

Founded 30 November 1999



# EXPLORER'S GAZETTE

Published Quarterly in Pensacola, Florida USA for the Old Antarctic Explorers Association

Uniting All OAEs in Perpetuating the Memory of United States Involvement in Antarctica

Volume 18, Issue 2

Old Antarctic Explorers Association, Inc

Apr-Jun 2018



Waylon & Willie

Luckenbach Texas Post Office.

Photo by Joe Warne

## 9<sup>th</sup> OAEA Reunion 2018 San Antonio Texas

Reunion Reports Composed and Edited by Billy-Ace Baker

### MEETING REPORT

By Secretary Marty Diller

Unlike at all our previous OAEA reunions, there was no turnover of elected officers this time—the Board of Directors had cancelled the 2018 election of officers in response to a proposal by members at the 2016 Norwich, CT reunion. The Board amended the OAEA by-laws last

year so that elections now occur every four years instead of biennially. Some of the Board members did grumble about their terms of office being extended from six years to eight, and the vote to amend the by-laws was not unanimous.

Nevertheless, a majority of the 13 Board members attended this year's reunion and business was conducted as usual. At the first Officer's Meeting on Day One, Board

Continued on page 4

**PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

**Ed Hamblin—OAEA President**

**TO ALL OAES**—Welcome to summer! I trust by the time you are reading this; you will have had a safe 4th of July holiday.



From where I sit, there has been a lot of stuff going on in the last quarter since the previous issue of the *Gazette* hit the street. We had a great reunion in San Antonio, hosted by John Lamont West and a committee of folks that included Billy-Ace Baker, Joyce Hopkins, Pam Landy, and Maria Landy. It was a good time for sure!

I have continued efforts to get ready for a *Gazette* subscription service, which will initially be offered to our members without Internet access. The first mail out subscription solicitations will happen in the next few weeks, and my expectations are that we will be doing some *Gazette* mailings shortly after that.

In early April my wife and I went on a tour to South Africa and connected with one of our international members, Dr. Sydney Cullis. Article and pictures will be featured in the Aug-Jul issue of the *Gazette*.

We recently had two very generous \$500 scholarship donations, one from Life member Tom Dunn, and the other from Life member Dr. Wendy Bernstein in memory of John W. Goodman M.D. (brother of Life member Kelsey Goodman). OAEA Secretary Marty Diller has started to generate the reunion business paperwork for issues to be resolved before the next reunion. The OAEA scholarship chairman has received some scholarship packages. By the time you read this, this year's awards will already be decided and should be covered in the next issue. We have added 17 new members, including the guest speakers from the reunion. Life members Victor "Skip" Potts in the Tampa Bay area and Dr. Dewey Painter have both come forward to act as POCs for OAE social networks in their areas for informal social events, which I am assisting them with. So, plenty going on behind the scenes.

Reunions don't just happen. It takes a lot of folks who are willing to put "skin in the game" to bring a reunion home, including walk in volunteers to help with some of the small stuff and the day to day happenings at the reunions. With that said, our next event is slated for Jacksonville, FL in 2020. As of this writing, firm dates and venue are still to be announced; but will be posted in the *Gazette* when available. The Jax reunion chairman, Dr. Dewey Painter is working very close with the city of Jacksonville to get the most bang for the buck. Dr. Painter has an extensive background of working with non-profit organizations, and is able to bring some great new ideas to the table. OAEA Life member George Lusk volunteered to chair the 2022 reunion in San Diego, CA.

(Continued on page 3)



**GROWLERS & BERGY BYTES**

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

	<b>Page</b>
Cover Story— <b>San Antonio 2018 OAEA Reunion</b> .....	1, 4
Chesapeake, VA— <b>President's Corner</b> .....	2, 3
Centennial, CO— <b>Wright Returning to South Pole</b> .....	14
Here and There— <b>Feedback &amp; Letters to the Editor</b> .....	16
Pensacola, FL— <b>NSFA Last CMC</b> .....	23
West Jefferson, NC— <b>Lionel Wafer</b> .....	25
Pensacola, FL— <b>Post Cards From Antarctica</b> .....	28
Pensacola, FL— <b>Painted Ladies</b> .....	35
Here and There— <b>In Memory: Obituaries</b> .....	36
Virginia, Beach, VA— <b>Chaplain's Corner</b> .....	40
Hollywood, CA— <b>New Disney Penguin Film</b> .....	40
Chesapeake, VA— <b>Tidewater Group Meeting</b> .....	41
Pensacola, FL— <b>Tidal Cracks &amp; Sastrugi (Book)</b> .....	42
Brunswick, ME— <b>New England Chapter Meeting</b> .....	44
Pensacola, FL— <b>New Members &amp; Reunions</b> .....	46
Here and There— <b>Locator Column</b> .....	47
Pensacola, FL— <b>GCG Chapter Meetings</b> .....	50

**DISCLAIMER STATEMENT**

The Old Antarctic Explorers Association publishes the *Explorer's Gazette* quarterly. 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. In accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. Section 107, any copyrighted work in this newsletter is distributed under fair use without profit or payment for non-profit research and educational purposes only.



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  
John Stewart  
Pam Landy

**Editor Emeritus**

Jim O'Connell  
2001-2003

**Association Officers**

**President** – Ed Hamblin

**Vice President** – John Lamont West

**Secretary** – Marty Diller

**Treasurer** – Bill Rouzer

**Life Director** – Billy-Ace Baker

**Past President** – Laura Snow

**Director** – David Bresnahan

**Director** – Rob Buettner

**Director** – Allen Cox

**Director** – Wayne Germann

**Director** – Thomas Henderson

**Director** – Robert Conner

**Director** – William Smith

**Director** – Dick Spaulding

**Chaplain** – Johnnie Draughon

**Historian** – Billy-Ace Baker

**Parliamentarian** – Vacant

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

*(continued from page 2)*

One of our ongoing “issues” is how to keep in touch with the membership. The Webmaster maintains an email service for OAEA business emails that go out to the membership. Each time we send out an Association email to the general membership distribution, it is very frustrating to see the “unsubscribes,” or email bounces (non-delivery notices) that follow these. The Membership Chairman and the Webmaster work very hard to maintain up-to-date contact information, but that is only as good as what the membership provides. If email addresses change, please think to keep us in the loop. We may not find out about it for months, until we get a bounce...and then it costs us money to send out something via snail mail as verification.

I mentioned earlier about Skip Potts and Dewey Painter volunteering to set up OAEA social networks in their areas. If you are interested in doing something like this in your part of the country, let me know, and I will assist by sending an explanation along with your contact information via individual emails to all members located within approximately 100-mile radius from your address. (I know it sounds like a lot of work, but is quite simple using some mapping software and email merge in Word; and it protects privacy this way).

Anyone looking for a job with the OAEA? We are in need of a Museum Coordinator, and a By-Laws Committee Chairman. Contact me if you are interested; my email is [ehamblin74@verizon.net](mailto:ehamblin74@verizon.net).

Take care, stay safe for the summer. Catch you all later.

*Ed Hamblin*



**SAN ANTONIO**

**From Page 1**

members heard and accepted the Treasurer's report, and reports from the chairpersons of the Reunion, Merchandise, and Scholarship committees. These reports were also presented to the members at the General Membership meeting on Day Three. The most notable items of new business included:

Life member HMCM George Lusk, USN (Ret.), of Chula Vista, CA (NSFA Det Alfa, winter-over DF-75) volunteered to host the eleventh OAEA National Reunion in 2022. Watch future issues of the *Gazette* for details on the specific location and date for this event. Life member Dewey Painter (NSFA Det Alfa winter-over DF-73), Chairperson of the 2020 Reunion Committee, was present to update the members on the next OAEA reunion, planned for Jacksonville, FL. Dewey is currently considering proposals from four or five different venues that would like to host the event, and he expects to be able to choose the most ideal venue very soon. He hasn't settled on a date for the reunion yet, but he is considering the month of April because lower, off-season hotel room rates will be available then.



**George Lusk Before & After**



**Dewey Painter Before & After**

The 2018 Reunion Committee is struggling with their reunion finances due to lower than anticipated attendance. Lower reunion attendance numbers have occurred at every reunion since the first one in 2002, and future reunion committees will need to more carefully put together their reunion programs (and negotiate hotel and tour contracts) to deal with this hard reality. At the General Membership meeting, a member proposed that the OAEA provide funds to

help out the reunion committee with their bills, but Board members reminded attendees that under the IRS Code, the OAEAs tax-exempt status as a charitable nonprofit organization prohibits the use of its funds for the benefit of its members. For that reason, our by-laws do not allow OAEA funds to be used for any reunion costs other than incidental costs involving the coordination of business meetings. Members are encouraged to donate directly to the reunion committee for the benefit of all attendees. Further, the Board would like to hear suggestions and recommendations from members on how to increase attendance.

Unfinished business that will be conducted by the Board over the next few months includes some changes in the administration of annual scholarship awards, and some additional amendments to the OAEA by-laws.

**Reunion Minutes**—Details on officer and committee reports, and other OAEA business conducted at the reunion, can be found in the Minutes of the two officer meetings and the General Membership meeting. The three sets of Minutes are published separately and are available on the OAEA website for viewing and printing.

**Memory Book**—The Reunion Committee contracted with Reunion Photographers of Rancho Cucamonga, CA, to publish and mail out the 2018 OAEA Reunion Memory Book. Billy-Ace Baker handled the editor duties for the committee, and coordinated with the publisher to include candid photos taken by OAEA members. In addition, the RP photographer assigned to take portrait photos of attendees also took a number of candid shots during the banquet on the last night of the reunion. Bev and Marty Diller helped out the committee by collecting Memory Book and photograph order forms (and payment) from the attendees. As in previous reunions the portrait photos were scheduled immediately before the



**Memory Book**

social hour leading up to the formal banquet. With attendees dressed in their finest for the banquet, what better time to pose for a portrait photo? By controlling access to the bar and banquet tables – requiring attendees to pass through the photo area to get to the bar – maximum participation in the portrait process for the Memory Book was almost guaranteed. The bad news is that the paperwork involved and payment process for ordering the Book and/or photos can easily create a traffic back-up, keeping attendees from posing for the portrait so they could move along to the bar. Thanks to pre-reunion preparation by B-A (he pre-printed address labels for all the forms needed by the attendees) the paperwork and payment process was almost seamless and irritating delays were pretty much avoided. After the last portrait photo was taken, the completed forms and all payments were handed off to the photographer, and the Dillers were able to find the last available adjacent banquet seats to dine together. Even if you

weren't able to attend, 2018 OAEA Reunion Memory Books (\$25) and photos can be ordered online as long as they are still in RP's inventory. To order call 714-265-3638, or to order online: [www.reunionphotographers.net](http://www.reunionphotographers.net).

