



EXPLORER'S GAZETTE

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Uniting All OAEs in Perpetuating the History of U.S. Navy Involvement in Antarctica

Special Edition No. 9

Old Antarctic Explorers Association, Inc

18 October 2017

Reviewed & modified 23 November 2017

Old Antarctic Explorers Association

9th National Reunion

San Antonio, Texas 9–11 May 2018

You are Cordially invited to join us for the 9th Old Antarctic Explorers Association (OAEA) National Reunion in San Antonio, Texas. We are certain that we have chosen one of the premier places to stay in downtown San Antonio—the Holiday Inn El Tropicano Riverwalk Hotel. Our first priority is to ensure that your visit will be a memorable, safe, and happy one.

Date: Wednesday, 9 May through
Friday, 11 May 2018.

Registration fee: \$105 per person
(registration form enclosed)

Point of Contact: John Lamont West
210 651 3650
OAEA2018Reunion@aol.com

Mailing address: OAEA 2018 Reunion
15838 Beaufort Blvd
Selma, TX 78154-3839

Venue: El Tropicano Riverwalk Hotel
110 Lexington Avenue
San Antonio, Texas 78205
<http://eltropicanohotel.com>

Reservations: 1-877-736-4311 or direct: 210-223-9461
or via e-mail at:
reservations@eltropicanohotel.com



Hotel Reservations & Rates: Room reservations are the responsibility of the attendees. 100 rooms have been blocked for the OAEA in the Holiday Inn El Tropicano Riverwalk Hotel. The hotel is located amid San Antonio's downtown landmarks. San Antonio International Airport is just 9 miles (15 minutes) away from the El Tropicano. All official gatherings and meetings will occur on this property. The room rate is \$109.00 per night (suites \$169.00). When making reservations, be sure to identify yourself as being with the **Old Antarctic Explorers Association. Rooms are limited, so book early.** Rates cannot be adjusted at check-in or checkout for guests who fail to identify their affiliation when making reservations. The special OAEA room rate is available from two days before and two days after the reunion dates of 9–11 May 2018 subject to availability. Come as early as 7 May and stay as late as 13 May at this special group discount rate. Hotel rates are subject to all city and state taxes.

NOTICE – NOTICE – NOTICE

Make your hotel reservations now because San Antonio is a tourist destination town. Reservations after Tuesday 10 April 2018 will be on a space available basis and reunion rates cannot be guaranteed.



EL TROPICANO AMENITIES

- Daily OAEA Self Parking Fee \$12 or \$16 in/out
- No pets (service animals are allowed)
- Health/Fitness Center On-Site.
- Full Service Fitness Area for 18 Years and Older
- Outdoor Pools with Sauna & Whirlpool
- Free High-speed Wireless Internet Access
- Local Phone Calls \$0.56 Each
- Microwave and Coffee Maker in all Rooms
- Hairdryer, Iron/Ironing Board in all Rooms
- Dry Cleaning/Laundry Pickup (Mon-Sat)
- Room Service: 6:30 am-2 pm & 5 pm-10 pm
- Free Safe Deposit Box available at Front Desk
- One Full-Featured Hotel Restaurant
- One Lobby-Level Expresso Café
- Tiki Bar/Lounge

DIRECTIONS

From San Antonio International Airport—Distance from hotel: Approx 9 miles. 13-15 minutes driving time.

- Head northeast on E Terminal Dr - 0.7 mi
- Turn right toward McAllister Fwy - 0.3 mi
- Turn left at McAllister Fwy - 213 ft
- Merge onto US-281 S via the ramp on the left to Downtown/San Antonio - 6.8 mi
- Continue onto I-37 S - 0.3 mi
- Take exit 141C toward McCullough Ave/Nolan St - 0.2 mi
- Keep right at the fork, follow signs for Brooklyn Ave/Broadway and merge onto Brooklyn Ave - 0.2 mi
- Turn left at Broadway - 0.2 mi
- Take the 3rd right onto 4th St - 0.1 mi
- Continue onto Lexington Ave Destination will be on the right - 492 ft
- Arrive at El Tropicano, 110 Lexington Avenue

MAPQUEST DIRECTIONS & MAPS

The OAEA Reunion website has directions to the El Tropicano Riverwalk from the International Airport and all directions of the compass.

