

EXPLORER'S GAZETTE

Published Quarterly in Pensacola, Florida USA for the Old Antarctic Explorers Association
Uniting All OAEs in Perpetuating the Memory of United States Involvement in Antarctica
Volume 18, Issue 1 Old Antarctic Explorers Association, Inc Jan-Mar 2018

FLAGS



Photo by the author

FLAGS FOUND IN 1977 BY BRITISH ANTARCTIC SURVEY TEAM

*By Edward John Wright, OAEA Life Member
Composed and Edited by Billy-Ace*

In 1976 I landed my dream job, Field General Assistant (GA) with the British Antarctic Survey (BAS). The post would be described as Field Guide today. At the end of October I sailed South on the RRS (Royal Research Ship) *Bransfield* via Jacksonville Florida, Montevideo, the Falkland Islands, and South Georgia, arriving at Halley Research Station (75°36'45"S 26°11'52"W) at the end of December.

I undertook a number of journeys from Halley in 1977. The major ones being to establish and maintain a remote receiving station, for VLF studies on the Polar Plateau inland from Halley. It was only relatively recently that BAS had switched from dogs to skidoos for scientific work and during these journeys we experimented and modified our techniques for travelling in crevassed country without the security of a nine dog team in front of us.

Continued on page 4

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Ed Hamblin—OAEA President

TO ALL OAEs—Spring is in the air...and so is the upcoming 9th Old Antarctic Explorers Association reunion (May 9–11 in San Antonio). Our reunions are put on bi-annually, and are a lot of fun. They are a chance to meet old and new friends, and of course, conduct some association business. It is not too late to sign up for the reunion; information is on the Old Antarctic Explorers Association web site at <https://oaea.net/>.



Since our last issue of *Gazette*, the major OAEA “event” has been some changes to the bylaws. We presently don’t have a by-laws committee, so it has fallen on the Executive Board to make it happen. Thanks to Secretary Marty Diller for spearheading the effort and putting it together. Part of the revision deals with the changes in elections to every four years. So...looking for a bylaws committee chairman...if you are interested in heading up a bylaws committee, contact me direct at ehamblin74@verizon.net.

By the time this is published, I will have been on or returned from a two week trip to South Africa. Part of our itinerary in Cape Town is to visit an African Penguin colony on the Cape of Good Hope. Also known as the Jackass Penguin, there is a significant colony at a place called Boulder’s Beach that we will be visiting. In my southern hemisphere travels since 1973 (Antarctica including Ross Sea area and Antarctic Peninsula; Chile; and Ecuador/Galapagos Islands), I have encountered Emperors, Adelies, Humboldt, Gentoo, King, Rockhoppers, and Macaroni Penguins. And soon, I will add the Jackass Penguin to my “eyeball collection”.

We have had a busy winter as far as membership goes. Since the first of January, we have added 24 new members to the roster. Both the membership chairman (Billy-Ace Baker) and our webmaster (Bob Gaboury) deserve kudos for what they do to attract new members.

It is also time to start thinking about OAEA Scholarship awards. More about that later in this issue.

If anyone is interested in starting an area “social group” or OAEA chapter, I can assist with that with an initial contact notification. We have had a social group going here in Tidewater Virginia since 2000, and we get together quarterly for lunch and general networking. Some of the urban areas that have a significant OAEA membership: Puget Sound, Dallas/Ft. Worth TX, Houston TX, San Antonio TX, San Francisco/San Jose/Sacramento CA, Jacksonville FL, South Central FL and Tampa Bay, and Denver CO.

I will catch up with you down the road. Take care.

Ed Hamblin

GROWLERS & BERGY BYTES

Feature Stories, Odds & Ends, Collected, Compiled, Edited, & Written by Billy-Ace Penguin Baker

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DISCLAIMER STATEMENT

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OAEA SCHOLARSHIP

By Linda Hamblin

Thanks to kind-hearted donors the OAEA Scholarship Program has increased by \$2925 since Christmas 2017. The New England Chapter continues to give a \$50 memorial donation in honor of a deceased member. According to David Hazard, President of OAEA-NE, the Chapter has now donated a total of \$2000 since the policy was established ten years ago. Many, many thanks to all you generous people.

If anyone would like to contribute to this worthwhile cause, send a check or money order payable to OAEA. Note on the check or by separate memo that the money is for the Scholarship Program.

Direct the envelope to:
Scholarship Program
3104 Deepspring Dr.
Chesapeake, VA 23321

Deadline to file a scholarship application is the second Saturday of July, July 14, 2018. The application must be received by this date. NOTE: The sponsor must include a statement with signature, or the application may not be screened.

Scholarship applications may be downloaded from the OAEA web site at: <https://oaea.net/scholarships/>

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**2018 REUNION
REMINDER/UPDATE**

By John Lamont West

Time is growing near for the 2018 OAEA Reunion, so be sure to get your hotel reservations and reunion registrations in as soon as possible. It is noted that several members and guests have reserved rooms, but have not submitted their reunion registrations to me.

I will accept registrations up until 8 May 2018; it is the hotel cutoff date that attendees must keep in mind. Otherwise they will have to negotiate room prices by themselves. Hotel reservations made after Tuesday 10 April 2018 will be on a space available basis and reunion rates cannot be guaranteed.

If you need a reunion registration form, you can download one, with the complete issue of the 2018 OAEA Reunion Special Edition of the *Explorer's Gazette* at: <https://oaea.net>.

I hope to see you there.
John Lamont



FLAGS

From Page 1



Photograph by: Richard Maitland Laws

View of the Bransfield anchored at the ice cliff edge, at Halley, unloading supplies.

Mid winter with the usual festivities was followed by spring journeys onto the plateau and visits to our local Emperor Penguin rookery. However it wasn't until November that my "main event" was due to take place. The Shackleton Mountains had been sighted from the air by the Commonwealth Trans Antarctic Expedition in 1956 and they had conducted some work in the Western end of the range in 1957. During the late 1960s the range was reached by a Tractor traverse from Halley and later survey and geological work was conducted with BAS dog teams, inserted by US LC-130 aircraft.

summer season. This would be an entirely BAS operation. Without the support of the US LC-130s the party would be inserted and recovered by a Twin Otter operating from Rothera on the Antarctic Peninsula.



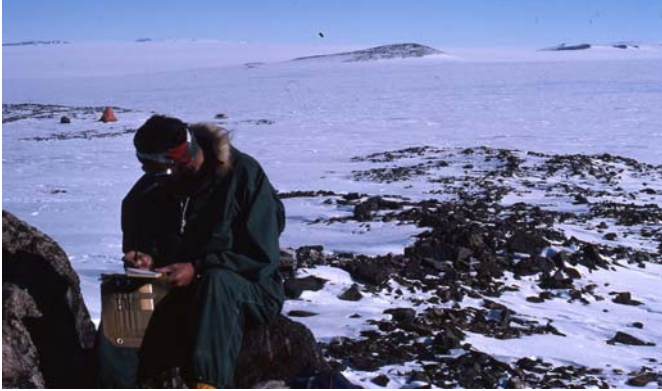
Nansen sled. Originally used with dogs but they adapted very well for use with skidoos. They really form part of a complete system with the food boxes, tent etc all designed to fit on the sled. We used one sled with a cowcatcher on both ends and the rear one with handlebars on the back, as would have been the case with dogs. BAS still use them and I think we've supplied them to USARP within the last few years. They can be produced in a much lighter version for man hauling but that is normally done using a pulk these days

And so to the main event! BAS had decided that a further season was required to complete the geology of the Shackletons, so geologists Peter Clarkson who had worked extensively in area, and Phil Marsh would be flown in for a



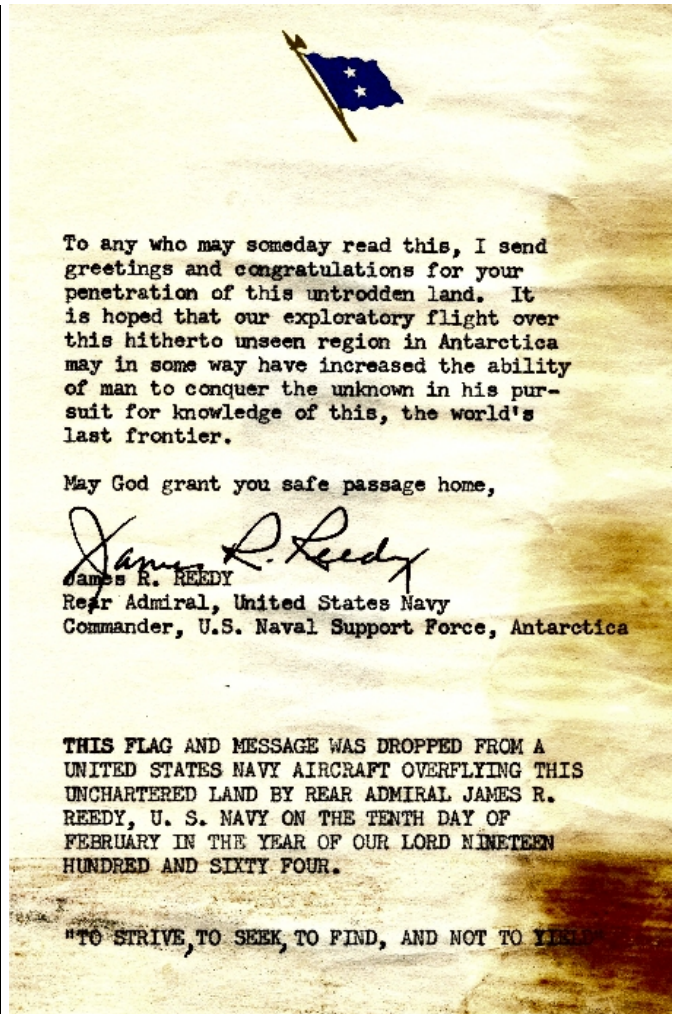
The Shackletons Field parties 1977-78. "Dog" Holden, Peter Clarkson, John Wright, Phil Marsh.

The aircraft flew to Rothera at the beginning of the 1977-78 season and collected Peter and Phil who had come South by ship. They also collected Godfrey (universally known as Dog) Holden who had wintered at Rothera and would be the other GA. From Rothera they flew to the Argentine Belgrano Station, which we would use as a forward operating base and the aircraft then came to collect me together with the skidoos, sledges, and other gear, which I had prepared at Halley. We then flew back to Belgrano and onward to the Shackletons. Our logistics were made easier by Pete and Phil who were flown in first and located and dug down ten feet to the old Gordon Glacier depot. The markers of a further major depot at the Eastern end of the range were sighted from the air and we were thus able to reduce the number of flights required.



Peter Clarkson geologising on the nunataks where we found the flags. Our campsite in the background.

By 22 November the whole party was established South of Lewis Chain on the Gordon Glacier. We bade farewell to the Twin Otter and set to work. Initially the whole party with two skidoos and four sledges headed to the Western end of the range where we carried out some work in the Mount Provender area. We then split up with Phil and Dog working in the West while Peter and I headed East. The weather was generally good and Peter was able to target specific locations where he wanted to fill gaps in the geology of the area. We also completed a barometric traverse and by 21 December we had reached the major depot at the Eastern end of the range, which had been laid by a tractor traverse from Halley about ten years before. The deep frozen current buns, which had been baked at Halley, were greatly appreciated! The nunataks at the Eastern end of the range hadn't been visited before so this was our next task. On 29 December we reached the furthest East of the nunataks, which only protrude a few feet above the surrounding ice. We then headed back West visiting further small outcrops. On 27 December we were camped by another low nunatak at about 80° 40'S 19° 46W where there was a survey marker from a previous BAS visit. While Peter was geologising I took a walk around the outcrop and noticed an object in the snow, which I thought was probably something left by the BAS survey party. I didn't bother to investigate. After Pete had finished we took the skidoo over to another outcrop and passing downwind of the object I had seen I spotted a small object in the snow. It turned out to be a cloth star. Later, on our way back to the tent we investigated the object in the snow upwind of the star. It turned out to be a US Flag with the flag of a Rear Admiral beneath it. They were fastened to a metal pole with a heavy pointed weight at the bottom. The "flag staff" had fallen over but was quite visible. Not surprisingly the flags were rather tattered and the cloth star was one that had come adrift from the US Flag. We took our trophies back to the tent where we extracted a note and a US Antarctic Program badge from the flagstaff. The note stated that Rear Admiral James R Reedy had dropped the flag on 10 February 1964. I noted in my diary that we should write to him! In the event it was to be 40 years before I got around to researching the story behind the flag.



To any who may someday read this, I send greetings and congratulations for your penetration of this untrodden land. It is hoped that our exploratory flight over this hitherto unseen region in Antarctica may in some way have increased the ability of man to conquer the unknown in his pursuit for knowledge of this, the world's last frontier.