**Editor's Note: Things did not go as well as we thought. There were 43 portraits taken by RP. And there were 40 portraits that were not taken by RP. This included 16 cancellations and no shows. At some point in time another door to the banquet room was opened on the other side of the wall where Bev & Marty had their table set up with the photographer cards and order forms.**

## THE PRESIDENTS REUNION REPORT

*By Ed Hamblin*

Any reunion done in San Antonio is bound to be good; San Antonio is an iconic city I enjoy visiting. For me, there is something new every time I visit

I had three assigned parts to play. I had been approached by Pam Landy and asked if I would emcee as required. It seems like I always have something to say about anything, so that was a good fit. Anne Hazard had asked me to do the Memorial Service, as she wouldn't be able to make the reunion, and so I took that on; I had previously done one at our Norfolk reunion in 2014. And as president of the OAEA, I had several "official" functions to fill, chairing two business meetings and the general membership meeting. I also assisted the committee chairman with shopping for the hospitality room. So for me, it was a busy reunion; but I did manage to carve out one day to be a participant with an all day tour and a tour supper out. I also had time for three "off-site" lunches; you have all heard of Tex-Mex food, would you believe there is an Italian-Mex food place in San Antonio? And best of all, within walking distance of the reunion hotel.

The speakers were excellent, and it was a great move by the committee to have one from a science discipline, and one from a more "blue collar" perspective.

**I Survived**



The 2018 OAEA Reunion



**Entrance to Guillermo's Italian-Mex Restaurante**



**Decorations in the Lobby of Guillermo's**

I also found this reunion was a chance to score some excellent pens; several attendees who have other business interests provided me with business pens.

Good reunion!

**9TH ANNUAL  
OAEA REUNION**

**SAN ANTONIO  
RIVER WALK**



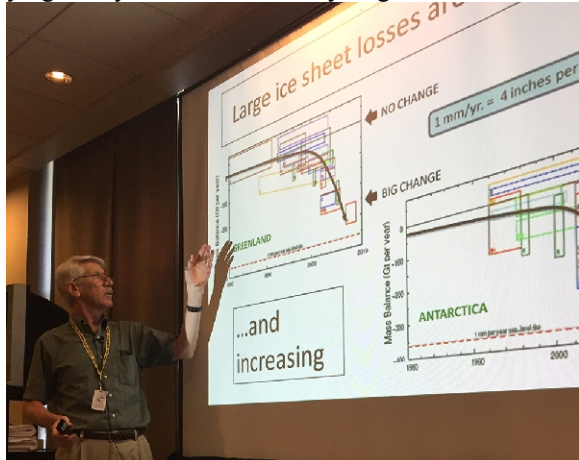
**Diana Shields, Brad Miller, Karla Japzon, and Gary Skaar Call Out The Names Of The Memorial Members While Ed Hamblin (center) Operates the PowerPoint Program**

**GUEST SPEAKERS**

*By Elaine Hood*

Three OAEs were invited to give presentations at the reunion, providing a diverse trio of topics with the common theme of Antarctica.

The keynote speaker to kick off the OAEA reunion was Dr. Robert Bindschadler, retired glaciologist from NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. Bob gave an informative presentation explaining climate science. Bindschadler has made 18 research trips to both Greenland and Antarctica, studying the dynamics and stability of glaciers.



**Guest Speaker Robert Bindschadler**

He began with a thorough review of the causes of carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere over earth's history with the explanation of how today's high levels are tied unequivocally with human carbon emissions. Carbon dioxide is directly tied to the global warming temperatures and acceleration of polar ice loss. As Bob said, when he began graduate school it was thought that all glaciers moved slowly, but in recent years scientists have observed glaciers that are moving (melting) by several feet per day and reacting much faster to environmental changes that expected was possible.



**Since Bob was not going to be able to stay for the banquet he was presented with an OAEA Life Membership. Here he is shown with the certificate along with Elaine Hood and Dick Cameron**

The study of glacial stability involves not only air temperature, but also the dynamics of other factors including the circumpolar Southern Ocean, wind direction and speed, and the characteristics of the terrain below the glaciers. To illustrate this, Bob had several volunteers stand in front of the audience to act out each role of Mother Nature—wind, ocean, ice shelf, Antarctic continent, and glacial ice. As the wind (my role!) blew against the Southern Ocean (Elizabeth Bindschadler) the water eroded the ice shelf (Andy Cameron), which allowed the glacier (Dick Cameron) to flow quickly down the downward sloping continent.

Bob's expertise was welcomed and he generously answered dozens of questions following his excellent talk.

Elaine Hood (me, author of this article), communications manager for the Antarctic Support Contract to the US Antarctic Program, gave a high level overview of what the USAP is like today. A quick update on the three research stations was followed with a fun video illustrating the McMurdo to South Pole traverse which hauls 300,000 gallons of fuel to Pole every austral summer.



**Elaine has everyone's attention**

An overview of some of the scientific research included short videos about Weddell seal research, ice coring in West Antarctica, and the instability of the West Antarctic glaciers. I explained that the US and British Antarctic programs will be cooperating over the next few years to study the stability of Thwaites Glacier.



**On the left: Elaine starting her presentation. Below: one of her slides.**



I ended my presentation by showing the trailer for the Disney Nature film about Adelie penguins that was filmed at Cape Crozier and in other parts of Antarctica. This fun

documentary will premier in theaters on Earth Day in April 2019. <https://nature.disney.com/penguins>. See page 40 for more on the Earth Day Disney Penguin film. Another web page on the subject: <http://www.slashfilm.com/penguins-trailer/>.

Allison Barden, aka Sandwich Girl, wrapped up the reunion presentations with a fun and funny description of how she first went to McMurdo Station in 2003 to wash dishes. It was actually the bowling alley in McMurdo that drew her attention and a decision to go bowling on all seven continents. She returned the next few austral summer seasons, took a few years off, and then returned as a science team member helping with fish research.



**Sandwich and Bryan. She is holding her sandwich purse and the purse is prominently displayed in the slide.**

Contrary to popular lore, she did not acquire her nickname Sandwich Girl due to making sandwiches in the galley, which she did do (her second season). Her nickname came from a sandwich "purse" she found at a second hand store years before ever going to Antarctica. That sandwich purse goes everywhere with her.

The audience cheered when she showed photos of her marriage to her husband Bryan, which took place during their 2013 winter in McMurdo.



**Sandwich and Bryan getting married in Scott's Hut**

Hopefully, the three presentations brought back some fond memories about what makes working in Antarctica such a special experience.

## RAFFLES & DOOR PRIZES

*By Joyce Hopkins*

At the 9<sup>th</sup> OAEA Reunion in San Antonio, we ran a 50/50 raffle and a merchandise raffle. Tickets for both were \$1.00 each. A total of \$1549 was raised. The money went to the reunion's general fund.

The 50/50 raffle contributed \$915. One ticket was drawn with the winner getting 50% of the total. Life Member Bob Gaboury of Camarillo, California held the winning ticket. He generously donated his winnings back to John Lamont West, Reunion Chairman.

OAEA members donated a number of items for the merchandise raffle. These were organized into 32 multiple-item lots. Billy-Ace Baker made a number of wooden plaques (some with OAEA logo, others with reunion logo). Most of the other items were penguin



**Gabby presenting the winning 50/50 ticket to Brad Miller**

related, including stuffed penguins, figurines, and books. Joyce Hopkins donated two Christmas baskets. Tom Henderson donated several copies of the *Ice Eagles* DVD he produced on aviation in the Antarctic. The item collecting the most tickets was a framed picture of an LC-130 Hercules sitting on the ice, with a dog team approaching. The merchandise raffle raised \$634.



**The Herk and the dogs raffle item. Donated by Billy-Ace and won by Guy Sublet**

Thanks to Brad Miller and Sharon Preston for helping me to organize the displays and selling tickets throughout the reunion. Also thanks to everyone who donated items for the raffle and door prizes.



Penguin figurines and wooden six-pack crate with handle and opener.



OAEA Plaque with San Antonio reunion logos. Built and donated by Billy-Ace. Won by Rob Buettner

**Editor's Note:** There were a number of other items donated that were deemed to be too numerous for the raffles. Most of these items were used for door prizes. A number of patches, coins, and South Pole certificates that were donated by past OAEA President Jerry Marty were displayed at the registration desk on a donation basis. The cash donations totaled \$104.



Plaques, books, Christmas Basket & Penguin Blanket. Two Christmas Penguin Baskets were donated by Joyce Hopkins. Winners of the baskets were the Preston's and Phil & Lavonne Holloway



San Antonio Reunion plaque & Penguin purse  
Plaque won by Grant Nelson.  
Purse won by Marilyn Draughton



Tall stuffed penguin and Antarctica a Year on Ice  
Won by the Prestons



Sample of Patches Donated by Jerry Marty



## MEMORIAL SERVICE

*By Billy-Ace*

Normally Anne Hazard writes the Memorial Service report. However, due to Dave's health they were unable to attend the 2018 reunion. As usual Anne and I coordinated the Memorial Service by email until around the time I departed Pensacola for San Antonio.

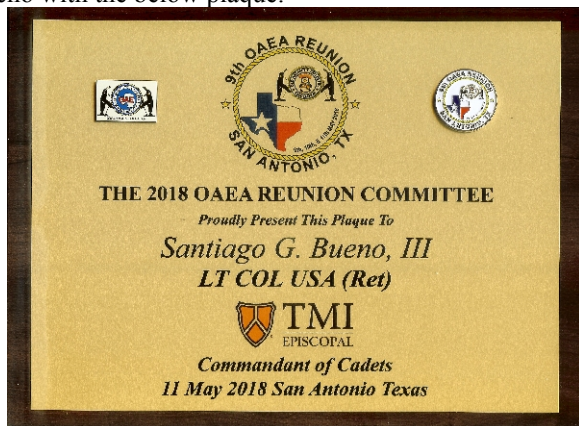
One of the first things on the to do list was to update the list of personnel who died or were killed in Antarctica while participating in the United States Antarctic Program. The updating process includes adding names of new fatalities—there was one name added since the 2016 reunion. Other updates included corrections of minor details on the existing list. And the most ambitious update has been the adding of photographs of the Antarctic fatalities.

