



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 12, Issue 3

Old Antarctic Explorers Association, Inc

Jul-Sep 2012



Photo Credit: Holly Troy

Passengers disembark from a U.S. Air Force C-17 plane at McMurdo Station. Six flights from New Zealand to McMurdo in late August transported personnel and cargo. It was minus 13 degrees Fahrenheit at Pegasus White Ice Runway when the first flight arrived on 23 August.

Storms delay first planes to McMurdo Station before flights get on schedule

By Peter Rejcek
Antarctic Sun Editor

Late August storms around McMurdo delayed the first U.S. Antarctic Program flights to Antarctica since March, but the last of six planned flights finally took place on 31 August, officially ending the winter fly-in period called WINFLY, when new personnel arrive to ready the research station for the upcoming field season that begins in October.

A C-17 Globemaster III aircraft operated by the 62nd and 446th Airlift Wings out of Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington state transported about 300 people from Christchurch, New Zealand, to McMurdo. The Air Force also took some passengers north, leaving about 400 people at the station at the end of August.

The first flight, which carried 128 passengers, attempted to land as early as 20 August before returning to Christchurch because of bad weather in McMurdo, turning a five-hour flight into an 11-hour boomerang. Storms continued to rage until 23 August, when the first flight finally landed. The second passenger flight was also delayed due to mechanical issues and more poor weather, landing on 27 August. It was smooth flying after that, with the final four flights arriving on successive days. The last three were mainly cargo flights, carrying everything from mail to fresh fruit and vegetables to equipment used for overland traverses by tractor.

The 2012–13 summer field season is scheduled to begin on 1 October.

[See: Related Story on page 4.](#)

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

James "Jim Da Retired Cop" Heffel—OAEA President

TO ALL OAEs—By the time you read this the 2012 OAEA Election results will have been announced to all Internet capable members by the mass email system. The results will also be published in the Oct-Dec issue of the *Gazette*.



The 2012 OAEA Reunion in San Diego is only two months away. More attendees are needed to make the reunion a success. See the reunion info below my signature for registering and making your hotel reservations. Please do so ASAP.

To all those who have lost loved ones, please accept my sincere condolences. My prayers are with you. To those under the weather, I wish you a speedy recovery.

This will be my final column in the President's Corner. I thank everyone who has offered encouragement, suggestions, and support during my tenure as President of the Old Antarctic Explorers Association.

I solicit your recommendations and suggestions on those areas of the OAEA that you perceive as going well and on those areas where you feel we can do better. Please feel free to contact me at:

jim1031@hotmail.com, or
25 Lakewood Road
South Weymouth, MA 02190.

Jim Heffel
OAEA President

§

The OAEA Reunion to be held in San Diego, California 28–30 November 2012 is just around the corner. The Reunion Committee did a great job getting the word out. See the Reunion Special Edition of the *Explorer's Gazette* for information on hotel reservations and rates, a reunion registration form, and many other details. The special edition may be downloaded from our website at: <http://www.oaea.net>

2012 REUNION



28 - 30 November

Point of Contact:
Bob Gaboury
Phone: 805 322 3955
BobGaboury@gmail.com

Hotel Reservations:
Catamaran Resort & Spa
Phone: 800 422 8386
Code: OAEA



GROWLERS & BERGY BYTES

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

	Page
Cover Story— WINFLY Contractor Version	1
§	
Hendersonville, NC— Donation of Memorabilia	3
§	
Lewis-McChord— WINFLY Air Force Version	4
§	
Divide, CO— Campbell Island Amateur Radio	5
§	
Here and There— Letters to the Editor	7
§	
West Jefferson, NC— This Quarter in History	9
§	
Norfolk, VA— Tidewater Group Meeting	10
§	
Here and There— In Memory: Obituaries	11
§	
Gulfport, MS— CEC/Seabee New Treasurer	14
§	
Pensacola, FL— Book Review by Laura Snow	14
§	
Mesquite, NV— Book Review by Billie Lilienthal	15
§	
Pensacola, FL— New Members & Reunions	18
§	
Here and There— Locator Column	19
§	
Pensacola, FL— Glossary of Snow & Ice	19
§	
Pensacola, FL— Farewell to RADM Doc Abbot	20
§	
Brunswick, ME— New England Chapter Meeting	22
§	
Pensacola, FL— GCG Chapter Meetings	23

DISCLAIMER STATEMENT

The *Explorer's Gazette* is published quarterly by the Old Antarctic Explorers Association. Opinions expressed by the editorial staff or contained in articles submitted by members, and non-members are not official expressions of the OAEA nor does the mention of books, products, or events constitute endorsement by the OAEA.



The *Explorer's Gazette* is
the official publication of the

**Old Antarctic Explorers
Association, Inc.**

National Headquarters
10819 Berryhill Road
Pensacola, FL 32506 USA
Phone 850 456 3556

And is published four times annually

Editor

Billy-Ace Baker

Editorial Assistants

Gus Shinn
Kerry Konrad
Pam Landy

Editor Emeritus

Jim O'Connell
2001-2003

Association Officers

President – Jim Heffel

Vice President – Laura Snow

Secretary – Marty Diller

Treasurer – Cyril Buehler

Life Director – Billy-Ace Baker

Past President/Director – John West

Director – David Bresnahan

Director – Buz Dryfoose

Director – Ed Hamblin

Director – Dave Hazard

Director – Jim Landy

Director – Russ Livermore

Director – Dick Spaulding

Chaplain – Denis Casey

Historian – Billy-Ace Baker

Parliamentarian – Jim Eblen

Museum Coordination Committee

by E. W. Van Reeth

The Museum Coordination Committee (MCC) of the Old Antarctic Explorers Association was founded shortly after the Association was established. Its purpose is to assist members who possess Antarctic artifacts or memorabilia, which they wish to have preserved indefinitely.

A number of appropriate museums and repositories were contacted, and their criteria for donations were determined. The museums were unanimous in stating that routine letters, diaries, messages, logs, photographs, and so forth were not wanted unless they were of true historic significance. Otherwise they would be swamped with such items.

When contacted by a donor, the MCC will:

- (1) Determine an appropriate museum while working with the donor;
- (2) Assist the donor in contacting the museum and provide him/her with a contact at the museum-Name, Address, E-Mail Address, Phone Number, and so forth, and
- (3) Act as an intermediary if assistance is required. Experience has shown that providing direct liaison between the donor and the museum is the ideal working arrangement. Many questions may arise, and the museum will want a thorough description of the donation.

At this point it must be emphasized that all expenses involved with the packing and shipment of the donation to the museum are the responsibility of the donor. This is true of all museums. While they are happy to accept your donation, they do not have the funds to cover any expense in having it packed and shipped.

Recently we had a donor with an outstanding (and massive) collection, which the museum really desired. The museum would not pay for its packing and shipment; the donor said he could not. Stalemate! Eventually the donor relented and agreed to pay the charges.

Bottom Line: The MCC will provide all the help we can, but if the donor is unwilling to work with the museum, or will not be responsible for the donation's packing and shipping charges, there is little else that can be done.

Related Subject

The OAEA MCC policy for assisting members in the return of items taken from the Antarctic Historic Huts differs slightly in that the MCC may request financial assistance from the OAEA BOD if the item(s) are heavy or bulky. Details regarding procedures for the return of subject objects are contained in the Apr-Jun 2010 issue of the *Explorer's Gazette* on page 3.



McChord C-17 Crews Begin WINFLY to Antarctica

by Staff Sgt. Sean Tobin
62nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

JOINT BASE LEWIS-MCCHORD, Wash. (AFNS)—The 62nd Airlift Wing began the winter fly-in period on 20 August as part of its support of the U.S. Antarctic Program and the National Science Foundation.

The period, known as WINFLY, is scheduled to last until 28 August and will deliver advance teams and cargo for the upcoming main season of Operation Deep Freeze.

A C-17 Globemaster III aircraft operated by the 62nd AW and its Reserve associate wing, the 446th AW, will deploy to transport NSF personnel and cargo to Christchurch International Airport, New Zealand.

Christchurch is the starting point for forward deployment to McMurdo Station, Antarctica.

WINFLY and ODF are unlike any other U.S. military operations and present unique challenges for all members involved.

“Flying into Antarctica during WINFLY is challenging because it is dark almost all day,” said MAJ. Matt Armstrong, 62nd Operations Group executive officer.

Unlike a traditional concrete runway, the airfield is carved out of the ice making it very difficult to discern the runway from the surrounding ice, said Armstrong.

Traditional airfield lighting is not feasible in the remote, icy airfield, so special reflectors are placed along either side of the runway to help the aircraft’s lights reflect back into the cockpit.

The Air Force is uniquely equipped and trained to operate in such an austere environment and has provided support to U.S. Antarctic research since 1955.



Globemaster III Landing on Pegasus Ice Runway

“We have to adjust for crosswinds early and make a very straight approach to the runway,” said LTCOL. Brent Keenan, the 62nd Operations Group deputy commander and ODF commander. “Otherwise the light from the aircraft would not hit the reflectors and we would not be able to see the runway.”

Another factor that makes WINFLY missions difficult is the extremely low temperatures that occur in Antarctica during the month of August, which is wintertime in the southern hemisphere.

“Temperatures get so low in flight that the pilots have to make sure that the fuel in the wings doesn't get so cold that it turns into a gel,” said Armstrong.

“This is a small subset of missions we do no matter what conflicts are going on elsewhere in the world,” said Keenan. “It's a unique mission and it's all about furthering science.”

Joint Task Force Support Forces Antarctica, led by Pacific Air Forces at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, is scheduled to begin the Operation Deep Freeze main season at the end of September.

Joint Task Force Support Forces Antarctica Public Affairs contributed to this article.



Cargo brought by the C-17 is prepared for transport to McMurdo Station.

Photo Credit: Holly Troy

Campbell Island Amateur Radio Expedition

by: Gene Spinelli, K5GS

Antarctica, the sub-Antarctic islands and the southern ocean have captivated people for hundreds of years. From the earliest sailing expeditions of the 1500s to the current day scientific and environmental explorations, the intrigue of the frozen continent remains at an all time high.



Gene at the Campbell Island Bar

The worldwide amateur (ham) radio community also has great interest in this part of the world. Within the “ham” radio hobby are many special interest groups. Two of these special interests are: the “DX Century Club” (DXCC) and “Islands on the Air” (IOTA) which are sponsored by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) and the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB), respectively.