May God grant you safe passage home,

James R. Reedy

James R. REEDY
Rear Admiral, United States Navy
Commander, U.S. Naval Support Force, Antarctica

THIS FLAG AND MESSAGE WAS DROPPED FROM A UNITED STATES NAVY AIRCRAFT OVERFLYING THIS UNCHARTERED LAND BY REAR ADMIRAL JAMES R. REEDY, U. S. NAVY ON THE TENTH DAY OF FEBRUARY IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SIXTY FOUR.

"TO STRIVE, TO SEEK, TO FIND, AND NOT TO YIELD"

Photo provided by the author

The Note Found With The Flags

The second half of our season was characterised by poor weather but when it was good enough to travel we were able to cover distances, which would have been impossible with dogs. On the other hand, when Dog and Phil's skidoo blew a crankcase oil seal we'd have happily settled for the dogs!

The weather deteriorated and we had a number of days confined to the tent but we continued working until the Twin Otter lifted us out to Belgrano on 6 February. At Belgrano we met up with the three-man Anglo American Geociever party, which was also supported by the Twin Otter. We flew the field equipment to Halley and we visited the Russians at Drushnaya. Unfortunately it was going to require two flights to get all the field personnel back to Rothera and poor weather meant that it wasn't until 26 February that the first party of four arrived there. The weather remained poor and eventually the aircraft had to go North. I along with Dog Holden and Phil Marsh thus had the dubious pleasure of spending an enforced winter with the very hospitable Argentineans at Belgrano; but that's another story!

After our enforced winter the task of researching the story behind the flag got overlooked. It wasn't until recently that I

contacted Billy-Ace Baker to see if he could throw some light on it. He quickly came up with an article entitled *New Mountains Sighted* from the US Antarctic Project Office Bulletin of March 1964, which clearly refers to the dropping of the flags. If anybody reading this was connected with the flight I'd love to hear from them.



Recent photo of John Wright

Editor's Note: Below is the story from the USAPO Bulletin that John referred to. John would like to hear from anyone who was on the flight when the flags were dropped. For more information see the Locator Column on page 29 of this issue.

NEW MOUNTAINS SIGHTED

On 10 February 1964, Rear Admiral James R. Reedy, USN, Commander, U. S. Naval Support Force, Antarctica, sighted mountains in Queen Maud Land believed never to have been seen before. The pilots of the LC-130F, Lieutenant Commander R. J. Dickerson and Commander G. R. Kelly, and the navigator, Sergeant A. L. Kring, USMC, were in the same crew that accompanied Admiral Reedy on a long exploratory flight in February 1963.* At that time radar returns indicated mountains in the same area where they were sighted this year.

The mountains lie 80 to 100 miles west of the Shackleton Range of which they appear to be an extension. They are estimated to be between 4,000 and 6,000 feet high. The flight also disclosed that Recovery Glacier probably extends further inland than presently charted. When the aircraft was obliged to turn back, Sergeant Kring had plotted at least two additional small mountain ranges on radar, but time would not permit further investigation. In addition to the radar and flight tracks, a pictorial record of the flight was made. When all the evidence has been studied, the location and extent of the mountains sighted on the flight will be established.

While over the area, Admiral Reedy dropped two specially designed steel poles to which were attached the United States flag and his personal flag. When last seen, the flags were waving smartly in the breeze.

*See "Exploratory Flight Sets New Record," Bulletin, September 1963, page 7.

§§§



RADM Reedy in Dress Blues in Cold Weather Gear



Crew of LC-130 BUNO 148318. Back Row: LCDR L. C. Bender, LCDR R.G. Dickerson, & SSGT A. L. Kring. Front Row: ADR1 C. L. Duggins, ADJC C. C. Stanley, AMH1 J. H. Tankersley, & D. L. Lunderstrom



AIRDEVRON SIX Commanding Officer CDR G. R. Kelly. It should be noted that CDR Kelly is NOT in the photo of the crew of 318, but he is listed as being on the flight when RADM Reedy dropped the flags. It is believed that Kelly took the place of LCDR Bender

FEEDBACK & LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Via the OAEA web site:

I was in the SEABEES, Deep Freeze 61 at New Byrd station building tunnels with steel arches to house a new under snow station.

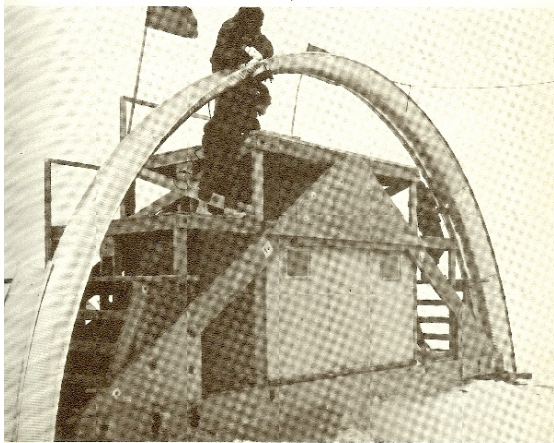
Thanks for a great newsletter.

George A. Lewis
geoaiii@comcast.net



Seabees scraping loose snow from tunnel walls to keep them smooth

PHOTO BY GUY WOODS WHICH COVER THE TUNNELS OF NEW BYRD.



Seabees assembling wonder arch forms, which cover the tunnels at New Byrd Station

Aloha Billy-Ace,

Another fabulous *Gazette*! Keep up the FABULOUS work! I especially enjoyed Ralph Reed's info. Contacted him directly and exchanged e-mails, since we wintered together DF 66, even though we were not particularly close at the time.

I was also pleased to see that no one I knew personally showed up in the "In Memory" section.

Aloha

Bruce
bdewald63@gmail.com

Via the OAEA web site:

Just wanted to thank you for the Newsletters. Always informative. Keep up the good work.

James Moore
eromj49@yahoo.com

Via the OAEA web site:

Great newsletter

Dewey Painter, Sr.
iepassociation@gmail.com

Editor's Note: Dewey is the chairman of the OAEA 2020 reunion that will be held in Jacksonville, FL. Dates have not yet been determined.

Via the OAEA web site:

Hello,
Great articles and some old friends here too. I was an AE2 with the Helo Crew in 69-71

David R. Aioldi
dl79vt@yahoo.com

Via the OAEA web site

It was just before Christmas in 1960 when I first entered McMurdo Sound in the Antarctic. It was an amazing sight to a 19 year old. Smoke was rolling out of Mt Erebus. To me it was a scene right out of a Science Fiction movie. I'll be 77 this year & I don't think I'll ever forget that experience.

George Granakis
artec2003@yahoo.com



George Granakis

Hi Billy-Ace,

I'm always interested in the activities of the OAEA members and so look forward to the newsletter.

Thank you for the invitation to the reunion in San Antonio and am sorry that I must decline. It is a bit far to travel and conflicts with a university faculty reunion to which I am committed.

Keep up the good work.

Frank Graveson
frank.graveson@gmail.com



Hey Ace,

I had no idea you were going to put my story in the *Gazette*. Great job and thank you so much.

Les Liptak
lcliptak@cox.net

Editor:

Our Antarctic icebreaker ops are really becoming scary. A 40ish year old USCGC *Polar Star*, operating in the thickest ice in the world, only because the other heavy icebreaker (USCGC *Polar Sea*) has been cannibalized to permit the *Polar Star*'s continued (tenuous) operations defies logic.

Were a worse case scenario present itself in a future mission, the US doesn't have another heavy breaker capable of its rescue. Also staring us in the face is the potential for one of the many cruise ships suffering a calamity in the south polar area (check your AIS to see how many) to which we might not be able to respond.

This quandary flies in the face of those good words, "Semper Paratus."

It is past time for Congress to get off its "duff." The Coast Guard can't continue to do 'more with less,' no matter how well intentioned.

Mo Gibbs
mo72506@comcast.net

Via the OAEA web site

I almost daily think about my Deepfreeze I and II experiences and consider the trip via the USS *Arneb* to McMurdo and as a Photographer for 55-56 and wintering 57 as a highlight of my Military career. From testing an immersion water suit, filming the airdrop of the D2 tractor that escaping out of the harness and plunging out of sight at the South Pole while my cheek lost a bit of skin from the open hatch on the C124.

Getting para-rescue jump training before wintering on Deepfreeze II.

While wintering being allowed to drag a sled with film projector and showing movies to Sir Edmund Hillary at the N.Z. Scott base on Saturday nights And finally getting to marry a lovely New Zealand girl to top off the experience.

Would go back to the ice in a heartbeat but alas not to be for this 82 year old Vet...

PH1 Ken Meyer
akkiwis2@gmail.com

Editor's Note: There will be a story about Ken and his numerous adventures in the Apr-Jun issue of the *Gazette*. I did not have room for it in this issue.

Via the OAEA web site:

Enjoy reading the newsletter. It keeps me posted on all the work being done in the Antarctica area. Keep up the good work.

John Donnellon
jdonnellon11@comcast.net

Billy-Ace,

Appreciate my write-up appearing in the Oct-Dec Newsletter. I intend to attend the May Reunion. See you there.

Donald Timmerman
timnjudy1@verizon.net

Viktor

Regarding Ed Hamblin's review of *The Stowaway* in the Oct-Dec issue of the *Gazette* I would like to add that I wrote about the young stowaway in my book: *Antarctica An Encyclopedia*. Entry as follows:

Gawronski, William George "Billy". b. Sept. 12, 1910, Bayside, Queens, NYC, son of Rudolph Gawronski, a recent immigrant Polish-American merchant seaman cum upholsterer and his wife Frances. At the age of 17, keen to join ByrdAE 1928-30, Bill swam the Hudson River at night and stowed away on the *City of New York*, but they caught him and threw him off. Then he made his way to Norfolk, Va., and stowed away on the *Eleanor Bolling*. It wasn't until they had cleared the Panama Canal that he was found, high on the after-mast, and only came down when Capt. Brown took a rifle and threatened to speed up his descent. A fair-skinned, blue-eyed wisecracking, flapper-chasing 18-year-old, they liked him; he changed his name to Bill Gavon (for this trip, anyway), and was made mess boy and coal passer. He left the Little America base for NZ on the *City of New York* on Feb. 22, 1929, and, rather than hang around in NZ for 6 months waiting for the next phase of the expedition, he departed Wellington on the *Tahiti* with several others, bound for San Francisco, which he reached on April 12, 1929. He, especially, of all the boys who were feted everywhere they went, became momentarily famous, and then he went back to Antarctica for the next half of the trip. The adventure inspired him to make the sea his career. He was, of course, a success (with a small blip, see King, Harry), working his way up through the ranks, from able seaman to captain, skipping several merchant marine ships during WWII. He was living in Cape Elizabeth, Maine when he died on May 18, 1981 in Portland.

Black Jack
brigadoon@skybest.com

Editor's Note: I appreciate it that Jack sent me his entry, so that I did not have to scan the text.



Good morning Shipmate,

Hoping to make this years reunion but currently having hip/back issues that might require surgery. Hopefully I'll have answers prior to the registration deadline.

Thanks again for all of your hard work. The *Gazette* is always interesting and professionally laid out.

Gregory Greenwood
navygreenwood@yahoo.com

Editor's Note: The reunion registration deadline has been extended to 8 May. See the reunion reminder/update on page 3 of this issue

Editor:

GREAT JOB!

Chuck Zilch (DF-63-64-65)
zlyn@aol.com

Billy,

Thanks for the heads up I like getting all your communications and read them from beginning to end. Please don't stop sending them. Cookie. NMCB-71 ice 72-73, 73-74. W/O 79.

Leonard Paine
lhainechief@gmail.com

Billy-Ace:

I want to continue to get info, and I've registered for the Reunion in San Antonio. Is there a reason you sent this email to me? Have I missed signing up for something? Or are you simply purging email lists?

Ron Fauquet
ronfauquet@mac.com

Hi Billy,

I still would like to continue to get the emails from our wonderful organization. I have very fond memories of my time on the Ice and the Winter-Over party of 1976.

Ken Miller
miller.ken@verizon.net

Editor's Note: When we sent out the notice that the Oct-Dec issue of the Gazette had been uploaded to the OAEA Web Site we used some wording that led some subscribers to think that they would be unsubscribed. We have since changed the wording and hopefully this will not happen again.

Billy-Ace.

Got it. Good edition. Cheers.

Bill Lokey
wmlokey@gmail.com

Billy,

Many thanks for sending me the link to the Newsletter. You do a fantastic job – although I live in Christchurch, I can keep up with news – particularly in Pensacola where most of my VXE-6 shipmates live, e.g., Billy Blackwelder, Gary Skaar, Ken Pye and others. Keep up the good work.

Mike Bruner
michael-bruner@msn.com

Editor:

Some readers may be interested in an article on Ernest Shackleton's epic journey, recently published by OAEA member David H. Stam. Entitled: "The Enduring Books of Shackleton's Endurance: A Polar Reading Community at Sea,"

The article has been published online in Mystic Seaport Museum's *Coriolis: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Maritime Studies* (Vol 7, No. 1). The link is <http://ijms.nmdl.org/issue/view/1441>

David H. Stam
JO2 USS *Wyandot*, 1957-58
dhstam@maxwell.syr.edu



David when he was a JO3 at NAVSTA Norfolk, VA 1957



A Recent photo of David Stam

From the OAEA web site

W/O 1967 with Eldridges's AIRBEES and the year of the Golden Screw for the Seabees. Stayed in the Squadron. Spent time in Det Che Che and crew of A/C 318. Glad to be an OAE among friends.