The process to add photos to the fatalities presentation started following the 2010 San Antonio reunion. Since then we have added 30 photos to the ceremony. There are currently 66 names on the list, so we still have 36 photos to locate.

The next step was to recruit a Master of Ceremonies, a Honor Guard, and four volunteers to call out the names of the fatalities from the four corners of the meeting room. Pam Landy was tasked with recruiting the MC and the name-callers. While the 2018 Reunion Committee Chairman, John Lamont West was tasked with providing the color guard.

John Lamont West contacted several organizations to provide an Honor Guard to present and retire the colors at the General Membership Meeting. These included the VFW Post 76, the TMI (Texas Military Institute), and the Southside High School. In the end LTC Bueno and the TMI ROTC Color Guard accepted the invitation.

As a token of appreciation John Lamont presented Lt Col Bueno with the below plaque.



**Plaque awarded to Commandant Bueno**

One thing that Anne asked me about, and that I forgot to do, was a bell ringer. To symbolize the fact that the members of the Antarctic Memorial Honor Roll came from the “four corners of the earth”, one OAE stands in each corner of the room. The four corners represent the North, South, East, and West. In a clockwise rotation the names are read. (See photos of the memorial service on page 5). A bell is rung after each

name is read. In the past Dave Hazard was the bell ringer. And he brings the bell with him. At the last moment there was a big scramble. The hotel staff found a small bell for us. It didn't sound as good as Dave's bell, but it served the purpose. The bell can be seen on the table between the flag bearers in the photo below.

The ceremony began when OAEA President Ed Hamblin asked the members to stand as the Texas Military Institute Honor Guard presented the colors. The colors were posted after the “Pledge of Allegiance” was recited. OAEA Chaplain Johnnie Draughon followed with the invocation.



**Attention to colors?**



**Let us pray .....**



**Present Colors. Note the bell on the table**



**Retire Colors**

The 2018 OAEA Reunion officially began with the Memorial Service. In this special ceremony held at every

reunion, we honor and remember those who have lost their lives in the exploration of the Antarctic continent, or its offshore islands and waters.

The next part of the memorial service is called the "Bell Ceremony." This is a very solemn part of the memorial service. For this ceremony, four OAEA members—designated Readers—are positioned in each of the four corners of the room. This symbolizes the fact that the members of the Antarctic Memorial Honor Roll came from the four corners of the earth ... the North, the South, the East, and the West. Rotating clockwise in turn, the Readers announce the names of the deceased. A bell is rung after each name is read.

PLEASE NOTE:

We have begun the process of adding photographs of the Memorial Members

At the moment we do not have pictures for all the Memorial Members. Should you have pictures of any of the Memorial Members, please email them to Anne Hazard at [ahazard68@gmail.com](mailto:ahazard68@gmail.com).

We hope to have pictures for all the Memorial Members in the near future.  
We thank you for your help with this endeavor.

**The Memorial Service PowerPoint Presentation**



**AMH1 William Chastain who was killed in a P2V crash at Wilkes Station on 9 November 1961. Photo on the right from the DF-61 Cruise book. On the left an earlier photo of Chastain which is the one in the PowerPoint presentation.**

At the conclusion of the Bell Ceremony, members had time to reflect and remember those who gave their lives in the exploration of the Antarctic. Many also reflected upon their own experiences on the "ICE" as "Antarctic Reflections" was played. Many felt deep emotions as they remembered.

Chaplain Draughon concluded the service with a Benediction. See the Chaplain's report on page 40.

## MERCHANDISE REPORT

*By Pam Landy*

As the 2018 Reunion Merchandise Chairman I ordered six dozen T-shirts and have a handful left. The Welcome aboard bags, mouse pads, key chain ornaments, coins, and pins are a different story. We have a lot of these items left over. We ordered 175 each in order to get a cost break. If you wish to purchase any the OAEA Webmaster, Bob Gaboury, has them listed. Go to the OAEA Internet site at: <https://www.oaea.net>.



**Sales Table showing Welcome Aboard bag and contents. And the reunion T-shirts.**

I was also tasked with making the centerpieces for the banquet tables. The little Mexican penguin was a big hit at the 2010 San Antonio reunion, so the committee decided that I should do it again. I was not able to find a penguin that was identical to the ones that I used in 2010. However they were a big hit with the attendees. Because of the low attendance at the reunion there were five extra penguins and the extras were raffled off.

I appreciate my daughter Maria for making Permanent Resident cards for Pedro the Penguin, and for handling the sales table, so I could gad about with my friends.



**Maria Landy after a stressful day on the sales table**

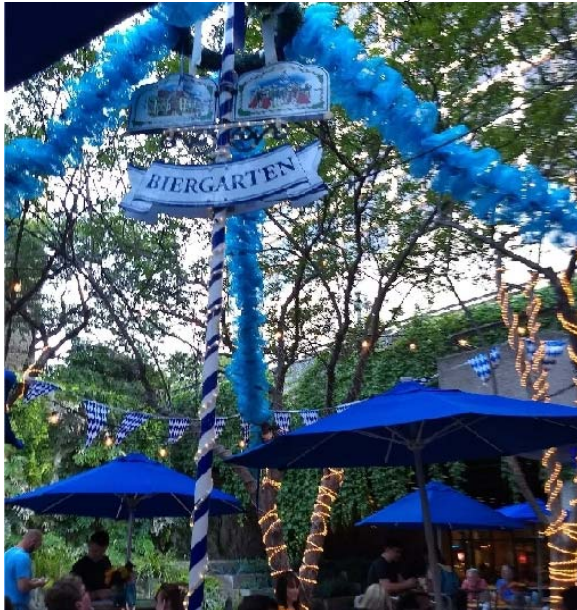


**Pedro after a stressful evening on the banquet table**

## TOURS REPORT

*By LCDR Viktor Offshodefor*

Originally there were six tours scheduled for the reunion. However, one of the tours, the SAS/Market Square tour was cancelled due to lack of participation. Only seven people signed up for it. The seven were offered the opportunity to switch to the Missions tour. The most popular, and most expensive, tour was the German Society Beer Garden tour. The beer garden tour was the only one that I signed up for, and I did not think it was worth the money or the time.



*In the Beer Garden Patio*



*Linda Hamblin, Bev & Marty Diller, and George and Laura Lusk seated inside the Beer Garden*



*Some of us were seated outside at the Beer Garden. Joyce Hopkins, unknown, Bill & Coco Rouzer*

I will not mention his name, but one of our members signed himself and his three guests up for all six of the tours. That did not work out too well because two of the tours were scheduled for the same time frame.

Although the Alamo was not on the tour agenda a number of attendees did visit the most famous site in Texas history.



*Bill Spindler at the Alamo. Looks like it was getting dark.*

A Riverwalk boat tour was not included in the events schedule, but a few people did take the Riverwalk Water Taxi on their own tour and a few others actually went on a Riverwalk. I was in a group of eight who walked down the river looking for a place to eat lunch. It was tiring and we got lost. Not on the river, but after we went up to street level looking for a place to eat. It was a long and tiring walk on a hot humid day.



*The Shuttle Boat or Water Taxi*

Tom Henderson and Millie Eidson sent me some photos that they took at the reunion several were taken at the Japanese Tea Garden that was part of the spouses and guests city tour. The photo below of a young lady being photographed at the Japanese Tea Garden was one of those photos. I did not know what to make of it, so I had to ask Tom and Millie if the young lady was getting married or if she was the Fiesta Queen. It turned out that both of my guesses were incorrect. Tom informed me that she was having photos taken for her 15<sup>th</sup> birthday *quinceañera* celebration. Right—that was a new one on me so I googled it.

The fiesta de quinceañera, is a celebration of a girl's 15<sup>th</sup> birthday. It has its cultural roots in Latin America but is widely celebrated today throughout the Americas. The girl celebrating her 15th birthday is a quinceañera. In English, primarily in the United States, the term is used to refer to the celebrations associated with the birthday.

The grandest parties are comparable to the debutante balls formerly held in the United Kingdom and the United States. The celebrations themselves vary significantly in different countries; nowadays, the quinceañera is also celebrated by many Latino Americans in the United States, each according to their respective national traditions.



**The young lady having photos taken for her 15<sup>th</sup> birthday**

### ATTENDANCE REPORT

*By Billy-Ace*

There were 95 attendees registered for the Reunion. However when I was preparing the memory book I included photos of 67 individuals and a dog that posed for the memory book photographers. I also included the photos of 28 attendees who did not pose for the photographers. That accounts for the 95 registered attendees. In addition I included photos of 23 individuals who did not attend the reunion for several reasons, but mostly due to health issues. These numbers were nowhere near the number of attendees that we were expecting and had planned for.

### MEMORY BOOK

*By Billy-Ace Penguin*

By the time you read this you should be in possession of the 2018 San Antonio Reunion Memory Book. However, if you did not order a copy, the books are still available and you may order one as long as they last. See the ordering instructions on page 5 on the top of the first column

Due to generous donations I was able to add extra pages to the memory book for a total of 24 pages. I would like to thank those individuals who made this possible with their donations:

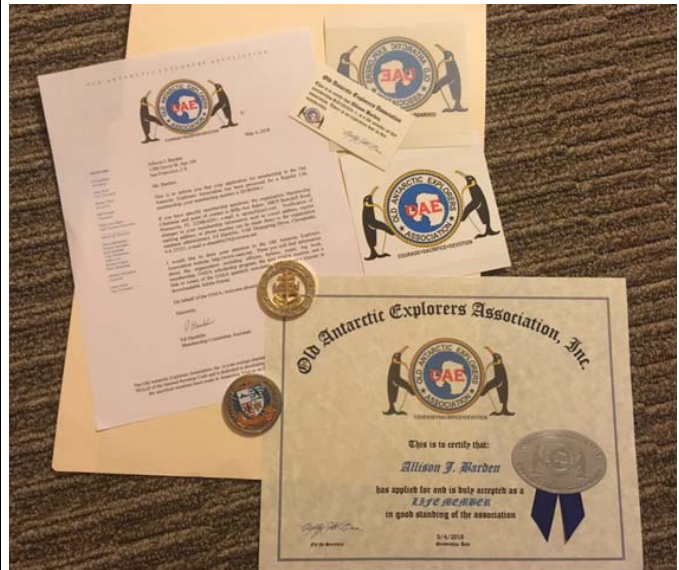
- |                 |                  |                |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| Leslie Abbott   | Billy-Ace Baker  | Rob Buettner   |
| The Draughton's | Jim Drummond     | Tom Dunn       |
| Tim Fogler      | Bob Gaboury      | The Hamblin's  |
| Phil Holloway   | Elaine Hood      | Pam Landy      |
| Brad Miller     | John Morrow      | Grant Nelson   |
| Eugene Roberts  | The Schleining's | Chris Shepherd |
| Tracy Smith     | Dick Spaulding   | Bill Spindler  |
| Guy Sublet      | The John West's  | Sedge West     |
| The White's     |                  |                |

Thanks again to everyone. If I left anyone out please let me know.