DXCC is Amateur Radio’s premier award that hams can earn by completing a two way radio contact with at least 100 countries (also called entities). The initial award is for making contact with 100 DXCC countries, with the highest level requiring the applicant to contact all entities on the DXCC list, which today numbers 340 countries. The “Top of the Honor Roll” can take many years to achieve because of the infrequent activation of some remote DXCC entities.



Ian Johnson Hamming on Campbell Island. The Amateur Radio Station Was One of the More Active Hobbies on the Island. The 1959–60 Season was the First Year That a HAM Station was Regularly Operated on the Island. Contacts Were Made With HAM Stations as Far Apart as Alaska and Antarctica. The Campbell Island Station was Declared a “New Country” for Amateur Radio Contact Purposes.

While there aren’t 340 countries in the world, under the DXCC rules certain islands, reefs, and rocks count towards the award. The Antarctic continent is considered one country (or entity) on the DXCC list. Antarctic and sub-Antarctic islands also individually count as one country if they meet certain criteria. For example, Heard Island, Bouvet Island, and Campbell Island each count as a separate DXCC country, yet the Balleny Islands doesn’t count.

Similar to DXCC, IOTA is an amateur radio activity designed to encourage contacts with island stations worldwide. The oceans’ islands have been grouped into some 1200 ‘IOTA groups’ with, for reasons of geography, varying numbers of ‘counters’, i.e. qualifying islands, in each. The objective is to make radio contact with at least one counter in as many of these groups as possible.

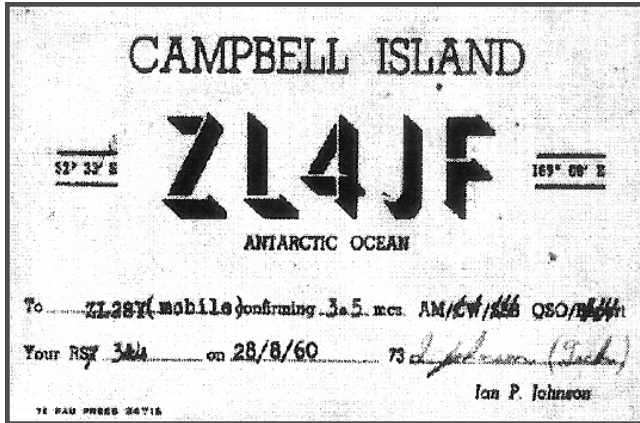
Over the years teams of ham radio operators have endeavored to reach remote locations in order to transmit their signals around the world. Some of these expeditions are relatively easy to conduct. Most all populated countries of the world permit some form of amateur radio operations, with the exception being North Korea where ham radio operation is banned. Most all of the countries with bases on Antarctica have amateur radio stations at their site(s), thus

contacting the Antarctic continent is relatively easy.

However, other DXCC and IOTA entities are uninhabited and/or have hostile environments, extreme heat, and humidity or cold and some are difficult to reach. Without natural harbors, airstrips, or enough land area to erect tents and/or antennas with some rocks and reefs only a few meters above sea level, if even that, the challenges begin to mount.

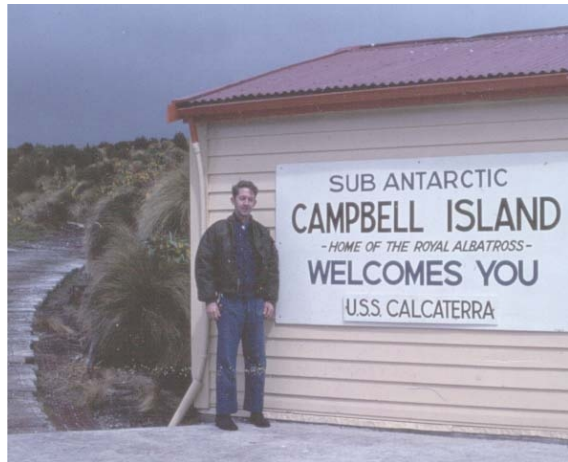


ET3 Johnnie Vito Working on the Rawinsonde (GMD). The GMD was donated to the New Zealand Meteorological Service by the US Navy to obtain weather information for the Deep Freeze flights between New Zealand and McMurdo. The GMD originally was used in Korea by the US Army and it had not been inspected or tested before being shipped to Campbell Island. Vito was scheduled to winter-over at Byrd Station and he was detoured to Campbell Island to help install and to repair the GMD. As it turned out he was there for most of the summer season.



**Campbell Island QSL Card
(QSL: Operating Signal Meaning:
I Acknowledge Receipt)**

New Zealand's Campbell Island was a manned weather station from the mid 1950s until 1995. Scientists living on the island performed daily weather reporting duties and other scientific activities. Early in the program, these reports were integral to the Operation Deep Freeze aircraft flying between Christchurch and McMurdo. In 1995 the weather reporting process was automated and the island again became uninhabited. Since 1995 non-native wildlife was eradicated and the island has since been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Landing on the island is controlled by the NZ Department of Conservation. The



**Unidentified Calcaterra Crew Member
Stands by Campbell Welcome Sign**



USS T. J. Gary Entering Perseverance Harbor at Campbell Island

last major ham radio expedition to Campbell Island was in Jan. 1999.

In November-December 2012 an international team of 10 ham radio operators will sail to Campbell Island from Bluff, New Zealand. The team will erect at least five radio stations and for 10 days transmit their signals around the world. Thousands of ham radio operators will

attempt to make contact, we expect to make 60,000 contacts.

Radio expeditions require the team to transport their equipment to the island, erect the radio stations, and upon departure remove all signs of their ever being there. Our team will transport: seven complete radio stations; amplifiers; antennas; hundreds of meters of cable; four generators; 1,100 liters of petrol; food; water and other essentials. The New Zealand Department of Conservation has graciously allowed us to use several of the islands few remaining vacant buildings.

DX-peditions to remote locations not served by scheduled transportation can cost between \$100,000(USD) to \$500,000(USD). To cover the costs

virtually all expedition teams seek donations from the worldwide amateur radio community and equipment manufacturers. At the time of this writing we've been awarded grants from the ARRLs Colvin Award committee, the German DX Foundation, The Lone Star (Texas) DX Association and donations from amateur radio clubs and individual ham radio operators. While the team will fund the bulk of the expedition's cost, we

appreciate the generosity of those who have already contributed. And, of course, we are indebted to the NZ Department of Conservation for granting access to this stunning wildlife and nature reserve.

Additional Campbell Island expedition information can be found at: www.campbell2012.com

Editor's Notes: Gene Spinelli has been an amateur radio operator for over 36 years. He visited Campbell Island during his US Navy enlistment while a crewmember on the USS Calcaterra during DF-66.

Gene wrote the cover story for the Jan-Mar 2009 issue of the Explorer's Gazette about the Deep Freeze RADAR Picket ships.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Billy-Ace:

I have finally completed the Robert Johnson video, titled *Boats*. I have just updated my business website, www.gwillow.com, to reflect this. The link to the exact page is: <http://www.gwillow.com/boats.html>. For those who do NOT have Internet access I can be contacted at: 520 Normanskill Place, Slingerlands, NY 12159, or 518 862-9623.

This is a 2-DVD set with a total running time of 100 minutes. I am charging \$27.00 for regular purchases, which includes mailing. The price for OAEA members will be \$19.00, including mailing. If outside the U.S./Canada the prices are \$30.00 and \$22.00, respectively. There is a drop-down list on the PayPal form to select the type of order (OAEA or non-OAEA).

Tom Henderson

Editor's Note: The OAEA provided \$400 to help defray expenses in producing this DVD. In case you don't know who Boats Johnson is, his story, "Veteran of Three Antarctic Expeditions" is in the Oct-Dec 2011 issue of the Gazette on page 15.

Billy:

I need some info. I have a good friend in church that was on the ice two different tours. I would very much like to surprise him with a membership (so maybe he will quit borrowing my copies of the *Gazette*). Would you send the information to me? Great article in the last issue about the P2V crash.

Thanks Mike Turkington

Editor's Note: Mike got his OAEA info package and signed his buddy up as a member. If anyone else has a friend that they would like to gift an OAEA membership to just let me know.

Sir,

Thank you and the OAEA BOD once again for selecting me for the benefits of the OAEA (2011) Scholarship. I am looking forward to this semester.

Next week, (23 August 2012) the Blue Raider Battalion stand-to is being held, to have the first PT test, PMS briefings and swearing in all new contracted cadets. Thank you all so much for helping make this opportunity possible last year.

CDT Ryan McCoy

Dear Editor,

On page 14 (In Memory) of the last *Gazette*, you have Capt Douglas W Madison as passing away on 4 November 1911. I remember a few months back, spending a day taking you to get cataract surgery, and then the next day back to the Surgeon, and he was telling you that you had 20/20 vision in that eye.

Maybe it's time to get the other eye done!!!

Your niece, Pam

Editor's Note: That date should have been 2011.

Dear Editor:

In your reply to my letter in the Apr-Jun *Gazette* you said that you deleted some of the tourist obits in order to hold the "In Memory" column to exactly three pages. Did you mean "Tourists... like civilians, on cruise ships, or are you referring to the ChiChi commandos or Staff that would wander down to McMurdo for a day or two so they could 'earn' an Antarctic Service Medal?"

Pig Pen Henry

Editor's Note: I meant the tourists on the cruise ships.

Dear Editor:

The P2V Memorial Plaque story was some mighty fine reading. Someone did a lot of fine research too.

Thanks for a great newsletter.

Mel Havener

Greetings Billy,

I've just had a quick browse through of the Apr-Jun *Gazette* and will print it for Pat and I to read at leisure. That's quite a comprehensive newsletter!

Where has 50 years gone! Pat well recalls the Neptune crash at Wilkes Station.

And sad to read of so many OAEs having passed away... and then to raise spirits, I laughed aloud to read Denis Casey's Senility Prayer.

Well done on making the Penguin signature following your name in your email Billy!

Pat and I are headed to the Arctic, voyaging the Northwest Passage from west to east, continuing our polar photography.

Rosemarie Keough

Editor's Note: The Keough's authored Antarctica. A real coffee-table book priced at around \$2000.



Dear OAEA:

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for making the OAEA 2012 Scholarship possible. I was thrilled to learn of my selection for this honor and I am deeply appreciative of your support.

I am currently majoring in maritime studies. The financial assistance you have provided will help me concentrate more time on my studies and less on my educational expenses.