[Click here](#) to access the OAEA Reunion Web Site or type: <https://www.oaea.net/oaea-2018-reunion/directions> in your browser window. The web site will have individual links to the hotel from the airport and the four directions of the compass, or you can go direct to the page (directions) of your choice by clicking on the individual links below:

- [Click here](#) for map & directions from the San Antonio International Airport.
- [Click here](#) for map & directions from the North (Austin)
- [Click here](#) for map & directions from the East (Houston)
- [Click here](#) for map & directions from the West (El Paso)
- [Click here](#) for map & directions from the South (Laredo)
- [Click here](#) for map & directions from the South (Corpus Christi)

TRANSPORTATION:

SAN ANTONIO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



9800 Airport Blvd., San Antonio TX 78216; Tel. 210 207 3450

The San Antonio International Airport (SAT) is located approximately eight miles from downtown San Antonio with convenient access from Loop 410 and US Highway 281. The SAT is a two terminal facility serviced by 16 domestic and international airline carriers providing nonstop service

to 32 destinations. Visitors can book a flight at <http://www.SanAntonio.com/airport/> arrange for an airport shuttle or use the taxi service [online Taxi Cab Service](#).

The following are general guidelines for taxi fares in San Antonio: All taxis charge \$1.70 for the first one sixth of a mile and \$1.80 for each mile thereafter (plus gas surcharge, if applicable). Wait time and traffic delay is \$18/hour. You may also have to pay other charges such as airport fees, and baggage and handling fees, may also be applicable.

taxigrab.com



AIRPORT SHUTTLE



Super Shuttle is the official airport shuttle providing scheduled shuttle service from the San Antonio International Airport to the downtown hotels from 7:00am to 1:30am daily. Shuttle tickets are sold at the baggage claim area. Price \$18 one-way or \$32 round trip. To schedule a ride to the airport click on the Super Shuttle logo above or call 1 800 258 3826

Car Rental Information:

You can check car rental savings offered by your airline of choice, or contact Enterprise for special rates:



Take advantage of *Enterprise Rent-a-Car's* El Tropicano discount by visiting [Enterprise Rent a Car www.enterprise.com/car_rental/deeplinkmap.do?bid=002&cust=52A4259](http://www.enterprise.com/car_rental/deeplinkmap.do?bid=002&cust=52A4259) or 1-800-rent-a-car (736-8222). OAEA members may use the Holiday Inn El Tropicano Riverwalk Hotel corporate account number when reserving a rental car from Enterprise Car Rental. The discount is available by mentioning that room reservations have been made at the El Tropicano or by providing the hotels corporate account code 52A4259.

RV Parking: There is no RV parking at the El Tropicano. For information on: [RV Campgrounds & Resorts](#) that are the closest to the Riverwalk and the Alamo go to: <http://travelersworldrvresort.com/> In addition the [KOA](#) is located 5 miles from downtown San Antonio <http://www.koa.com/where/TX/43112/>. And for Military RV Parks: Fort Sam Houston RV Park, Phone: 210 221 5502 or at the following URL: <https://www.militarycampgrounds.us/texas/fort-sam-houston-army-rv-park>

IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER

In the event that space limitations are exceeded the following policy has been established:

- Only dues paid OAEA members, and their Registered guests, will be permitted to attend reunion events. **Individuals who are eligible to be Regular Members of the OAEA cannot be a guest of another member.**
- Registrations will be taken on a first-come, first served basis.
- A membership application form is provided for non-members. **Please complete & mail separately to the address at the top of the application with a check made payable to OAEA.**

ADDITIONAL HOTEL INFORMATION



The \$109 per night contract room rate is for either single or double occupancy. You may choose King, Queen, or 2 double beds. Upgrades to suites are available for \$60.00 more per night.

The hotel will charge your credit card for one night if you are a no-show and did not cancel. You have 72 hours prior to scheduled arrival to change/cancel reservations without the penalty of being charged one night room and tax. Check-in after 4 pm and checkout time is 12 noon.

AREA ATTRACTIONS & THINGS TO DO

Attendees who want to enhance their historical or cultural knowledge of the area may want to consider visiting one or more of the following points of interest:

- Fort Sam Houston: Birthplace of military aviation and the site of the first flight of a military aircraft in 1910
- Lackland Air Force Base: Lackland is the basic military center for Air Force recruits, as well as the site of the Defense Language Institute English Language Center.
- Randolph AFB: home to the 12th Flying Training Wing, the only unit in the Air Force conducting both pilot instructor training and combat systems officer training.
- Green Acres Golf & Games: San Antonio's newest amusement park.
- Morgan's Wonderland: Ultra accessible family fun park. Dedicated to individuals with special needs.
- Schlitterbahn Water Park Resort: One of the most popular summertime water parks in the USA.
- Seaworld San Antonio: From Shamu to dolphins, sharks, seals, sea lions, and much more.
- Six Flags Fiesta Texas: Experience the best in thrilling rides, exciting live entertainment.
- Splashtown: This family water-park has something fun for every age.
- Ripley's Believe It or Not & Tussaud's Wax Museum: Alamo Plaza.
- San Antonio Zoo: Third largest zoo in the country.
- San Antonio Zoo Eagle: Climb aboard for a nostalgic ride through Brackenridge Park. The miniature railway travels 2 1/2 miles.
- Scobee Planetarium: At the San Antonio College.
- Buckhorn Saloon & Museum and the Texas Ranger Museum.