### MISC REPORT

*By Nogard Rellik*

As was mentioned in Elaine Hood's Guest Speakers Report The 2018 reunion committee presented Bob Bindschadler with Life Membership in the OAEA. (See photo on page 6). Allison Barden, The Sandwich Girl was likewise presented with Life membership. Since Elaine Hood was already a Life Member, the 2018 reunion committee honored her with a plaque. Which was mailed to her after the reunion.



**Allison's Membership Certificates and stuff**



**Elaine with her plaque**



**Allison proudly waving her OAEA membership certificate. Note her sandwich purse.**

We had one registered member who was unable to show up for the reunion until Saturday morning when we were checking out and saying good-bye to our old ice mates. Alex Merkle could not make it because of a medical emergency. No, it's not what you think. Alex did not have a personal emergency, but he was on call at one of the local hospitals and he had to assist with a surgery.

Alex served as the USAP contractor Medical Officer at the Pine Island Glacier deep field camp during the summer of DF-12 (Dec 2011–Feb 2012).

The article, and the photos, below reveals something about Alex and his wife:

Alex Merkle, a researcher deploying to Antarctica was given a colorful, cuddly onesie by his forward thinking wife to keep him warm in the harsh conditions. Not only a great gift to cheer up the time away but warm as well!... which is important as Alex is part of a team attempting to drill through a glacier to place an instrument package, the location of which means he is living in an igloo during his stay!

Alex said "I thank my onesie every night for keeping me warm. Thanks for a great product!".

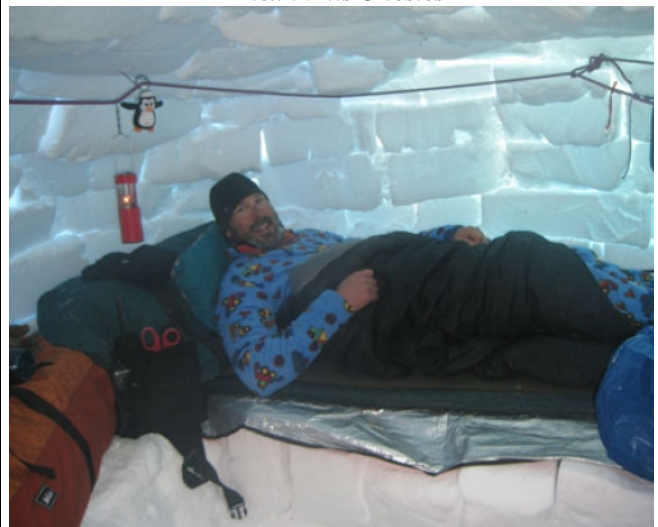


**Alex in his Onesies**



**Alex dressed for work and ready to go outside**

**February 3rd, 2012**—What's the best present you can think of when the temperature hits minus 20 degrees? For one Antarctic doctor we know it's a fantastic All-in-One onesie!



**Alex in his sleeping bag in his igloo**

# WAYNE WHITE GOING BACK TO THE SOUTH POLE

By Elaine Hood

**"To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield," is the famous quote from Sir Alfred Lord Tennyson's *Ulysses*, describing the mythical hero's desire to spend his life exploring.**

It is also Wayne White's motto in life. White was the 2017 and will be the 2019 South Pole Station Winter Site Manager, a position that is quite fitting for him, managing a team of around 45 people.

Wayne White is a new member of OAEA and he and his wife made their first reunion in San Antonio.



**Wayne & Mellisa**



**Wayne & Billy-Ace**

A life devoted to exploration has led Wayne White to every exotic and remote place on Earth. Recreational trips to Haiti to learn about Voodoo, the Amazon jungle to acquire a poison dart gun, six expeditions to New Guinea where he trekked solo through mountains for hundreds of miles, as well as trips to Borneo, sub-Saharan Africa, Egypt, and India really only scratch the surface of Wayne's four decades of travel. Work assignments relocated him to Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Alaska, and Diego Garcia...and now, of course, Antarctica.



**Wayne in New Guinea**



**Wayne at the South Pole in his Amundsen survival gear**

His Texas home rivals any museum with artifacts gathered from his travels. His wife patiently endures the latest historic autograph or clay pot brought back home. "As long as she can shut the door to the 'museum rooms' in our house, she is fine with it," he jokes.

The man cannot sit still. Nothing yields him.

And that is even true for the long dark South Pole winter, where the sun sets on March 22 and does not peer above the horizon again until September 22.

Wayne White did not sit still during his 2017 winter at Pole. He was outside every single day either walking or running three miles a day on the polar plateau that is more than 9,000 feet above sea level. Yes, that is an outdoor exercise regimen in temperatures that exceed -100F.



**Wayne walking**

"I have been logging my running miles for the last 35 or so years and am over 40,000 miles as of a year or two ago."

At mid-winter in 2017 White said, "I have run and walked outside more than 800 miles since I arrived at the Pole last austral summer in November. At present my outdoor activity is walking which is a challenge as I do three miles a day every day (and then a morning interior hallway walk of 3 miles prior to work). The coldest outdoor temperatures I've experienced so far were close to -100F. It's fascinating with the combination of total darkness or the moon and the auroras. What I am most interested in this season is

understanding the outside conditions here and how best to deal with it. It is all part of the adventure.”

White ended up walking or running close to 1,500 miles outside at Pole by the time he left. He is now looking forward to returning to the South Pole in late October for another year.

“Meeting so many interesting people in San Antonio really affected me in a positive way. I plan to incorporate more history into the 2019 winter season, to be sure the wintering crew understand more about what the men and women who came before them accomplished.”



**Wayne trophy room in his Texas house. Not a penguin to be found**

## THE GEOGRAPHIC SOUTH POLE

*By Billy-Ace*

While searching the Internet for another photo or two in order to completely fill up this page I found a story about the 2017 moving of the Geographic South Pole location.

The ice sheet on which South Pole Station is built moves about 30 feet per year in a northerly direction towards the Weddell Sea. Therefore the position of the station and other artificial features relative to the geographic pole gradually shift over time.

The geographic South Pole is marked by a stake in the ice alongside a sign. These are repositioned each year in a ceremony on New Year's Day to compensate for the movement of the ice.



**The New Years Day ceremony. The first step—moving the sign**

The winter-over crew designs a new marker each year. The marker for 2017 was designed by fire tech Warren Shipley, and fabricated by machinist Matthew Krahn.



**Wayne White about to unveil the marker**



**The marker unveiled 1 January 2017—yet another novel concept—detailed engraving and an ecliptic**

# FEEDBACK & LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Good afternoon "Nice Chief"

Billy thank you for taking my call. Great *Gazette* as always! As we discussed on the call, I would like you to change my name back to Rob in the Board Members section. As you requested here is some info and a picture of Bob/dad. The picture is of the "real Bob Buettner" with the Helo Pad behind him. I am thinking this picture must be circa 1972-1973 since there are UH1s on the pad. Dad was the original support contract manager for H&N from 1969 to 1975. Bob/dad's first deployment was in 1968 for contract proposal development and bidding. I am not sure if Bob/dad deployed in 1975 prior to his passing. I was on shipboard and underway most of that year. Bob/dad had lots of management assignments within H&N during his time with the company. He started with H&N in 1956 in a management position on the Pacific Missile Range Project, various projects in Hawaii and the Marshals, and Vietnam. His last assignment with H&N was the Project Manager for the H&N portion of the Antarctic program. Of all the programs/projects that he worked on, he loved the Antarctic program as we all do.

I came into the program via NSFA Communications in late 1977-82 and then another tour in NSFA 86-90 and retired from the USN in late 1993. Today I am still working and having fun. See you in San Antonio.

Rob Buettner  
[buettner1@earthlink.net](mailto:buettner1@earthlink.net)



**Bob/dad Buettner**



Dear Editor:

In volume 17 (Jul-Sep issue) of the *Explorer's Gazette*, you published my father's obituary:

"OAE Vestal. L. "Pappy" Yeats, 98, died on 28 July 2017, in **Indianapolis, IN**. **Pappy served in Antarctica with Operation Highjump. Unit unknown.** Pappy later made three trips (1962-65) to Antarctica with the **University of Texas** mapping areas of the Shackleton and Beardmore Glaciers. Yeats Glacier is named in his honor."

The bold sections are incorrect: he died in Lubbock, TX; was not part of Operation Highjump; and his trips to Antarctica were from Texas Tech, not UT. (He was a professor of geology at Tech).

Regards,

Austin Yeats  
[austin\\_yeats@yahoo.com](mailto:austin_yeats@yahoo.com)



**Pappy Checking A Rock**

**Editor's Note: My bad. I don't know how I screwed up Pappy's obit, but I offer my apologies and condolences to Austin and his family.**

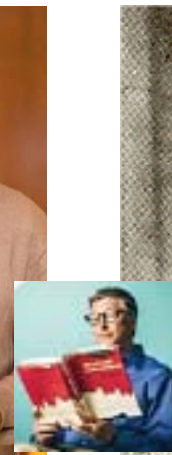
Via FaceBook:

Slight problem on page 17 of the Jan-Mar *Gazette* the bottom right photo caption is incorrect as that is Bill Gates holding a copy of John Brooks' book.

