

Clinical-Biomedical-Safety Engineer Marvin Shepherd Tries Out for a New Job

Retirement hasn't slowed the activities of safety engineer, Marvin Shepherd. Marv retired twice but the inactivity was too much for him to bear. So, four years ago he began a new job; to research and write about the life of a Danish sea captain whose daughter Marv worked for as a gardener in 1942. The captain was shot in the lung by Indians, almost died of "dropsy" in the Auburn, California gold mines in 1849, and sailed out to sea on the bottom of a whale boat during an aborted attempt to rescue passengers of a grounded sailing ship. These adventures were just three that occurred in the first 90 pages of Marv's new 430 page book, *The Sea Captain's Odyssey*. It is not only a true biography and history, but it is laced with unusual events and adventures that involved the sea captain.

Marv was active as a biomedical engineer in eye research when AAMI was first founded about 1967. He was later an active member of the CMIA and Bay Area Managers of Medical Instrumentation (BAMMI). In 1971, the electrical safety scare that we were electrocuting patients brought Marv into Clinical Engineering just as BMETs and CEs were being nationally defined by AAMI. He remained active in the BMET-CE fields even after he retired from UCSF in 1991. In 1992, he began his own company to investigate device-related accidents and continued investigations until 2007. He has written numerous papers and 3 technical books over the years and one, the AAMI Electrical Safety Manual-2008, co-written with Matt Baretich, PE, PhD, is still available.

Marv says that it was quite a leap from writing engineering text and articles to writing about biography and history, but he has found it to be "great fun." *The Sea Captain's Odyssey* was released December 4th, 2010 and has been well received. The book can be ordered through Amazon.com or Barnes & Noble or, in March 2011, an e-book is scheduled for release. Marv says that a second book is in the works for publication in late 2011 or early 2012. He can be reached at his publishing company, Georgie Press, at (925) 945-0137 or marv@georgiepress.com.