Thank you again for your generosity and support.
Sincerely,

Trevor Getman

G'day Billy-Ace:

Thanks for the very comprehensive cover in your latest *Gazette*. I don't know where you got that photo on page 5 captioned 'Mark Hunt at Wilkes gravesite'. It's actually me taken in February 2008 by Tod Iolowski with a fisheye lens on his camera! But not to worry, it's a minor cough in a very detailed story.

Thanks again,

Bill Burch

Editor's Note: It looks like I need another pair of eyes to catch some of these errors. And thanks to Bill for helping to make the memorial a reality

Dear Billy-Ace:

I'm writing in regard to the articles in the last *Gazette* about claims of cancer caused by ionizing radiation from the PM-3A. We of the Navy's Shore Nuclear Power Program and specifically the men who served IN the plant have remained quiet on this issue too long. We take exception to these unsubstantiated, frivolous claims and accusations that have proliferated. They are based on distorted, misinformed, and incorrect interpretations of data extracted from reports. In no case has anyone considered investigating or even interviewing men who served in the Nuclear Power Program to obtain clarification. This especially applies to Mr. Ron Regan of ABC who even sensationalized these claims on television and received the prestigious Peabody Award "for Investigative Reporting" on this specific subject, without ever contacting anyone who served at the PM-3A.

Official radiation exposure records of men who actually served at the PM-3A are proof that their exposures never exceeded official limits. These men served in the plant for 14-month periods at a time (some for several such 14-month periods), on summer support maintenance, and in similar nuclear power plants of the DoD Shore Nuclear Power Program throughout their careers. From our reunions and database of approximately 400 men, to the best of our knowledge, the cancer rate among the men who served in the PM-3A is completely in line with national averages. Since the investigation into these claims is still on going, I can't give specifics in refuting the claims. However, any implication that



A Recent Photo of Fegley

anyone outside the PM-3A over the ten years of its operation contracted cancer from ionizing radiation released from the plant is completely misguided. Statements made and the wide-spread publicity about these claims impugn the reputations of the responsible officers and men who operated and monitored the plant in accordance with terms of the Antarctic Treaty, Atomic Energy Commission Standards, and Navy Directives. It would be more realistic to theorize that their cancer originated from ionizing radiation and carcinogens found in the volcanic soil of Ross Island, at high altitudes, in hydrocarbon fuel combustion products, life styles, X-rays, CAT scans, and DNA than from the PM-3A.

Captain C. E. Fegley III, CEC, USN (Ret)

Editor's Note: Captain Fegley was the OIC of the PM-3A Crew III winter-over party during DF-64. He also served as the PM-3A Operations Support Officer at the Navy Nuclear Power Unit (NNPU) at Fort Belvoir during 1965 and 1966. After two deployments to Vietnam he returned to Ft Belvoir and served as the NNPU OIC from Jan 1970 to September 1972. In addition to his winter-over he made five summer deployments to PM-3A.

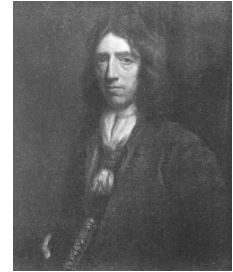


LCDR Fegley PM-3 Crew III OIC at his Desk During DF-64

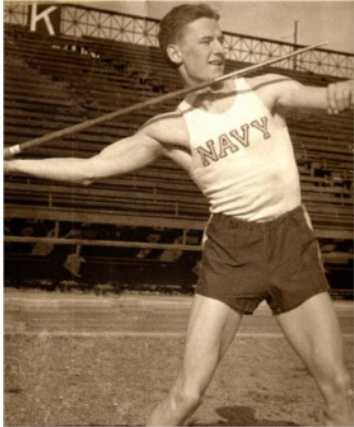
THIS QUARTER IN HISTORY

*Ghost written by Black Jack of Ballarat
for Lionel Wafer*

From the Second Edition of John Stewart's
Antarctica: an Encyclopedia, 2011.



Lionel Wafer



Fred Bakutis at Annapolis



RADM Fred Bakutis

JULY: In July 1961, a champion javelin thrower became a rear admiral. He'd done his spear chucking at Annapolis. During the war he was an air ace, and was shot down by the Japs, and forced to float for seven days in his raft in the open sea. In 1965 he succeeded Admiral Reedy as COMNAVSUPFORANTARCTICA, and had a major Antarctic coast named after him. He served in the Vietnam War, commanded the task force that recovered the Apollo 10 astronauts, and surfed well into his 80s at his home in Hawaii. He died a month short of his 97th birthday. That was Fred Bakutis.

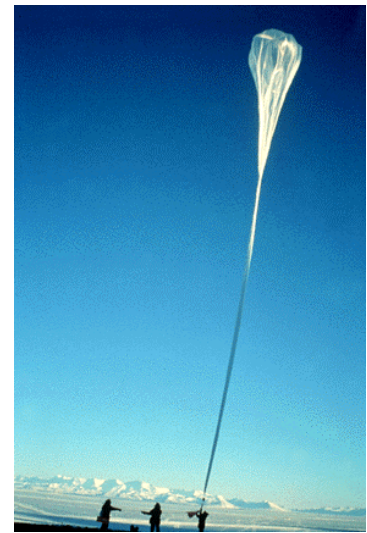
AUGUST: On 23 August 1986, a group of 16 scientists arrived at McMurdo. This was NOZE, an expedition put together by NOAA, NASA, and NSF.

Translation:

- National Ozone Expedition
- National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- National Science Foundation

Actually, the acronyms are easier now. Certainly more fun, as can be seen by the following, that have appeared in recent Antarctic publications:

- French Antarctic Reconnaissance Technician
- Antarctic Nomenclature of the United States
- British Antarctic Service Training And Redeployment Department
- Tasmanian Ice Training Service
- Antarctic Special Sciences (Ozone Hole)



NOZE Balloon



Photo by Virginia Vannerman
Gus Holding a Photo of Gus Holding a Photo, ad Infinitum, ad Naseum

SEPTEMBER: 12 September 1922 was a significant date in Antarctic history, although at the time no one knew that. The place was Spray, NC. There were three participants—YMCA secretary Pinkney Shinn; his wife, Mattie Jane Krimminger; and, of course, the reason for the event—one Conrad Selwyn Shinn, age—well—zero. The next day, he would be one day old, and on 12 September 2012, he celebrated his 90th birthday, which is a testimony to temperate and clean living. In between those two dates he became the most famous flyer in the annals of Antarctic history, the first man to land a plane at the geographic South Pole. It would require at least a thick book to tell of his adventures and his accomplishments, and that's only up to 2012. When I first spoke to Gus Shinn several years ago, it was to interview him for my book, I was, of course, somewhat nervous, obviously. The nervousness lasted one second, the conversation lasted two hours. Happy birthday from all of us, Gus!



Gus When He Was a Young Cadet

Tidewater Group September Get-Together



by Ed Hamblin

We sure didn't know that there was going to be a visit from a political figure in Virginia Beach the day of our scheduled get together. Traffic controls were in place, and there were dozens of normal thoroughfares that had turned into parking lots. NASCAR was also running in Richmond that weekend, so that was a conflict for some. Point being, there were plenty of reasons not to go anywhere. But In spite of the scheduling, we had a "cozy" turnout for our quarterly social get together. Besides me (Ed Hamblin), there were Jim Silverstorf, Bill Murray, Brad Miller, Herb Schaefer, Ron Rooks, Robert Kello, Dave Steward, and Will Pontious. Will was "discovered" recently by Jim Silverstorf who was out and about on personal business, and ran into Will; somehow, there was a mind-meld and they discovered an ice connection; Jim told him about us. Will is ex-Navy, and wintered over at McMurdo in one of the late 90s winter over parties. I hope we impressed Will enough for him to continue as part of the group. He certainly brings a much newer perspective to our group.



Brad Miller, Herb Schaefer, and Ron Rooks

Besides all the true "ice lies" that get passed around and reunion discussion, Dave Steward enlightened us on this year's "Tall Ships" (sailing vessels from around the world) visit that had just wrapped up before our get together. This year being the 200th anniversary of the war of 1812, there were special commemorative events going on related to the Tall Ships that visited the area. Dave was the organizing host and coordinator for the ships that visited his area on the Eastern shore.



Jim Silverstorf and Bill Murray

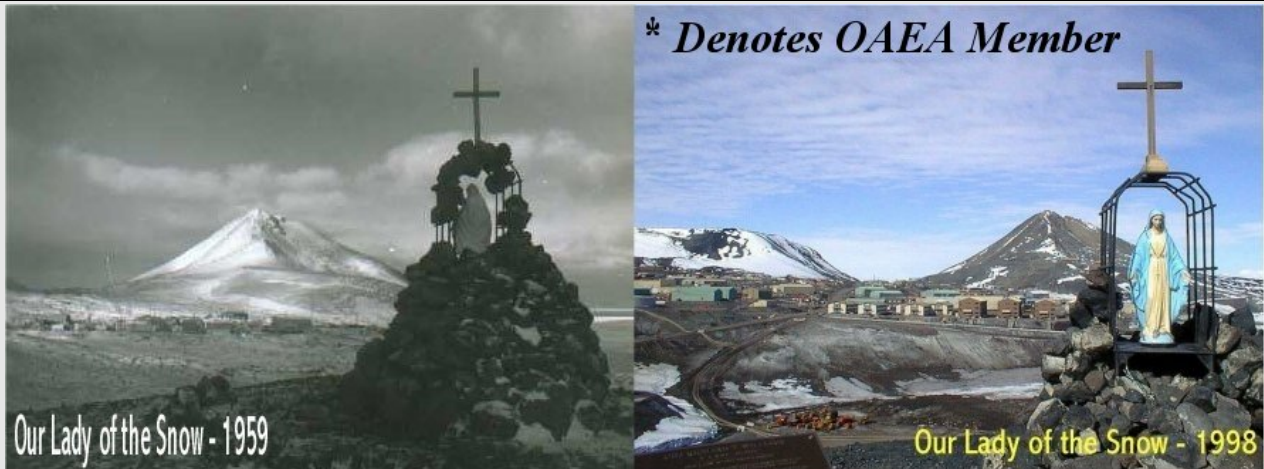


Will Pontious and Dave Steward

Although we had a few ice stories, and some shared pictures, our main topic of discussion was the upcoming reunion in San Diego. Brad Miller has unilaterally taken on the "advertising" effort for our planned Tidewater 2014 OAEA Reunion (12-14 November 2014), and is planning on having informational materials available in San Diego. The serious organization of our local effort will start after return from San Diego. We do have a very nice venue contracted to host the event, and us "Norfolkians" feel that we are in a position to host a one of a kind reunion.