ATCS AC David Northrup USN (Ret)
Dnorth1941@aol.com

Editor's Note: Because of the bad orders that were received by the ASA WO crew one of our members designed a screwed penguin. Our OIC would not allow it to be in our cruise book.



Punctured Pete, the screwed penguin. Woe is me

From the OAEA web site

Just dropped in to say nice work on the web site! Looks good! I was with VXE-6 for DF 78 thru DF 80, and was one of the two GSE guys that brought 3,500 psi nitrogen to the ice. The whole Antarctic experience was quite a ride!

Bob Spiller
spillerr@comcast.net

Mornin' Billy

I am unable to download the latest newsletter the site says internal error 500 I tried several times. I have been able to download others previously. Thanks.

Betty Carlisle, M.D
spdoc2@yahoo.com

Editor's Note: After everyone was notified that the Gazette was available on the OAEA web site we received several emails of this nature. Below is the webmasters explanation for the error 500.

Hi Betty,

Here's the direct link to the newsletter;
<https://oaea.net/wpcontent/uploads/2018/01/Volume17Issue4.pdf>

FYI What is error 500?

The 500 Internal Server Error is a very general HTTP status code that means something has gone wrong on the web site's server but the server could not be more specific on what the exact problem is. More than likely overloaded by many accessing the site at the same time.

Gabby
Bob Gaboury
OAEA Web Master

Via the OAEA web site

I'm really an old, old Antarctic Explorer. Former name – Starr McLean. Formerly of H&N, I was Chalet Secretary Sep 79-Feb 80. I look forward refreshing my memories reading others accounts. I'm happy that there is an Antarctic forum again." Cheers!

Starr Seesler
sseesler@yahoo.com

Billy:

During the 65/67 era, as an aerial photographer I had a ridge named after me. "Gardner Ridge, Antarctica"

How long are the names good for? Or are they renamed after a few years?

I don't have all of the info in front of me, but I think it was somewhere in the Queen Maude Land.

Thanks for all the info on the postings. Glad to hear from you.

Eric T. Gardner PH3 VX6
etgardnersr@yahoo.com

Editor's Note: As far as I know place names are not changed unless it is found that the feature was previously named for another person or event. Gardner Ridge is listed on the Internet. You can find it at: <https://geonames.gov/Antarctic/index.gov>

LIONEL WAFER: HIS LIFE AND TIMES

Ghost written by Black Jack of Ballarat

BULGA-MONGO 2018

The Bulgarians have been finding it harder and harder over the years to find anyone to play with them, and that's hardly surprising, given their two major obsessions – weightlifting and Antarctic place naming. Today, you can't find anybody who will even talk to them, except for a rubber doll, so it was a bit of a surprise to learn that they've teamed up with the Mongolians for Bulga-Mongo AntEx 18. Mongolia!!!!?? For Pete's sake!! No one in Mongolia has ever even heard of Antarctica! Now look, I'm getting all this from the Bulga-Mongo publicity flier, crudely printed in black and white on what is obviously cheap Asian toilet tissue. The flier claims that Mongolia's come a long way since Genghis Khan, the country's only known inhabitant. Nowadays you have scientists from Mongolia (you do????!!!!). You have Kurds. Sorry, cancel that. That should read CURD. Plain curd, not even lemon curd. It's your standard camel's milk yoghurt. Highly recommended for Bulgarian weightlifters. Acts as an enema just at the very moment one is pressing and jerking. Gives the Bulgarian heavyweight that extra steam, that winning edge that kills the competition. Officials on Bulga-Mongo predict that this expedition will be a lot of fun. Well, it has been so far. Last week, as they prepared to leave Mongolia, their plane wouldn't work, and they had to catch a bus. It will take longer, the official said, but it is cheaper.



Judy Doll

Bulgaria and Mongolia Erect Monument to Cyrillic Alphabet in Antarctica

In addition to a shared alphabet, the two countries also have a decade-long history of collaboration on Antarctic research.

A Bulgarian-Mongolian monument celebrating the Cyrillic alphabet was unveiled on 3 March, Bulgaria's 140th anniversary of its liberation from Ottoman Rule. But the monument is located in an uncanny place: Livingston Island,

in western Antarctica, close to where the Bulgarian Arctic [sic] base is located, according to The Calvert Journal.

In 2016, Mladen Stanev, who chairs the Bulgaria-Mongolia Friendship Society, said the monument was to contain earth “from Veliko Turnovo, Sofia, Pliska, Preslav, [and] Varna as well as from the grave of [ancient Bulgar ruler] Khan Kubrat in Malaya Pereshchepina” at its base, and have the images of Cyril, Methodius, and Saint Kliment engraved onto the Cyrillic letter Ж.



St. Kliment Ohridski Base on Livingston Island in the South Shetland Islands. Main Building with Emona Anchorage. On the horizon is Smith Island, situated 100 to 130 km away.

The result was intended as “a monument that will endure; it is stable and made to last. The body is made of ferrochrome and the letters are of brass. Bulgaria is known first and foremost for its alphabet,” Stanev said, according to Radio Bulgaria.

Bulgarian and Mongolian polar researchers have cooperated in Antarctica for over 10 years, often sharing the Livingston Island base. Mongolia also has plans to set up a research laboratory near the Bulgarian facility, BTA writes.



Bulgarian Coat-Of-Arms

The similarities between the two countries don't stop here, as Mongolia is one of the few non-Slavic nations that use the Cyrillic alphabet. Former Bulgarian President Rosen Plevneliev had already unveiled a similar monument in the Mongolian capital in 2015, Radio Bulgaria writes.

The monument, which measures 2.5 meters (eight feet), stands next to Antarctica's first Orthodox church, the Saint Ivan Rilski Chapel, which was consecrated in 2003.

This year's Bulgarian Antarctic Expedition will focus on climate change research.

Ninth-century Byzantine scholar-monks and diplomats Cyril and Methodius have never visited Bulgaria, and although they invented the first Slavonic alphabet, it was not the script used nowadays: the handier Cyrillic subsequently replaced their masterly yet sophisticated Glagolitic script.



The old St. Ivan Rilski Chapel



The new premises of St. Ivan Rilski Chapel in the Bulgarian base St. Kliment Ohridski on Livingston Island, Antarctica.

Yet, as TOL's Boyko Vassilev has written, "the Cyrillic alphabet was a pure Bulgarian invention. The disciples of Cyril and Methodius, led by Clement of Ohrid, settled at the Bulgarian court of King Boris I, and offered their services to the mighty Bulgarian medieval empire. Here, the kirilitsa emerged, and later made its journey to the Serb lands and to Rus."

The Cyrillic alphabet will have a monument in Antarctica and the idea for this belongs to Bulgaria and Mongolia. Mongolia's involvement may seem strange to some, but it should be remembered that it is one of few non-Slavic nations that uses the Cyrillic alphabet. A year ago, President Rosen Plevneliev unveiled the first such monument in the capital of Mongolia Ulan Bator. As the leader of Bulgaria's Antarctic expedition Hristo Pimpirev says, it will be a symbol of friendship between the two nations and their cooperation in science which goes back ten years. It will also convey a message of peaceful coexistence in a peaceful world, a world without wars or rivalry, as is the world in Antarctica.

More about the monument from Mladen Stanev chairman of the Bulgarian-Mongolian Friendship Society: "We are now into the final arrangements. We shall be taking earth from Veliko Turnovo, Sofia, Pliska, Preslav, Varna as well as from the grave of Khan Kubrat in Malaya Pereshchepina. We are now waiting for the images of Cyril, Methodius, and St. Kliment to be engraved onto the letter Ж. So, I have endeavoured to make a monument that will endure, it is stable and made to last and is 2.30 meters high. The body is made of ferrochrome and the letters are of brass. Bulgaria is known first and foremost for its alphabet. It was an honour for me to create this monument which we shall put up on the South Pole." [sic]

The monument will be inaugurated next year when the 25th Bulgarian expedition will leave for the Antarctic. It will be joined by Doychin Boyanov and Nikolay Petkov – two mountain climbers who have conquered Everest. It will be their mission to climb the peaks Simeon, Boris, and Levski on Livingstone Island. Transporting the monument to the southernmost point on the planet will be a very tough job. A cargo plane will take it to the southernmost town in Chile, Punta Arenas. From there it will be loaded onto a ship, and for the final stretch, onto several boats, as no ship can berth on the island. The monument will be attached to a rock near the Bulgarian Antarctic base, as protecting the environment in Antarctica is particularly important. Talks are currently being held with the St. Kliment Ohridski University, Sofia for finding a place to keep the monument on the premises, before its departure on 15 January.



The scientists and the monument



The Bulgarian base in 2012, with the new St. Ivan Rilski Chapel in the foreground and Russian Hut, Lame Dog Hut (light green painted), the Laboratory, Casa España and the Main Building in the background

Bulgarian scientists have erected a new national monument to the Cyrillic alphabet on a remote island in Antarctica.

The joint Bulgarian-Mongolian project on Livingston Island — close to Bulgaria's Antarctic base — was unveiled to mark Bulgaria's Independence Day on 3 March.

Standing at 2.5 metres tall, the sculpture comprises four stacked blocks, each side decorated with Cyrillic lettering. Sealed boxes of soil from the Bulgarian cities of Varna, Pliska, Preslav, Veliko Tarnovo, Sofia were also left at the base of the sculpture, which is attached to the ground using two steel bolts.

The monument will stand alongside Antarctica's first Orthodox church, the St Ivan Rilski chapel, which was erected close to the base in 2001. The outpost also has its own museum of early scientific instruments, and was named an official branch of the National Museum of History in Sofia in October 2012.



The Monument

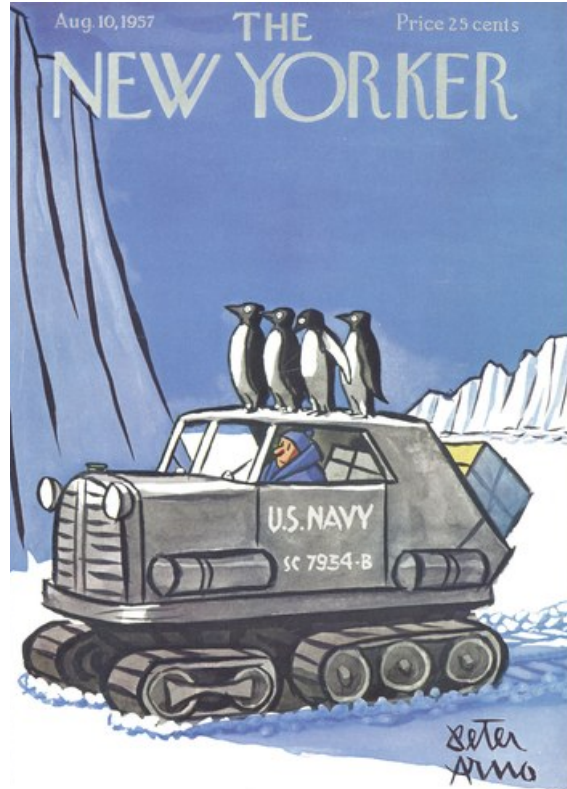
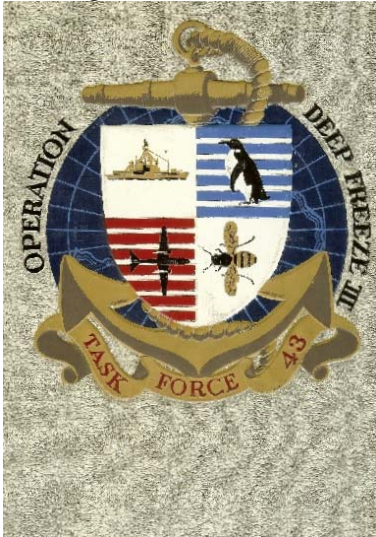


Bulgarian base St. Kliment Ohridski on Livingston Island, with Mount Friesland in the background. Viewpoint location: Swan Beach on Livingston Island, in the South Shetland Islands

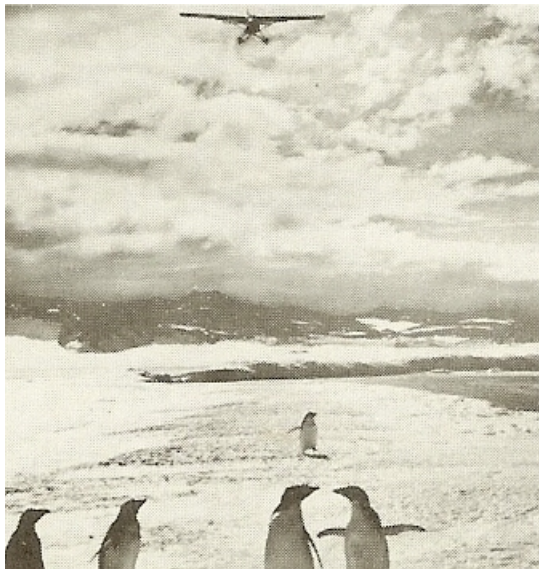
PICTURES AND STORIES FROM DAYS GONE BY

Operation Hitchhiker

The photo story *Operation Hitchhiker* is from the Task Force 43 Operation Deep Freeze III cruise book, edited by LTJG Morton P. Beebe TF-43 Assistant Public Information Officer. It is part of *Down To The Ice*, an article in the cruise book by John Brooks, New Yorker Magazine journalist. Parts of his story also appeared in the 10 August 1957 issue of the magazine.