Jay Anthony



**Bill Gates?**



**Bill Gates By Anthony**



**John Brooks**

**Editor's Note: They look a lot alike to me. Thanks for your constructive criticism Even though you used the wrong photo of Gates.**



Billy-Ace

Had a wonderful time at the Reunion. Great to see old friends, and make new ones.

The "Ice" updates by the speakers were super. The Reunion Committee did an excellent job.

Kudos to all.

Jerry Schleining-Sr  
jerry.schleining@gmail.com

Billy Ace:

I want you to know how much I appreciate your dedication to this fine & Special Organization!! I also want to share with you a "Special Happening" for my grandson Philip H Dieckhoff III & his school classmates. When his class was studying Antarctica and he mentioned that his great grandfather went there on an expedition! Of course the classmates didn't believe him so I mentioned to him to go to the National Geographic site online and pull up his great grandfathers name as he has a mountain in Antarctica named after him. So he pulled up ADC Frederick J. Ferrara, USN and the facts came up for him to print out to show his class.

Needless to say they were impressed and his teacher was also! And my grandson was so proud too.

God bless the men and women who have all been and are today a part of the continued exploration of Antarctica!

Sincerely,

Charlotte (Ferrara) Dieckhoff  
[char.dieckhoff@gmail.com](mailto:char.dieckhoff@gmail.com)



"Amen" was the first major aircraft to land at Little America V, touched down at 8:40 pm on 9 January 1956. Plane crew L/R: ADC F.J. Ferrara, PHC J.O. Hill, PH2 W.P. Lyons, & LT Ellena. Ferrara inset.

**Editor's Note: There are five men in the photo, but only four names. Maybe the other crewmember was another PH? Mount Ferrara, in the Pensacola Mountains was named in Chief Ferrara's honor.**

Hi Billy-Ace

Thanks for the article and pictures in the Jan-Mar issue of the *Gazette* about when I produced the Deep Freeze cruise book and shipped a few penguins to the Oregon Zoo.

I appreciated your hospitality when I attended the Reunion in Pensacola a few years ago. Best to you and all our fellow Antarctic explorers at 84.

Morton Beebe  
Morton.beebe@gmail.com

Billy:

The newsletter is great. Keep up the great work. Thanks for sharing.

Joe Besse  
joebesse@aol.com

Vik,

Really enjoyed the latest *Gazette*. Very varied. Very big. You did a great job. You're best yet. You're a card, Mate, a card. The Billy-Ace of Spades

Jack Leroux from Woolamalloo  
brigadoon@skybest.com

Billy-Ace:

I have been given to understand that the Rastrics, James and Doreen and son James have passed away. Can you possibly get conformation on this? Thanks and how are you doing? Its been a coon's age since we talked.

James Brown  
billbcec1@charter.net

**Editor's Note: Doreen Rastrick, died in Dec 2015 in Christchurch. Her husband, Gerald was still alive at that time. No information found on James**

Aloha Billy-Ace,

Another great *Gazette*!

First I heard of Choyce crossing over the bar. His obit and condolences are still on the Internet. I just added my comments.

I last saw Choyce at the 2010 Reunion in San Antonio. Emailed for a year or two and he dropped out... I figured he was a goner then. Surprised he lasted so long. He was not in good health at the Reunion, could no longer drive. Maureen was driving all the way to/fm San Antonio.

Please send me Maureen Prewitt's address so I can send a card.

Aloha

Bruce DeWald  
bdewald63@gmail.com

**Editor's Note: Choyce was also at the 2012 San Diego reunion, but he traveled on AMTRAK and Maureen did not attend.**

Hi Billy,

I found out that Elaine Houser passed away on March 20, 2018. Billy Spindler put the info on a Facebook post. He got his info from Elaine Hood who was notified it appears by Wendy Elaine Houser's daughter.

Do you have a phone number for Elaine Hood? I would like to see if she has contact info for Wendy so that I could send condolences to her and her family. Elaine was a very special person in my family's life. My Dad and Elaine his secretary at that time started the H&N relationship with NSF from a small office suite in LA down the road from the H&N corporate office and things grew from there. Thank you for your assistance. Regards,

Rob Buettner  
buettner1@earthlink.net

**Editor's Note: Elaine Houser's obit is in this issue of the Gazette on page 37. She was not a member of the OAEA.**

Dear Billy-Ace Baker,

I'm putting my membership application in the mail. I got carried away and wordy in my Antarctic narrative. Just finished it up today.

Have a great reunion in May. Most probably I will be able to attend the next; just getting out from under a sale of a house and I'm cleaning up some bills. Give my regards to anyone who may remember me.

Cheers!

Starr Seesler  
sseesler@yahoo.com

Billy-Ace,

Grammar thug here... FYI "Remember YOU'RE a paid member." That is all... Keep up the fine work.

John McMahon  
W/O 73 & 77  
johnmac6016@att.net



John DF-77

**Editor's Note: It was the Webmaster, Gabby, who made the grammar mistake. Not I.**

Hello

With great regrets I am not going to be able to attend the San Antonio Reunion. I am dealing with a heart arrhythmia that won't go away.

I hope you have a very good reunion and maybe I can make the next one.

Merlin Allshouse  
[merlina46@outlook.com](mailto:merlina46@outlook.com)

Billy-Ace,

I have read it (the *Gazette*) from top to bottom.

It was great to have my friend, Suellen Leugers, attend the meeting with me. She and I stayed at Adm. Byrd's Beaconhill brownstone when the basement was a Vacation Rental by Owner. The London owners happened to be there and they gave us a tour of the three floors above our "lowly" maid's quarters. They told us that they caught whiffs of pipe smoke and Juicy Fruit gum in the library on damp days. Byrd's men met there to plan their expeditions.

Have fun at your reunion!

Sarah Gillens  
sarah.gillens@comcast.net

Editor:

I just saw a dear friend and buddy's name in the latest issue of the newsletter. He is and always will be Fred Overson. I flew with him as crew on "Pegasus" the Connie, in 1963 and 1964. His passing leaves a hole in my bucket of memories I have of my time is VX-6. I will miss you Freddie. Godspeed.

Gordon Williams  
will.go70@hotmail.com

Hi Billy-Ace

Thank you for putting all this together and holding the flag! It's great to meet you several months ago.

BTW, How is Gus Shinn doing? If you see him tell him hello for me.

Stan Foster  
stanpcb@aol.com

**The below 15 posts are from the OAEA web site Guest Book**

Jon Cook wrote:

Served aboard USS *Atka* Operation Deep Freeze 66, I am remembering a shipmate who crossed the bar this past year, Stephen Kapantais.

Jon Cook  
Joncook654@gmail.com



Stephen from his obit



Stephen from DF-66

**Editor's Note: Stephen was a Life Member of the OAEA. His death notice is on page 37 of this issue.**

Michael Mudey wrote:

As usual, the newsletter is informational and up to date.

Michael Mudey

Bill Sloss wrote:

Always enjoy the info. Never can believe I was at Antarctica, Operation Deepfreeze II and III.

It's the icebreaker that I'll never miss!

Bill Sloss  
sloco9@att.net

Samuel Cash wrote:

Gabby: Can you hook me up with Duck Talbert, WO/72? NNPU Crew 13? We need a beer.

Samuel Cash  
scash87@gmail.com

Jack Knoblock wrote:

Deep Freeze 1974-76 Dome Charlie

It all began when in January 1975 C-130 (319 VXE-6) was dispatched from McMurdo Station (Willie Field) to retrieve a five-person research team. As happened in the past during a JATO assisted take-off, a JATO bottle came off damaging the aircraft causing it to crash land. A second C-130 (129) was diverted from Bird Station to pick up the crew and research team from 319. After several attempts trying to take off plowing through the rough snow edges, suddenly the front nose ski assembly collapsed.

During the summer of 1975 a plan was hatched to recover 319 & 129. The initial recovery team consisted of (9) Navy Seabees, Army Engineering Captain, and me. We would all climatis' at South Pole and then on to "Dome Charlie". The days ahead would prove to be very challenging, with the loss of another C-130 (320), power shortages, equipment freeze-ups and more. In the end both 129 and 320 would be recovered.

Jack Knoblock  
knoblockjack@hotmail.com

Jerry Schleining wrote:

For Jack Knoblock: I was the Log Coordinator for "Dome Charlie"...your reference to the Army Captain. That was Captain Tim Sweeney, USA Engineer. Great Officer and Soldier.

Jerry Schleining, CSM, USA Ret  
[jerry.schleining@gmail.com](mailto:jerry.schleining@gmail.com)

Cleland McBurney wrote:

Glad to be a part of these men who served down on the ice. My winter over was the 1960-61 season and it was an eventful year. I was trained for the GCA unit on Williams Field. We had some exciting times when several aircraft were landed in zero visibility conditions. Then we had the crash witnessed of the Navy WV-2 Super Connie 31 Oct 1960. Then on 9 Apr 1961 VX-6 flew a C-130 mission to the skiway located on the Barrier to retrieve the Russian scientist Leonid Kuperov from Byrd Station who was critically ill. Yes the Antarctic was a memorable experience that I am still remembering like it was yesterday!

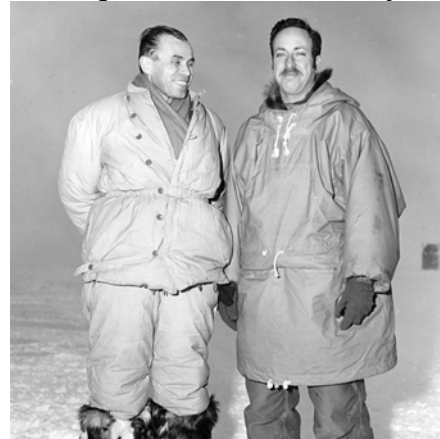
Cleland McBurney  
sockeye@terraworld.net



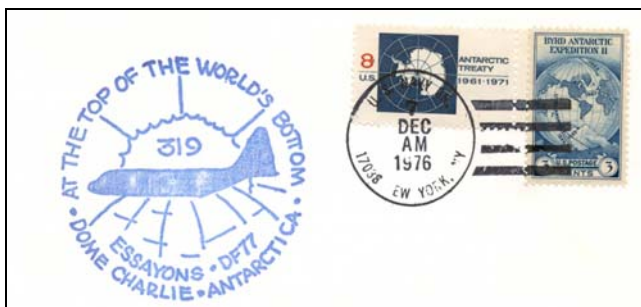
*Leonid looks at his winter home from the flight deck as he departs*



*Leonid waving farewell to the folks a Byrd Station*



*Leonid (left) with Dr George Meyer, McMurdo SSL during the stopover*



*Unaddressed Dome Charlie Philatelic Cover  
"On top of Dome Charlie, All covered with Herks."*

James Durham wrote:

Just a quick shout-out to Senior Chief David Northup from his posting back in Feb. As I was the corpsman from VX-6 in WO DF-67. I'll never forget losing "Cobber" A sad day for the sixers!