Ron Rooks and Robert Kello



IN MEMORY

*OAE RADM James Lloyd “Doc” Abbot, Jr., USN (Ret), 94, died on 10 August 2012, in Alexandria, VA. Doc served as COMNAVSUPFORANTARCTICA from February 1967 through June 1969. Doc was a member of the OAEA Gulf Coast Group Chapter. Abbot Ice Shelf is named in his honor. (See story on page 20)

OAE Luana Lee Ash, 78, died on 19 June 2012, in Los Angeles, CA. Luana visited Antarctica as a travel agent.

*OAE LT Francis X Baglioni, USN (Ret), 92, died on 19 September 2012, in Pensacola, FL. Frank served on the USS *Wyandot* during DF-II. He was a member of the OAEA GCG Chapter.

OAE Marcia Dudley Bellermann, died on 13 July 2012, in Worcester, MA. Marcia visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE William E. “Bill” Blurock, 90, died on 12 June 2012, in Newport Beach, CA. Bill visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE John Ross Bower, 67, died on 30 June 2012, in Lynchburg, VA. John wintered over at South Pole Station in 1968 with USARP in COSRAY. Mount Bower is named in his honor.

*OAE LCDR James Florian Brandau, USN (Ret), 79, died on 22 July 2012, while hiking on Wheeler’s Peak, in Taos, NM. Jim served as a helicopter pilot in VX-6 from 1963–65 and in VXE-6 from 1969–72. Brandau Crater (aka Brandau Vent), Brandau Glacier, and Brandau Rocks were named in his honor.

OAE Malcolm Browne, 81, died on 27 August 2012, in a NH hospital. Malcolm visited Antarctica as a news correspondent.

OAE MAJ Harvey A. Buskirk, USAF (Ret), 88, died on 16 July 2012, in Spokane, WA. Harvey served with ANARE aboard the *Thala Dan* in 1962. Buskirk Bluffs is named in his honor.

OAE Richard M. Calnan, 69, died on 11 August 2012, in Brockton, MA. Richard served on the USS *Glacier*.

OAE H. Samuel Case, 70, died on 22 August 2012, in Westminster, MD. Samuel was a USAP grantee between 1997 and 99.

OAE Shaun B. Cashman, 76, died on 26 September 2012, in Old Lyme, CT. Shaun served in Antarctica with the Seabees.

OAE COL Clarence N. “Bud” Chamberlain USAF (Ret), died on 8 June 2012, in Riverside, CA. Bud spent two seasons on the ice with the USARP contractor, Holmes and Narver in 1970 and 71.

OAE Dorothy Margaret (Ostergaard) Christensen, 93, died on 31 July 2012, in Grafton, MA. Dorothy visited Antarctica as a tourist when she was 80.

OAE Stephen Edward Claman, 79 died on 23 August 2012, in Los Angeles, CA. Stephen visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Gerry A. Clark, 84, died on 6 July 2012, in Delmar, NY. Gerry served on the USS *Pine Island* during Highjump.

OAE Allen W. Coburn, Sr., 84, died on 26 June 2013, in Hampstead, NH. Allen served on the USS *Philippine Sea* as a Hospital Corpsman during Highjump.

OAE LCDR Jack Calvin Dudley, CEC, USNR, (Ret), 76, died on 11 September 2012, in Milwaukee, WI. Jack visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Donald Finkel, 79, died on 15 November 2008, in St. Louis, MO. Donald visited Antarctica in 1970 as an author with the NSF Artists and Writers Program.

George F. Fiske, Jr., 86, died on 2 July 2012, in Gardner, MA. George was an amateur radio operator and a member of Navy MARS. In this capacity he ran phone patches and handled MARSGRAMs for personnel at McMurdo.

OAE Ronald G. Fossil, 78, died on 16 September 2012, in Geneva, IL. Ronald served on the USS *Atka*.

OAE Thomas McKay Gaede, 70, died on 30 June 2012, in Georgetown, SC. Thomas served on the USS *Glacier*.

OAE Richard A. Galgano, 68, died on 11 September 2012, in Beaufort, SC. Richard served in Deep Freeze while in the US Navy.

OAE Robert Wright Garver, 78, died on 12 July 2012, in Port Royal Plantation, SC. Robert served on a Navy icebreaker during DF-III.

OAE Malcolm T. Halford, 95, died on 14 June 2012, in Norfolk, VA. Malcolm served on the USS *Wyandot*.

OAE Geoffrey Hattersley-Smith, 89, died on 21 July 2012, in Sissinghurst Kent, United Kingdom. Geoff wintered over as the base leader of Base G of the Falkland Islands Dependency Survey in 1949. He served with the British Antarctic Survey (BAS) from 1973 to 1991. While with the BAS he compiled and published *The History of Antarctic Place Names*. Cape Hattersley-Smith is named in his honor.

OAE Philip T. Hayes, 89, died on 30 July 2012, in Grand Junction, CO. Philip was a USGS Geologist and worked in the Dry Valleys in during DF-IV. Hayes Peak is named in his honor.

OAE Richard "Rick" Healy, 63, died on 11 September 2012, in Reno, NV. Rick served as a plumber with the USAP contractor. He spent four summers and one winter-over (1992-93) at South Pole Station.

OAE Thomas E. Hogarth, 69, on 22 September 2012, in Hopewell Junction, NY. Thomas served as a C-121 Navigator with Project Magnet. <http://tinyurl.com/TomHogarth>.

OAE Charles William "Chuck" Johnson, 86, died on 31 August 2012, in Rapid City, SD. Chuck served during Highjump on the USS *Philippine Sea*.

OAE Arthur John Jordan, 65, died on 22 July 2012, in Vancouver, BC. Arthur served as the chief scientist at Palmer Station and the RV *Hero* during DF-73.

OAE John Creylon King, Jr., 83, died on 29 June 2012, in Camarillo, CA. John served in Antarctica with the Naval Civil Engineering Laboratory team.

OAE Charles Edwin Kistler "Doc", 63, died on 7 July 2012, in Sewell, NJ. Charles made seven deployments to Antarctica as a Navy Corpsman.

OAE CWO-4 Walter Horace Koehler, USA (Ret), 86, died on 28 July 2012, in Toano, VA. Walter served as a helicopter pilot with the US Army Aviation Detachment during DF-69. Koehler Nunatak is named in his honor.

OAE Norma (Lemmer) Koeppe, 89, died on 30 June 2012, in Stillwater, OK. Norma visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Frances "Fran" Staskus Laurence, 97, died on 29 June 2012, in Palo Alto, CA. Fran visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Bonnie LeMay (nee Abraham), 81, died on 6 July 2012, in Calgary, Canada. Bonnie visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE John M. Levinson, MD, 82, died on 4 October 2009 in Kennedyville, MD. John served as the ship's surgeon on numerous US and Russian Antarctic tourist cruises.

OAE Richard J. Meid, 69, died on 25 June 2012, in Streamwood, IL. Richard served in Antarctica with the Seabees.

OAE Bobby W. Meyer, 65, died on 9 August 2012, in Cottage Grove, OR. Bobby served at McMurdo as a heavy equipment operator.

OAE Ronald "Ron" Miller, USCG (Ret), 73, died on 6 September 2012, in Seattle, WA. Ron served on an icebreaker and made two deployments to Antarctica.

OAE Dr Arthur Mirsky, PhD, died on 23 June 2012, in Marquette Manor, IN. Arthur was the Assistant Director, Institute of Polar Studies, at [Ohio State University](http://ohio-state.edu) from 1960-1967. Mirsky Ledge is named in his honor.



OAE CAPT Clifford D. Moran, USN (Ret), 82 died on 29 July 2012, in Belle Prairie, MN. Clifford served in VX-6 as a helicopter pilot during DF-66 and 67. Moran Buttress and Moran Glacier are named in his honor.

OAE Joseph Oglesby, 89, died on 10 August 2012, in Alexandria, VA. Joseph served as a JOC during DF-I and II.

OAE SMSGT Thomas Tom S. Painter, Jr., USAF (Ret), 92, died on 3 September, 2012 after being struck by a car in a shopping mall parking lot in Lakeland, SC. Tom made two deployments to Antarctica as an air crewman.

OAE Jon Robin Paterson, 77, died on 27 June 2012, in Tacoma, WA. Jon served on the USCGC *Northwind* and made one deployment to Antarctica.

OAE Dorothy Everitt DeFoor "Dot" Powell, 88, died on, 14 July 2012, in East Atlanta, GA. While at Georgia Tech (1970s), Dot was among the first women allowed to conduct research from Navy vessels in Antarctica.

OAE Alfred Price, USN (Ret), 86 died on 24 August 2012, in San Antonio, TX. Alfred served in Antarctica during DF-I.

OAE Don Prims died on 5 September 2012, in Chicago, IL. Don served in Deep Freeze with the US Navy.

*OAE Robert Elton Pullen, 77, died on 7 August 2012, at the Valley Inn Nursing Home in Mancos, CO. Robert was the son of William Arthur Pullen who served with the United State Antarctic Service Expedition 1939-41 as an Aviation Machinist Mate at East Base.

OAE Dr. Richard L. Radtke, 60, died on 7 August 2012, in South Bend, IN. Richard made two trips to Antarctica, wherein he was the first disabled scientist to accomplish research in Antarctica

*OAE George Blatchford Robinson, 66, died on 3 February 2009, in Ocala, FL. George served on the USCGC *Eastwind* as a PH3 during DF-63.

OAE RADM (SS) J. Richard Seesholtz, USN (Ret), 79, died on 8 June 2012, in Alexandria, VA. Richard served on the USS *Arneb* during DF-II and III as an Ensign and LTJG. He visited Antarctica, including South Pole Station, in 1988 when he was COMNAVOCEANO.

OAE William D. "Bill" Smith, 73, died on 29 August 2012, in Butler, PA. Bill served in Antarctica with the Seabees.

OAE Raymond R. Spiers, 85, died on 10 July 2012, in Poplarville, MS. Raymond was on the crew of YOG-34 and in the winter-over party at McMurdo during DF-I as a CS2 with MCB(Special). He was a member of the ADFA.

OAE Harry E. Stahl Sr., 89, died on 5 August 2012, in Kingston, NY. Harry served on the USS *Philippine Sea* during Highjump.

