



# 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

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Old Antarctic Explorers Association, Inc

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—AP Photo

Prince Harry and his fellow adventurers reach the South Pole as part of their Walking With The Wounded charity trek.

## PRINCE HARRY AND THE WOUNDED WARRIORS

*Compiled by Billy-Ace Baker*

What started out as a race to the geographic South Pole by three teams of “Wounded Warriors” consisting of men and women from the United Kingdom, the British Commonwealth, and the United States, ended up working as one unit to reach their goal on 13 December.

In total, twelve injured servicemen and women who have overcome life-changing injuries, including amputations, took part, with Prince Harry serving as Team UK’s patron. The twelve also participated in challenging training programs to prepare themselves for the conditions they faced in Antarctica. Harry trained for the South Pole trip by entering a cold chamber for 20 hours. Before he started on his

adventure, Harry said the hardest part about dealing with the cold chamber was “going in.”

Prince Harry, an Apache helicopter pilot who has served in Afghanistan, had some star power with him on this extreme adventure. Actors Alexander Skarsgard of “True Blood” and Dominc West from “The Wire” also participated in the frigid expedition to help raise money for military charities that support wounded personnel.

The event was originally billed as a three-team race, but the event organizers canceled the competitive aspect due to hazardous conditions. It was simply too strenuous for the participants.

Continued on page 4.

**PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

Laura Snow—OAEA President

**FELLOW OAEA MEMBERS:**

In my last letter to you I mentioned that the board of directors had recently rejected a proposal to purchase three copies of John Stewart's *Antarctica: An Encyclopedia*, Second Edition, two volumes, 2011, that would have been sent to the three Antarctic Stations. The vote was seven against and four in favor. Billy-Ace Baker and I decided to do a fundraiser to purchase the books and have them delivered to the three Antarctic Stations. See page 6 for details of this effort.



Cy Buehler, treasurer, recently submitted the financial report for the fiscal year 1 October 2012 – 30 September 2013. You will find the report on the last page in this issue of the *Gazette*.

We are again in need of an OAEA Chaplain. After only two columns Dick Pedigo had to step down due to health issues. Please let me know if you are interested in filling the vacancy.

I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year!

I look forward to hearing your thoughts on ways to insure that the OAEA remains an organization dedicated to sharing the Antarctic experience.

*Laura Snow*  
OAEA President  
[snowlg@cox.net](mailto:snowlg@cox.net)



**GROWLERS & BERGY BYTES**

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

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**DISCLAIMER STATEMENT**

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## MAILING THE EXPLORERS GAZETTE

by Billy-Ace Baker

We are currently mailing the *Explorer's Gazette* to 200 members who either do NOT have access to the Internet or who have made a substantial donation for the *Gazette* printing and mailing expenses. Thirty-two of the mail recipients have made donations ranging from \$10 to \$100. Some of these donations were made several years ago so the total amount of the donations does not cover the cost of printing and mailing.

Printing and mailing of 200 copies, including the cost of the labels and envelopes, comes to a total of \$813.10 for each issue, or over \$3200 for one year. This comes to around \$4.07 per copy, or about \$16.28 per year for each person. There are also seven copies that are mailed overseas that cost more, but I didn't factor that in. The overseas mailings can't use the bulk mail permit, so they have to be hand massaged.

There are no immediate plans to start charging a subscription fee for mailed copies of the *Gazette*, but such a provision is being considered, as is the possibility of increasing membership dues to help defray costs.

It should be noted that when the OAEA dues structure was established, the *Explorer's Gazette* did NOT exist. Therefore, receiving a copy of the newsletter by snail mail was not a condition of membership.

If any member feels that he/she cannot survive without receiving a copy of the *Gazette* by snail mail, donations to the *Explorers Gazette* Printing and Mailing Fund are always welcome.

If you are one of the 200 members in the first paragraph above please consider making a donation to the *Gazette* Printing and Mailing Fund. In addition if you previously made a donation it may be time for you to considering making another donation. I will leave it up to each donor to do the math.

Donations should be sent to the OAEA Database Manager at:

3104 Deepspring Drive  
Chesapeake VA 23321

Make your check payable to the OAEA and make a notation in the Memo section that the donation is for the *Gazette* Printing and Mailing Fund.





**WARRIORS** *From page 1*

The three teams arrived at the South Pole early Friday morning (December 13) after trudging over 200 miles. The participants braved temperatures as low as 31 degrees below zero.

"I think we'll be having a few whiskies tonight, and then everyone's looking forward to getting home," Harry said Friday as he approached the end of the frigid journey. Prince Harry was traveling with four amputees, one a double amputee, on his team. Harry spent several days in 2011 trekking with wounded soldiers on a similar expedition to the North Pole.



**Prince Harry Approaching The South Pole**



**Harry Has A Lot to Smile About As He Completes The South Pole Charity Expedition.**

**GETTING UNDERWAY**

Before they left their dropping off base camp Harry and his fellow Walking With The Wounded members faced frustrations as their plans to get to their second base camp were delayed.

When the 29-year-old Prince stepped off the plane in Antarctica, he remarked that the wind and cold had brought back "a lot of bad memories" from his last experience in the North Pole in 2011.

A snowstorm and very high winds left the three Allied Challenge teams largely confined to their basic accommodations at the Russian Novozelazarevskaya, or Novo, Station in temperatures of minus 10C (14F).

The teams were unable to take part in some of the scheduled skiing exercises to help them acclimatize to the hostile Antarctic conditions. However a break in the weather finally gave the ex-soldiers hope.

To pass the time, the teams from the UK, the Commonwealth, and US spent the time resting and unpacking and repacking their personal and survival gear. Harry and the teams removed any non-essential items from the sleds to make them as light as possible.

Prince Harry described an Antarctic weekend storm that delayed the race as "rubbish." But, according to the [Walking With The Wounded](#) website, the three separate teams were due to fly on Tuesday afternoon from Novo, to the second base camp, where the race was due to start.

In typical Prince Harry style, he made light of the obstacles he has faced and praised fellow expedition members.

On 7 December the organizers of the race announced that they were suspending its competitive element because of harsh conditions, but decided to continue the journey to the South Pole.

Expedition director Ed Parker said the teams were experiencing "a higher degree of stress" than expected and will no longer race one another but travel and camp together.

In a recorded message on the organization's website, Parker said the teams had had "a pretty tricky couple of days. The weather remained good but the terrain was very difficult, far harder than had been anticipated."

Because of the difficulty with the terrain the teams were driven for part of the remaining distance and then walked the final 70 miles to the South Pole on foot.

Covering around nine to twelve miles the teams endured temperatures as low as minus 45C and 50mph winds pulling their 154-pound sleds towards the southern-most point on the globe.



**Prince Harry And Conrad Dickinson With Trust Flag at South Pole Station**

They had originally planned to reach the geographic South Pole by 16 December.

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Hey, wanna hear a joke? Here goes: Alexander Skarsgard and Prince Harry walk into a bar in Antarctica. Alexander Skarsgard says, hey man, can we get a couple of beers? Then the bartender says, No way, you guys stink! You hear me, you smell like you've been trudging across the frozen landscape for two weeks straight without a shower! Get the hell out of here!

HAHAHA! Funny, right? Cause who in their right mind would kick Alexander Skarsgard and Prince Harry out of a bar because they smelled bad?

Well, some bartender in Antarctica, apparently. That's right—the joke I just told you wasn't a joke at all, unless you're talking about some sick cosmic

prank targeting ridiculously hot famous guys.

You remember, of course, that Skarsgard and the Prince were hiking across Antarctica for charity? For two weeks! So, naturally, by the time they made it to their destination at the South Pole, these boys had to be a bit behind on their personal hygiene routines. Okay, fine. They were stinky. But that's not regular stank; that's stank for a cause! Jeez, the bartender couldn't hold his breath for a few minutes?

And I'm saying "his" breath not because I know for certain that the bartender was a man, but because I know for certain the bartender was not a woman. There is just no way—no way—a female bartender would throw Alexander Skarsgard or Prince Harry (never mind BOTH of them at once!) out of her establishment. Right?

Would you throw Alexander Skarsgard and Prince Harry out of a bar if they smelled bad?

### USAP POLICY

I'm sure they all smelled since none of them had showers, but that has nothing to do with why they couldn't consume drinks inside the station.

According to USAP policy non-government organizations (aka tourists or adventurers) are given quick tours of the station at the South Pole, but they are not allowed to sit and have a cup of coffee or eat cookies, let alone have a meal or a beer. The US taxpayers pay for food and drinks for personnel working for the US Antarctic Program, not the 300 or so tourists who show up at South Pole Station every summer.

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Editor's Note: The OAEA Gulf Coast Group Chapter inducted Prince Harry into the OAEA as a Life Regular Member. His gift membership information package was presented to him by one of the USAP contractors when he arrived at South Pole Station.