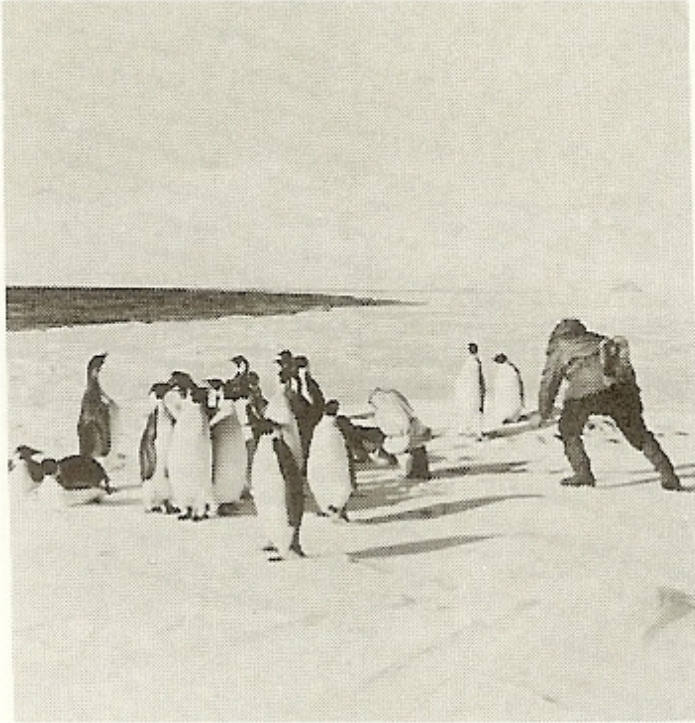
Emperor Penguins transported by Globemaster to CONUS were rounded up in colorful style by Jack Marks, superintendent of Portland, Oregon Zoo with the aid of a Navy flight crew of an Otter-borne group that landed on sea ice; and the flightless birds were quickly and painlessly netted with “penguin persuaders” (canvas straitjackets) and loaded into the plane. “Flipper,” handsome emperor, gives Captain Hedblom a piece of his mind before joining his confreres in northbound Globemaster corral.



Site of penguin colony



“Penguin Persuader”



Penguins being rounded up.



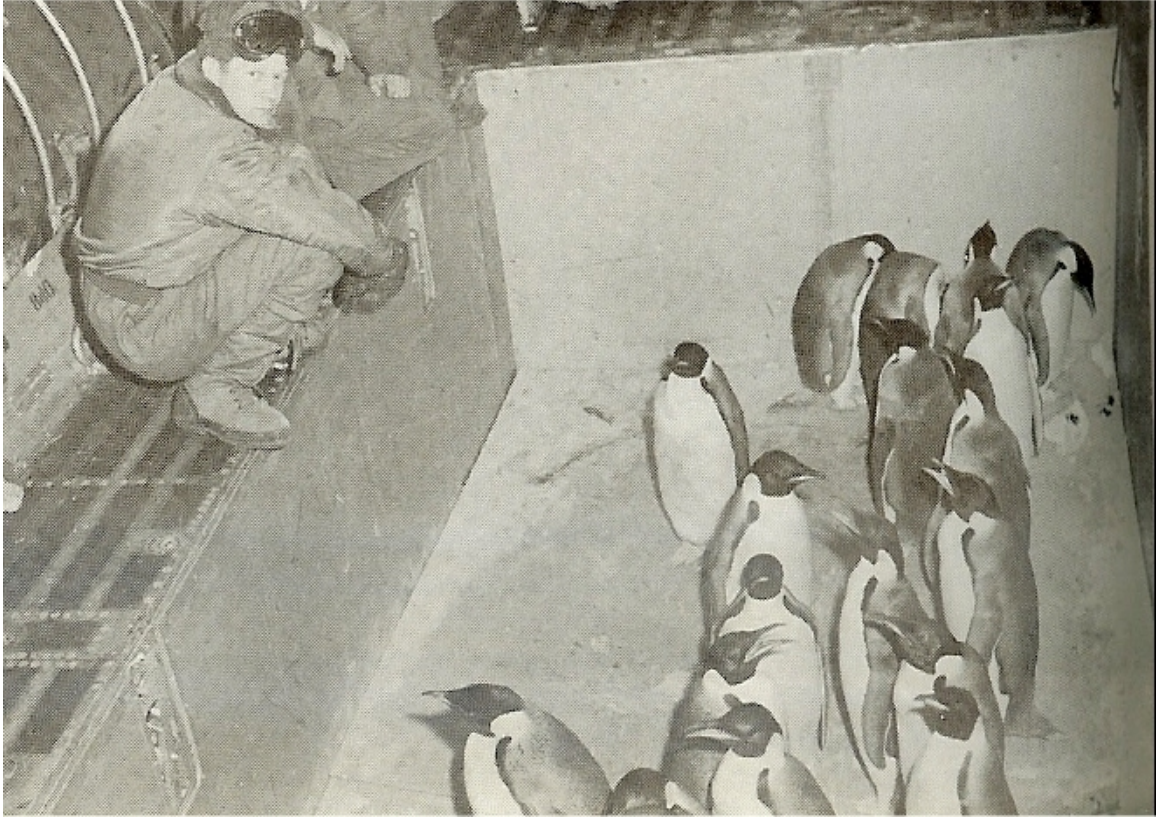
*Penguins reposing in their
"Penguin Persuaders" (canvas
straightjackets)*



Penguins being loaded into aircraft



*"Flipper" gives Capt Hedblum a piece
of his mind.*



Northbound in Globemaster Penguin Corral



Flipper gets fitted with his set of dress blues tailored for him by George R. Gowen of VX-6 (above). Flipper was part of an OAE penguin detachment destined for the Portland Oregon Zoo.



A real ham, he took the spotlight wherever he went, even stealing the show from welcoming committees. At Harewood Airport stopover in Christchurch, Flipper is aired by keeper PH2 K. C. Meyer (WO DF-II whose entire attention is riveted on his fishy charge.



Flipper all dressed up and ready for libs.



Morton Beebe at the 2008 OAEA Reunion



Beebe circa 1958

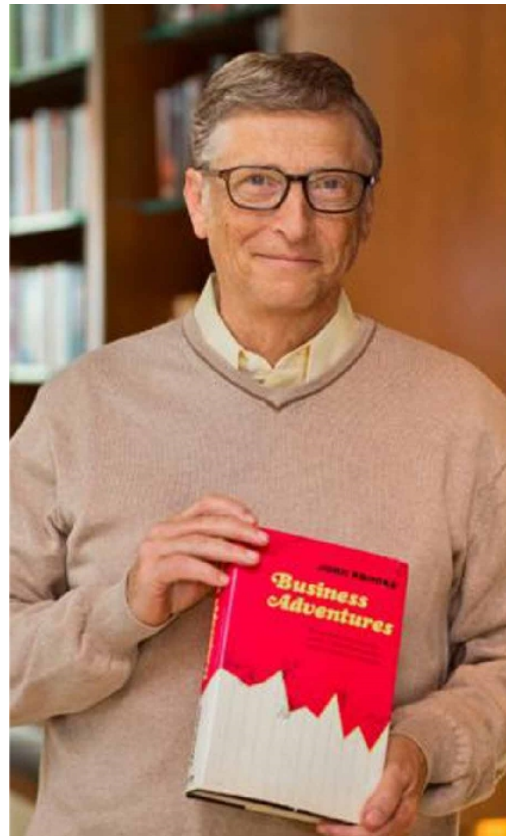


Brooks circa 1958

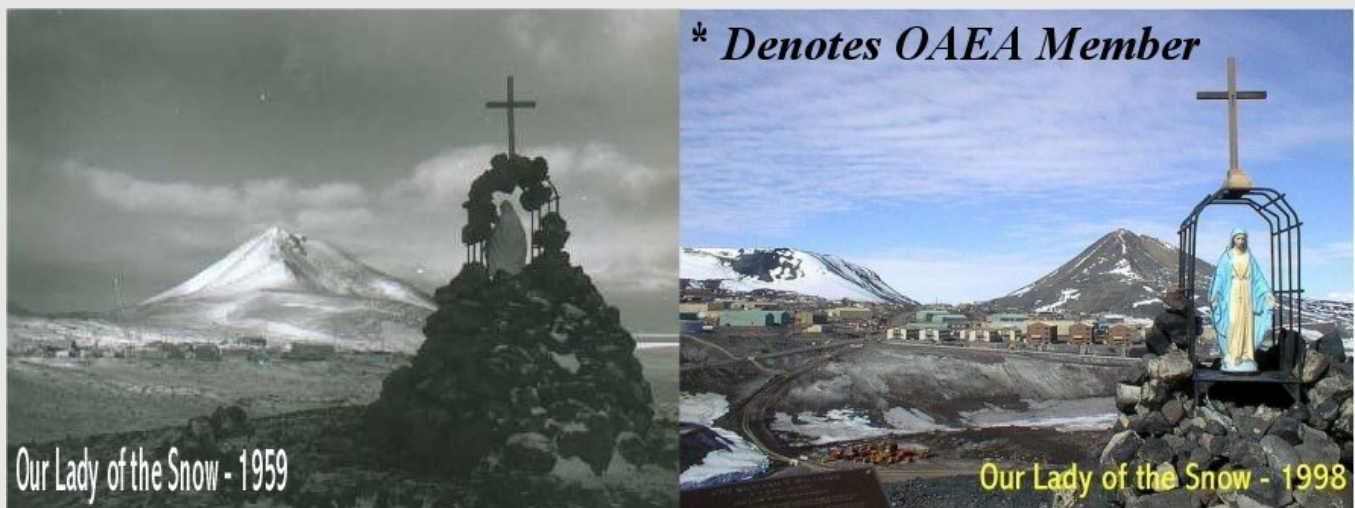
MORTON BEEBE, currently resides in San Francisco. He participated in Operation Deep Freeze as Press Officer, LTJG Navy, on the staff of Admiral Dufek. According to his bio he was approximately the 39th person to ever reach the South Pole, arriving on 22 November 1957. I was there before Sir Vivian Fuchs and Sir Edmund Hillary completed their monumental crossing of the continent and at a time when accommodations were little more than windowless iceboxes.

He further stated that after three subsequent journeys to Antarctica, I have a unique perspective having visited six different scientific encampments on the continental coastline.

JOHN BROOKS, a native New Yorker, turned the inquiring eye and ear of a seasoned journalist/novelist toward Antarctica and set down the things he knew would interest fellow cosmopolites. Formerly a contributing editor of Time, he is now on the editorial staff of The New Yorker. Four volumes have come from his pen.



John Brooks holding a copy of his numerous books.



IN MEMORY

OAE Thomas E. Alberts, age 74, died on 2 March 2018, in Appleton, WI. Tom served as a storekeeper on the USS *Arneb* during DF-63.

*OAE ADCS Larry Wayne Barks, USN (Ret), 77, died on 20 February 2018, in Mechanicsville, MD. Larry served as an LC-130 flight engineer in VX-6 from 1967 through 1970.

OAE Grover Cleveland Barnes, USN (Ret), 93, died on 23 February 2018, in Grand Bay, AL. Grover served as a gunners mate on the USS *Philippine Sea* during High Jump.

OAE Shade Morris Barnes, 77, died on 28 February 2018, at Carolina East Medical Center, in Bayboro. Shade deployed to Antarctica in 1976 as part of the NARF Cherry Point Aircraft Recovery Team.

Helen Virginia "Seely" Bounds, 95, died on 9 January 2018, in Sanger, TX. Virginia was the mother of OAEA Life Member Billy Bounds.

OAE Aileen Bratton, 85, died on 19 January 2018, in Vancouver, WA. Aileen visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Herbert R. Briss, 92, died on 11 February 2018, in Boston, MA. Herbert served in the Navy on Highjump.

*OAE Rodney Eugene Browning, 70, died on 17 October 2017, in Katy, TX. Rodney served in CBU-201 from 1967 to 1969 and made two deployments to Antarctica as an EO2.

OAE CAPT Thomas R. Byrd, USN (Ret), 82, died on 10 October 2017, at Mission View Health Center in San Luis Obispo, CA. Thomas served in Antarctica as a medical officer. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE CMSGT Carmen Carter, USAF (Ret), 89, died on 6 January 2018, in Scarborough, ME. Carmen served in Antarctica with the USAF. Year(s) unknown.

