydrofoil Excellence.**

By Ray Vellinga

Martinn Mandles and his wife Connie have funded up to \$4,500 a year in IHS hydrofoil achievement awards for students commencing in 2014. What was once just a dream of past president, John Meyer, is now a reality due to the contributions of the Mandles and the creative efforts of several IHS members



including President Mark Bebar, Ray Vellinga, Leigh McCue-Weil, Bill Hockberger, Martin Grimm, Joel Billingsley, Frank Horn and George Jenkins.

### **Martinn and Connie Mandles**

The Mandles Prize itself is an annual \$2,500 award in recognition of hydrofoil engineering, design or construction achievement by college and university students (undergraduate and graduate level) worldwide. The award of the Prize will be based on submissions from individual students or groups of up to six students with the signature of a faculty adviser endorsing each submission. Submissions must be specific to hydrofoils, and publishable by IHS. Submissions will be solicited on the IHS website, by contacting faculty at educational institutions internationally, and by advertisement, cost permitting, in applicable

professional and trade publications (e.g., SNAME's *Marine Technology*, ASNE's *Naval Engineers Journal*, etc.). Submissions will be due on or before May 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, with the Prize winner selected, announced and awarded no later than August 1<sup>st</sup> of that year. The awards consist of the \$2,500 First Prize with a commemorative plaque, and as many as two optional Honorable Mention prizes of \$1,000, each with a commemorative plaque.

The IHS Board of Directors will appoint a panel of no less than five (5) judges, free from any real or perceived conflict of interest, to evaluate the submissions and recommend the Prize winners. The recommendation of the panel shall be ratified by a majority of the IHS Board of Directors. Depending on the submissions received, it may be necessary to add other judges who are Subject Matter Experts. The IHS annual dues form will be amended to allow any member to specify a donation toward this Prize in addition to their dues payment. Any and all such funds will be applied to a cash reserve or endowment to sustain the Prize.

In a recent email of thanks to Martinn and Connie, Bill Hockberger captured the spirit of this competition: "I was really pleased when I learned of your generous offer to establish a student competition with monetary awards. I think it will motivate young people studying ship design to consider hydrofoils in a way that a mere award certificate or plaque can never do. And if they jump in, by necessity it will also motivate their professors to learn about hydrofoils so they can oversee their students' projects. That'll be a significant extra bang for the buck! A big part of the problem getting people to consider hydrofoils when they might be the best alternative is that so few know enough about them."

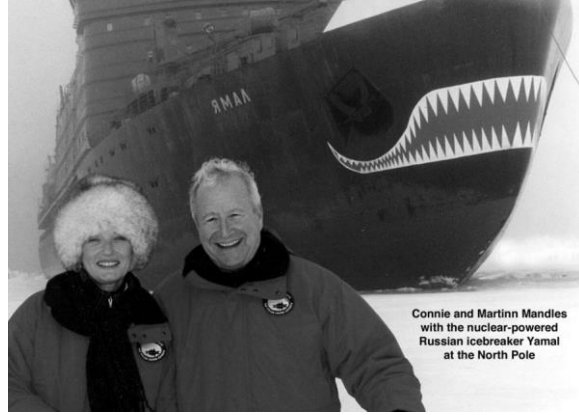
Many of our members know Martinn and something about his accomplishments. For others, here is a summary: Martinn started as a hydroplane racer in high school and became both an airplane and hydrofoil "pilot" before earning an engineering degree from Stanford University in 1964. As such, he was the first co-pilot of Boeing's Aqua-Jet hydrofoil research hydroplane, and on the first flight crew of the Boeing built FRESH-1 high-speed research hydrofoil. Upon his return from Vietnam in 1967, Mandles became the Navy's first captain of Boeing's first hydrofoil gunboat, USS Tucumcari.

After completing five years of military service in 1969, Mandles commenced a 37-year career at ABM Industries (NYSE:ABM), where he was Chairman of the Board from 1997-2006.

An accomplished aviator and avid adventurer, Martinn was the first non-NASA American pilot to graduate from the Russian Cosmonaut Basic Training Program at Star City near Moscow, and has visited both the North and South Poles, as well as the North Face Base Camp of Mt. Everest in Tibet and countless other challenging destinations worldwide. Two of these adventures are illustrated here. IHS member Martinn and his wife Connie reside in Los Angeles, where he now serves as an executor and trustee of several major trusts.



**Martinn training in the cockpit of a Soyuz**



**Connie and Martinn at the North Pole**