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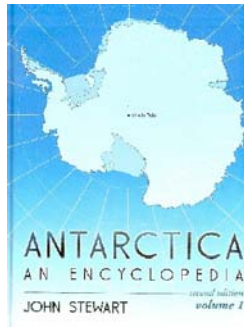
*The Stinking Wounded Warriors At The South Pole. All In Desperate Need Of A Drink And A Shower*



# OAEA BOOK FUND

by *Billy-Ace Baker*

As Laura Snow stated in the "Presidents Corner" the efforts to collect donations to purchase copies of John Stewart's *Antarctica an Encyclopedia Second Edition* was a success. Thanks to everyone for your generosity in helping Laura and myself with this project in providing the libraries of the three permanent US Antarctic Stations with copies.



The below members, and one non-member, donated to the OAEA Book Fund:

- Harold Ayers
- Jim Bain
- Billy-Ace Baker
- Rudy Brantley
- Gerrie Collins
- Robert Conner
- Cliff & Jean Dickey
- Tom Henderson
- John Overton
- OAEA GCG Chapter
- OAEA NE Chapter
- Laura Snow
- Butch Suchland
- Edwin Taylor (non-member)
- James Weeks (deceased)
- Guhor & Pamela Wick

After we purchased the books from John Stewart he shipped them to the USAP contractor in Centennial Colorado who shipped them to the ice. Thanks to Elaine Hood, and everyone involved in helping with the logistics in getting the books to the ice this season.



*Liz Sutter And Elaine Outside The McMurdo Library*



*Elaine With The Books Cradled In Her Arms*



*Liz Sutter And Elaine Inside The McMurdo Library.  
Liz Is A Volunteer At The Library*

# OAEA

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Billy-Ace,

I will be glad to make a contribution to the Encyclopedia fund. John Stewart was nice enough to inform me in the spring of 2012 that there was a Mount Weeks named in 1962 by New Zealand for my R4D-8s crews help during the 61-62 Summer. I had sent his publishing company an E-Mail asking about the Encyclopedia and within the hour John called me. While telling him when I was in the Antarctic and my flight duties he informed me that he knew who I was because I was in his book. Needless to say it was a pleasant surprise. I do remember dropping off the New Zealand dog team and crew on the Polar Plateau in early Nov. 1961 and then dropping food and mail to them just before Christmas. My Crew enjoyed every minute spent with the New Zealand Antarctic folks.

I tried to find the Certificate that was sent to the Navy from the New Zealanders about Mount Weeks with no success.

I would like to see, at least, one more reunion in Pensacola.

Jim Weeks

*Editor's Note: See page 6 for the list of donors for the Encyclopedia Fund. It should be noted that Jim Weeks died shortly after he wrote this letter.*

Billy-Ace:

Thanks again for OAEA info package. I sent off \$100 for life membership and small donation. I was reading the newsletters last night and they were great fun to read. Saw one of my fellow Winter Over mates (PN1 Fowler) recently passed away. Another interesting item I saw in the "This Quarter In History" was about a small magazine Ernest Shackleton wrote that sold for \$20,900.00. My friend at work is Scott Shackleton and Ernest is his great, great uncle. Just thought I would pass that on to him and he was really excited. Very nice job on the *Explorer's Gazette*. Thanks again for all the help and I look forward to becoming a life member. Enjoy the holidays!

Respectfully,

Bruce Cansler

Vik:

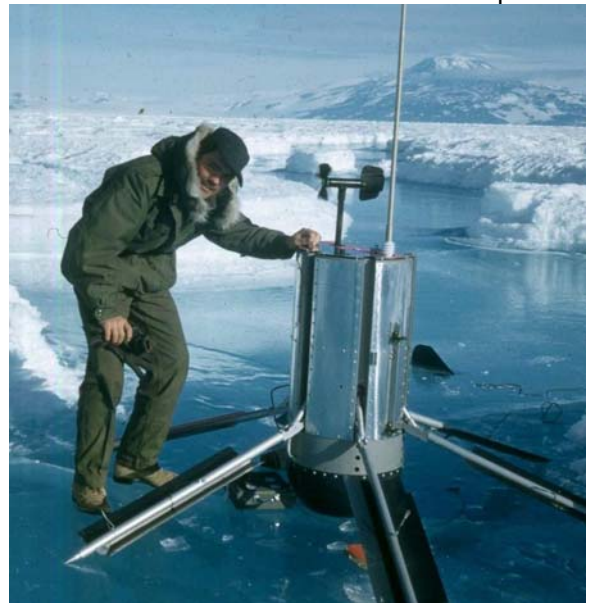
Brilliant issue mate.

Black Jack

BA

Superb pub as always! On another note, since you seem to be the focal point for DF history, I'm attaching a bit you probably don't have. The attached photo is of me with a "Grasshopper", a remote weather station dropped from a C-124 wherever the weather guys needed data from an uninhabitable place. It sent Barometric pressure, temp, humidity, wind direction velocity four times a day (in Morse code). The power was a big Nicad (new technology then) battery in the nose that lasted several weeks (Best I recall). It was designed by a bunch of engineers at the U S Naval Gun Factory in Indianapolis Indiana (gone now) and several of the ETs destined for DF-II went there to learn how to manage it. Most, of the Grasshoppers were lost "on duty" and I doubt any have survived. There is more about it but I won't bore you. Just a probably lost piece of DF-II history

Skip Johnson



*Skip And The Grasshopper*

*Editor's Note: Good timing. I recently wrote a brief history of the Grasshopper's for the young daughter of an OAE. I was able to append Skip's info and the photo to the document before I presented it to the young lady. If anyone is interested feel free to ask me for a copy.*





Billy-Ace:

Thanks for including the reference to my photograph of Ellen the navigator in the "Locator" column of the Jul-Sep issue of the *Gazette*. Maybe somebody will know her.

I went to Europe last August on a vacation. My first stop was Oslo, to see Nansen's and Amundsen's ship *Fram*. I highly recommend the visit as it's as close to a polar shrine as you'll find. In addition to the ship, which is protected inside an A-frame building museum, there are lots of other polar artifacts including some of Amundsen's personal gear. The museum has a very good bookstore, too.

I then took a train to Stockholm, where I know some people, and after a few days flew to London for four days before returning home. I didn't have enough time to see everything I wanted to see in London, but that gives me a reason to go back.

Attached are some photos. First, a view of *Fram* and, outside, a memorial to Amundsen and his men erected in 2011 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of their arrival at the South Pole. Next, HMS *Belfast* on the river Thames in London (that's Tower Bridge behind it). *Belfast* is the last surviving British "big gun" warship from WWII. It supported the Normandy landings and helped sink the German battle cruiser, *Scharnhorst*. Almost the entire ship is open to the public and it's quite interesting.

Jim Mathews



*Fram In Oslo Museum*

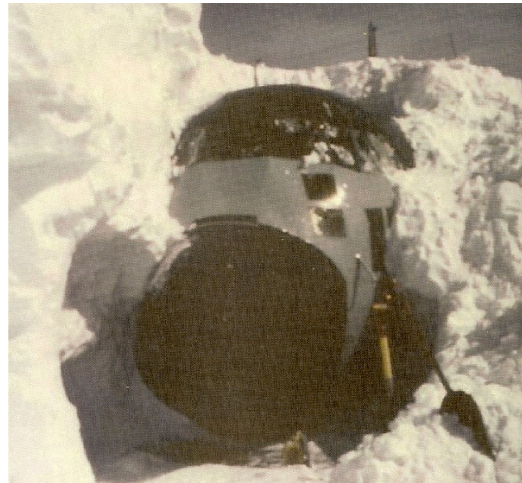


*Statues Of Roald Amundsen And His South Pole Crew*



*HMS Belfast*

*Editor's Note: In addition of being in charge of the recovery of BUNO 321 (photo below) in 1986 Jim Mathews also wintered over at McMurdo during DF-75.*



*321 Being Excavated In November 1986*

Billy:

I attended Tony Wayne's funeral yesterday. There was a small ceremony at the Schenectady funeral home. Almost all of the people who were there were relatives. Tony was buried in full military uniform in a battleship gray coffin. I was honored to be one of the pallbearers. He was interred at the Saratoga National Cemetery where a Navy honor guard conducted a flag ceremony in his honor. Near the cemetery, we passed road construction crews who obviously knew where the funeral procession was going. Each and every man and woman paused and held their helmets over their hearts while the hearse passed by. Tony now lies in peace beside his wife of 66 years, Agnes.

I like to think that I represented all Antarcticans in saying goodbye.