OAE ACC Charles Willard Chesnutt, USN (Ret), 83, died on 3 January 2016, at Mid Coast Hospital in Brunswick, ME. Charles served in ASA Det Bravo from April 1966 to April 1969.

OAE Anton T. "Tony" Clawson, Jr., 81, died on 19 January 2018, in South Jordan Utah. Tony visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Paul David Collier, 90, died on 17 January 2018, in Glenview, IL. While in the US Navy Paul served in Antarctica during Highjump.

OAE Neville Joseph "Gringo" Collins, 92, died on 2 November 2017, in Australia. Gringo wintered-over at Mawson Station in 1957 and 1960 as the senior diesel mechanic. He wintered at Wilkes Station in 1962 and was a member of the Wilkes to Vostok Traverse. He wintered a fourth time in 1968. Collins Glacier, Collins Nunatak, and Mount Collins were named in his honor.

OAE Robert P. Crabill M.D., 94, died on 4 March 2018, in Tacoma, WA. Bob and his wife Patsy served as the medical staff on Society Expedition Antarctic tourist ships. Year(s) unknown.

OAE Elmer B. Custead, died on 21 December 2012, in Silver Spring MD. Elmer wintered-over during DF-64 as an HMC at NNPU Crew III.

OAE Robert "Bob" Debrodt, 92, died on 22 January 2018, in Ann Arbor, MI. Bob visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE John Victor Denero, 86, died on 4 February 2018, in Aiken, SC. John served as a research scientist during Deep Freeze II (1956–57) at Little America V.

OAE David Lee Dennis, 77, died on 18 February 2018, in Fayetteville, AR. David served on the USCGC *Eastwind* and made deployments to Antarctica. Year(s) unknown.

OAE Patricia "Patti" J. (nee McMullan) Dunahugh, 72, died on 7 May 2017, in Portland, OR. Patti visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Dr. Edward "Ed" J. Earley, 76, died on 3 January 2018, at St. Luke's Hospital, in Allentown, PA. Ed served in Antarctica on the USS *Staten Island*. Year(s) unknown.

OAE Herbert C. Field, 88, Died on 14 February 2018, in Rockville, MD. Herb was a Department of Energy safety inspector of nuclear power plants. He visited Antarctica "and walked around the world at the South Pole" Year unknown.

OAE Frank Charles Fischio, 89, died on 22 January 2018, at Mercy Medical Center, in Canton New Philadelphia, OH. Frank served on the USS *Pine Island* during Highjump.

OAE Fred W. Fuerbringer, 76, died on 22 February 2018, in Milwaukee, WI. Fred served in Antarctica. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Walter Garrott, 78, died on 3 March 2018, in Greenwood, MS. Walter served in Antarctica with the US Navy. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE SMSgt Jack L Gilbert, USAF (Ret), died on 26 March 2018, in Summerville, SC. Jack served as a C-124 flight engineer with the 63rd TCW. Year(s) unknown.

*OAE LeRoy Grant, 83, died on 17 December 2017, in Albany, NH. LeRoy served on the USCGC *Eastwind* during DF-I (1955–56) as a GM2. He was a member of the New England Chapter.

OAE Edward Dawson Grove III, 75, died on February 2018, in Playa Hermosa, Costa Rica. Ed served in Antarctica as a Seabee in 1962.

OAE LeRoy E. Guethlein, USN (Ret), 74, died on 5 January 2018, in Winona, MN. LeRoy served in Antarctica with the Navy. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Stephen Hawkings, 76, died on 13 March 2018, in Cambridge, England. Stephen visited Antarctica in 1997 to attend a high-level conference of theoretical physicists. Stephen said that it was the most exciting moment of his career. ... "there's nothing before the Big Bang – just as there's nothing south of the South Pole."

OAE Aaron Herman, 94, died on 5 February 2018, in Los Angeles, CA. Aaron visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE William Kent Horner Jr., 88, died on 31 August 2017, in San Diego, CA. William wintered-over at McMurdo Station during DF-I as an AG1 with MCB(Special). During DF-61 he served with CTF-43 staff at Davisville, and ASA summer support during DF-66 and DF-67.

OAE Robert Stroud Houston, 94, died on 24 February 2018, in Epping, NH. Robert worked in Antarctica as a geologist. Year(s) unknown.

OAE Charles Kandare, USN (Ret), 85, died, in Virginia Beach, VA. Charles served in Antarctica with the SeaBees. Unit and year unknown.

OAE Louis E. Katona, Jr., 79, died on 14 January 2018, in Bucyrus, OH. Louis served in Antarctica with the US Navy. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Barbara F. Kazen, R.N., 94, died on 3 February 2018, in Northville, MI. Barbara visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Ralph A. Keeler, USN (Ret), 91, of Red Hook, NY, died on 2 January 2018, at Ferncliff Nursing Home in Rhinebeck, NY. Ralph served in Antarctica as a navigator on the USS *Nespelen* during DF-I, II, and III.

OAE Martin A. Kohn, 70, died on 25 March 2012, in Mays Landing, NJ. Martin made two deployments to Antarctica during DF-62 and DF-63 on board the USCGC *Eastwind*.

OAE Dr. Louis Samson Kornicker, PhD, 98 died on 12 February 2018, in Vienna, VA. Louis served in Antarctica as a research zoologist. Kornicker Glacier was named in his honor.

OAE Ara Kradjian, 84, died on 3 February 2018, in Endwell, PA. Ara served in Antarctica as a Lieutenant (J.G.) with the Seabees. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE HMCM (CMDM) Leon C. "Lee" Larson, USN (Ret), 69, died on 14 March 2018, in Frederick, MD. Lee was an independent duty hospital corpsman. In 1978 he participated in the PM3A removal. He was the site manager for radiation monitoring of the PM3A rock disposal at CBC Port Hueneme, CA. He also wintered-over twice at Siple Station during DF-83 and DF-86.

OAE CAPT Leonrad A, LeSchack, USNR (Ret), died on 15 December 2017, in Bonners Ferry, ID. He wintered-over at Byrd Station as a traverse seismologist during DF-III (1957-58). Mount LeSchack is named in his honor

OAE Henry P. Leweling, 72, died on 15 January 2018, in Fort Collins, CO. Henry worked in Antarctica as an occupational safety specialist. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Duane A. Liddle, 91, died on 23 February 2018, in Vancouver, WA. Duane deployed to Antarctica during Highjump.

OAE Elmer Lindseth, 92, died on 15 February 2018, in West Seattle, WA. Elmer visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Trevor John Lloyd, 66, died on 17 August 2017, in Adelaide, South Australia. Trevor was a radio technical officer with the Australian National Antarctica Research Expedition. He wintered-over four times: Casey Station 1984, Davis 1987, Mawson 1989, and Macquarie Station during 1991.

OAE Ronald Judson Lopp, died on 23 November 2017, in Seattle, WA. Ron and his twin brother Don served in the Navy as weathermen during Highjump (1946-47).

OAE David Lore, 77, died on 23 January 2018, in Columbus, OH. David visited Antarctica as a journalist. Year(s) unknown.

OAE Tom Maggs died on, 24 December 2017, in Hobart Australia. Tom served as a radio operator and dog handler through two Antarctic winters in the 1970s (stations and years unknown). He also served as the Casey Station OIC in 1988.

OAE Jean "Badger" A. Markes, 79, died on 25 January 2018, Brunswick, GA. Badger served in Antarctica as a CEC with PM-3A Crew VII during DF-68 summer support.

OAE Peter James Martin, 89, died on 3 October 2017, in Melbourne, Australia. During DF-61 Peter wintered at joint US/NZ Hallett Station as the Senior New Zealand Scientist. He wintered at the Australian Mawson Station as the OIC. At the time a controversial assignment since he was a Kiwi. Martin Hill, and Martin Massif are named in his honor.

OAE Ursula Marvin, 96, died on 12 February 2018, in Concord, MA. Ursula served in Antarctica as a geologist. In the late 1970s, she made three deployments to Antarctica to hunt for meteorites. Marvin Nunatak was named in her honor.

OAE Dr. Lyle D. "Mick" McGinnis, 86, died on 19 April 2017, in Chicago, WI. Mick served as a seismologist with the U.S. Victoria Land Traverse Party wintering-over in Antarctica during the International Geophysical Year from 1957 to 1959, and he spent an additional 14 summers in Antarctica from 1969 to 1985. During this period, he served as the National Science Foundation U.S. coordinator for the International Dry Valley Drilling Project. McGinnis Peak was named in his honor.

OAE Richard Lee McNeely, 95, died on 26 January 2018, in Shoreline, WA. Richard visited Antarctica to study sea life. Year(s) unknown.

OAE Gilbert Bradley "Brad" Millar, USA (Ret), 86, died on 25 January 2016, in Murphys, CA. Brad served in Antarctica with PM-3A. Year(s) unknown.

OAE CAPT Dale Phillip Myers, USN (Ret), 85, died on 19 February 2017, in Virginia Beach, VA. Dale served in Antarctica as a helicopter pilot. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Thomas Leven Osborne, 78, died on 4 February 2018, in Melbourne, FL. Thomas served on the USCGC *Eastwind* during DF-61 as a GMSN.

*OAE AE1 Fred L. Overson, USN (Ret), 81, died on 9 February 2018, in Pensacola, FL. Fred served in VX-6 during DF-62 through DF-66. He was a member of the OAEA GCG Chapter.

OAE Neville Ronsley "Nod" Parsons, 91, died on 30 December 2017. Nod wintered-over at Mawson Station in 1955 as the cosmic ray and auroral physicist. Mount Parsons is named in his honor. He was a founding and Life Member of the ANARE Club.



OAE William Alvin Pollock, 93, died on 22 February 2018. William served on the USS *Mount Olympus* during Highjump.

*OAE CWO4 Choyce Aulton Prewitt Jr, USN (Ret), died on 4 January 2018, in Port Hueneme, CA. Choyce, AKA "The Mouth Of The South", made eight deployments to Antarctica (1970-75 & 1979-82) serving as an air traffic controller with ASA/NSFA. In 2009, the New Zealand Government awarded him, at a ceremony in Washington D.C., the New Zealand Special Service Medal for his outstanding contribution to "Operation Overdue", the search and recovery efforts that followed the crash of Air New Zealand flight 901 in 1979 (see page 21 of the Apr-Jun 2009 *Gazette*). Choyce was a member of the OAEA West Coast Group.

OAE CAPT John E. Rasmussen, PhD, USN (Ret.), 93, died on 10 January 2018, in Seattle, WA. John was actively involved both in the research and operational aspects of the Navy's Antarctic program.

OAE Captain Javier Montojo Salazar, Spanish Navy, died on 4 March 2018, in Antarctica on Livingston Island near the Spanish station. He fell from the RV *Hesperides*, an oceanographic and polar research ship operated by the Spanish Navy.

OAE Lisa Schuldt, 66, died on, 14 November 2017, in Cordova, AK. Lisa wintered-over twice at South Pole Station in 1997 and 1999. She also spent several additional summer seasons in Antarctica.

OAE Subhajit Sen, 23, died on 26 March 2018, near Indian research station Maitri. Subhajit was part of the 37th Indian Scientific Expedition to Antarctica.

OAE Larry Q. Sicher, USN (Ret), 74, died on 1 January 2018, in Warminster Twp., PA. Larry wintered-over at McMurdo and later deployed to McMurdo aboard the USS *Edisto*. Years unknown.

OAE William Buckwalter Smart, 95, died on 25 January 2018, in Salt Lake City, UT. Bill visited Antarctica as a tourist.

Dianna Lynn Speed, 69, died on 17 January 2018, in Pensacola, FL. Dianna was Harvey Speed's daughter. Harvey served in VX-6 during DF-II, III, and IV. Dianna was a member of the OAEA GCG Chapter.

OAE Nicolas Stein, 93, died on 16 March 2018, in Orange County, CA. Nicolas served on the USCGC *Eastwind* as a sonarman, Year(s) unknown

OAE Walter S. Stephenson, died on 27 December 2012, in Westminster, CA. Walter served as a LTGJ during DF-65 as the Plant Superintendent of NNPU Crew IV.

OAE William Joseph "Bill" Storer, 91, died on 27 November 2016, in Pymble, Australia. Bill served as a radio operator at Mawson Station during the station's first winter in 1955. Mount Storer is named in his honor. He was a member of the ANARE Club.

OAE Robert John "Bob" Tingey, 77, died on 17 November 2017, in Australia. Bob spent five summers in Antarctica in the 1970s with ANARE as a geologist. Tingey Glacier, and Tingey Rocks are named in his honor.

OAE Oscar Trinanes, USCG (Ret), 82, died on 23 November 2017, in North Easton, MA. Oscar served on the USCGC *Eastwind* during 1966.