EVENTS

After hotel room check-in, follow signs for directions to the Reunion registration/check-in area. The primary OAEA gathering area will be in the Hospitality rooms located on the hotel ground floor. These areas will be exclusive OAEA territory and the place to be for information dissemination, socializing, merchandise sales, tour departures, and for sharing memorabilia. Here you can rejuvenate memories and renew friendships. Each attendee will receive a Welcome Aboard bag that will include a Schedule of Events, information on San Antonio, and other goodies.

Throughout the entire reunion, there will be vendors available for the purchase of reunion souvenirs and the committee anticipates individual member displays of Antarctic artifacts will also be available for viewing. There may also be representatives of local businesses representing scheduled tour transportation and special local civic events.

Wednesday's events will include registration, an OAEA Officer's meeting, and leisure time for looking up old friends. The day's events will be an evening of socializing that includes a one hour "Welcome to El Tropica" Mariachi Band with chips, queso, salsa and a cash bar set up.

Thursday's events will include late registration and coffee and breakfast pastries. Several tours are on the agenda. The afternoon and evening will be free for general socializing.

Friday's events will also start with coffee and breakfast pastries followed by a general assembly that will include a memorial service, guest speaker presentations, a general membership meeting, and the second, and final Officers meeting in the evening. The evening will be centered on a banquet dinner, raffle drawings, cash bar, and entertainment.

On Saturday we will have to bid farewell. There will be coffee and breakfast pastries available and the reception area will be open until 1200 noon for final farewells.

The Reunion Committee needs to know numbers as soon as possible for planning purposes. Please let the POC know when your plans are firm, but not later than 1 April.

The total cost of the meal, including sales tax, and gratuity is included in the Registration fee. Any attendee requiring a special dietary menu should contact the POC prior to 1 April. Attire is optional. We also plan to hold a raffle as part of our banquet supper. Donations of items suitable for the raffle or for door prizes will be appreciated. It is desired that donated items be related to the Antarctic, but any appropriate item will be welcome. Remember, one person's "white elephant" may be exactly what another person is looking for!

REUNION MERCHANDISE

The reunion committee will be selling merchandise featuring the 2018 Reunion logo. Items will be available at a reasonable price. Pam Landy is the 2018 Merchandise Chairman. Volunteers will be solicited to operate the merchandise booth.

VENDORS

Only OAEA members will be authorized to sell their merchandise at the reunion. Any member desiring to sell merchandise should contact the 2018 Reunion Vendor/Merchandise Coordinator, Dave Hazard not later than 1 April.

2018 REUNION ABBREVIATED SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

On Wednesday, 9 May, attendees follow the signs to the OAEA Registration area in the foyer. Check-in with the Reunion Committee volunteers and pick-up your Welcome Aboard bag(s). The Hospitality Rooms will be the primary OAEA gathering places throughout the Reunion. Note: Scheduled tour details and prices are on the back of the Registration Form.

Tuesday 8 May:	Friday, 11 May
8 am-? Volunteers Assemble Welcome Aboard Bags	6 am Coffee & Pastries Hospitality Room
Wednesday 9 May:	8:30 am Memorial Service
6 am Coffee & Pastries Hospitality Room	9-11 am General Membership Meeting
8 am-4 pm Registration & Mug Shots	10 am-3:30 pm Tour #6 Spouses & Guests City Tour With Lunch
10 am-3 pm Tour #1 Early Bird Tour Historic Gurne, Texas	1-3 pm Guest Speaker Elaine Hood
3:30-5 pm Guest Speaker Robert Bindschadler	3:30-4:30 pm Second Officers Meeting
5-6 pm Mariachi Welcome Reception with chips, queso, salsa, and a Cash Bar.	4:30-6:30 pm Memory Book Photos
6-7 pm First Officers Meeting	6-10 pm Cash Bar
Thursday, 10 May	6-11:30 pm Banquet Dinner & Entertainment
6 am Coffee & Pastries Hospitality Room	Saturday, 12 May
8 am-noon Late Registration	6 am Coffee & Pastries Hospitality Room
9 am-6 pm Tour #2 Fredericksburg (Nimitz Museum & War Museum of the Pacific) & LBJ Ranch	6 am-noon Socializing
10 am-4 pm Tour #3 SAS, Market Square & La Villita Tour	12 noon Hotel Check-out time
10 am-4 pm Tour #4 Spanish Missions - UNESCO World Heritage Site	
4-5:30 pm Guest Speaker Allison Barden (Sandwich Girl)	
6-9 pm Tour #5 German Society Beer Garden Buffet	





