

This feature is named for Rear Admiral Christian (NMN) Andreasen (retired), NOAA's Chief Hydrographer, IHO's President, and NGA's Chief Hydrographer, who has spent a career devoted to the advancement of Hydrography and to improve the safety of worldwide navigation.

Since 1963, RADM Andreasen has been involved with several fields of study including, Geodesy, Hydrography, Bathymetry, and to the safety of worldwide navigation. Beginning with NOAA's legacy organization, the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, he was instrumental in accurately measuring the earth's gravity and improved the ability to track space flights. He served in the Geometric Satellite Program that was the beginning of the Global Positioning System. He became Chief of the Planning and Methodology branch of geodesy that planned all movement of geodetic parties around the United States. He served as Captain aboard NOAA survey vessels to better chart U.S. waters and commanded the Office of Fleet Operations. He also served as Chief of Nautical Charting overseeing research and development, charting, and hydro surveying. He has expertise in, geodesy, multi-beam surveys, mapping and charting, photogrammetry, and charting research and development.

RADM Andreasen served as President of the International Hydrographic Organization from 1992 to 1997. During his term he streamlined organizational structure, enhanced membership process, developed standards for electronic charts (S57), established an Industry Advisory Group to improve exchange agreements, and also served as Chairman of the copyright committee.

As NGA's Chief Hydrographer, he was instrumental in developing strategic planning, technical developments, transformational initiatives, data processing enhancements, international data sharing, intellectual copyright agreements, emerging littoral and riverine requirements, and the transition of the US Navy to electronic charting. He was instrumental in developing the CARIS BATHY database and the UK/NAVO/NOAA/NGA working group.

During his distinguished career he has served in several leadership capacities including: President of the Hydrographic Society of America; Chair of the International federation of Hydrographic Societies' Worldwide Educational fund Management Committee; Vice-President of the International Union for Surveys and Mapping; and Secretary-General/Vice President of the International federation of Surveyors.

He was recognized with the Silver and Bronze medals of the Department of Commerce, the IHO Commodore Cooper medal, the DoD Distinguished Civilian Service Medal, the Presidential Rank Award for Distinguished Service as a Senior Executive, and the Alexander Dalrymple Award by the UKHO for demonstrating outstanding dedication and contribution to world hydrography.

RADM Andreasen's dedicated service, leadership, and contributions spanning 50 years brought his expertise to bear to help solve key technical issues to better map the seafloor, established new hydrographic policies, developed improved standards, and fostered better international cooperation for improving charting and safe navigation for the civil mariner and the US military.