Tom Henderson

*Editor's Note: Tony's death notice is in the "In Memory" section in this issue.*



Billy:

As usual, an outstanding edition!  
Sincerely. Your Shipmate and Buds

Mac aka DK00004

*Editor's Note: Click here to visit: [Harold MacPherson's Web Site](http://halmason.tripod.com/) (http://halmason.tripod.com/)*

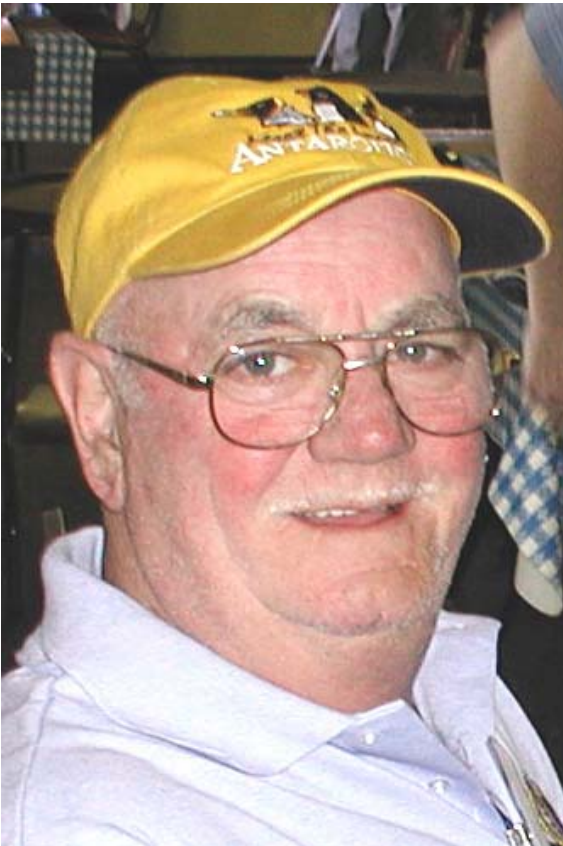
Hi Billy:

Great *Gazette* as always—I am finally catching up with my reading and was so pleased to see the inclusion of my father's passing. I'll be sure to share it with mom as well. The OAEA was a group that made my father happy, reconnected him with people who meant a lot to him during his time in the Navy (which he also loved!).

I'm "paying it forward" and have accepted Ed Hamblin's request to be a general membership representative for the OAEA scholarship selection committee. And I'll look forward to working on the reunion when it comes to RI again.

In meantime, hope you are well and thanks for your great work on this as always!

Susan Hartman



*Recent Photo Of Hoot Hartman*

*Editor's Note: I have probably said it before, but I wintered with Hoot during DF-63 when he was a Seabee Builder.*

Billy-Ace:

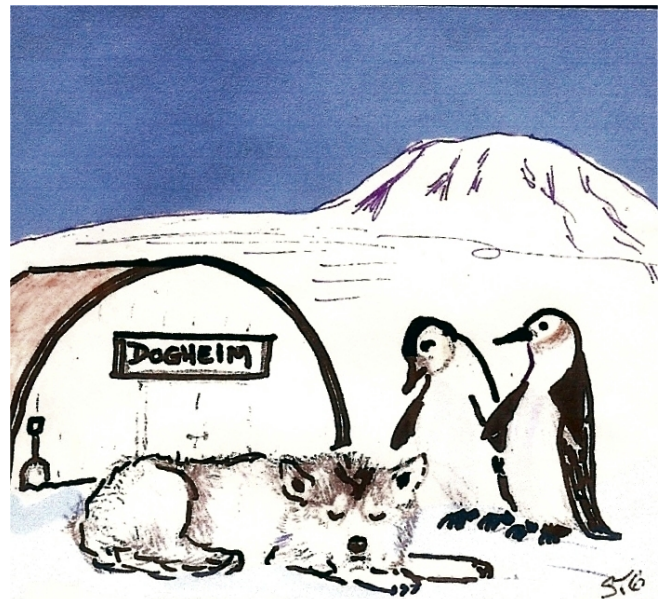
The OAEA NE Fall meeting was interesting and I got a warm welcome from Marty Diller and "CB" Bevilacqua. As noted in the Jul-Sep *Gazette* I shared a table with Judy Boss to sell our books. I sold six copies of *Bravo For Bravo* and gave one away as a door prize.

Sarah Gillens  
Via Snail Mail



*Sarah And "CB"*

*Editor's Note: Sara also included the drawing below that she made and printed on a label that is not in Bravo For Bravo.*



**That's Bravo! He just wintered over at the new South Pole Station. Hmm, do you think he's dreaming of writing about his adventure?**

Hi Billy-Ace:

I was just sending off a page from *The Polar Times* to the widow of Al Fegley, and then went on line to the Jan-Mar 2013 issue of the *Explorer's Gazette* and spotted another one of the Army crew and a colleague of Al Fegley that I knew and hung out with on DF-I. Yours truly was an AG3/AG2 at that time on RADM Dufek's staff.

On page 13 in the "In Memory" section, (last name on that page), Paul J. Jorgensen, 82 who died 22 Jan 2013. He was listed as a "USARP geologist, year(s) unknown." His year on the ice was 1955–1956. He was one of the Army PFC's (all with Masters Degrees) under Amory "Bud" Waite, Sr. They manned "Camp Cold Bottom" right near Little America V as we were building and commissioning it. Paul and the rest of the Army contingent under Bud Waite were embarked in the USS *Arneb* (AKA-56) for DF-I. The entire crew is in the photo on page 35 in *The Polar Times* July 2013 issue. I had kept in touch with Al Fegley, (whose obituary is on that page) and also Richard Handy, who lives in Belmont, MA. Also maintain contact with Al's widow, Marie, who now resides in Duluth, MN.

At the time of DF-I, these five Army specialists were doing research on radio transmissions thru ice crystals. It was all sort of "hush hush" at the time. They were out of the Army's Monmouth Research Laboratory, NJ. Of course, you know of Bud Waite, Sr. He had been with Byrd and was one of the three to rescue him when he was wintering "alone" at 80S on that earlier expedition.



**Camp Cold Bottom Crew. From Left: Bud Waite, Bill Melton, Richard Handy, Albert Fegley, Arthur Christopher, And Paul Jorgensen**

*Editor's Note: My bad. The obituary I received from The Salt Lake Tribune for Paul Jorgensen stated that he had been in the US Army during the Korean War and that he was part of an expedition to Antarctica. The obit did not indicate what year he was in Antarctica or in what capacity, but it did say that he had a degree in Geology, so I made an erroneous assumption. Thanks to Mo for squaring me away.*

Hi, Billy-Ace:

Following your earlier advice, I am sending you a letter to the editor about the publication of *Absolute Bearing*, a novel of tragedy at sea, tense courtroom drama, and search for redemption.

Shortly after leaving McMurdo for the last time on board USS *Glacier* (AGB-4), Admiral Byrd's flagship, I was stationed on a Reserve destroyer, USS *Bristol* sailing for training operations out of New York City.

On one such mission we hit violent storms while steaming alone. Skunk Alpha appeared on the radar at a safe distance, but she closed to within a range that was too close for comfort. "Call the Captain?" the JOOD asked.

"No," I responded as OOD. "We'll be OK," I said too confidently.

We sailed out of range of each other, but for years I've been haunted by the specter of that ship and wondered what would have happened had she come too close for comfort and had I continued not to call the Old Man.

*Absolute Bearing* is a novel dealing with this possibility—two ships in extremis unable to avoid each other; a resulting collision with tragic loss of life; an ensuing court martial and the search for redemption that involves more lives at risk.

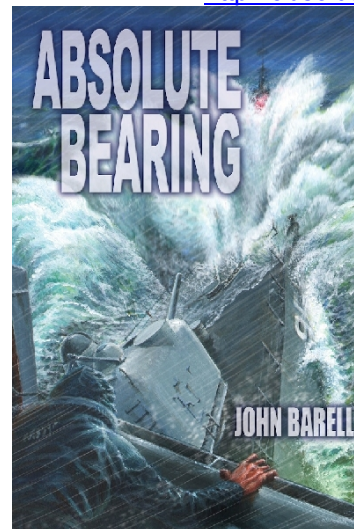
Most of us face major challenges in life and what if our mistakes and arrogance lead to disaster? How do we redeem our good name, sense of honor and true bearing?

This is the story of *Absolute Bearing*. It is *The Caine Mutiny* meets *The Poseidon Adventure*. Available now at Amazon.com in paper and Kindle with free conversion for Mac and Windows 8.

Thanks.

John Barell

[www.morecuriousminds.com](http://www.morecuriousminds.com)  
<http://absolutebearing.info>

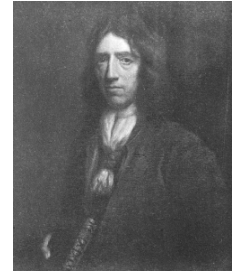




# THIS QUARTER IN HISTORY

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

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



Lionel Wafer

**OCTOBER** : In October 1956, members of the British Royal Society Expedition left a gin bottle on an ice hill, 30 feet above the surrounding ice, near Chippantodd Creeks, 9.7 km east along the coast from Halley Bay. The Brits have informally named the ice hill "The Gin Bottle".

**NOVEMBER**: Walter Slossarczyk was 3rd officer and wireless operator on the *Deutschland* during Filchner's German Antarctic Expedition of 1911-12. Walter never got to Antarctica, but he got close. On 26 November 1911, on their return from the South Sandwich Islands, and while their ship was anchored in King Edward Cove, in South Georgia (54 South), Walter set out in an open boat and was never seen again. The whale catcher *Fortuna* found the boat well out in Cumberland Bay, but no Walter. Suicide, they said. A cross was erected at Grytviken Cemetery. They named Slossarczyk Bay after him, but this was later re-named Doubtful Bay. However, all is not lost for the drowned man. They later named the crag on the east side of the bay as Slossarczyk Crag.