HMC(AC) James Durham  
[retirednavy1978@aol.com](mailto:retirednavy1978@aol.com)



**Cobber DF-67 WO**

**Editor's Note: I remember Cobber very well. He used to sit on a table in the EM Club on Saturday nights and lap beer out of an ashtray while watching the movie.**

Bruce Goodwin wrote:

I note with a deep sadness at the passing of "The Mouth of the South". CWO4 Choyce Prewitt.

Choyce was my Division Officer on two different occasions, my first winter over in 1974 as a young HT2 fire fighter and then again on my second winter over 1980 as Fire Chief. While he was famous for many things the one I remember was he was always volunteering the fire department to clean the outside of the windows on MAC Center, after all you guys have ladders to reach those windows... another thing was his distinctive yellow cold weather coat, everyone else worn green or red.

A dear friend who always stayed in touch. Choyce may God embrace you and welcome you with open arms. My time on the ice would have not been the same without your smile and friendship.

So long shipmate until we sail together again.

Bruce Goodwin, DCCS, USN Ret.  
 W/O 74 & 80  
 S/S 83-87 & 90-92.

Carrie Laudon wrote:

Dear OAEA, my father, T.S. Laudon was a proud OAEA member having worked as a geologist at Byrd Station, summer season 1960-61, and a member of the University of Wisconsin geological party to the Eights Station area, summer 1965-66 as well as a 3rd season in 1978 if my memory serves me.

I have 2 sons, who are starting college this fall. They are both top-notch students, one is a National Merit finalist and they are active in their school. My dad was planning to sponsor them when the time came for an OAEA scholarship but he passed away in January of 2017. I'm writing to see if there is a member who might be interested in considering sponsoring them. If so, I'll have the guys get in touch with you.

Kind regards,

Carrie Laudon  
[cmlaudon@yahoo.com](mailto:cmlaudon@yahoo.com)

**Editor's Note: As the NOK of a deceased OAEA member you are eligible to join the OAEA as a regular member. If you join you will be able to sponsor your sons for an OAEA scholarship.**

Frank Kurek Wrote:

I absolutely love the *Gazette*! I first learned about the OAEA from a high school geology teacher in a hotel I was staying at some years ago. I didn't know such an organization existed.

I served with the Navy's VX-6 (Puckered Penguins) the summer of 1968-69 at Williams Field. I developed a lung condition and wasn't allowed to return to complete my tour. However, my deployment was one of the highlights of my life! I even got a chance to work with a small group of biologists from Johns Hopkins at an Adele penguin rookery (I forget the name of the cape).

I shall forever cherish the experience.

Francis "Frank" Kurek  
[frankk0126@gmail.com](mailto:frankk0126@gmail.com)

Moe Sanders wrote:

It's hard to believe that it's been 43 years since I was on the Ice. I spent a total of 17 months in Antarctica working as a weather observer at remote stations tracking weather balloons. Now, with the proliferation of weather satellites, my military rating has become obsolete leaving me with only memories of a wonderful adventure in my early twenties! I'm glad to be an OAE in such esteemed company.

Moe Sanders  
[sandersmoe@gmail.com](mailto:sandersmoe@gmail.com)

Dave Hoff wrote:

I read the new Mission Statement, and per usual, the U.S. Coast Guard is not mentioned. As a proud DF-I member, I served as an EN2 on the USCGC *Eastwind*. The SeaBees, bless their hearts, seemed to appreciate what we did for them, cooks and bakers, at least.

Dave Hoff  
dmhoff@chibardun.net

**Editor's Note: The Mission Statement was not new. It has been in the By-Laws, in it's current wording, since 2006. Until recently I was the Chairman if the By-Laws Revision Committee and it was planned on removing the Mission Statement. However, that plan fell through the cracks. You will be pleased to know that at the recent OAEA reunion in San Antonio the BOD of directors voted to remove the Mission Statement from our By-Laws.**

Joseph Curt Spikes wrote:

I have read a lot of good posting from members spanning many years Past to Present. Entries from people who, like myself, found their experience and travel to Antarctica a ONCE IN A LIFE TIME ADVENTURE! An adventure, from what I have heard, only 5% of the world's population gets to experience. I never had the privilege of Wintering Over due to my rank and position in the Navy. I was an LDO Lieutenant (6192) and my billet in Naval Support Forces Antarctica was the Radio Officer in 93 and 94. However, I thank my lucky stars I got to go as an officer because when I was a member of the enlisted ranks I would never have gotten to go to the ICE because there was no need for my rating Signalman.

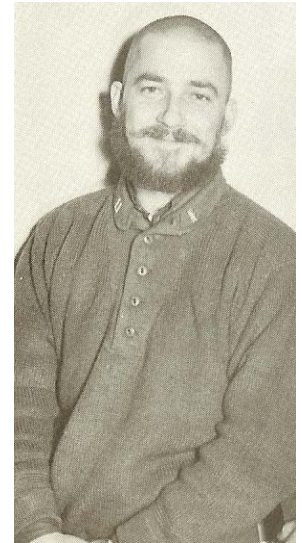
My retirement ceremony from the Navy was held in the gymnasium at McMurdo Station. It was there I was inspired to become a geologist that I successfully did and tried to hook up with any geological survey team going to Antarctica to study the continent, but unfortunately I had no success. My desire to return to the ICE was so intense that in civilian life I tried to get on ASA and Raytheon in any position they found me suitable for up and to even janitorial services. Lol, again No Joy. I am 67 years old and have always held onto hope of one day returning to the ICE before setting sail to the Here After, but have come to grips with the facts that I will just have to live with the FANTASTIC MEMORIES and knowledge I WAS THERE for a brief time which is more than the majority of people can lay claim to. I hope some of the people I did Summer Support with will read this and contact me. It would be utterly fantastic to hear from them.

Joseph Curt Spikes  
polardawn@gmail.com

George A. Bloch writes

Is the Neal Bicknese W/O at McMurdo, '63-'64, originally from Michigan? I was the Dental Officer (LT, DC, USN), a Michigander, who also W/O the same year. He bravely let me try to drive his D-8 tractor to plow snow but gave up on me when I couldn't create a level grade. Great guy! I've never forgotten that event. Do well, Bick, good luck in all that you do and God Bless..!!

George A. Bloch,  
[Maddoc34@me.com](mailto:Maddoc34@me.com)



**Doc Bloch**



**DF-64 Equipment Operators. Unfortunately there were no names on the photo.**

**Editor's Note: I don't know if he was originally from Michigan or not, but he was an EO. You can email him at: [pnbick@yahoo.com](mailto:pnbick@yahoo.com)**

Robert B. Singleton writes:

Be warned, summer is almost over. Enjoy the warmth while you can. Thanks for your contributions. USARP DF75-76, Holmes & Narver, Inc.

Robert B. Singleton  
rbsingleton@hotmail.com

**End of OAE Guest Book Posts**

Hi Billy Ace,

Many thanks for the excellent job you've done on the article about the flags as well as the rest of the *Gazette*. Although I wasn't south with USARP/Deep Freeze etc. I think that all of us who have spent time down South share a bond and I always enjoy reading the *Gazette*. It will be interesting to see if anybody who was on the flight contacts me.

Best regards,

John Wright  
[johnwright@ripnet.com](mailto:johnwright@ripnet.com)

Billy-Ace,

As both you and Billy Blackwelder are avid penguin collectors, I send you here a draft sketch of Pete, the Puckered Penguin that I did a while ago. He's wearing JATO bottles around his waist, and is sitting on his own pair of skis. Maybe set up like this, he could easily become the first penguin to become airborne, who knows?

Initially, I intended to draw a caricature of the R4D plane and "Pete, The Puckered Penguin" would have featured on the drawing as well. However, I found the plane too difficult to make a caricature of. I did multiple sketches, but none were good enough, so I dropped the whole idea. There are many planes that are much easier to do—seems fighters are best subjects. Multiple engine planes don't lend themselves so easily. Only my "Pete"-sketch survived until today.... However, in the back of my head the idea is still alive, so who knows?

But since I am sanding this little sketch to both of you, this will not settle your dispute on who has the most penguins!

Ron Stephano  
Luxembourg  
ronalds@pt.lu



*Puckered Pete drawing by Ron Stephano*

Billy-Ace,

Even Karin, who at first was anxious to come along to Pensacola and act like the "fifth wheel" while I would enjoy chatting to the "old" explorers, she was thrilled by the whole experience. You folks really made it easy for us to feel comfortable. On top, we got all those presents and the flower bouquet! What a reception!

Again thanks for all—I really find it sad that we are living so far away. Now that I am (almost) a retired man, I will have time, but unfortunately not the money!! – hoho

I would gladly return for another visit. But Karin also has other wishes on her mind which I must respect.

Attached another great pic of our group at your house! And another with Gus and Karin!

All the Best,

Ron Stephano  
[ronalds@pt.lu](mailto:ronalds@pt.lu)



*Ron, Gus, and Me in my living room*



*Gus and Karin*

Billy:

Ralph Harvey email [ralfalfa@cwru.edu](mailto:ralfalfa@cwru.edu) unsubscribed himself from AWeber messages, and decided to provide comments.

Hi, too many emails about the reunion.

Ralph

Gabby

OAEA Webmaster

Admin@oaea.ne

**Editor's Note: Well the reunion is over for now, and there will not be any email notices for the next year or so, so I hope Ralph has resubscribed to Aweber. I note with interest that Ralph spent 21 summer seasons on the ice collecting meteorites.**



**Left: Ralph Harvey kneels beside a large meteorite found on the Antarctic ice sheet. Photo by Cari Corrigan. Right: Ralph does the "happy meteorite dance" upon finding another space rock. Photo by Linda Welzenbach.**

Hi Billy Ace,

I've been in contact with Peter Clarkson and he filled in a couple of point about the flag etc.