OAE William P. Stevenson, 68, died on 27 June 2012, in Centreville, VA. Bill served in the VX-6 winter-over detachment at McMurdo during DF-68 as an ADR2 (AC).

*OAE RMC John Michael Taylor, USN (Ret), 71, died on 25 August 2012, in Shreveport, LA. Mike was a member of the McMurdo DF-67 ASA Det Alfa winter-over party.

OAE David MacAllister Turner, 95, died on 8 September 2012, in Naples, FL. David visited Antarctica in 1961 as a newspaper correspondent and a guest of the US Navy.

OAE Stephen Urbanec, 89, died on 16 June 2012, in Arlington Heights, IL. Stephen served on the USS *Brownson* as an Aerographers Mate during Highjump.

OAE Carson Branning Walker, 81, died on 1 August 2012, in Columbia, SC. Carson wintered over at South Pole Station during DF-61 as a UT3.

CDR Robert Erving Williams, USCG (Ret), 87, died on 4 August 2012, in Alexandria, VA. Robert served on the USCGC *Eastwind*. He never deployed to Antarctica, but from 1973 through 1989 he served as the Coast Guard Chief of the Marine Safety Branch at the R&D Center in Groton, CT and then served as the Chief of the Technical Branch at Coast Guard Headquarters.

OAE Robert Strong "Bob" Yates, 80, died on 28 June 2012, in Tampa, FL. Bob served in Antarctica as a Navy Journalist.



OAEA Member Named Treasurer of the CEC/Seabee Historical Foundation



Gulfport Mississippi—OAEA Life Member CUCM (SCW) Troy Kellerman, USN (Ret) has been named Treasurer of the CEC/Seabee Historical Foundation.

Troy was born in Pittsburgh and is the daughter of UTCM Glen Kellerman, USN (Ret). She grew up in various locations throughout the USA.

She wintered-over as a member of the Naval Support Force Antarctica Det Alfa at McMurdo during DF-90 as a BU1. Her other duty assignment included: CBU-415, NMCB-5, NMCB-133, State Department Navy Support Unit, White House Military Office, NAS Fallon NV, ACB-1, and NMCB-74.

Troy also volunteers at the Gulfport Seabee Museum.



CUCM (SCW) Troy Kellerman

[Click Here to Join the Foundation](#)

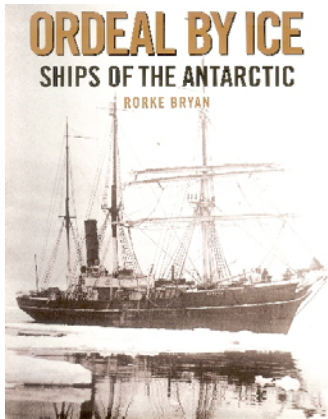
ORDEAL BY ICE: Ships of the Antarctic

BOOK REVIEW

Ordeal by Ice: Ships of the Antarctic, by Rorke Bryan, 2011 Sheridan Press, 536 pages.

Ordeal by Ice: Ships of the Antarctic is a history of the exploration of Antarctica by ship from the earliest encounters with the Southern Ocean through the current era of Antarctic tourism. Among its illustrations are numerous paintings; photographs; simple, yet effective maps; and architectural drawings of ships, both specific and representative. Several of the architectural drawings have

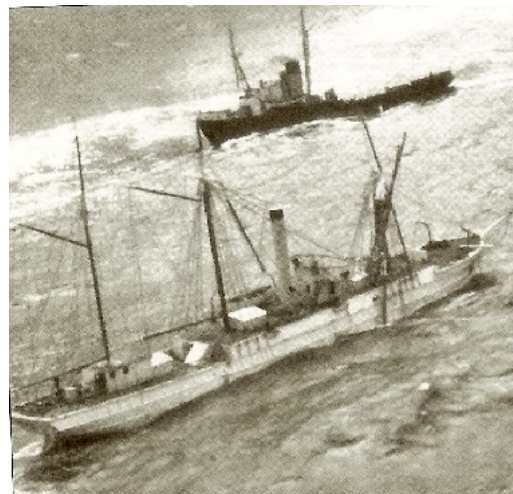
Reviewed by Laura Snow



been reproduced from the original drawings. The bibliography, including more than 250 books and articles, is a valuable resource. There are twelve chapters, all well titled and chronologically arranged.

With over two hundred ships listed in the index, *Ordeal by Ice* is an excellent resource for those interested in the maritime history of Antarctica. Bryan does an outstanding job of presenting the pivotal role of ships and ship design in the exploration of the continent. The only criticism this reviewer has is that the index is incomplete—a number of ships included in the text are excluded from the index. Also included are three appends, a glossary, and a reference list.

Editor's Notes: *Ordeal by Ice* includes quite a bit of coverage of my favorite polar ship. The Revenue Cutter *Bear*, also known as the *Bear of Oakland* and the *USS Bear*. With that in mind I have included several photos of the *Bear* below.



Bear During Service With the Bearing Sea Patrol & Bear Disabled and Sinking South of Cape Sable, Nova Scotia in March 1963. The Tug Irving Birch is in the Background

ANTARCTICA: First Hand Accounts of Exploration & Endurance

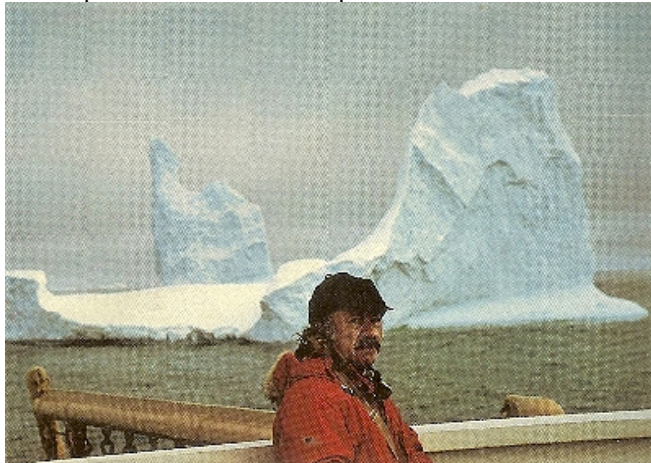
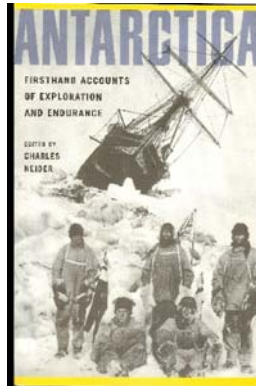
Reviewed by Billie R. Lilienthal
AGCM USN (Ret)

BOOK REVIEW

Antarctica: Firsthand Accounts of Exploration and Endurance. Edited by Charles Neider, 1972. First Cooper Square Press edition (2000).

Memory fails me. I don't remember where I got this book *Antarctica* edited by Charles Neider. I encourage all to read it. The first few chapters are very informational, but sort of dry. One thing that is clearly apparent is, that those were the days when ships were made of wood and men were made of steel.

Being somewhat of a historian, I found LT Charles Wilkes writings very interesting. I wintered over at Wilkes Station, so I saw all those ice bergs he refers to from the other side of the continent. I even experienced some of the hardships described in other exploration accounts.



Charles Neider Aboard Ship on his Second Trip to the Ice. Charles Wrote Four Books About Antarctica. One of Which Was a Novel.

I have always held Ronald Amundsen, first person to reach the South Pole, in high esteem. I believe he achieved his goal through sound planning and excellent leadership. I can only imagine the disappointment Robert Scott must have felt when he arrived at the pole only to find Amundsen had beat him there. I have read a considerable amount about Antarctic explorers and I believe Scott felt he was infallible. It is difficult to imagine he and his crew's final hours of life.

I have read several articles about and by RADM Richard E. Byrd. In the book *Alone* I think his account of his experiences at Bolling Station is a little overly dramatized. Being from an old Virginia family I think he often felt his decisions were not to be contested. He was no less a great man.



Seal Branding at Wilkes Station. AG2 Lilienthal Brands the Mama Seal After Branding the Baby. Dr Carl Eklund With Rope

Paul Siple as a boy scout was selected to accompany Richard Byrd on an Antarctic expedition. This was a changing point in Siple's life. Not only did he make many subsequent explorations, he became an Antarctic expert.

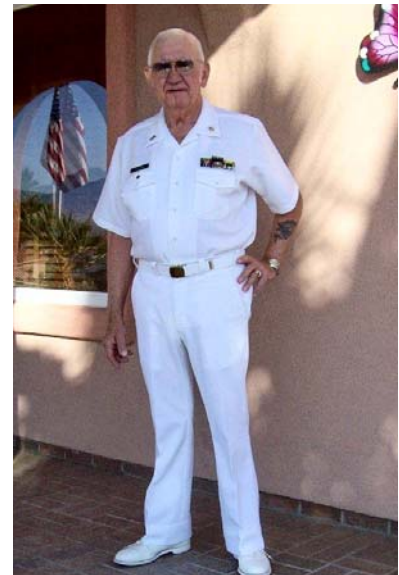
He was named the scientific leader of a select group to winter over at South Pole Station during the International Geophysical Year 1957-1958. His leadership ability and understanding of human nature made wintering over at the South Pole under extreme conditions a great success. I know he communicated with the outside world via ham radio. I believe my boss, Carl Eklund spoke with him several times.

While I am not really familiar with Sir Edmund Hillary, I do know he made the first motorized trip to the South Pole under some extreme conditions. I think he and Dr. Eklund were good friends.

There are several other accounts in the book that make for some fine reading. They again remind us that being an Antarctic explorer is not for wimps.

The DF-II Chaplain, LT Leon Darkowski summed it up beautifully. What he said became our motto:

MANY ARE COLD, BUT FEW ARE FROZEN!



Recent Photo of Billie

Antarctican Society Gathering In Maine

By Stephen Betts

Port Clyde, Maine—On 12 July more than 100 Antarcticans gathered at the home of Paul Dalrymple to swap stories and learn about the latest research at the southernmost part of the world.

The members of the Antarctic Society met at Dalrymple's home, located a few hundred yards from the Marshall Point Lighthouse at the southern tip of the St. George peninsula. Dalrymple's grandfather was the keeper of the lighthouse in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

The Antarctic Society was formed in 1960. Dalrymple has been hosting reunions every other year for the past few years at his home.