OAE Howard Michael Veillette, USCG (Ret), 83, died on 21 June 2017, in Chatham, MA. Michael served on the USCGC *Eastwind* and made one deployment to Antarctica during DF-67

OAE Stephen M. Vavak, 73, died on 5 February 2018, in Rockport, MA. Stephen served in Antarctica while in the Coast Guard. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Nancy Lou Brautigam Webber, 82, died on 24 February 2018, in Frederick, MD. Nancy spent three weeks studying penguins in Antarctica and upon her return home she put together a program she presented to fifth graders while she lived in Birmingham, Alabama earning the nickname "The Penguin Lady".

*OAE Dr. Charles C. White, Jr., 82, died on 4 January 2018, in Pensacola, FL. Charles served on the USS *Atka* during DF-62. He was a member of the OAEA GCG Chapter.

OAE CWO3 Craig Edward White, (Ret), died on 8 February 2018, in Baton Rouge, LA. Craig served in Antarctica. Unit and year(s) unknown.

*OAE William P. Widdicombe, 78, died on 1 April 2019, in Brodheadsville, PA. William served on the USS *Wyandot* during DF-II, III, and IV as an IC3.

OAE Francis J. Yaeger, 95, died on 19 March 2017, in Hastings, MN. Francis served on the USCGC *Eastwind* during DF-61 as an FT1.



Chaplain's Corner

Johnnie Draughon—OAEA Chaplain

So he replied to the messengers, "Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor.



Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me." (Luke 7: 22-23 NIV)

When John the Baptist was imprisoned he sent his disciples to Jesus to ask. "Are you the one who is to come?" Jesus replied that they should examine the evidence for themselves ... the blind see, the lame walk, those with leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear and the dead are raised to



life. It was Jesus way of saying, "What does your intelligence say to you?" When Galileo Galilei was tried before the Pope he stated. "I do not feel obliged to believe that the same God who has endowed us with sense, reason, and intellect has intended us to forgo their use." Scientists have been unlocking the mysteries of the universe in Antarctica through "Operation Deep Freeze" for more than 60 years. In fact, we are just finishing up another season of investigation and study on The Ice. So, when you look at all that evidence what does it say to you? Is it really simply chance? Or, is there something else behind that amazing design? Hope to see you in San Antonio!

May the blessings be,

Johnnie Draughon, Chaplain

Moody Gardens Welcomes a New King Penguin Chick in Time for Valentines Day

Article written by Clayton Kolavo

Just in time for Valentine's Day, a new King Penguin chick has hatched! The new addition to the Moody Gardens penguin exhibit is being well cared for by its single mother.

"This is certainly an exciting way to kick off the month of love with Valentine's Day just around the corner," said Assistant Curator Diane Olsen. "We completed the renovation of our Aquarium Pyramid last year, including tweaking the exhibit to provide the best environment possible for the birds' breeding success and this just shows that all that dedication has paid off."

Male King Penguins' mating season begins with a series of courtship rituals that includes loud calls and "parading." Standing tall, King Penguins show off their physical physique in an attempt to impress their potential mates. Once the female has chosen their companion, they will harmoniously parade before officially mating. King penguins incubate their eggs on their feet, so no nest is needed.

Typically, once an egg is laid, both the male and female will stay with the egg and take turns incubating it; however, this was not the case with this particular chick and penguin mom Simone. This three-year-old penguin is a first-time mother who came to Moody Gardens a year ago from Sea World San Antonio and nurtured the egg by herself until it hatched. The mother continues to rear the chick on her own, leaving all to wonder who and where

the father is. "Simone is doing a great job caring for this chick. While we are keeping a watchful eye on it and her, I have full confidence that she will continue to take excellent care of her chick," Olsen said. King Penguin eggs usually take about 54 days to hatch and the chick will become full grown after about 10 months.

Moody Gardens is holding a poll throughout their social media channels to determine the name of the new King Penguin. The options for the names included Grytviken, Amore, Sylvia Earle, and Astro. The winner will be chosen on Friday, Feb. 16.



Unnamed King penguin chick

TIDEWATER GROUP GET TOGETHER

by Ed Hamblin

Back in January, after a “snow out” due to bad weather (2nd year in a row that has happened for our January meet up), the OAE Tidewater VA area social group met for the quarterly get together at Terrie’s Breakfast & Lunch. Doesn’t it seem ironic though that some old “ice hands” would let snow and ice in the way of something? Just sayin...



We had our normal greet, meet, and eat; one of the primary topics of discussion was the recent loss of OAE shipmate Choyce Prewitt. Several of us knew Choyce from our time on the ice together, and in homeport; and we had a few shared anecdotes. We hope Choyce was there in spirit to share some of the camaraderie and laughs.

Several of us from Tidewater will be in San Antonio for the upcoming reunion; at the time of our lunch, six were attending. All of us had been to OAEA reunions before and are looking forward to a good time.

The makeup of our Tidewater “regulars” group is pretty diversified. Some NSFA winter over folks from the 70s and 90s; some ASA/NSFA summer support; some VX-6/VXE-6 from the 60s and 70s; a SeaBee who helped build Palmer Station, a gentleman who was with Operation Highjump and spent time in the frigid waters as boat crew off the USS *Pine*

Island; one of the fellows on the first winter over at Pole Station; a retired Photographer’s Mate who was there during DF-I through DF-IV and again in DF-68; and someone who visited the Antarctic as a tourist on a cruise ship. Point is that with all the diversity, we have a lot of fun at our lunches, and a lot of different stories get told (and probably retold). We have been doing these since 2000, shortly after the standup of the OAEA, and they have been a lot of fun.

By the time this is published, our April lunch will be history. The next one to put on the schedule is Saturday, July 7 at Terri’s Breakfast & Lunch, 3320 N. Military Highway, Norfolk VA. Meet up is at 1130. If you aren’t on distribution for the e-mail reminders and want to be included, contact Ed Hamblin, ehamblin74@verizon.net to be added to the eMail tree.



Terrie's



Attendees, clockwise from lower left: Herb Schaefer, Manny Perry, Ron Rooks, Robert Cardona, Wayne Rogers, Bill Raymus, Brad Miller, Linda Hamblin, Ed Hamblin, Karen Gustin, Jerry Gustin, Johnnie Draughon.

FINDING DERMOT

Compiled and Edited by Billy-Ace

BOOK REVIEW



Finding Dermot. A novel by Graeme Connell, paperback 292 pages; The Grammaticus Group Inc., Calgary Alberta, Canada. Available from Amazon.com. Paperback \$15.99 and Kindle \$7.99.

FROM THE DUST JACKET

An offer to switch winter snow in Canada for summer sunshine in New Zealand presents a wonderful opportunity for magazine writer Blossom O'Sage. Her assignment is simple: find and interview the man who spent a long lonely winter in Antarctica's Dry Valley region. The challenge is that Dermot Strongman and his family, through extreme circumstances, quietly disappeared from the public eye some 30 years earlier. They have effectively vanished.

Blossom's investigation leads to a tiny village along the remote and beautiful Forgotten World Highway. Her story uncovers the strangest of tales and a chance encounter that forces her to confront her own emotions. Blossom finds courage in the shadows and realises that what we see is perhaps only one-ninth of what exists.

§§§§§

FROM GRAEME'S WEB SITE

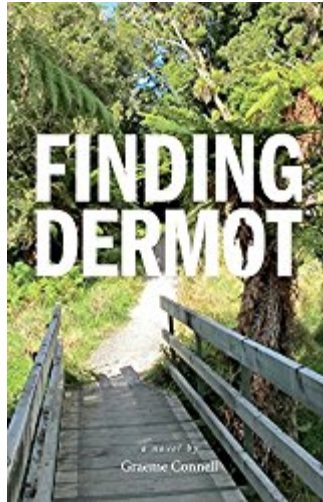
—Charles Fordham, *Paremata, New Zealand.*

This imaginative novel by Canada's Calgary-based Graeme Connell is a real treasure. In New Zealand terms something of real value, a "taonga" - providing all-to-rare accurate contemporary views of both countries and the Antarctic continent from which his intriguing story line evolves. Connell draws on his broad practical and personal experiences and his writing skills to provide fascinating lifestyle insights while weaving colourful story lines. An alliterative gem such as "Bar buzz bulged into the late afternoon..." is but one example of the sort of nuggets of prose that delight any reader. Easy to read and with great momentum, the story can be readily defined for its blue jeans style and pace. A tribute to the author and a comfortable, attractive, relaxed tale.

§§

—Jack Wynters, *Nova Scotia.*

This intriguing book gets one's attention right up front by trapping the chief protagonist in a hut in Antarctica to spend the whole of the nasty winter there all by himself. Or by himself, so he thought. The novel sets out to find what happened to him after his rescue. What did he discover during his incarceration? What experiences did he have?



Why did the world think he was crazy? The underlying theme of the book is a deeply spiritual one. How is the current world treating the vulnerable continent at the bottom of the world? The characters in the story are very real and skillfully drawn. Oh, and did I mention that a lot of the book takes place in New Zealand, one of the loveliest places on the planet?

§§§§§

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Graeme Connell was born in New Zealand dropped out of high school and swapped his newspaper delivery life for a writing career as a journalist. After 10 years in daily newspapers he signed on for a six-month assignment as a journalist and photographer in Antarctica. He celebrated that adventure with two years in the Fiji Islands as assistant editor of the Fiji Times, and then emigrated to Canada with his wife and three daughters. He ended his newspaper career as publisher of (then) Canada's northernmost daily newspaper and joined Mobil Oil as head of public relations back in New Zealand transferring later to Canada and an international assignment in the US corporate offices. He was closely associated with a plant to convert natural gas into gasoline in New Zealand, the construction of the Hibernia oil field off Newfoundland and the development of the Sable gas field off Nova Scotia. After all that finished he purchased a commercial print shop, which he sold after 10 years and retired to write books. He lives with his wife Lois, an accomplished artist, in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.



Graeme

New England Chapter Spring 2018 Meeting

By Marty Diller,

New England Chapter Secretary-Treasurer

Despite a string of weekly nor'easters bringing heavy snow and gale-force winds to New England in March, there was no snow to be found outside the Quonset O Club restaurant on the former Quonset Point Naval Air Station where the New England Chapter met again this spring. A smaller crowd than usual, 61 members and guests, was present—the Chapter has been averaging 71 attendees at spring meetings.



Chapter Business

After another excellent buffet lunch, the attendees viewed a short film, 'Operation Deep Freeze I,' out of the archives (1957) of the U.S. Navy Photographic Center. Chapter President Dave Hazard then opened the business meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. His first announcement was that instead of a fundraiser for the Chapter, today's take in the 50/50 raffle drawing would go to support a 'Go-Fund-Me' fundraising effort by Chapter member Joe Stravinsky (EO1, USN (Ret.); NSFA 1972–75) and his wife, Marylyn. Their son, Joe Jr., age 44 with four children, has been diagnosed with Leukemia and will need a bone marrow transplant. A donor has been found and the transplant is scheduled in April. Donations can be made online at:

www.GoFundMe.com/JoeStrong-no-one-fights-alone



Photo by Dave Hazard

Marty Diller (left) and Russ White (center) listen while guest Katie Koster introduces herself.

The "new business" portion of the meeting was relatively brief, with Dave announcing that his wife, Chapter Webmaster Anne Hazard, would like to retire from her duties. They are looking for any "techies" in the Chapter who have the knowledge and ability to upgrade and/or takeover and maintain the Chapter website.

Life member Tom Henderson (Surveyor, USGS; 1979–80, 1981–82, 1997–98; 1982 w/o Pole) was on hand to update members on his recent *Ice Eagles* project—a video documentary on the history of Antarctic aviation. The project has been completed and the DVDs are still available for purchase. Tom hoped to have *Ice Eagles* picked up for airing by PBS television, but that did not happen—most likely because PBS considered its 2-hour length too long for their standard programming format. Tom again expressed his appreciation for the Chapter's generosity in supporting his project, and announced that he is considering conducting future sales through a Documentary Distributor that can increase sales exposure nationwide, primarily to schools and other educational venues. Such a change may require him to discontinue DVD sales through his company's website (www.gwillow.com). Tom did add, however, that he will still accept direct sales from OAEA members who contact him. Member Bill Highlands stood up and praised Tom's *Ice Eagles* documentary, saying he has the DVD set and that it is "just fantastic!"



Photo by Dave Hazard

Larry Hunter (standing) talks with Jim Kelly

I updated attendees on the latest news on the Quonset Air Museum, which was closed due to structural damage from heavy snow in March 2014. Museum officials were unable to find another site to build a new museum. Since then, some of the aircraft previously displayed by the QAM have been acquired by other entities: the F-14 *Tomcat* has been relocated to the U.S. Naval Academy, where it is now on display; and a C-1 *Trader* cockpit was obtained by the Shea Naval Aviation Museum (S. Weymouth, MA). Former QAM President John Kane confirmed that the museum's artifacts and other contents, including VX-/VXE-6 and Antarctic-related items, have been wrapped, boxed and stored in five large intermodal tractor-trailer size shipping containers for possible display at another site. In January 2018, Mr. Kane reported he also gave the Shea museum an A-4C *Skyhawk*, and advised that nothing yet has been done

with the shipping containers, stating it may be over a year "before they're dealt with."