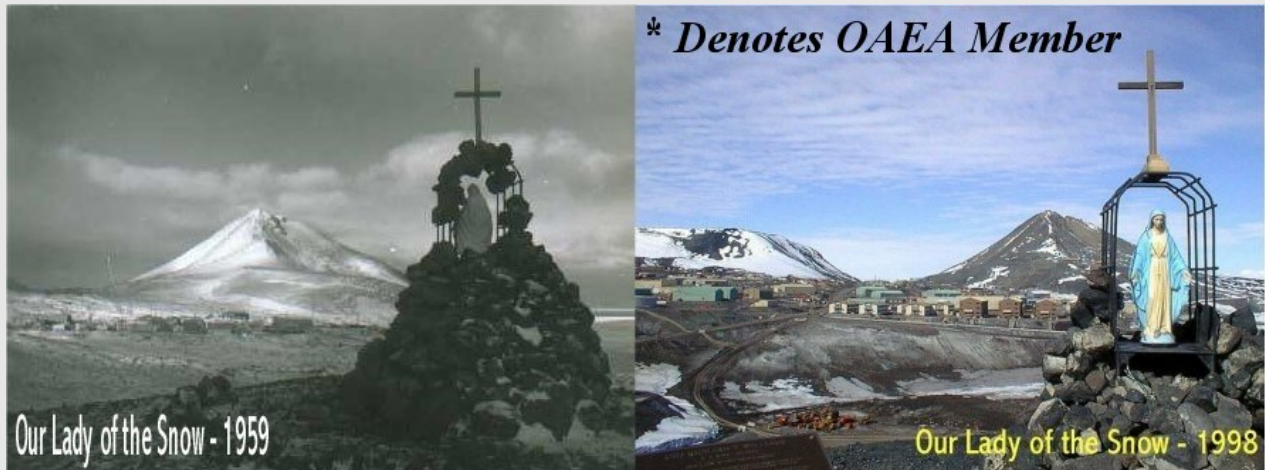


Slossarczyk's Grave At Grytviken Cemetery

**DECEMBER**: On 20 December 1968, Dick Spaulding and Jim Thomann jumped out of an H-34 over Antarctica, setting an altitude record of 10,500 feet. The very next month, on 19 January 1969, Dick set a new record of 12,500 feet, bailing out of an LC-130. Eight years later to the day, he made his 1000th career jump, this one over South Pole Station. He had wanted to do it over Vostok, but his commanding officer nixed the idea. Dick made 110 jumps altogether on the Antarctic continent, and his final career total came to 1111. His first jump had been in July 1958, when he was training as a parachute rigger.



Philatelic Cover Commemorating Dick Spaulding's 1000<sup>th</sup> Parachute Jump.



## IN MEMORY

\*OAE Robert "Bob" Archer, 71, died on 24 October 2013, in Holbrook, MA. Bob served on the USS *Glacier* during DF-62 through 64 as an EN3.

OAE George Ichiro Azumano, 95, died on 9 December 2013, in Portland, OR. George visited Antarctica in connection with his travel agency.

\*Jamie D Baker, 43, died on 16 November 2013, in Pensacola, FL. Jamie was also a member of the OAEA GCG Chapter.

OAE June "June Bug" Bradley, died on 9 November 2013, in Brea, CA. June Bug visited Antarctica as a tourist in 2002.

OAE CWO-4 Elson C. Brittle, USCG (Ret), 80, died on 14 November 2013, in Casa De La Luz, AZ. Elson served on the USCGC *Southwind*. Year(s) unknown.

OAE Laurence James Cahill, Jr., 88 died on 12 September 2013, in Tucson, AZ. Laurence conducted research at Siple and South Pole Stations in the 1970s. Mount Cahill is named in his honor.

OAE Barbara "Bobby" Anne Cherry, 64, died on 21 October 2013, in Jacksonville, FL. Bobby visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE William "Bill" A. Crawford, 89, died on 19 November 2013, in Hanover, PA. Bill served during Highjump on the USS *Yancey*.

OAE Robert Earl Diefendorf, 85, died on 7 November 2013, in Jacksonville, FL. Bob served on the USS *Philippine Sea* during Highjump.

OAE Robert L. Dombrosky, 84, died on 13 October 2013, in Wonder Lake, IL. Robert served on the USS *Philippine Sea* during Highjump.

OAE CDR Jerome "Jerry" Maher Driscoll, USN (Ret), 84, died on 17 October 2013, in San Diego, CA. Jerry served as the VX-6 admin officer during DF-65. Driscoll Glacier is named in his honor.

\*OAE Byron Duke, 88, died on 7 December 2013, in Coventry, RI. Byron served on YOG-34 during DF-I as a MM3. He was a member of the OAEA New England Chapter.

OAE Albert "Al" Wendell Erickson, PhD, 84, died on 27 October 2013, in Bellevue, WA. Al made seven deployments to Antarctica to study killer whales and seals. Erickson Bluffs is named in his honor.

OAE Theo Helen Feeney, 88, died on 30 October 2013, in Eureka, CA. Theo visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Kenneth Forrester, 83, died on 2 December 2013, in Pensacola, FL. Ken served on the USS *Glacier* during the IGY.

OAE Keith Allan Gardner, USN (Ret), 78, died on 16 October 2013, in Orlando, FL. Keith wintered-over twice as a member of NNPU. First on Crew IV during DF-65 (1964-65) as a UTP2, and Crew IX (DF-70) as a UTC. He also served in summer support on Crew VII (DF-68) as a UT1.

\*OAE Richard "Dick" C. Genung, 73, died on 17 November 2013, in Center City, MN. Dick wintered-over during DF-61.



OAE CDR Harold R. Gillam, USN (Ret), died on 16 November 2013, in Salem, MA. Harold served in MCB-8 during DF-64 and 65.

OAE CAPT Lawrence "Buppa" James Green, USN (Ret), 83, died on 29 December 2013, in Longmont, CO. Buppa served with the Seabees. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Arthur S. Gunzberg, 101, died on 26 October 2013, in Evanston, IL. Arthur visited Antarctica as a tourist. His ship went aground on an iceberg and he had to be rescued by the Chilean Navy.

OAE LCDR Richard L. "Hal" Halverson, USN (Ret), 97, died on 19 December 2013, in Lemon Grove, CA. Hal served as the TF-43 photo officer during DF-III.

OAE Robert Winslow Hansen, 90, died on 9 December 2013, in Ventura, CA. Robert worked for the Navy and made several deployments to Antarctica. Year(s) unknown.

OAE LTC James F. Hill, USA (Ret), 87, died on 24 October 2013, in Roswell, GA. James served in Antarctica with the US Army Aviation Det.

OAE ATC Gerald "Gerry" Arthur Hinds, USN (Ret), 58, died on 26 November 2013, in Hanford, CA. Gerry was originally a Construction Electrician with the Seabees before he cross-rated to Aviation Electronics. As a Seebee he worked at South Pole Station building the Dome during the mid-70s.

OAE Russell C. Horine, 86, died on 29 December 2013, in Wichita, KS. Russell served in the Navy during Highjump.

OAE John S. R. Huckle, 89, died on 9 December, in the UK. John served with the Falkland Island Survey (FIDS) from 1946-50. and wintered-over three times. During the 1956-57 season he served as ice pilot and navigator on the MV *Oluf Sven*. Following that he served three years as a helicopter pilot spotting whales from the whale ships *Southern Venturer*, and *Southern Harvester*. Mount Huckle is named in his honor.

OAE Robert "Bob" Harry Jones, died on 20 December 2013, in State College, PA. Bob served on the USS *Atka* during pre-DF in 1954.

OAE JOCM Billy Ray Kinder, USN (Ret), 69, died on 28 November 2011, in Jonesboro, AR. Bill served in NSFA PAO Chief in Charge during DF-78, 79, and 80.

OAE William E. Klockars, 64, died on 25 November 2013, in Winchendon, MA. Bill served in VX3-6 during DF-72 and 73 as an aviation machinist mate.

OAE David Joseph Lubbers, 32, died on 10 October 2013, in West Valley City, UT. David was a USAP grantee. Year(s) unknown.

OAE Robert B. "Mac" McBeth, USN (Ret), 86, died on 12 November 2013, in Boulder, CO. Mac served as a meteorologist.

OAE Cecil Mason McDaniel, USN (Ret), 72, died on 4 November 2013, in Chesapeake, VA. Cecil made two deployments to Antarctica. Unit and year(s) unknown.

\*OAE MRC Gary Francis Martin, USN (Ret), 75, died on 29 September 2013, in Forest City, NC. Gary served with ASA during DF-65 and CBU-201 during DF-68 and 69.