Paul at Home



The Penguin Served as a Marker for People Who Came to Attend the Reunion

Charles Swithinbank of Cambridge, England was one of the most veteran explorers to attend the society's gathering. He has spent parts of eight decades in the Antarctic with his first visit made in 1949.

"I've been hooked ever since," he said.

Swithinbank said the reason he has been attracted to the southernmost continent was simple.

"Everything you see is new. In science, that is exciting," he said. Dalrymple praised Swithinbank's knowledge of Antarctica.

"He knows more about the Antarctic than anyone living or dead," said Dalrymple who was the oldest person in attendance at the weekend gathering is 89 years old.

Bob Dodson of Vermont first visited Antarctica in 1947 within two weeks of his 21st birthday. He was aboard the first private expedition to the Antarctic after World War II.



Paul Dalrymple and Liesl Scherthanner of Idaho

Dodson has visited the Antarctic approximately 14 times with the last time being in 2008 when he was a lecturer aboard a cruise ship.

"It's an out-of-the-world place. It's the closest thing we have to outer space on Earth. It's a brilliant, intensely pure place," Dodson said.

Tony Gow, a New Zealand native who has visited Antarctic approximately 20 times since 1957, also attended the reunion. Gow is a renowned expert on glaciers who said the Antarctic was a great place to study ice cores.

Gow now resides in Lebanon, NH. He received the prestigious Selitman Crystal from the International Glaciological Society for his study of deep ice cores.

Liesl Scherthanner first went to the Antarctic in 1995. She had just completed college. She said she had a friend who worked in the Antarctic and since Scherthanner had always been interested in the southernmost continent she tried to win a spot on a team to support the researchers and was successful.

The Idaho resident has been to the Antarctic 15 times, the last being from October through February.

Bob Benson works for NASA and lives in Silver Spring, MD. He spent 10 months at the South Pole in 1957. He was a seismologist who was focusing on the ability of people to communicate while in Antarctica.

Benson said he attended the reunion so he could visit his friend Dalrymple.

Husband and wife Wendell and Pat Wilson have both been to the Antarctic. "It was a powerful experience," Wendell said. "It's like being on the moon. When you are there, you have got to respect Mother Nature."

Pat Wilson has visited Antarctica twice. She is an author and a university professor.



Art Jorgensen (left) and Charles Greene

Her first trip was as a tourist about 24 years ago aboard a ship that departed from Chile and the second was aboard a Russian icebreaker that left from New Zealand. "It's an amazing place, I hope humans don't mess it up," she said.

Charles Greene grew up in Aruba and was raised in that tropical environment. In the fourth grade, he read a book by Antarctic explorer Admiral Richard Byrd and became interested in visiting there. He attained that goal when he went to the Antarctic in 1957-58.

"It was the greatest year of my life," Greene, a resident of Santa Barbara, CA, said.

Art Jorgensen, who now lives in Hilton Head, SC, went to the South Pole in 1957-58. He had gone to Rutgers University and majored in geography. He had received meteorological training while serving the Navy during the Korean War.



Charles Lagerbom

"I was young, I was adventurous," Jorgensen said of his decision to go to the South Pole.

He as many others did in 1957-58 were part of the International Geophysical Year led by 12 countries to study the southernmost continent.

Charles Lagerbom was one of the members of the Antarctic Society from Maine who attended the gathering. He did research in the Antarctic in the early 1990s as part of a glacial geology team from the University of Maine.

Lagerbom serves as president of the Antarctic Society. Dalrymple said Lagerbom has one of the most extensive libraries about Antarctica of anyone in the world.



Attendees Pose for a Group Photo at Dalrymple's Home

NEW OAEA MEMBERS

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

Thanks to Mike Turkington, Robert Buettner, GCG Chapter, Joe Gogel, Dave Bresnahan, Jim Heffel, Shelby Gene Connell, NE Chapter, Pensacola News Journal, Tom Bates, Paul Dalrymple, American Legion Magazine, and Michael Spencer 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 Member
 ΦDenotes Upgrade to Regular Member

Adams, Harold LCDR	Life	VX-6 67-69
Beckman, Lyle CIV	*Life	ASPP
Berggren, Laurel RMC	§Life	ASA/NSFA WO DF-66 & DF-69
Buchanan, Richard MR2	Life	USS <i>Burton Island</i> DF-III
Canfield, Rick MIL	§Life	WO McM 1981, 83
Collins, Gerrie CIV	*Life	Groupie
Conrad, Lawrence LCDR	Life	VXE-6 1982-85; NSF 2003-04
Cypher, Patricia CIV	§*Life	Groupie
Cypher, Robert CIV	§*Life	Groupie
Dever, Dawn CIV	*Life	Spouse
Dinan, John CAPT	Life	USS <i>Glacier</i> DF-64
Driscoll, Edward BM3	Life	USS <i>Arneb</i> DF-I & II
Elkins, Randy LTJG	Life	ASA WO McM DF-71
Fish, Robert AG2	Annual	NSFA 1973-74
Gatlin, Harold CIV	Life	USARP 1963-64
Gillens, Sarah CIV	*Annual	Groupie
Guenther, Ernest CIV	Life	USAP Contractor 2005-06
Hubbs, Kim CPO	Annual	VXE-6 SS 1984/88
Kopplin, Richard RM1	§Life	NSFA WO DF-71
Lambert, Keith HM1	Annual	NSFA 1983-84
Little, Charles LT	Life	USS <i>Nespelen</i> DF-III
Long, James PHC	Life	VX-6 1964-65
Pollock, Russ CIV	Life	USNS <i>Maumee</i> 1969-73
Proctor, Robert EO1	Life	ASA DF-63 SS
Quatkemeyer, SN	Life	USCGC <i>Eastwind</i> DF-63
Riley, Dave AT1	Life	VX-6 1964-67
Sluys, Richard CAPT	Life	VXE-6 1974-77
Spikes, Joseph LT	Life	NSFA SS 1993-95
Stamper, Wilburn RM2	Annual	ASA WO DF-67
Tripp, Leighton RD1	Life	USCGC <i>Eastwind</i> DF-67
Uhlendorf, Peter AM2	Life	USCGC <i>Eastwind</i> DF-66

Vanek, Joseph GM2	Life	USCGC <i>Eastwind</i> 1955-58
Wales, Frederick LT	Life	USS <i>Edisto</i> DF-65
Walk, Donald LT	Life	OIC Byrd Station WO DF-61
Wenzel, Jesse DK1	Life	NSFA McM WO DF-74

REUNION & MEETING INFORMATION

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

USS Curtiss (AV-4): Plano, TX, 5-8 September 2012. POC Bruce Snider, bruceusscurtisav4@rgv.rr.com, or phone: 956 423 3314. USS *Curtiss* served during DF-II.

USS Henderson (DD-785): Colorado Springs, CO, 18-22 September 2012. POC Albert Meeds, 704 995 2974, or xaramco@carolina.rr.com. The USS *Henderson* served during Highjump.

USS Wilhoite (DER-397): San Antonio, TX, 25-28 September 2012. POC. canerday@suddenlink.net. USS *Wilhoite* served as an Ocean Station Vessel during DF-61.

NMCB-1: Nashville, TN, 5-6 October 2012. POC Bill Annett, 615 447 5593, or seabeebill@cox.net. MCB-1 served during DF-II, IV, and 62.

NMCB-8: Las Vegas, NV, 26-29 September 2012. POC Ron Sabbatos, 831 359 0073, 606 Capitola, CA 95010, sabagus@charter.net. MCB-8 served during DF-63 & 64.

USS Yancey (AKA-93): San Diego, CA, 4-7 October 2012, POC George Clifton, clifs@ameritech.net. 708 425 8531. USS *Yancey* served during Highjump.

NMCB-71: Las Vegas, NV, 3-6 October 2012. POC Jerry Montecupo, 412 373 3096, 2548 Pitcairn Rd, Monroeville, PA 15146, jmontecupo@verizon.net. MCB-71 served during DF-72 & 73.

OAEA: San Diego, CA, 28-30 Nov 2012. POC Bob Gaboury, 805 322 3955 or bobgaboury@gmail.com, or 159 Via Rosal, Camarillo, CA 93012.

USS Atka (AGB-3): Warwick, RI, 25-28 April 2013. POC Carl Brown, browncarlione@aol.com, or 616.308.4846. USS *Atka* served during DF-II, III, 60, 62, 64, and 66

NNPU/PM-3A McMurdo Station: Port Hueneme, CA, 6-11 May 2013. POC Charlie Del Hierro, 805 483 4060, or cbstrchief@verizon.net;

VX/VXE-6: Erlanger, KY, 12-15 Jun 2013. POC Joe Hollern, 614 906 6289, jhollern@wowway.com, or PO Box 1228, Westerville OH 43086.

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.

- Richard Barnard is looking for information about Captain Martin (Army) who participated in Deep Freeze 62. Richard was at Little Rockford Station for the summer then went back to McMurdo for the winter. Captain Martin was on a traverse to Little Rockford. Richard wants to share a letter that he wrote to his Mother about Captain Martin's visit. To make a long story short Martin helped them get much needed parts for their generator and fuel from McMurdo. Richard can be reached at: 2330 Olive Ave, Fremont CA, 94539, or 510 573 0295, or by email at: light22@msn.com

- Pat Unger is looking for Navy personnel who wintered at LA V during DF-II. Pat needs assistance in recalling the details of the digging up of the Snowcruiser at the LA III site. Pat can be reached at 2170 N. Riverside Drive, Indialantic FL 32903-4512, or by phone: 321-723-7259, cell: 321-676-5305, or by email: punger@cfl.rr.com



Model of the 1939 Snowcruiser

- Graeme Connell is writing a novel based around the Wright Dry Valley. He would like to hear from anyone who was in VX-6 during DF-69 familiar with the Sikorsky helicopters. He vaguely remembers about the caution required when landing in the valley to avoid any mishap. It had something to do with rotor speed and wind. If this was not done right the helicopter had the potential to vibrate excessively resulting in damages. Graeme can be contacted at: graemec@telus.net, 2004 98 Avenue SW, Calgary, Alberta T2V 0Y9 Canada, or 403-281-1737.

- Patti Brown who lives in CHCH is looking for photos of her Dad Bill Brown who was a cook in VX-6 in the 60s/70s. After retirement he worked in the clubs at Harewood. Patti can be contacted at: swobo99@extra.co.nz

- Billie Hunter a member of the New England Chapter is spearheading a Chapter fundraising effort for the OAEA Scholarship Program to collect the favorite recipes of OAEs and their families, then compile and sell a cookbook. Besides your favorite food recipes, bar recipes will also be accepted. Email your recipes to her at billiehunter52@yahoo.com; or mail them to her at 310 Bitgood Road, Griswold, CT 06351-1506.