REGISTRATION FORM
9th National Reunion
of the
Old Antarctic Explorers Association
9-10-11 May 2018



OAEA Member: _____ Nametag to read: _____
name

Address: _____
street city state zip code

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

Antarctic Experience: Members, please give a very brief summary, including rate/rank, branch of service, year/season & Winter-Over seasons, dates of cruise visits, activity/agency/command/ship names, etc, to be used on your nametag:

Note: Antarctic Experience shall be abbreviated as necessary in order to fit on nametag.

Spouse / Guest: _____ Nametag to read: _____
name
 (Note: If necessary use a separate sheet of paper for additional names)

Number of people attending: # at \$105 per attendee\$ _____

EXTRA COST TOURS (See back of form for full tour descriptions):

#1. The Gruene Texas Adventure # at \$35 per person..... \$ _____

#2. Fredericksburg & LBJ Ranch Tour # at \$60 per person..... \$ _____

#3. SAS, Market Square & La Villita # at \$40 per person.....\$ _____

#4. Spanish Missions – UNESCO World Heritage Site # at \$40 per person..... \$ _____

#5. German Society Beer Garden # at \$65 per person.....\$ _____

#6. City Tour With Lunch # at \$50 person..... \$ _____

Total:(add up above costs to obtain your total) \$ _____

NOTE: The Registration fee does not include hotel accommodations which are payable direct to the hotel.



Do you or your guest(s) have any disability or dietary need that requires special attention? _____
if necessary, continue on separate sheet of paper

Enclose this completed form with a check payable to: **OAEA 2018 Reunion** not later than _____ 2018
 Mail to: OAEA 2018 Reunion
 15838 Beaufort Blvd
 Selma, TX 78154-3839

If you are not an OAEA member please complete and mail the enclosed membership application to the address on the application form. Your OAEA membership dues will require a check payable to "OAEA".
 (Source: OAEA Web Site)

OAEA 2018

San Antonio Tour Offerings

Wednesday, 9 May 2018 1000 – 1500

Tour #1 Historic Gruene, Texas \$35

Board your motor coach for a trip to historic Gruene, Texas on the banks of the Guadalupe River. It was settled by Germans in the mid 1800's and is on the National Register of Historic Places. It also has one of the oldest dance halls that were so popular here in Central Texas. There are fun specialty shops and antique stores to explore and when you get tired of that you can stop in a wine bar and do some fine wine tasting. For lunch you have several choices of restaurants from which to choose. Lunch is own your own. (5 hours)

Thursday, 10 May 2018 0900 – 1800

Tour #2 Fredericksburg and LBJ Ranch \$60

Our full day trip to the charming German town of Fredericksburg takes us first to the LBJ Ranch National Park for a tour of LBJ's Ranch and through the Texas White House before arriving into Fredericksburg. Lunch is on your own, but your admission to the Admiral Nimitz Museum and the National Museum of the War of the Pacific is included. You may even find some time to take a look in the quaint shops. (9 hours)

Thursday, 10 May 2018 1000 – 1600

Tour #3 SAS, Market Square & La Villita \$40

Our first stop today is the SAS Shoe Factory for a tour of the factory followed by some time to shop in their unique store; next we head to Market Square. Your guide will share the history of the area and give you some ideas of things to buy at the Mexican Market. Lunch is on your own here. We then head to La Villita for a stroll through the little village as your guide relays the history. You then have some free time to check out the shops in this area before heading back to your hotel. (6 hours)

Thursday, 10 May 2018 1000 – 1600

Tour #4 Spanish Missions – UNESCO World Heritage Site \$40

Today we step back into the 18th century as we tour some of the missions including the Alamo and make a stop at the only remaining aqueduct in the USA. Hear the story from your knowledgeable guide of the creation of the missions and their unique water system still in use in some parts of our city and you will know why these missions have been chosen as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. You will also visit San Fernando Cathedral, which played a part in the Battle of the Alamo. Lunch is on your own at the River Center Mall. (6 hours)