OAE Alice Throop Merrill, 101, died on 7 October 2013, Littleton, CO. Alice visited Antarctica as a tourist at the age of 84.

OAE CWO Gerald Jeffrey Miller, USN (Ret), 86, died on 22 October 2013, in Olalla, WA. Gerald wintered-over at the NNPU with Crew II (DF-63) as an EOCA, summer support with Crew VI (DF-67) as a CWO2, and winter-over with Crew VIII (DF-69) as a CWO2.

OAE Binney White Nast (a/k/a Mom; Granny; and "Rinso White"), 76, died on 19 October 2013, in Camarillo, CA. Rinso White visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Mitchell Nelms, 60, died on 2 November 2013, in Concord, CA. Mitchell served in Antarctica with the US Navy. Unit and year(s) unknown

\*OAE CDR Robert "Bob" L. Nichols, USN (Ret), 92, died on 17 November 2013, in Memphis, TN. Bob served during Highjump on RADM Byrd's staff.

OAE Robert John "Bob" O'Brien, 79, died on 31 October 2013, in Christchurch, New Zealand. Bob was a member of the Italian Antarctic Program. Year(s) unknown.

OAE Thomas Paul O'Conner, 57, died on 15 October 2013, in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Thomas worked on an Antarctic cruise ship. Year(s) unknown.

OAE Anthony M. Piscitelli, Jr., died on 16 October 2013, in Stuart, FL. Anthony served with MCB-71 during DF-74.

OAE Brian Plaski, 69, died on 1 October 2013, in Sanford, ME. Brian deployed to Antarctica with the USAP contractor.

OAE Joan Ellen Prince, 78, died on 4 December 2013, in Green Valley, AZ. Joan visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE James Charles Reardon, 88, died on, 26 December 2013, in Melrose Park, IL. James served on the submarine USS *Sennet* during Highjump as a TMSN.

OAE Lyman Ray Rogers, 93, died on 24 November 2013, in Jacksonville, FL. Lyman served on the USS *Currituck* during Highjump.

OAE Elyssa Rosen, 48, died on 26 October 2013, in a scuba accident in Tasmania. Elyssa was involved in establishing marine reserves in Antarctica.

\*OAE Chester "Chet" W. Segers, 86, died on 15 November 2013, in Inverness, FL. Chet was the first winter-over cook (CS1) at South Pole Station during DF-II. Mount Segers is named in his honor. He was also a member of the ADFA.

OAE Richard J. Shannon, 86, died on 28 December 2013, in North Billerica, VT. Richard served on the USS *Philippine Sea* during Highjump.

OAE Raymond J. Shea, USCG (Ret), 76, died on 10 December 2013, in Derry, NH. Raymond served on the USCGC *Eastwind* as an EN3 during DF-61 and 62.

OAE Christopher DeWitt Simmons, died on 3 October 2013, in Alexandria, VA. Christopher traveled to Antarctica as a photographer/painter.

OAE Alex E. Simon, 88, died on 11 October 2013, in Fon du Lac, WI. Alex served on the USS *Philippine Sea* during Highjump.

OAE Joseph J. Skocik, 68, died on 10 September 2011, in Port Carbon, PA. Joe served as a Fireman on the USS *Glacier* during DF-61, 62, and 63.

OAE John Richard Smoot, 94 died on 12 October 2013, in Port St Lucie, FL. John served during Highjump. Unit unknown.

\*OAE LCDR Erwin John Spencer, USN (Ret), 89, died on 4 October 2013, in Dearborn, MI. Erwin served during Highjump.

OAE Peter Edward Steiner, 50, died on 12 October 2013, in Santa Barbara, CA. Peter worked in Antarctica with the Scripps Institute of Oceanography. Year(s) unknown.

OAE Kenneth Shutts Talbot, died on 22 December 2013, in Ridgewood, NJ. Kenneth served on the USS *Edisto* during DF-I.

OAE RADM Norman C. Venzke, USCG (Ret), 85, died on 21 November, 2013, in Virginia Beach, VA. Norman served on four icebreakers and was the commanding officer of the USCGC *Northwind* (DF-72 & 73) and the USCGC *Polar Star*. After his retirement from the Coast Guard he served as beachmaster on French tourist ships during nine cruises to Antarctica. Venzke Glacier is named in his honor.

OAE UTC Clarence A. "Reg" Wagner, USN (Ret), 80, died on 29 November 2013, in Warwick, RI. Reg served in MCB(Special during DF-I and II as a UT1. Reg wintered-over at McMurdo during DF-I. He also wintered-over at McMurdo during DF-60 and was in SS during DF-61 and 62; and DF-68 and 69. He was also a member of the ADFA.

\*OAE CWO Anthony "Tony" Wayne, USN (Ret), (AKA Anthony W. Kelczewski) 98, died on 6 October 2013, in Schenectady, NY. Tony served on the USS *Bear* during the USASE (1939-41) Byrd III expedition. Wayne Head is named in his honor. (See Explorer's Gazette Jul-Sep 2013, and Jul-Sep 2011 for more info on Tony).

\*OAE James Wesley Weeks, 77 died on 19 December 2013, in Duluth, GA. James made two deployments during DF-61 and DF-62 with VX-6 as a pilot. Mount Weeks is named in his honor.

OAE Dr. Preston Lea Wilds, MD, 86, died on 3 October 2013, in Orr's Island, ME. Lea visited Antarctica twice as a tourist onboard Russian icebreakers.

\*OAE ADRC Richard A. Zinser, USN (Ret), 84, died on 25 September 2013, in Sparta, TN. Richard served in VX-6 from 1959-63, and 1966-68.

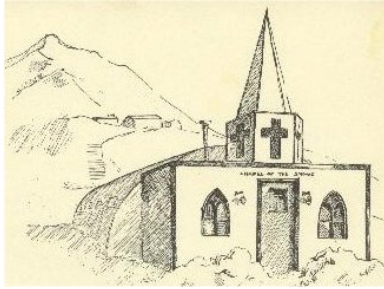




**CHAPLAIN'S CORNER**

Cecil Harper—OAEA Chaplain  
Reprinted From Volume 1 Issue 2

Some of us still have the desire and the drive to accomplish a task that we have worked on for a long, long time. Yet there are those days when nothing seems to go right and we want to throw in the towel.



I remember a story I once heard about a twenty-year old country boy, awkward and overgrown, who was having a hard time making his way in the world. He could barely read, couldn't spell accurately, and was painfully shy.

He was fired from his first three jobs and couldn't find a fourth—no one would hire him. Not a likely candidate for success you might say, but he had one redeeming quality. He wouldn't stop trying. So he began making brushes and selling them door to door. Eventually he did pretty well. He was Alfred C. Fuller, founder of the Fuller Brush Company.

Years later, another young Fuller Brush salesman, who outsold every other salesman in the Carolinas, once said: "I believe in my product, and sincerity is the biggest part of selling anything." He later became a "salesman" for Christianity. His name: Billy Graham.

So the next time nothing seems to be going right, and we want to throw in the towel, perhaps we need to check our determination and sincerity.

Good Health To All,

Cecil Harper  
Chaplain, OAEA

**Tidewater Group October Get-Together**

by Ed Hamblin

In early October, we had our informal quarterly gathering. Primarily we discussed the November 2014 reunion planning progress. Just a couple of weeks before, several of us had met with the new staff members at the hosting venue, revisited the initial contract to make sure everything was solid and there were going to be no surprises. It is all good, and although we are amateurs at this, the staff at the hotel is not. At the same time, we were also able to meet with a tours person and start working toward a tours program for the reunion. With the tours folks' help, we are planning area tours that include a trip to the Norfolk Naval Station where the majority of the Atlantic Fleet ships are home ported/NAS Norfolk with lunch on base, a tour to Colonial Williamsburg and the Outlet Mall at Williamsburg, and a tour to the privately owned Military Aviation Museum in Pungo which is a one of a kind attraction that almost has to be seen to be believed. More information about these and other reunion events will be made available in the special Reunion Edition *Gazette* in the spring. If you want to go ahead and book the hotel reservations early, the phone number is 1-800-325-3535; make sure to mention Old Antarctic Explorers Association reunion to get the event rates, which will run for the week, even though the actual reunion is 12-14 November. For additional information about the hotel, go to:

<http://www.sheratonnorfolkwaterside.com/>

OAEA Life Member Brad Miller has been busy "scouring the world" to get stuff for the reunion. He has had major success in "scoring freebies" and has opened floodgates resulting in constant shipments of



material to his house. In his military career, Brad was a Navy Ships Serviceman, had one of his later tours was as Navy Exchange Systems Command (NEXCOM) Command Master Chief and he has been able to leverage many of his contacts in his efforts. During the reunion set up, we will likely need working parties to handle everything he has come up with

Other than the reunion business that was discussed, we welcomed the newest "face", Nick Ryder (VXE-6 aviator, 73-76) who made the trip down from Gloucester to be with us. Nick has been a Life Member of the OAEA since 2006 but just learned of our informal group sessions recently. Welcome to Nick!