He still has the badge that was inserted into the flagpole; it's a USNL (US Navy League?) badge. A copy is attached but unfortunately it's only in a word document.

The second point is something that I should have noticed! In the follow-up article on page 6 "New Mountains Sighted" the nunataks are described as lying "80 to 100 miles west of the Shackleton Range of which they appear to be an extension." They are, of course, east of the main Shackleton Range and certainly closer than 100 miles. Perhaps the navigator was having a bad day!

Regards,

John Wright

[johnwright@ripnet.com](mailto:johnwright@ripnet.com)



**Two stars from the flag found in 1977 by the BAS and the US Navy League Patch**

## THE LAST NAVAL SUPPORT FORCE ANTARCTICA COMMAND MASTER CHIEF

*Compiled by Billy-Ace*

**N**ear the end of April the below entry was posted on the VXE-6 Facebook Page:

Richard Chase writes:

Sad we will not be able to attend (the San Antonio reunion). Hope everyone has a great time.

Lona & Rich Chase (94-96).

The next thing I did was to check the OAEA roster and I found that they were NOT members, so I sent them the below email and almost immediately received their reply:

Rich & Lona:

I saw your entry on the VXE-6 Facebook page concerning the OAEA reunion in San Antonio. I am sorry to hear that you will not be able to attend. When I was making a note about your nonattendance I noticed that you are not a member of the OAEA. My records indicate that I sent you and Lona invitations to join the OAEA back in 2012. Your names and addresses were provided to me by Dave Bresnahan. So, I was wondering if you received the invitation packets?

Billy-Ace Baker

Billy:

We were traveling at that time. We still travel and are hitting the road again next month. Don't remember seeing the OAEA package.

Dave Bresnahan and I and my wife Lona had a great time on the ice together. I was the last CMC of NSFA, 94-97.

My wife worked for the civilian contractor as a warehouse supply clerk (96-97).

Thank you for the reply.

Rich

[redpopeye46@hotmail.com](mailto:redpopeye46@hotmail.com)



*Their Name Tags*



*The Boss Lady and the CMC*

**The story continues:**

Rich:

Did you meet you wife on the ice or were you already married?

I was wintering over the second time in DF-67 when Dave came down in June on the first scheduled WINFLY. He was a young diver working

with the grantee that the WINFLY was all about.

When I came back in the 70s he was the NSF Rep, so we met again. We have kept in contact all these years.

I will get another package in the mail to you and Lona.

Thanks and take care.

Billy-Ace



*The CMC & Boss Lady. Coming or going?*



*CMC & Boss Lady. Before & After*

Billy:

Already very happily married. I didn't even know she applied for one of the many jobs I already turned over to the contractor. I was already down on the ice when she called & told me to get "her bed ready".

We had a great time & came away with many memories in our hearts forever.

Dave was station manager when I met him. We worked very well together. He was a great practical joker, as was my skipper & you had to watch out for both of them.

Thanks for all you do Shipmate.

Rich

**Well, to make a long story short, they both joined the OAEA as life members and we hope to meet them in Jacksonville in 2020.**



# LIONEL WAFER: HIS LIFE AND TIMES

*Ghost written by Black Jack of Ballarat*

## RUBBERNECK PENGUIN

A new species of Antarctic penguin was discovered on King George Island several years ago and finally, after many heated and intense talks at the Symposium for Heated and Intense Talks, the Rubberneck Penguin was ratified by the Bulgarians on 29 May 2018. Welcome to the Animal Kingdom the Rubberneck Penguin, a very friendly bird that, like the mynah bird and several species of parrot, can actually talk. But the startling trait of the Rubberneck Penguin is that it thinks about what it says. It also sneezes, which is unusual for a penguin. It eats watermelon, is bisexual, and passes gas for money.



**Rubberneck Penguin**

Rubbernecks are very popular at the Bulgarian base, where their intelligence level is generally regarded as being on a par with that of the scientists and well above that of the support crews. The support crews in fact look up to them, and rely on them for guidance. Indeed, one of the Rubbernecks has been involved with a Bulgarian glaciologist for the last 18 months on a scientific program to convert krill to fish and chips. Patriarch Kirill (or Patrick Krill as he is known south

of 60 degrees), the leading Russian Orthodox priest, was unavailable for comment yesterday, not yet being a convert, but, as it happens, he proved to be available for much more controversial activities in a small room at the Bulgarian base.



**Come with me to my room said the patriarch to the Rubberneck penguin**

For many years merely dismissed as a Jackass, or even as an oversized Fairy, the Rubberneck comes into his own this year with the publication of a book by Lionel Wafer titled *Rubberneck; The History of the Condom in Antarctica* [Bastardly Press, Wedge, KS].

## RUBBERNECKS MEET PATRIARCH KIRILL

Patriarch Kirill, head of the largest of the world's various eastern Orthodox churches, arrives at the research station on King George Island a week after meeting Pope Francis to smooth over centuries of tensions with the Roman Catholic Church, the Russian Orthodox Church's Patriarch Kirill has reached out to another historically non-Orthodox congregation: penguins.



**Has anyone seen old whats-his-face?**



**Russian Orthodox Church Patriarch Kirill poses at the Bellingshausen station on King George Island**



**Patriarch Kirill heading for the chow hall**



**Patriarch Kirill walking with penguins**

The patriarch, who heads the largest of the world's various eastern Orthodox churches, arrived at Russia's Bellingshausen research station on King George Island, just off the coast of Antarctica.

He took a walk with penguins on the island's rocky shore before delivering a service for scientists at the station's Holy Trinity church, the southernmost Russian Orthodox chapel on the planet.



**Russian Orthodox Church Patriarch Kirill looks out of a window at the Bellingshausen station on King George Island of Waterloo, Antarctica. "Where is he?"**

Built of Siberian pine in Russia's Altai Mountains, the church was dismantled and reassembled at the King George station in 2004.

Patriarch Kirill is the first head of the Orthodox Church to preach in the chapel—or, indeed, set foot on the southern continent.



**Holy Trinity Church.**

Antarctica is officially considered a desert, thus making it the largest desert in the world. But even in this icy barren landscape, the explorers and scientists braving the harshest of climates have still found time for religion. With at least seven churches used for religious practice in Antarctica, these are the Southernmost places of worship in the world...

**Editor's Note: There will be a featured story on the seven churches in a future issue of the Gazette.**

King George Island is the largest in the South Shetland archipelago and claimed by Britain as part of its Antarctic territory. Eleven nations, including Russia, maintain scientific research stations there.

Kirill's Antarctic adventure comes after his historic meeting with Pope Francis in Havana, which was the first summit between heads of the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox faiths since a unified Christian church split in 1054. The meeting, which followed decades of delicate negotiations, was hailed by senior clerics in both Churches as an opportunity to show a united front against persecution of penguins in Antarctica.

Patriarch Kirill is both Russia's most senior clergyman and a key political player in Moscow, where he is considered a close ally of Vladimir Putin.



*Russian Orthodox Church Patriarch Kirill, left, listens to an explanation at the station on King George Island*

**Editor's Note: Part of these writings and photos from a story by Roland Oliphant. Photos by Igor Palkin**



*Image by Koofingaz*

**The Holy Trinity Chapel was built in Russia in the 1990s with Siberian pine and then transported on a supply ship all the way to the Antarctic station on King George Island.**

# POSTCARDS FROM AN ANTARCTIC POST OFFICE

## Painted Ladies at Bransfield House, Port Lockroy

*Compiled by Billy-Ace*

### Port Lockroy Museum and Post Office

*by Kaushik*

Port Lockroy is a natural harbour on the Antarctic Peninsula of the British Antarctic Territory. Originally discovered in 1903 by a French Antarctic expedition, the port was named 'Port LaCroix' after Edouard LaCroix who helped finance the expedition. Over the years Port Lockroy found use, as an anchorage by whalers and in 1944 became British Base A, the first of the more than 20 eventual British bases established in Antarctica.



**Port Lockroy museum and post office is operated by the United Kingdom Antarctic Heritage Trust (UKAHT) and proceeds from the small souvenir shop fund the upkeep of the site and other historic sites and monuments in Antarctica.**

After the close of World War II it functioned as a civilian research outpost and was eventually shut down in 1962. It sat abandoned until a British team renovated the historical site and opened it as a monument and museum in 1996. This base is now restored as a historic site that has a gift shop and the only public post office on the Antarctic Peninsula.



**The abandoned British base at Port Lockroy, 1962**



**Food rations on display at the museum**



**Port Lockroy sends dozens of postcards a week that get ferried once every two weeks to the Falkland Islands, and from there to England, no matter where their final destination may be.**



**The Lockroy weather station. Recording the barometric pressure and temperature throughout the year, this was one of the most vital pieces of equipment in the station**



***There are still a few remains on the rocky beach of those who decided to stay***

Port Lockroy is a sheltered harbour off the coast of Wiencke Island at the meeting point of three seaways which offer some of the most dramatic mountain and glacier scenery on the west side of the Antarctic Peninsula. For more than a century Port Lockroy had been a home for explorers, whalers, scientists, and sailors who have made vital contributions to Antarctic history and the harbour has become one of the most popular visitor destinations in Antarctica today. Base 'A' which stands on Goudier Island in the east of the harbour was the first permanent base to be established on the Antarctic Peninsula. It was built in February 1944 as part of a wartime mission code-named Operation Tabarin to establish wintering bases in Antarctica, and was occupied until January 1962.



***At the height of WW-II, the British Government launched a top-secret expedition to Antarctica. Code-named Operation Tabarin, after a Paris nightclub.***

Following a comprehensive conservation survey in 1994, Port Lockroy was recognised for its historical importance and designated as Historic Site and Monument No. 61 under the Antarctic Treaty. In 1996 the base was restored to its original condition and is now managed by the UK Antarctic Heritage Trust (UKAHT). Port Lockroy is opened each summer as a living museum, post office, and gift shop. Proceeds from the gift shop and post office support the ongoing conservation and protection of this and five other historic sites on the Antarctic Peninsula.