Thursday, 10 May 2018 1800 – 2100

Tour # 5 German Society Beer Garden Tour \$65

Experience our rich German culture and hospitality at one of the Riverwalk's newest and most entertaining attractions – the San Antonio Biergarten. The Beer Garden is attached to an authentic 1880s German beer hall; it is comfortable and charming under a stand of tall majestic trees. Travel time to your Texas Bar-B-Que is 5 minutes from the Tropicano Hotel. Upon arrival have a drink (cash bar) followed by a buffet with a choice of sausages that include Bratwurst Sausage, Knockwurst Sausage, Weisswurst Sausage, or Polish Sausage. It includes German Sauerkraut, German Potato Salad, and Cucumber Salad. For dessert, there is a choice of Apple Strudel Cheesecake & German Chocolate Cake. (3 hours)

Friday, 11 May 2018 1000 – 1530

Tour #6 Spouses & Guests City Tour with Lunch \$50

This tour will take you to the King William area, the first designated historic district in the state of Texas, for a short walking tour. We then head to the West Side, our historic Mexican American area for a tour of the murals and how they came to be. After a lunch (included) at Luby's Cafeteria, a San Antonio tradition, we head over to the Japanese Tea Garden to see our little hidden jewel created a hundred years ago. On our way back to our hotel we will drive by the Korean and Vietnam War Memorials. (5 ½ hours)

Application for membership in the Old Antarctic Explorers Association, Inc.

*Please print or type all information, enclose a check or money order in U. S. dollars, payable to the OAEA, for your total and submit to
Ed Hamblin, 3104 Deepspring Drive, Chesapeake VA 23321*

PERSONAL INFORMATION

(If Commemorative Membership, enter submitter information in this section – deceased OAE information to be recorded below)

Last Name		First Name			Middle Int.	
Mailing Address		City		State		Zip Code
Telephone Number ()	E-mail address (type or print legible please)			Nickname	Country	

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION – Please read the following

- Add \$2.00 to all dues for a one-time enrollment fee
- All dues payable in U. S. Dollars – Check or money order only, no electronic transfers please
- Annual dues at \$10.00 per year – Initial registration between 1 Jan and 30 Jun will expire June 30th of the following year.
- Members that require international mailing from the US please add 20% surcharge for international mail charges
- Commemorative Memberships require no dues or enrollment fee. However, a tax-deductible donation to help defer administrative costs would be appreciated. Donations in the name of Memorial Members are also gratefully accepted.

Lifetime dues based upon age of member at closest birthday	Birthdate
81 and above - \$5.00	
76 to 80 inclusive - \$10.00	56 to 60 inclusive - \$75.00
71 to 75 inclusive - \$20.00	51 to 55 inclusive - \$90.00
66 to 70 inclusive - \$40.00	46 to 50 inclusive - \$100.00
61 to 65 inclusive - \$60.00	45 and below - \$110.00
Amount Submitted	
Dues +	Enrollment Fee + Donations = Total
	\$2.00

- **Regular Members**
 - Men or Women**—who worked on or visited the Antarctic Continent, and/or offshore islands or aboard ship in Antarctic waters for any legitimate purpose. Including U.S. Coast Guard personnel and U.S. Navy or Royal New Zealand Navy personnel who served on any of the Ocean Station Vessels that participated in Operation Deep Freeze.
 - Widows/Widowers or Surviving Children**—of any deceased individual who would, if living, be eligible for membership.
 - Commemorative Members—Deceased Men and Women** who, if living, would be eligible for Regular Member status
 - Memorial Members—Men and Women** who were killed or died in Antarctica. Members of Operations Highjump and Deep Freeze who were killed or died in Antarctica are automatically inducted into the OAEA as Regular Members.
- **Associate Members—Men and Women**—who do not qualify for regular member status but who believe in and desire to support the goals of this association.

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP APPLIED FOR

<input type="checkbox"/> Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> Associate	<input type="checkbox"/> Commemorative — <i>Indicate OAE Name and Date of Death (if known) below</i>
Length of Membership		
<input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual	

ANTARCTIC EXPERIENCE/INTEREST INFORMATION

Status (Circle one) (If military indicate rate/rank) Civilian / Military Rate/Rank	Country if other than US
Activity assigned to	Approximate dates assigned

- Provide a brief description of your involvement or interest in Antarctica (attach separate sheet if necessary)
- If applying for membership as a widow or widower of a deceased OAE, please include deceased OAE's Antarctic history.
- If submitting for Commemorative Membership indicate deceased member's Antarctic Experience if known

Please check below if applicable (authority will be assumed if not checked)

I do not authorize release of my mailing address and telephone number information to the general membership

Signature	Date
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For OAEA processing

Membership Number Assigned	Recorded in register	Subscribed to Aweber.com	Comments/Application Source 2018 Reunion Gazette OAEA WEB SITE 11/23/17
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