Besides Nick and Brad, Jean and Cliff Dickey, Bill Raymus, Jim Silverstorf, Manny Perry, Ron Rooks, Robert Kello, and Bill Murray came out. We set up our next meeting for early January. By the time you all see this, the January meeting will be history; but the next one will be in April. If you want to be notified about it and aren't already on the Tidewater e-mail "tree", drop me a line at: [ehamblin@verizon.net](mailto:ehamblin@verizon.net), or call 757-405-3362 to be added.



**Tidewater Group October Meeting Attendees**

# CALL OF THE WHITE

## Taking the World To The South Pole

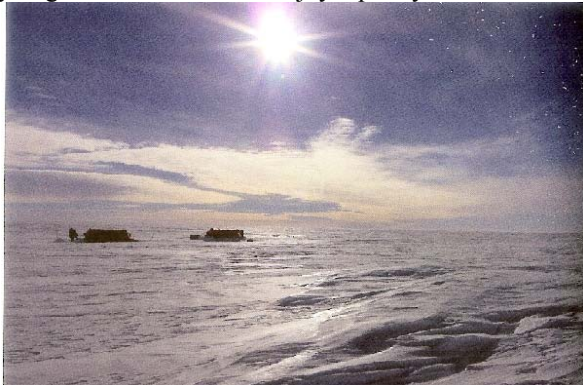
reviewed by Laura "Stella" Snow

### BOOK REVIEW

*Call of the White*, by Felicity Aston, Summersdale Publishers Ltd, West Sussex, UK, 2011, 315 pages, paperback \$13.95. Available from Amazon.com and Barnes and Noble.

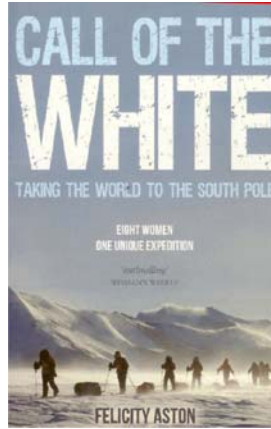
British adventurer Felicity Aston's *Call of the White* is an exceptionally well-written account of a unique expedition. Aston's goal was to create the first international all-female expedition ever to ski to the South Pole. Her plan was to recruit the team members from the British Commonwealth countries.

As former members of the British Empire, the fifty-plus Commonwealth nations represent diverse economies, religions, and races. One of Aston's goals for the expedition would be to show what women from diverse backgrounds can achieve, as well as to make the point that there is a long way to go before all women enjoy equality.



***The Teams Two Tents Were The Only Splash Of Color And Life In The Vast Emptiness Of Antarctica***

In 2007, Aston began recruiting team members. She had chosen the following Commonwealth nations as her source for recruits: Jamaica, which has a ski federation and an Olympic bobsled team; Ghana, which has a relatively free press, stable economy, and a democratic political system (Ghana was the first nation to join the Commonwealth); India, whose independence had prompted the initial formation of the Commonwealth and is an enthusiastic mountaineering nation, as well as having operated a research station in Antarctica since 1983; New Zealand, a nation geographically close to Antarctica; Brunei, the only Muslim nation to be represented and one of only three monarchies in the Commonwealth; Singapore, a multicultural city-state



that represents the tremendous diversity of the Commonwealth; and Cyprus, chosen for its interesting political history, size, and culture.

The requirements to qualify for the team were as follows: everyone had to speak English (most Commonwealth nations use English as an official language) and to have access to the internet. Furthermore, the applicants had to have goals beyond the expectations of others and have a desire to follow their own paths. Each team member had to commit to conducting fundraising activities within her country and to conduct outreach after the expedition. There was no age restriction and no cold-weather experience required. Team members had to be able to physically complete the expedition.

With initial funding from the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, Aston spent months traveling to these countries, making contacts with their governments and the local news outlets, and most importantly, interviewing team candidates. Aston received more than 800 applications and interviewed seventy-two applicants representing the eight nations. The plan was to initially choose two applicants from each of the eight countries, take them to Norway for cold weather and ski instruction, and then narrow the group to one representative from each of the countries.

It was an interesting group that arrived in Norway. Some of the sixteen had never seen snow and some had difficulty visualizing what a ski was. The Hardangervidda, a high mountainous plateau in southern Norway, was chosen for the initial training. Besides Aston, the trainers were all skiers and cold-weather adventurers who donated their time and skills. The training team would teach them how to ski, how to avoid cold-weather injuries, pitching tents, using liquid-fuel stoves, pulling sledges, and so forth. Of significant importance was the ability of the team to work together.



***Making Their Last Few Steps To The South Pole Together The Teams Forgot To Detach Themselves From The Sledges First***



The training lasted for two weeks. During the first week all sixteen received the same training and would be evaluated for the progress made. Eight women were cut and the remainders were the team members. They would spend the next week in training with Aston and the trainers.

The final team consisted of: Stephanie (Cyprus), IT worker; Kylie (New Zealand), outdoor adventure leader and pilot; Era (Brunei), mathematics teacher; Sophia (Singapore), wife and mother of three children; Barbara (Ghana), journalist; Kim (Jamaica), political advisor; Reena (India), trekking guide; and Helen (United Kingdom), outdoor activity instructor. Helen was the reserve member of the team who would take the place of anyone who withdrew from the expedition. The ages of the team were twenty-four to forty-three. At the end of the two weeks the team was given a regimen to follow at home: strength, interval, and endurance training. The team would meet again the next year in New Zealand before going to Antarctica.

Fundraising was a constant concern until Sophia from Singapore made contact with Kaspersky Lab, an Internet security firm with business interests in several countries including India, Singapore, Brunei, and New Zealand (four of the nations represented by the team). After much discussion, countless phone calls, and emails between Aston and the Kaspersky representative, it was agreed that Kaspersky Lab would be the sole sponsor and the expedition would become the Kaspersky Lab Commonwealth Expedition. The pressure of fundraising was no longer a concern.



**Stephanie Warming Her Plastered Feet By The Stove Inside The Tent**

By late summer Aston realized there was a problem with Barbara, the team member from Ghana. Barbara's emails were vague and she would not talk with Aston on Skype. Finally Barbara emailed that she would probably have to miss the training in New Zealand, which Aston assured her

was not an option. Barbara then told the team leader that she had been ill with malaria and was not well enough to participate. This was a tremendous disappointment to Aston because not only did Barbara represent an African Commonwealth nation, but she was the sort of person the expedition was about: she was a woman who had great potential but had never had the opportunity to prove herself. Helen, the reserve team member from the UK, would take Barbara's place.



**Era Having Trouble With Her Goggles**

The New Zealand training took place at the Pisa Range near Wanaka. The Pisa Range was the only cross-country ski park that would provide the appropriate environment for a mini-expedition. During this activity the team reacquainted themselves with skiing and pulling a sledge, reacclimatized themselves to the cold, and practiced other skills they initially learned in Norway.

In October 2009, the team members met in the UK. The team would be together for a few days and would then travel together to Punta Arenas, Chile. While in Punta Arenas the women would prepare the expedition rations. Some food supplies in their original packaging were brought from the UK. The remainder of the food was purchased in Punta Arenas. Repackaging the food into the specific amounts of nutrients each woman would need was complicated because of the differential in the women's body weight. Consequently, all the rations were prepared as if the women weighed as much as the heaviest team member. Additionally, Reena (Hindu) and Era (Muslim) had religious dietary restrictions that had to be taken into consideration. Finally, all 460 ration bags were prepared.

Reena had long hair that fell down her back. She returned to the hostel one day with her hair cut to just below her ears. She explained that in India long hair on a woman is a sign of virtue. Often in her culture women with short hair are considered to be "no good." It was the first time in her life that her hair had been cut. She realized that her long hair would turn into a huge mess of tangles during the six-week expedition and would probably have to be cut off anyway.

Antarctic Logistics and Expeditions (ALE), provides logistic support and safety backup for expedition groups. ALE arranged for a Russian Iluishyn to transport the team from Punta Arenas to Patriot Hills, located in the Heritage Range of the Ellsworth Mountains. The team would remain there for a week to become acclimatized prior to beginning the expedition to the South Pole. During that time the team went on mini-expeditions in the area. Unfortunately, Kim had been careless with her gloves and as a result developed frostbite in six fingers. Sadly, Kim was sent home to Jamaica.

Finally, after seven days in Antarctica, the team was ready to go to the South Pole on 21 November. An ALE aircraft flew them to their point of departure on the "coast" of Antarctica. They expected to reach the South Pole on New Year's Day, 2010. Aston's account of the next six weeks is fascinating. She proved herself to be a wise and capable leader and each of the women proved to be an important member of the team.

*Call of the White* is a uniquely engaging read. I enjoyed the book so much that I read it twice. Felicity Aston is not only a seasoned cold climate expedition leader, but she is an extraordinary writer. I highly recommend this book to all members of the OAEA.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Felicity Aston is a British expedition leader, public speaker, and freelance travel writer. Her past achievements include leading the first British women's team across Greenland, completing the infamous Marathon Des Sables across the Sahara desert, and working as a meteorologist in Antarctic for three years.