- Doug Farmer is looking for anyone who wintered-over with him at Hallet Station during 1960. Doug can be reached at: dlfarmer@xnet.co.nz

GLOSSARY OF SNOW AND ICE

Compiled and edited by Billy-Ace Baker



Ice Keel — From the point of view of a diver, a downward-projecting ridge on the underside of an ice canopy. Ice keels may extend as much as 50 m below sea level. French equivalent: *Crete de pression saous-glace*.

Ice Limit — The average position of the ice edge in any given month or period based on observations over a number of years. Russian equivalent: *Granitsa srednego*.

Ice Piedmont — Ice covering a coastal strip of low-lying land backed by mountains. Spanish equivalent: *Piedmont de hielo*.

Iceport — An embayment in an ice front, often of a temporary nature, where ships can moor alongside and unload directly onto the ice shelf. German equivalent: *Ishofn*.

Ice Prisms — A fall of unbranched ice crystals in the form of needles, columns, or plates. Spanish equivalent: *Prismas de hielo*.

Farewell to RADM "DOC" Abbot (26 June 1918–19 August 2012)

Compiled by Billy-Ace Baker

RADM J. Lloyd "Doc" Abbot Jr., USN (Ret), 94, died in Alexandria VA, on 19 August. Doc was a naval aviator during World War II and in 1967 he commanded the first scheduled wintertime support flights to Antarctica.

A memorial service was held on 27 August at All Saints Episcopal Church in Mobile, Alabama. Burial was at the Naval Academy Cemetery in Annapolis MD.



RADM Bakutis Being Relieved by RADM Abbot

Doc never let his age get in the way of having fun. The Mobile, AL native was still flying his own private plane (a Cirrus SR20) in his 90s, even after the Federal Aviation Administration told him he couldn't fly alone, according to friend Dave Reaney. So he found someone to accompany him on flights. Doc would fly his plane and his friend would just sit there.

His first wife, Marjorie died in 1974 after 33 years of marriage. Their daughter, Mary, died in 2009. His second wife, Margaret, died in 2010 after 35 years of marriage. Survivors include two sons from his first marriage, retired Navy Captain J. Lloyd Abbot III of Placida, FL., and retired Navy Admiral Charles Stevenson "Steve" Abbot of Arlington VA, president of the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society; both Navy aviators; their spouses, and five grandchildren, two of whom are also Navy aviators.

Tom McGehee, Abbot's godson, recalled how Abbot got his nickname. When Abbot was 13 he would drive McGehee's grandfather, who was a doctor, on house calls around Mobile, according to McGehee. Abbot loved driving fast, he said. "Grandfather had one of those spotlights on the car so he could literally run red lights with the spotlight on". Abbot would also go into the operating room with McGehee and watch him perform surgery. His limited medical experience helped Abbot get the job as manager of Navy's football team when he was at the US Naval Academy.

A distinguished veteran, he served as Commander Naval Support Force Antarctica (CNSFA) and Carrier Division 16, he served as director of Naval Warfare Analyses and served as inspector general of the Atlantic Fleet in Norfolk. He

retired in 1974 as director of Naval Educational Development.

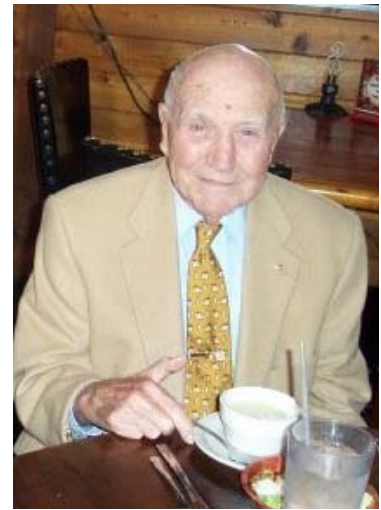
Abbot was a graduate of the Naval Academy's Class of 1939, where he served as class president.

In 2006 Abbot was an honored guest in New York where officials invited him to ride the museum aircraft carrier USS *Intrepid* from its berth on Manhattan's west side to a shipyard in nearby New Jersey for restoration. Abbot commanded the *Intrepid* from March 1961 until June 1962. While he was the CO he dispatched a helicopter to pick up

Astronaut Scott Carpenter after he was rescued from the sea.

In a story about participating in the carrier's relocation, Abbot told a reporter "Where else can an 88-year-old find something like this to do? I have to pinch myself to believe it's true."

His decorations include two Legion of Merit awards, the Navy Commendation Medal, and numerous others including the Antarctic Service Medal.



Doc Having Lunch in Pensacola

Doc served on the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce board of directors, the USS *Alabama* Battleship Commission and Foundation, the Kiwanis Club and Friends of the Library. He served on the boards of many veterans and naval organizations and often delivered lectures about the Navy and the training of fighter pilots. He was a member of the OAEA GCG Chapter and was the first chairman of the OAEA Museum Coordination Committee.

"Even though he was in his 90s, technology was always fun for him," said Reaney, adding that Abbot knew how to email on his phone. He even had his own Facebook page.

Abbot was proud to be from Mobile, according to his sons. They said he often told people: "I lived every minute of my life in Mobile, except for a 39-year hitch in the USN."

WINFLY DF-67

In 1966, Abbot was named CNSFA and Commander Task Force 43. The support/task force provided logistical support to scientists involved in research in Antarctica.

Except for the occasional emergency medical evacuation flight, no airplanes flew in or out of Antarctica during the harsh winter months, when the sun didn't shine and the weather could be brutal.

In coordination with the National Science Foundation, Abbot organized the first scheduled winter flight to

Antarctica in June 1967. (In the Southern Hemisphere, the order of the seasons is reversed.) Scientists conducting experiments would be flown to Antarctica, along with supplies and mail. On the return trip, people who were sick or injured could be taken out for medical treatment.



Unknown, Sir Edmund Hilliary, and RADM Abbot

Abbot wrote about the monumental undertaking in a November 1967 article he wrote for National Geographic magazine (NatGeo) he chronicled the challenges of night operations on the Antarctic continent.

An LC-130 Hercules made the 2400-mile flight from New Zealand. There were 22 people onboard, along with 5000 pounds of mail and almost 3000 pounds of fresh food. Abbot sat in the cockpit with the pilot, CDR Fred Schneider, for part of the flight.

“Even in summer,” Abbot wrote in NatGeo, “though we call it ‘routine’; flying to and from Antarctica is hazardous. A man down in that icy water could live only about 10 minutes. In winter’s darkness and more intense cold, the perils are multiplied.”

The eight-hour journey began at 0615, but most of it took place in the darkness of the Antarctic winter. The only illumination came from the moon.

When the plane touched down on a cleared ice field at McMurdo Station, the main research base in Antarctica, the temperature was minus-39 degrees Fahrenheit.

“The crew door dropped open, and we all tumbled out to shake hands and shout hellos,” Abbot wrote in NatGeo. “Hooded figures converged to unload the airplane. Fresh fruit and vegetables were rushed to the galley before they could freeze.”

Abbot inspected Navy facilities and shared a meal with winter-over personnel who hadn’t had visitors—or letters from home—in months. After six hours, he was back aboard the C-130 on his way to New Zealand. The entire mission lasted less than 24 hours.

In the decades since, winter flights to Antarctica have become commonplace, but there

were no scheduled journeys into winter darkness at the bottom of the world before Abbot took the first step.

When Abbot’s two-year tour of duty as CNSFA ended in 1969, the Abbot Ice Shelf was named in his honor.

Editor’s Note: I first met RADM Abbot in 1967 when he made the first scheduled WINFLY to McMurdo. I was wintering over and when he left the ice he forgot his brief case. His aide contacted us by SSB radio and directed our OIC to enter the Admirals Hut and open his brief case and find his notes. I was the Radioman who typed his notes into a message and sent them to Christchurch. In 2007 I presented Doc with a copy of the message that I had kept for 50 years.



Presenting Doc Abbot With a Copy of the "Brief Case" Message at the February 2007 GCG Chapter Meeting

```

VV MAARKA
RR RUHPMC
DE RUHPMA 258A 1702205
ZNR UUUUU
R 190205Z JUN 67
FM DET ALFA ANTARCTICSUPPACT
TO RUHPMC/DET ONE NAVSUPPFORANTARCTICA
BT
UNCLAS
PERSONAL FOR RADM ABBOT PER 0001Z SSB CONF.
THOUGHTS/IDEAS
MCMURDO CONTINUOUSLY CURIOUS ABOUT PSR, SOUND HAPPY WHEN
NOTIFIED WE'D PASSED IT. STANDING JOKE: THEY WANT TO KNOW
WHEN YOU PASS PSR, THEN THEY TELL YOU WHAT THE WEATHER
REALLY IS.
ICE BERGS POKING UP THROUGH THE ICE PACK LIKE (WHITE MOUNTAIN
PEAKS) WITH SETTING SUN SHINING ON THEIR NORTH SIDE.
VIEW OF MCMURDO AREA. (FIRST) CONTRAST IN CHOW - GOING DOWN
OR COMING BACK. (BARREL OF FRIED CHICKEN)
PHILATELICAL ASPECTS - CACHETS - POSTMARKS.
JATO OUT OF CHRISTCHURCH: NOT MANY SPECTATORS - HEAVY - 80-125
22,000 THEN 24 THEN 26 THEN 28 (AFTER FOUR HOURS) FUEL CONSUMPTION
ONLY THEN DOWN TO 4,000 GAL HR.
CALL TO BYRD, POLE STATIONS ON RADIO - NO JOY PLATEAU.
GREETINGS: GREETINGS SENT TO SCOTT STATION FROM SIR BERNARD
FERGUSON, GOVERNOR GENERAL CALLS ON AMBASSADOR HENNING, RMZN,
CNO, RADM ROSS, NZ ANTARCTIC ----- BOSS, BILL
THOMPSON, GOVERNOR GENERAL.
ON A LONG FLIGHT, WITH A GOOD SUPPLY OF PILOTS ABOARD, IT IS
COMMON AND MAKES GOOD SENSE, FOR THE PILOTS TO SPELL ONE ANOTHER,
OR TAKE A "WATCH" AT THE CONTROLS. THIS WAY THE PILOTS NOT ON
WATCH CAN GET A FEW WINKS OF SLEEP. SO IT WAS THAT I HAPPENED
TO BE IN THE LEFT SEAT, AND FRED SCHNEIDER IN THE RIGHT SEAT
WHEN ED SERBA ANNOUNCED "IT'S TEN FORTY, WE'RE AT PSR".
FRED LOOKED ME STRAIGHT IN THE EYE, LEANED FORWARD, AND
WITH SOMEWHAT OF A FLOURISH THREW THE BIG SKI CONTROL SWITCH
TO THE DOWN POSITION. NOTHING HAPPENED; THE GESTURE WAS
SYMBOLIC, IT NEARLY ENSURED THAT WHEN THE LANDING BEAK
HANDLE WAS NEXT MOVED TO THE DOWN POSITION, THE SKIS WOULD REMAIN
SLIGHTLY LOWER THAN THE WHEELS, PERMITTING US TO LAND ON THE
SKI-WAY. IN OTHER WORDS IT WAS A "THIS IS IT" SYMBOL. MEANING
WE WERE IRREVOCABLY COMMITTED TO A LANDING ON THE ICE.
TO DR. Z: JUST BACK FOR A NERVOUS PEE - DR. Z: IN ALARM:
"DO YOU MEAN DE WEATHER IS GETTING WORSE"!
BT
    
```