I also reminded attendees to check the next issue of the *Explorer's Gazette* for an announcement about deadlines for OAEA Scholarship award applications for the 2018-19 school year. This announcement typically comes out in April. **(Editor's Note: See page 3 of this issue)**

In earlier business at the Chapter Officers meeting, acceptance of new members was approved: (1) Chuck Woske (109th AS (NYANG) First Sergeant, MCM s/s 1999-2002), of Johnstown, NY, was accepted as an At-Large member. Chuck recently moved to New York from Pensacola, FL, where he was a member of the GCG Chapter. (2) An OAEA Commemorative membership for ACC Charles W. Chesnutt, USN (Ret.) was also approved. Chief Chesnutt died in January 2016 at age 83, and was a resident of Brunswick, ME. He served as an Air Traffic Controller at McMurdo Station during summer support seasons in 1967-68 and 1968-69 while attached to

Antarctic Support Activities (ASA) Det B. The officers also approved a \$50 donation to accompany that membership application.

Fundraising

The winner of the meeting's 50/50 raffle was Dick Kopplin (ASA DF-71 S/S Brockton Station; Winter-over McMurdo). Dick's share of the raffle donations was \$140, and he immediately donated all of it to the Stravinsky's 'Joe-Strong' fundraiser. Meeting attendees donated an additional \$137 to the 'Joe-Strong' fundraiser.

The door prize winner, Larry Hunter (VXE-6, 1969-73), won a free lunch at the next Chapter meeting he attends.

Meeting Schedule

The next OAEA-NE Chapter meeting is scheduled for 1pm on Saturday, 23 June 2018, at *Conrad's Casual Dining* restaurant in Walpole, MA.



Photo by Dave Hazard

Attendees view 'Operation Deep Freeze I' video. L to R at nearest table: Joe Angerome (AG3, USS Atka (AGB-3), DF-IV, DF-61), Dick Kopplin (ASA DF-71 Brockton Station; WO McMurdo), Jim Kelly (AG1, ASA Det 'C'; DF-72-74), and Katie Koster (NSF contractor (weather observer); 2007-present: Pole, McM, Byrd, Pine Island Glacier).



Photo by Dave Hazard

Attendees view 'Operation Deep Freeze I' video. L to R in foreground: Anne Hazard and Billie & Larry Hunter. In middle table: Bill Highlands (Hallett Station (WO 1958) DF-III, -IV), guest Suellen Leugers & author Sarah Gillens, Dave Farmer (ASA SS DF-62-66), and Don Cady (USARP/Holmes & Narver, SS McM 70)

NEW OAEA MEMBERS

The below listed personnel have joined the OAEA since the previous issue of the *Gazette*.

Thanks to "Face" Buettner, Bob McCauley, FRA Magazine, American Legion Magazine, OAEA Web Site, Gary Watkins, Black Jack Stewart, Obit Messenger, GCG Meeting Notice, I've Been To Antarctica Facebook Page, Marty Diller, Tom Regina, Eastwind Assoc, and Pensacola New Journal GCG Meeting Notice, for recruiting new members or for providing names and contact info for prospective members.

If you know of any OAE, or anyone interested in Antarctica, who is not a member of the OAEA please send their contact info to the OAEA Membership Chairman at upizauf@aol.com or 850 456 3556.

*Denotes Associate Member

§Denotes Upgrade to Life or Renewal of Annual Member

ΦDenotes Upgrade to Regular Member

Accurso, Joe LCDR	Life	NSFA Det Alfa WO Medical officer DF-94
Bracken, Thomas CIV	Life	USARP Contractor 1979-81
Burnett, Jane CIV	Annual	MV <i>Akademic Boris Petrov</i> Russian cruise ship 1996
Carter, Michael RM1	Life	NSFA SS 1986-88
Craig, Thomas BM3	Life	USCGC <i>Westwind</i> 1958-59
Dion, John CIV	§Life	USARP H&N Contractor SS Palmer & South Pole
Duke, David CIV NOK	§Annual	Surviving Son of MM3 Byron Duke DF-I YOG-34
Engberg, Harold ABH2	Life	VXE-6 1971-74
Evans, John PN1	Life	NSFA Det Alfa WO DF-97
Gorman, Paul LT	Life	VXE-6 1971-74
Ingram, John HMC	Life	VXE-6 1982-86
Jackson, Allen AT1	Life	VX-6 WO DF-II
Kemper, Richard BU3	Annual	NSFA Det Alfa WO DF-74
Kohles, Harry EN2	Life	USS <i>Edisto</i> DF-I
Krouse, Thomas RM3	Life	ASA WO McMurdo DF-71
Lambert, Charles AT3	Life	USCGC <i>Westwind</i> 67
Lewis, Ray ABH2	Life	VXE-6 1973-77
Lusk, George HM1	Life	NSFA Det Also WO McMurdo DF-75
McBurney, C. LCDR	Life	ASA Det Alfa WO DF-61
Piper, Jerald EO1	Life	ASA Det Alfa WO McMurdo DF-70
Porcello, Denise CIV	§*Annual	Groupie
Puro, Chris, CIV	*Annual	Groupie

Riches, Dominick CIV	*Annual	Groupie
Rutowski, Dick RM2	Life	ASA Det Alfa WO DF-IV & USARP DF-62
Smith, Tracy AT2	Life	VXE-6 1974-78
Walsh, James CIV	Life	USAP 2006-07
Warne, Joe EA1	Life	NSFA Det Alfa WO DF-80
Waylett, Stephen, LT	Life	VXE-6 1977-80

REUNION & MEETING INFORMATION

Send reunion notices to Billy-Ace Baker at 850 456 3556 or upizauf@aol.com for publication in the *Gazette*

USS *Atka*: Jacksonville, FL, 25–28 April 2018. POC Carl Brown. Carl can be contacted by phone at: 616 308 4846, by eMail at browncarlione@aol.com, or by snail mail at 11487 SW Greenville Rd. Greenville, MI 48838-9714. The *Atka* served during DF-I, III, IV, 60, 62, 64, & 66,

OAEA: San Antonio, TX, 9–11 May 2018. POC John Lamont West: at 15838 Beaufort Blvd, Selma TX 78154-3839, or OAEA2018Reunion@aol.com, or 210 651 3650.

The Antarctic Society: Port Clyde, ME, 20–22 July 2018. POC Paul Dalrymple, pcdal@roadrunner.com.

NMCB-71: Nashville, TN, 16–22 September 2018. POC Jerry Montecupo by phone at: 412 373 3096, or by email at: jmontecupo@verizon.net.

USS *Wilhoite*: Albuquerque, 8–11 October 2018. POC Bob Gray. Bob can be contacted at: 601 595 2415, by eMail at: davidisabled@att.net. The *Wilhoite* served during DF-61.



The only scientific data you've recorded for the past three months is: "I Froze my butt off"—INT WTFO?

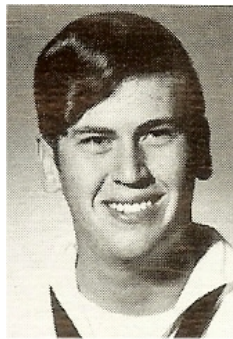
OAE LOCATOR

Send locator information to the editor by email at upizauf@aol.com, or by snail mail to 10819 Berryhill Road, Pensacola FL 32506, or by phone at 850 456 3556.

- David R. Airoidi who was an AE2 with the VXE-6 Helo Crew in 1969-71 is looking for AT2 Don Martin who was with the AT Shop at McMurdo. Don was from Marysville, MO. David can be reached by email at: dl79vt@yahoo.com, or at: 99 Bellows Falls Road Putney VT 05346, or by phone at: 802-490-8165.



Photos from the VXE-6 DF-71 cruise book
David Airoidi



Don Martin

- David R. Airoidi is also looking for information on an incident that he was involved with in 1969 in the Upper Wright Valley and was stranded on a cliff 5,000ft above the Labyrinth when a blade damper broke and the pilot, LCDR Dyer landed the helo. They were on that cliff at minus 40 degrees for three days before one of the Herc's on the way to CHCH picked up the helo's signal. David is looking for anyone who remembers that flight. He needs info on the date of the incident. David can be at dl79vt@yahoo.com.

- David Kahlow is starting a project to conduct oral history interviews of Antarctic experiences. The Ohio State University (OSU) Byrd Polar Research Center has agreed to add his interviews to their archives. David will be adding to the work that Capt Brian Shoemaker did with OSU. He will be operating without grant funding, so interviews will either be over Skype or in person on personal travel. He would like to interview OAEs in the Chicago, Illinois area, Northern Wisconsin, and The Villages Florida area. For Wisconsin, he is relatively close to Rheinlander, Three Lakes, Green Bay, Crandon. Basically 100 miles NW of Green Bay. David can be contacted at: kahlow@mac.com, 1136 S. East Avenue Oak Park IL 60304. Phone: 708-383-0378

- Tommy Duhon who was a HM2 SAR Aircrewman is trying to locate flight crew members attached to the USCGC *Edisto* and USCGC *Southwind* during DF-71. Tommy can be reach at 129 Innisbrook Drive, Broussard, LA 79518, by email at: TD4LSU@cox.net, or by phone at: (337) 288-6841.

- John Morrow who wintered-over during DF-67 as an SK would like to hear from anyone who W/O with him. John can be reached at: 106 Breezewood Terrace, Bridgewater, VA 22812, by email at: john_w_morrow@yahoo.com, or by phone at: 540-442-0007.



Photo from the ASA DF-67 Cruise book
SKSA John Morrow checks the dictionary for the spelling of "supply"

- Darrell Tegtmeier who wintered-over at McMurdo during DF-IV is looking for anyone who served with him. He would like to hear from Aerographers Mate Gene Boland and any Radioman. Darrell can be contacted at: 1021 Hairetown Road, Jonesborough TN 37659-4619, by telephone at: 423-913-2141, or by eMail at: saltydog3927@gmail.com.



From the DF-IV Winter-Over Cruise Book
RM1 Darrell Tegtmeier



AG1 Eugene Boland

- Steve Kelly, RM1 is looking for anyone who wintered-over during DF-72. Steve can be reached at: 1225 W. Washington Ave., Gilbert AZ 85233, by phone at: 480-926-1832, or by eMail at: skelly56@cox.net



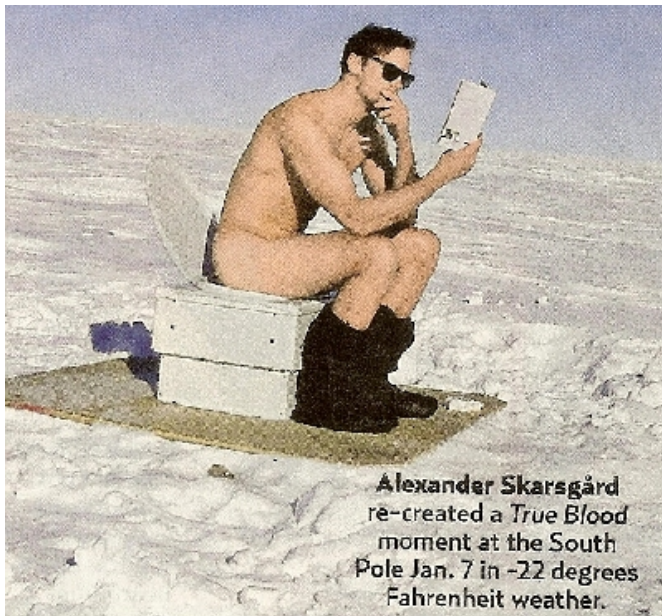
Photo from the DF-72 ASA WO Cruise Book
RM1 "Country" Steve Kelly

• Lionel Wafer is doing research for a future story for his column. He is looking for information and photos of toilets in Antarctica. Lionel can be reached at Brigadoon@skybest.com

Editor's Note: Below are two photos of Antarctic toilets. The Fall 2002 issue of the Gazette has a story on the GCA OUTHOUSE on pages 8 and 9.



Gabby in the toilet at the McMurdo Power Plant 1975.



Alexander Visited South Pole Station in December 2013 in connection with Wounded Warriors. (See the cover story in the Oct-Dec 2013 issue of the Gazette)

• John Wright is looking for information on the flags in the cover story of this issue. He would particularly like to hear from anyone who was in the crew of the aircraft that the admiral was on when the flags were dropped. John can be contacted at: 737 Bolton Road, Merrickville, Ontario, Canada, or by eMail at: johnwright@ripnet.com, by telephone 613-258-0174,

Below is the email that I received from John:

I've been a member of OAEA for a few years now and have at last got around to contacting you with an inquiry concerning a flag we found down South back in 1977!