**The Author**



**The Largest And Most International Team Of Women Ever To Ski To The South Pole.  
From Left: Sophia, Kylie, Era, Felicity, Helen, Reena, And Steph**



## NEW OAEA MEMBERS

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

Thanks to Bill Stepp, Bill Spindler, Joe Gogel, Bruce DeWald, Dick Bowers, Bob Molla, Charles & Margaret Amsler, Michael Spencer, and Black Jack Stewart for recruiting new members or for providing names and contact info for prospective members.

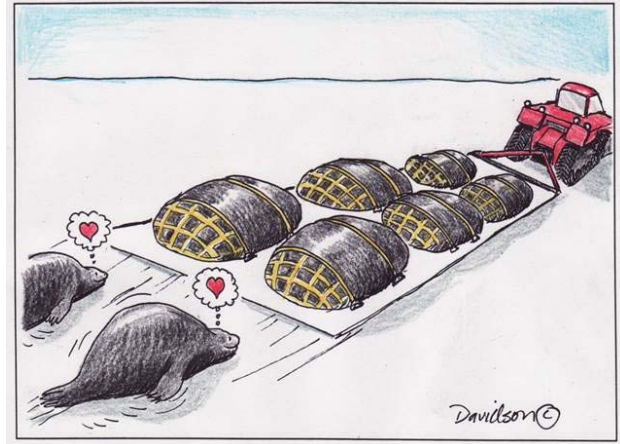
If you know of any OAE, or anyone interested in Antarctica, who is not a member of the OAEA please send their contact info to the OAEA Membership Chairman at [upizauf@aol.com](mailto:upizauf@aol.com) or 850 456 3556.

\*Denotes Associate Member

§Denotes Upgrade to Life or Renewal of Annual Member

ΦDenotes Upgrade to Regular Member

Baggett, James CAPT	Life	NSFA Medical Officer 1980-83
Bledsoe, Lucy CIV	*Annual	NSF Artists & Writers 1999-2000/03-04/06
Cansler, Bruce CM2	Life	NSFA WO DF-82
Drozdz, Theodore CAPT	Life	VXE-6 1968-1970
Ellis, Homer ACC	Life	ASA WO McMurdo DF-68/SS Byrd DF-70
Fairchild, Rebecca CIV	Life	Surviving Daughter of George Fairchild
Getman, Marilyn CIV	Life	Widow of Robert
Hartman, Susan CIV	§ΦAnnual	Surviving Child of Hoot Hartman
Japzon, Karla AZC	§Annual	VXE-6 1988-92
Kalman, Earl ATC	Life	VXE-6 1977-80, 83-86
Lenkey, John CIV	*Life	Responsible for Byrd monument restoration
Liphart, Charlotte CIV	Life	Surviving Daughter of George Fairchild
Massie, Kenneth CIV	*Annual	GCG Groupie
Massie, Sandra CIV	*Annual	GCG Groupie
McClintock, James CIV	Life	USAP 1983-2013
McGraw, Nicholas CIV	Life	Surviving Grandson of George Fairchild
McGraw, Patrick CIV	Life	Surviving Grandson of George Fairchild
McGraw, Theresa CIV	Life	Surviving Daughter of George Fairchild
Molla, Frances CIV	*Life	Spouse of Bob
Summerell, Brian CIV	*Life	ASPP
Vizcarrondo, Gil CE3	Annual	NSFA PW 71-74



### REUNION & MEETING INFORMATION

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

**USAF 63<sup>rd</sup> Troop Carrier Wing:** Greenville, SC, 11-14 April 2014. POC Shirley Holmquist. Phone: 864 226 6869, or by email: [keshi@charter.net](mailto:keshi@charter.net). The 63<sup>rd</sup> Troop Carrier Wing served during DF-II and III.

**USS Mills (DER-383):** Virginia Beach, VA, 3-7 October 2013. POC Ben Laurens. Phone: 252 504 3733, or by email: [nriver@ec.rr.com](mailto:nriver@ec.rr.com). The *Mills* served during DF-65, 67, and 68

**USS *Philippine Sea*:** Jacksonville, FL. 24-29 October 2013. POC Tony DeStefano, Phone: 941 743 5460, or by email: [philsea@embarqmail.com](mailto:philsea@embarqmail.com), or. The *Philippine Sea* served during Highjump.

**USS *Yancey* (AKA-93):** Washington, DC. 3-6 October 2013. POC George Clifton. Phone: 708 425 8531, or by email: [clifs@ameritech.net](mailto:clifs@ameritech.net). The *Yancey* served during Highjump.

**OAEA:** Norfolk, VA. 12-14 November 2014. POC Ed Hamblin. Phone: 757 835 4282, or by email at: [ehamblin74@verizon.net](mailto:ehamblin74@verizon.net),

**NNPU:** Goshen, NY. 4-9 May 2015. POC Bob Berkowitz. Phone: 845 782 5539, or by email at: [fixitbob3@optonline.net](mailto:fixitbob3@optonline.net). The NNPU served between 1962 and 1979.



## OAE LOCATOR

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

- Carl Zabecki who was a DK stationed at PSD Port Hueneme is looking for James "Butch" Pendergast a Seabee who was assigned to Operation Deep Freeze in 1982 and 1983. Carl can be contacted at: [dragon4663@live.com](mailto:dragon4663@live.com), or 99 Mountainview St Chicopee, Ma 01020, or by phone: (413) 388 2893

- Greg Sundborn is looking for information about his father, Fireman J. J. Skocik, who served on the USS *Glacier* as an FN in the M Division during DF-61 and 62. Greg believes that his dad's first or middle name was Joseph. Greg would like to hear from anyone who knew Skocik or has any pictures of him. Greg can be contacted at: [greg.sundborn@gmail.com](mailto:greg.sundborn@gmail.com).

- David Ainley wants to get in touch with persons who are familiar with Hallett Station and particularly with the sea ice regime there in the 1960s and 70s. David hopes that someone must have been paying attention to the fast ice in regard to landing C-130s on it, and maybe kept notes. David said that the researchers found very few Weddell seals in the vicinity in recent years unlike the 60s when there were hundreds. Looking at recent satellite images it appears that the fast ice should be sufficient to accommodate these seals, but in writing this up, readers/reviewers will want to know if the fast ice situation in Edisto Inlet has changed. David can be contacted at: [dainley@penguinscience.com](mailto:dainley@penguinscience.com), or 105 Headlands Court, Sausalito, CA 94965.

- François Bergez is looking for information on Dome Charlie including scientist research, glaciology and also the different VXE-6 flights to the site including photographs. He is primarily interested in the crash of LC-130 BUNO 148319. François has been to the web site: <http://www.gdargaud.net/Antarctica/DomeCharlie.html>. He can be contacted at: 6, rue de la Liberté, F-71000 Macon France. Email: [Francois.bergez@wanadoo.fr](mailto:Francois.bergez@wanadoo.fr), or by phone at: 00 33 3 85 34 48 46.



**BUNO 319 At Dome Charlie**

## PENGUIN MAULED BY DOG



*by Lucy Townend*

Life has become a balancing act for a little blue penguin mauled by a dog.

A juvenile male penguin arrived at Palmerston North's Wildbase Hospital in desperate need of help after a dog attack left him struggling to stand, with gashes on his right flank, punctured air sacs and water trapped in his lungs.

The penguin was picked up by a young boy on a beach and was given to the Department of Conservation.

Wildlife specialists are calling for dog owners to muzzle their pets to prevent further attacks after an influx of little blue penguins flooded into the animal hospital last month.

Wildlife veterinarian Dr Serena Finlayson said initial fears were the little blue had broken bones. However an X-ray revealed only more moderate injuries.

"When it arrived here, it couldn't walk on its leg and it was dragging it along."

Dr Finlayson said the four puncture wounds pointed to tooth marks left by a canine predator.

"We were suspicious it was a dog because of the bite wounds, and dogs, when they grab little penguins, they tend to shake them and create deeper, wider lacerations. This guy was really lucky because he didn't have any bones broken, he didn't have any major blood vessels severed—that's why he lived—but he does have a paralysis."

A higher number of little blue penguins than usual came through the hospital last month with a handful having serious dog-inflicted wounds, and there was one where the dog had crushed it and severed its spine in two spots.

Little blue penguin are found along the entire New Zealand coastline—they have their little hidey holes in sand dunes, and people need to be aware that there could be a penguin in there.

Palmerston North's penguin won't be able to return to beachside living until his feathers grow back and he is waterproof, which is anticipated to be weeks away.

## Gulf Coast Group Chapter Happenings

by Billy-Ace Penguin Baker

### Saturday 5 October 2013 GCG Meeting—

On a bright and sunny day in Pensacola we had 21 members, guests, and visitors show up. I had expected more, but apparently some of our regulars were either scared off because of Hurricane, Tropical Storm, Tropical Depression (pick-one) Karen, or they stayed home to watch football on TV.