New England Chapter Summer 2012 Meeting

by Marty Diller,

New England Chapter Secretary-Treasurer,

The New England Chapter returned to Princeton Station restaurant in North Chelmsford, MA, on 2 June, for its Summer meeting. Fifty-seven OAEs and their guests showed up on a rainy Saturday afternoon. The Chapter had not met at Princeton Station since the summer 2009 meeting.

Chapter Business

There was no planned presentation at this meeting, but during the business meeting, Jim Kelly updated attendees on the ongoing DOD investigation into the McMurdo Station PM-3A radiation leaks. At the last meeting, donations were solicited to support OAEA members Bill Vogel and Jim & Pam Landy, who attended the March 2012 Veteran's Advisory Board on Dose Reconstruction meeting in San Antonio, Texas. Vogel and the Landy's unselfishly spent hundreds of dollars to go to Texas and represent all veterans who have had the VA deny medical claims for illnesses that may be related to the leaking PM-3A plant. They were quite surprised and very appreciative to receive those Chapter donations, and they each mailed us thank-you cards that were then passed around at this meeting. Jim Kelly advised that:

- Veterans who have had a denied claim need to keep it in appeal; veterans who have not submitted a claim and need medical help should get a claim in now.
- On 1 May the Navy sent a letter to Sen. Blumenthal (CT) to update progress made on this issue, stating that the final technical report of dose reconstruction analysis for all Navy veterans will be released by the end of this year. This technical report is to also include instructions for each veteran and surviving spouse on how to submit a claim for the first time or how to resubmit a denied claim.



NH members Lloyd Mills and John Henry share a table

New Business

In new business, Bill Waller (founder of Cape Ann Science Alliance, Rockport, MA) announced that he is developing a survey form designed to collect information from OAEA members with experience in construction in Antarctica. The intent is to compile useful data, suggestions, and viewpoints

based on lessons learned from their Antarctic experience. Ultimately, the survey results will be forwarded to NASA, who has approached the New England Chapter for this type of data to assist in planning manned missions to the moon, asteroids, and Mars.



Bill Waller talks of plans to create a survey form for Antarctic veterans to provide input to NASA on techniques used to construct bases in Antarctica. Denise & Peter Lahtinen are seated nearby

Fundraising

Raffle winners included: Bob Berube, Hoot Hartman and Quentin Risher (each won a *March of the Penguins* book); Jack Dever, Duke Ducharme and Fran Molla (un-numbered OAEA-logo belt buckles); Charlie Bevilacqua (*Secrets of the Southern Continent* book); Nancy McKenna (*Antarctic book Deep Freeze*, by OAEA member Dian Olsen Belanger); Paula Hall (*Antarctica: Journeys to the South Pole* book); Jim Pedone (penguin tote); Mary Pellegrino (penguin clutch).

Meeting Schedule

The next OAEA-NE Chapter meeting is scheduled for 1:00pm on Saturday, 29 September 2012, at a location to be announced.



(On the left, front to back) Newest Chapter members: Elementary school teachers Michelle Cooke and Denise Porcello. (On the right, back to front) Ernestine Grasso & CB Bevilacqua, and Bob Berube

Gulf Coast Group Chapter Happenings

by Billy-Ace Penguin Baker

Saturday 07 July 2012

Meeting—It was a relatively small turn out for a hot and humid day in Pensacola: 20 members, one guest, and a Fengee. Only Billy Blackwelder, Mary Lou Platt, Lennie & Helen Bourgeois, Dan Knox, and Little H.J. had excuses for not being in attendance and everyone else who was NOT there was AWOL.

The guest was Monica Lakin who recently moved to Pensacola and was in attendance with Walter Smith. The Fengee was Keith Lambert, USN (Ret). Keith was in NSFA SS during DF-84 (1983–84) and was TAD from Naval Hospital Jacksonville, Florida. Keith resides in Pensacola and has recently retired from civil service. He has known about the OAEA for some time, but has not been able attend meetings for various reasons. Now that he is fully retired he decided to attend when he saw our notice in the Pensacola News Journal this morning. Keith joined the OAEA as an Annual Member before the meeting was over.



Monica Lakin

the 50/50 raffle and door prize drawings. Walter Smith took home \$40 as his share of the raffle and \$35 went into the OAEA GCG kitty. The door prizes, consisting of a copy of *Antarctica a Journey of Discover* (donated by Raytheon Polar Services), a penguin broach (donated by Ranie Talbert), and a Shaker's Vodka penguin pin (donated by Billy-Ace), were won by Don Emmons.



Walter Smith

After the raffles were concluded the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for 4 August at the Shrimp Basket. Thanks to Pam Landy for selling the 50/50 tickets, and to Sharon Preston for distributing the door prize tickets and helping me with the muster sheet.

Saturday 04 August 2012 Meeting—Even though a lot of the regulars were out of town on summer vacations, or family business, we still had 23 members and guest show up at the monthly GCG meeting.

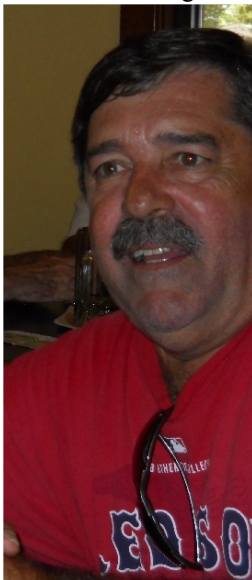
The only first time attendee was D.J. Thomson, guest of Life Associate Member Sean Baker.

Our “duty photographers” Lennie and Mary Lou were both out of town so I broke down and took several photos of the attendees. It was either that or use some old photos from previous meetings. Who would know the difference anyway?

We didn't have a scheduled guest speaker, but Gary Lowery wanted to say a few words about “his” homeless veterans. Gary provided us with an update at the April meeting and he had planned on requesting a donation from the GCG to buy food and other supplies for the homeless veterans. However, Gary had to leave early so I suggested to him and the GCG President that I put out an email to the members and request some funding from the GCG BOD.



D.J. and Sean



Keith Lambert Now and as an HM2 in DF-84

There was no guest speaker and our leader Duck Talbert did not show up, and there was no official business to discuss. So after everyone had finished their lunch we had



Dan Knox, Jim Landy, and Al Rogers

After nearly everyone had finished lunch Pam sold tickets for the 50/50 drawing and Duck distributed the tickets for the door prize. Gus was the winter of the 50/50 raffle and he took home \$32 as his share. The door prize, consisting of the book on the Air Force in Operation Deep Freeze and accompanying DVD were won by Brian Hoffmaster. Thanks to LTCOL Mark Doll for donating the book and DVD.

After the drawings there being no further business the meeting was adjourned. Thanks to Pam and Duck for conducting the drawings. The next GCG meeting will be on 1 September. Same place and same time.

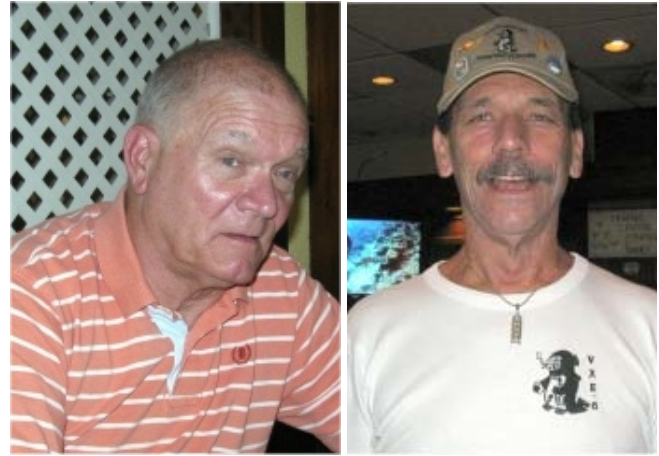
Saturday 1 September 2012 Meeting—When I arrived at the Shrimp Basket at 10 minutes to eleven Ken Pye and Bruce Mabley were already there. Since it was a holiday weekend I didn't expect much of a turnout, but in the end



Mike and Doris Lowery Frequent Visitors

we had 29 attendees that was the most since January. Visitors included OAEA Life Member John Higgins and his bride. John was in VXE-6 from 1988-91. He lives in Pennsylvania and was in Pensacola on his Honeymoon and is visiting Don

Knox. Two non-member visitors who are becoming regulars were Mike and Doris Lowery. They have been to three meetings in the past nine months. They are not exactly "groupies". I think they just like the atmosphere.



Early Birds Ken Pye and Bruce Mabley

Gary Lowery was tentatively scheduled to be the speaker, but he never showed up. The only other thing on the agenda was a birthday cake for Gus Shinn who will be 90 on 12 September. The cake was large enough for forty people, but since I failed to notify the membership ahead of time there was about half of the cake left over. Gus didn't want to take any home so we gave it to the Wait Staff.

Because a lot of people had to leave early the meeting was wrapped up without having a 50/50 raffle or a door prize drawing. Thanks to Billy Blackwelder for getting the cake, napkins, forks, and plates and thanks to Lennie Bourgeois for taking the meeting photos. The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday 6 October at the Shrimp Basket.



Gus Shinn's 90th Birthday Cake