I was a Field Guide with the British Antarctic Survey working with Geologist Peter Clarkson in the Shackleton Mountains. On 27 December we were camped at 80. 39. 38 South 19. 45.55 West. This is the Eastern end of the Shackleton Range where the rock only protrudes a few feet above the ice. I had noticed something in the snow earlier in the day and assumed it was Russian garbage as we knew they had worked in the Range, though we didn't think they had come this far East. Later in the day passing downwind of the "garbage" I noticed a small object in the snow, which proved to be a cloth star — which I assumed was Russian. When we had finished our work for the day we decided to pass by and inspect the "garbage" on our way back to the tent.

What we found surprised us. The object was a metal pole lying at an angle with a large pointed weight on the bottom. Attached to the pole were the remains of two flags, one a US Flag and the second the flag of a two star officer. It now became clear that the cloth star I had found earlier had come from the stars and stripes! — which I have to say was somewhat weathered!

Back at the tent we found a message and a cloth badge pushed inside the "flag pole" A copy of the message is attached. **(Editor's Note: See page 5.)**

I still have the flags and Peter has the original message. We would be very interested to hear from anybody who may know anything about the flight, which the message dates as taking place on 10th February 1964. I've looked at some of the VXE-6 information on line but can find no reference to a flight on that date.

Best Regards,
John Wright,

Based at Hally Station, wintered in 77. Field work on inland ice (VLF research) and Shackleton Mountains (geology). Enforced winter 1978 at Argentine Belgrano Station (Bad weather prevented pick up until following season!).



Gulf Coast Group Chapter Happenings

by Billy-Ace Penguin Baker

Saturday 6 January 2018

Meeting—It was the Gulf Coast Group Chapter first meeting of 2018 and it was a dark and stormy night—actually it was a cold morning in Pensacola. Surprisingly 34 members showed up for our first meeting of 2018. We even had some snowbirds, Dan and Pam Miller, from Lima Ohio who came down south to get away from the cold weather up North. Dan is an OAEA Life Member. He served as a HM3 onboard the USS *Arneb* during DF-62.



First time attendees were Tim and Carol Sutton of Gulf Breeze Florida. Tim and Carol visited Antarctica in February 2016 aboard the MV *National Geographic Explorer*.

Also attending for the first time were Tres and Carol Ross who live in Gulf Beach Florida. When the GCG chapter president, Duck Talbert, asked Tres to introduce himself Duck got confused and thought that Tres had wintered-over with him, but actually Tres wintered-over with yours truly.

When I met Tres at the meeting I did NOT remember him, but when I got home I broke out my DF-71 cruise book out and found his picture. Now I remember him very well.



Oliver H. Ross aka Tres. Tres tried his best to irritate the establishment from his Sat Track vantage point, but he is best remembered as a basketball Sarpstar and erstwhile Sarp bowler. When he wasn't neglecting his housemouse duties and writing nasty notes to ROTC. Tres wrote scores of letters, read many cycle magazines, and drank lots of coffee in the Message Center.

Art Ullrich who we had not seen for a long time turned up with his two sons; Art Ullrich III, and Craig Ullrich, Now for the strange part. When some of were standing in line at the cashier's station one of Art's son made a loud racial comment about the white cashier in a Mexican restaurant. I shushed him and he laughed out loud and said: "She is my daughter". I guess the joke was on me.



Art Ullrich, Duck Talbert, and Al Burton



Art's Sons

Well, back to the meeting. After the introductions and greetings Duck made a few announcements and started selling 50/50 tickets while Sean Baker passed out the door prize tickets. We had an abundance of door prizes. I had brought along a box of penguin paper clips and a South Pole Station philatelic envelope. Larry and Sharon Preston donated a blanket and Jack McLendon donated a penguin in a rocking chair. So I decided to hold my items for another day and raffle the other two items. The blanket was won by Peggy Skarr, and the rocking chair penguin was won by Dan Miller.



The penguin reposing in his rocking chair. Press the button and he rocks.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Amy Preston and she took home \$52 as her share.

After the drawings the meeting was concluded thanks to everyone who helped out with the drawings, donations, and photo taking. The next meeting will be at the Rico Mexican on 3 February.

Saturday 3 February 2018 Meeting—It was a small turn out for the February Gulf Coast Group meeting—only fourteen members and guests showed up. However we had five walk-ins, but I guess the restaurant staff felt sorry for us because of the low turn-out and seated the walkers with us.



Gus Shinn, Larry Preston, and Mary Lou Platt

Mary Lou Platt and her daughter Mary Lou Krewson asked me about the time that my granddaughter Ashlee had played her guitar and sang Christmas carols for us at a meeting several years ago. They wanted to know what she was doing now. I guess they did not realize that she was at the meeting, so I called her over to the table that the Mary Lou's were seated at, and they had a little chat.



Mary Lou and Mary Lou



Ashlee and Tracey Baker

Pam Landy and Les Liptak started a discussion regarding the low attendance and wondering if we could drum up some guest speakers that more people would attending our meetings. We haven't had a speaker in quite some time, so I asked the group if anyone had any suggestions. Carl Jackson volunteered to speak about the neighborhood watch that he is involved with. He also said that he would try to get the leader of the watch committee to help. Carl couldn't provide a date for his presentation, but he would get back with us.



Pam Landy and Les Liptak



Carl Jackson



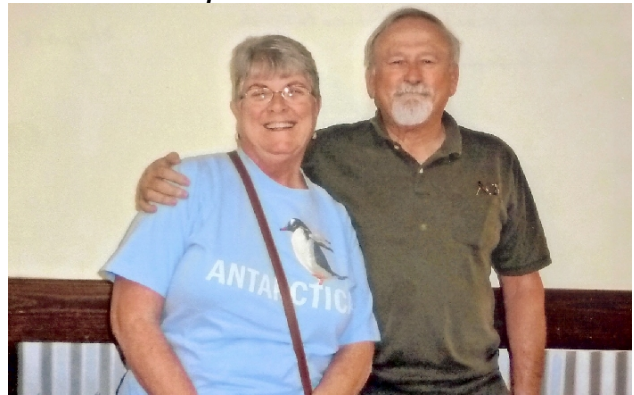
Jeanie Dumestre & Mary Lou Krewson

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned. Thanks to Mary Lou's daughter for taking the meeting photos. The next meeting will be on 3 March at the Rico Mexican.

Saturday 3 March 2018 Meeting—It turned out that we had a change of plans regarding our meeting location. Several regular meeting attendees have complained about the food and service at the Rico Mexican and several suggested David's Catfish House that had just opened up in Pensacola, so about a week before the scheduled meeting Duck Talbert, Pam Landy, and myself had lunch at David's. I am not fond of seafood, but I had a catfish basked and it was not bad.



Les Liptak and the Preston Clan



Karen and Jim Sutton

We looked around and since they had a banquet room Duck spoke with the manager and made arrangements for us to have our March and April meeting there.

I arrived at David's a few minutes late, and the parking lot was full. Unlike some of the other local restaurants, it looks like Saturday is a busy day.

Some of our members and guests were already there and it was not very long until the banquet room was full. There were a total of 26 in attendance. There would have been 27, but when Jim Speed arrived, he looked around, said hello to me, and left.

Besides being crowded, the service was poor. I went to speak to the manager, but did not find him. I did ask for another waitress because no one had received his or her drinks. When Duck arrived he spoke with the manager.

Service did not improve and Duck told me that he spoke with the manager again before he left and was told by the manager that the next time things service would be better and that he would insure that the banquet room would be rearranged in order to accommodate us.

Since he seemed sincere Duck did not cancel our April meeting at David's and would give them another chance.



Nick Liccardi, Mary & Bill Fazio, and Carl Jackson



Jim & Carol Sutton, LHJ (Doyle McClung), Gus Shinn



Raine & Duck Talbert, Gus Shinn, Billy-Ace, and Nick Liccardi

In spite of it all we had our drawings. Sharon Preston won the 50/50 and took home \$42 as her share of the kitty. The door prize, consisting of a *Freeze Frame* Antarctic cartoon book and a penguin trivet was won by Sean Baker. Since Sean had already won the same items at a previous meeting he donated his door prizes back to the chapter.

Thanks to Mary Lou for taking the meeting photos and thanks to Duck and Sean for conducting the raffles, and thanks to Danny Thompson for drawing the tickets—even though he drew his dad's ticket for the door prize. Our next meeting will be at David's Catfish House on 7 April.

IN MEMORIUM

We lost OAEA Life Member and Gulf coast Group Chapter Member Fred Overson in January. Fred has not been active in recent GCG Chapter meetings. However, he served as an usher at the 50th Anniversary of the first aircraft landing at the geographic South Pole in 2006. At the 2008 OAEA Reunion in Pensacola Fred was one of the GCG volunteers who provided transportation for attendees from the Pensacola Airport to the Pensacola Beach Hilton Hotel. May he rest in peace.



Fred at the National Naval Aviation Museum in 2006 escorting attendees to seating for the 50th Anniversary of the first aircraft landing at the South Pole.

PENGUIN CLUB

OAEA Donor Awards as of 2/9/2018

*compiled by Billy-Ace Baker
from data supplied by Ed Hamblin*

Asterisks indicate new donors, or donors who have reached the next level. Donations to the OAEA are tax deductible.

BRONZE ADELIE CLUB

Donations of \$100
2010 Memory Book Donors
Ainley, David
Baker, Ashlee F.
Baker, Jamie (deceased)
Baker, Sean
Baker, Tracey
Barnard, Richard
Bethea, Joe
Blankenship, John
Bolt, Ron L. (deceased)
Bourgeois, Lennie
Boyer, Robert E.
Bracken, Harold (deceased)
Brow, Robert
Brown, Rodger
Bush, Carl
Cabrera, Quirino
Capozzoli, Albert A.
*Clough, John
Cockrill, Dale
Conklin, Harold
Cornwell, Jim
Cox, Lynne
Cunningham, Clair (deceased)
Damvelt, Karen
*Dever, John & Dawn
*Dewald, Bruce
Dieckhoff, Charlotte
Diller, Marty & Bev
Dostal, W "Dusty" A.
*Draughon, Johnnie
Dunn, Thomas
Durham, James
*Eblen, Ruth
Ellena, Eugene
*Emick, John
Epperly, Robert M.
Everett, Richard (deceased)
Fazio, Bill
Flesner, Harold
Gerrish, Samuel
*Gillens, Sarah
Gibbs, Maurice "Mo"

Giro, John J.
Giro, Mary V.
Grass, Donna M.
Grimes, Paul
*Gustin, Jerry & Karen
Hall, Richard M.
Halpern, Barry
Hames, Winters (deceased)
Hand, Ernest (deceased)
Harmon, Charles
Hartford, Charles
*Hartman, Janet
Hartman, Susan
Hendry, John
Henley, Elizabeth (deceased)
Henley, Joseph
Henry, Kenneth "Pig Pen"
Herr, Arthur (deceased)
Hickey, John
Higdon, John C.
Holloway, Phil
Hood, Elaine
Jernigan, Laura
Johnson, Robert R. "Boats"
Judd, Robert C.
Kees Billy W.
Konrad, Bradley, N.C.
Konrad, Kerry
Konrad, Robert D.
Konrad, Robert K. A.
Lahtinen, Peter
Landy, James (deceased)
Landy Pam
Lenkey, John
Lindberg, Arthur E.
Livermore, Gerald
Loper, Gene
McGraw, Theresa
Morton, John E.
Mourlas, James
Mull, William
Munson, Evelyn
Nero, Leonard L.
Northrup, David
OAEA Southern California Group
O'Donnell, William
Olsen Don (deceased)
O'Neal, Jerry
Owler, Robert (deceased)
Panehal, Paul "PK"
Phillips, Elmer F.
Rouzer, William
Smith, Herschel (deceased)

Smith, Walter (deceased)
Snow, Laura
Snyder, Mary Margaret
Spaulding, Richard
Spencer, Erwin J. (deceased)
Startz, Donna
Tamplet, Walter (deceased)
Taylor, William C.
Tobey, Susan
Toney, Phillip
Trimpi, Michael
Van Reeth, Gene
Verba, Sheila & Cheryl
Walsh, Mike
Werner, Alexander (deceased)
Whitehead, Eugene
*Wick, Howard "Guhor"
Yow, Maxine (deceased)
Zinser, Richard (deceased)

GOLD ADELIE CLUB

Donations of \$500
Buehler, Cyril (deceased)
Cordes, Fauno (deceased)
Herman, Andrew "Tony" (deceased)
OAEA Gulf Coast Group Chapter
Reed, Dale
Reynolds, Paula
Soulia, George

SILVER ADELIE CLUB

Donations of \$1,000
2006 OAEA Reunion Committee
2008 OAEA Reunion Committee
2014 OAEA Reunion Committee
2016 OAEA Reunion Committee
Biery, Roger
*Hamblin, Edwin & Linda
OAEA New England Chapter
VX/VXE-6 Para-Rescue Team
Oona, Henn
Peterson, Dave
Splain, Vincent F.

EMPEROR CLUB

Donations of \$5,000
Baker, Billy-Ace P.

COMMUNICATOR CLUB

Donations of \$10,000
Communicator Group Fund