In any event first time attendees were Robert Mozesky, his wife Joyce and son Bobby. Robert is a retired Air Force Master Sergeant. He served during DF-II (1956–57) as a Sonarman Second Class on the USS *Brough* (see the side bar below). The other first time attendee was Earl “Bud” Kalman. Bud served in VXE-6 during DF-77 through 80, and DF-83 through 86, as an ATC. He joined the OAEA as a Life Member at the meeting. Welcome aboard Bud.



**Bud Kalman From The VXE-6 Cruise Book**

A long time absentee Karla Japzon and her husband Ray were in attendance. Karla had not been to a meeting since 2005. While at the meeting Karla decided to extend her OAEA annual dues for two years.

Our visitors included two ladies from the Elks Lodge Branch 2108. Namely Linda Erickson who is the Branch 2108 Leading Knight and Betty Townsend. Betty is the Elkettes Vice-President of Branch 2108. The ladies were interest in hearing some ice stories so George Griffin

accommodated them with his accounts of his exploits as a Navy helicopter air crewman on a Coast Guard icebreaker. George is now the unofficial GCG Greeter for meeting visitors. The third visitor was a gentleman who was not interested in Antarctica, so he just sat in the corner and talked on his cell phone. Our fourth visitor was James Gullely who had never been to the ice, but was very interested. He had attended a presentation in Brewton that Billy Blackwelder had orchestrated with Gus Shinn and Brian Hoffmaster acting as his cohorts. Our fifth visitor was Robert Kugelman. Robert is another non-OAEA, but his son Christopher Kugelman made three trips to the ice between 2001 and 2004 as a member of the Civilian Joint Search and Rescue Team for McMurdo and Scott Base. Christopher is not a member of the OAEA so I will be sending Robert several OAEA info packages to send to Christopher and his wife who is also an OAEA.



**Gus Shinn And Karl Jackson**

Although OAEA President Laura Snow was not the designated speaker she wanted to say a few words about several of the programs that she does volunteer work for. Due to the low attendance she decided to hold her presentation in abeyance until the November meeting.

We did not hold a 50/50 raffle or a door price drawing.

Thanks to Sean Baker for taking candid photos of the attendees.

Our next meeting will be on Saturday 2 November.

**Side Bar—**During DF-II the USS *Brough* operated on picket station between New Zealand and the ice, going back to port just often enough to refuel. In the Roarin' Forties, the Furious Fifties and the Shriekin' Sixties she took a pounding. Once during October she rolled so heavily that her radar was damaged by seawater. Perhaps least mentioned in press notices, *Brough* was an unsung hero of Deep Freeze II. Her regularly schooled boat crews stood ready for five months to grab downed aviators from the sea. As the solitary US Navy unit in New Zealand's southernmost port, Dunedin, *Brough* was a perfect goodwill ambassador. And the liberty was great.



**Saturday 2 November 2013 Meeting**—35 members and guests showed up for a nice warm fall day. Our only first time attendee was Eleanor Feeney, wife of Ed. Two out-of-towners were in attendance. Bob Connor, long-haul trucker from Lake City Florida, and Kenn Saxman who again road his motorcycle from Saucier Mississippi. Life Associate Member Jerrie Fedor from Fairhope Alabama was in attendance. We hadn't seen Jerrie at a meeting since 2006.



**Kenn Saxman And Ken Pye**



**Bob Connor**

The OAEA President, Laura Snow arranged for Dana Cervantes, Program Manager of the Northwest Florida United Service Organization (USO), to be our guest speaker. Dana spoke about the USO in general and specifically about the three USO locations in our geographic area. One is located at NAS Pensacola, one at the Pensacola Airport, and the third at Eglin AFB. She passed out flyers and showed us several boxes of items. One was a Care Package that is send to deployed personnel and there was a Memory Box that is given to children who have lost a parent. The Memory Box contains a Grief Journal, a DVD titled *What on Earth do You do When Someone Dies*, a box

of colored pencils, several other booklets, and a mouse doll. Following Dana's presentation there was a question and answer session that she had to cut short because she had another engagement that she had to be at.

There being no other business our leader, Duck Talbert, started selling 50/50 raffle tickets while Sharon Preston distributed the door price tickets. Bob Mozesky was the winner



**Dana Cervantes Our Guest Speaker**



**DJ And Kenn's Motorcycle**

of the 50/50 drawing and he took home \$67 as his share. Walter Smith won the door prizes, consisting of a penguin pencil sharpener, an OAEA patch, and an OAEA lapel pin.

Thanks to everyone who attended and made this a great meeting. Also thanks to Duck and Sharon for their help with the raffles, and thanks to Sean Baker for taking the candid photos.

The next meeting will be on 7 December. Same place, same time. Until then IRYHAFS.



**Sharon Giving Grumpy Old Man His Door Prize Ticket. You Would Be Grumpy Too If You Had Hush-Puppy Crumbs In Your Beard**



**Saturday 7 December 2013 Meeting**—Only 20 members and guests showed up for the last meeting of the year on a cold and overcast day. Because we were collecting food and money for the local USO I was expecting a larger turnout. Two members, Les Liptak and Michael Moore only stayed long enough to drop off their donations because they had other commitments. Les also dropped off donations from Jimmie Baker who also had a prior commitment.

Two visitors, Ken and Sandra Massie, joined the OAEA as Associate Members. The Massie's are frequent customers at the Shrimp Basket and have know about our meetings for several years.



***New Members Ken And Sandra Massie***

Joyce Blackwelder couldn't make the meeting because she was ringing the bell for the Salvation Army, but she sent her son John Perry to make sure that Billy didn't get into too much trouble.

There wasn't anything else on the agenda, so as soon as everyone had a chance to eat lunch our leader Duck Talbert started distributing tickets for the door prize drawings and Pam Landy decided to hold a 50/50 drawing, so she started selling tickets.



***Door Prizes Lined Up On The Bar***

Billy Blackwelder donated three penguin cookie jars and Pam donated two penguin dip bowls with matching knives for the door prize drawings. The winners of the door prize

drawings were Raine Talbert, Gus Shinn, Billy Blackwelder, and Laura Snow. Billy Blackwelder gave his door prize to our waitress, Sarah. It must have been Blackwelder's lucky day as he also won the 50/50 drawing and donated his share (\$33) to the USO.



***Billy Blackwelder And Son John Perry With The 50/50 Raffle Ticket Bucket On Their Table***

I didn't make a list of who donated food and kitchen items for the USO, but it was enough to fill up Laura's SUV. Laura also reported that she had received \$463 in cash donations from attendees.

There was no further business so the meeting was adjourned. Thanks to Duck and Pam for conducting the drawings and thanks to Duck for taking photos of the meeting. Also thanks to Blackwelder and Pam for donating the door prize items.

The next meeting will be on Saturday 4 January at the Shrimp Basket.



***Laura Snow, Bob Mozesky, & Ranie Talbert***



***Bill Fazio Under The GCG Chapter Flag And Walter Smith Under The Mermaid Painting***





**OAEA FY2013 ACCOUNTING STATEMENT**

I certify that the attached report is a true accounting of financial transactions conducted by the Old Antarctic Explorers Association, Inc during FY 2013 (1 Oct 12 to 30 Sep 13) as of 30 September 2013

*Cyril Buehler*

Cyril Buehler  
Treasurer

FY 2013 ACCOUNTING STATEMENT			
INCOME		EXPENSE	
Donations	3691.00	Administration	2652.16
Newsletter	497.00	Office Supplies	402.63
Undesignated	1446.00	Office Equipment	79.99
Plaque	25.00	Advertising/Recruit	1601.14
Scholarships	1723.00	Postage	568.40
Dues	2581.00	Newsletter	3129.68
Life	2165.00	Web Page	259.88
Annual	270.00	Bank fee	12.00
Entrance Fee	146.00	Florida License	70.00
Transfer from Scholarship	1400.00	Scholarships	2500.00
Interest	20.48	Depreciation	910.76
Shipstore repay	1000.00	Transfer to Scholarships	
Reunion repay	2000.00		
Market Investments	5478.21		
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>16171.49</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>10444.40</b>
		<b>GAIN</b>	<b>LOSS</b>
		5727.09	
FINANCIAL STATUS OF OLD ANTARCTIC EXPLORERS ASSOCIATION, INC. AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 2013			
Summary Statement		Asset Distribution Statement	
Beginning Balance 10/1/12	52359.71	<b>Account</b>	<b>Tangible</b>
FY 2013 Transactions	5727.09	Bank Accounts	27604.79
Ending Balance 9/30/103	58086.80	Scholarship Mutual Funds	29482.01
		Shipstore	1000.00
		Totals	58086.80
MEMBERSHIP STATUS OF OLD ANTARCTIC EXPLORERS ASSOCIATION, INC.			
Total Membership all categories: 1866			
Memorial Members – 62      Commemorative Members – 65      Annual Members – 34			
Lifetime Members – 1477      Deceased Members – 228			