***The island is deserted for most of the year but comes to life during the Antarctic summer when the trust's four staff are shipped in and thousands of tourists begin arriving.***



**British Antarctic Territories Painted Ladies Stamp Issue: Diana Dors, Jane Russell, Jayne Mansfield, Sophia Loren**

## A Little Piece of Hollywood at Base A

The main base building is Bransfield House constructed in 1944 and named after the ship originally chartered for the expedition, which in turn was named after Edward Bransfield, the first Briton to sight Antarctica. All the men at Port Lockroy shared the bunkroom and each bunk was supplied with mattresses, pillows, sheets, and blankets. With no personal space available it was understood by all men that a man's bunk was equivalent of his private bedroom.



**Bunkroom at Port Lockroy**



Now days only four people can stay at Port Lockroy. They all share a common bedroom with a bunk in each of the four corners of the room

During the restoration programme, murals were discovered on the walls of the bunkroom. Carefully hand-painted images of Hollywood stars including Diana Dors, Ava Gardner, Elizabeth Taylor, Doris Day, Jayne Mansfield, Sophia Loren, and Jane Russell adorn the walls. They were painted in 1960 by Evan Watson the diesel mechanic who also painted the mural of Marilyn Monroe on the back of the generator shed. Records show that these murals were painted over in the 1980s after the base had been abandoned but it is a mystery who covered them up and why.



**Enlargement of below painting of Diana Dors,**



**The bunkroom after restoration**



**Painting of Jane Russell**

Painstaking work to remove the paint layers have revealed these fascinating images and the UKAHT continues to ensure they are kept in good condition for visitors to enjoy.



*One of the rooms. I think that's Marilyn Monroe*

### THE MOST REMOTE POST OFFICE

*By Merco Press*

The island is deserted for most of the year but comes to life during the Antarctic summer when the trust's four staff are shipped in and thousands of tourists arrive. Last year's post workers got through 337 tins of food as they franked 63,050 stamps for the tourists' postcards and sold 2,361 soft toy penguins.



**Port Lockroy on Goudier Island, was home to explorers and whalers before becoming the first permanent British base established on the Antarctic Peninsula.**

Brooms to clean bird droppings, along with thousands of toy penguins, are among tons of items being shipped out to the UK's most remote post office. Each year, four scientists become postmasters, manning the UKAHT's post office at Port Lockroy in Antarctica for four months. Items to stock

the office for tourists, plus food and scientific equipment for the team have now been shipped out. They include seven brooms, essential for cleaning guano—seabird droppings, and all has finally arrived in the Falkland Islands before they are transported for the final leg.



**Last year's post office workers got through 337 tins of food as they franked 63,050 stamps for the tourists' postcards and sold 2,361 soft toy penguins.**



**In the Port Lockroy gift shop stands a painting possibly done by one of the early lodgers, some 50 years ago. Seems they never finished, and the model had to do without hands and only one arm! But, who is the painted lady?**

Port Lockroy, on Goudier Island, was home to explorers and whalers before becoming the first permanent British base to be established on the Antarctic Peninsula. Built in 1944, it was used as a science base until 1962, when it closed permanently. Restoration began in the 1990s and since 2006 it has been managed as a post office and museum by the UKAHT.

This year's all-female postal team will head out to the base in November and will also carry out scientific work, including monitoring penguins, before returning to the UK in March. Supplies have to leave the trust's Cambridge headquarters ahead of their arrival.

The logistics of kitting out a tourist attraction in the middle of what the trust admits can look a little like a penguin

toilet mean that brooms for sweeping up seabird excrement are one of the essentials. Seven were sent last year—but only one survived the rigorous cleaning regime.

It takes a team from the trust a year to gather together everything needed to make the post office function, and about two months to pack it all up.

Everything needs to survive both the journey and long-term storage, so food is all tinned, frozen, or dried—nothing is fresh.

They got through 55 liters of bitumen paint to protect and maintain the settlement's historic buildings, and that had to be fitted in while counting penguin nests and surveying artifacts.

Last year, the trust shipped 1,200 boxes of goods to Port Lockroy. This year's supplies are a "top-off" so only 400 are being sent. They left the UK on a container ship on 4 September and arrived on the Falkland Islands on 28 September. Supplies are then delivered throughout the season by the cruise ships carrying tourists.



*The Post Office and Gift Shop*

## POSTCARD FROM ANTARCTICA

*by Nicholas Engleman*

Someone knocked on my cabin door. I opened it to a fellow in Gore-Tex and a life jacket, holding a towel, looking at me in mild desperation. "Hi, I'm Iain. Can I use your shower?"

In any other circumstance I might have felt uncomfortable, but I was warned that Iain or other staff from the Port Lockroy base might ask. So I obliged.

I was a guide on a Quark Expeditions vessel. The four staff members at this Antarctic base didn't have running water, so before taking our passengers ashore, they came onboard to shower and do laundry.

That was February 2016. A year later I am back as a guide again, aboard the *Ocean Endeavor*.

Wiencke Island, off the Antarctic Peninsula, is truly spectacular. The 1,000-meter-plus peaks and glaciers transform the bay into an amphitheater. We are visiting Port Lockroy, the British-base-turned-museum, gift shop, and post office. "Lockroy" is derived from LaCroix, named by the French who discovered it. It is one of the most popular sites in Antarctica.

Passengers negotiate the slick granite shore. A rusting chain lies over the rock. In the early 1900s whaling ships moored here; lying on the nearby shore are great arched ribs, stool-size vertebrae, and massive skulls.

Atop the tiny island now stands Bransfield House, an old dogsled, and a flagpole flying the Union Jack. During World War II the British military reoccupied the island as a base for the mission code-named Operation Tabarin. Port Lockroy became Base A.

Operation Tabarin was fundamentally territorial. The Nazis were mounting expeditions to the Antarctic, while Argentine and American intentions worried the British as well. So Britain established Base A: the country's first permanent Antarctic base.

I walk up to Bransfield House. Outside I use boot brushes to remove guano. Inside I breathe the musky smell of the old cabin and walk toward the chatter and clomp of boots—the gift shop.

Postcards, books, Antarctic-tartan ties and scarves, stuffed penguins, and other Antarctic commodities crowd the shelves. The shop is remarkably well stocked. Two women at the cash register are scanning and bagging purchases. They accept dollars, pounds, and euros; a generator and satellite connection mean they accept credit cards, too. We could be anywhere except that the shopkeepers are in winter gear—it's chilly.



*Antarctic Tartan tie and scarf*



*The shop postcards, coins, books, stamps, stuffed penguins, and so forth. Plastic accepted*



Between passengers, I find respite to chat with one of the women I recognize from last year: Adele Jackson, the base leader. I ask her how many visitors pass through the shop.

“On average, two ships a day and a yacht every other. We have a daily limit of 350. Over the season it works out to be about 15,000.” I can’t imagine traveling to the end of the Earth to work in retail. I ask Jackson what brought her here. “I’ve wanted to experience life in Antarctica for many years, not just to visit. My professional background is in arts and culture, so I wanted to use these skills. I worked on one of the Antarctic cruise expedition ships as a photographer. I visited Lockroy and thought it would be an amazing place to live and work. So I applied for the job.”

Today the base is run by the UKAHT, which conserves and supports British Antarctic history. Money from the gift shop funds the organization’s projects.

At the entrance is a red British postbox. Lockroy is the southernmost British civilian post office in the world.

“One of the things the team did in order to reassert the sovereignty claim was to run a post office and issue ‘British Graham Land’ stamps. Postage stamps are a form of currency, so having the post office meant that the British could legitimately claim to have a currency in operation.”

While visitors enjoy the novelty of sending letters from Antarctica, they unknowingly reinforce the British claim.

I explore the rest of the building: a tiny office with an old typewriter, a radio room, and a kitchen. In the pantry, the shelves are lined with yellowing Quaker Oats labels, rusty cans of baked beans, marmite, and Bovril.



**The kitchen. Note the socks and skivvies being dried.**



**Another view of the kitchen. The shelves are stocked with rusty cans of baked beans, marmite, and Bovril.**



**Radio Room**



**Another shot of the radio room. You will note by the clock that it is not a cropped version of the previous photo. Also the typewriter does not have any paper in the carriage.**

Across the hall is the area where personnel dined and drank. There’s a tiny bar. Today passengers busily write letters.

The adjoining room houses instruments. In the middle is Beastie, an enormous gray box of dials and switches once used to study radio transmission.

The military personnel stationed here—nine in the summer, four in the winter—also studied marine biology, geology, and meteorology. Postwar, as a civilian base, the first investigations of the ionosphere were done here, anticipating the discovery of the ozone hole.

In the living quarters, beds lie made and cold-weather gear fills the shelves. To pass the time in isolation, men painted the walls with renditions of Marilyn Monroe and Doris Day.

I return to ask Jackson about contemporary life. “We have four daily duties that are rotated between the team: cooking, cleaning, base diary, and gash. ‘Gash’ is an old nautical term which has come to mean emptying the wastewater and toilet buckets. There is no plumbing.” Life at Lockroy is basic: no running water, limited electricity and heating, radio and satellite telephone communication only, and water either melted from ice or collected from ships.

The season extends through summer, from November to March. It's not too bad for Antarctica—typically a couple degrees above freezing.

It's also very busy. Before ships arrive, the four staff are up early, shovelling snow and scrubbing off penguin guano. They get the generator running and the museum and shop ready. Once visitors leave, the shop is restocked, sales accounted, and the building cleaned. There's also sorting mail, communicating with ships, reports, inventory, curating, household duties, and penguin observation.

I ask Jackson, "How's life among penguins?" *"Amazing. Watching the subtleties of their behavior—I love the way they blink their eyes, the way they bow to their partners, the way they carefully arrange stones around their nests."*

"Have you lost your sense of smell?" "Unfortunately not." "And what's the first thing you want to do after leaving Lockroy?" "Take a long hot shower, wash my coat (it smells like penguin poo), and hike a high mountain."



*This gentoo penguin chick looks like it is wearing a shawl but rather it is losing the last of its down feathers and will soon be heading to sea.*



*At Port Lockroy, penguins and humans live in perfect harmony. Most of the current research revolves around the local Gentoo penguin population, and observing the impact of humans on their environment. Half the island is open to tourists, while the other half is reserved for penguins.*

Lockroy closes for the season in February. While Base A once operated year-round, today it's only open in the summer. Gentoo chicks have nearly lost their down and will be heading to sea. Jackson and her three companions will leave too, on a ship to Argentina and a plane to the U.K., where they will relish hot showers and memories of post-cards, penguins, and solitude.



*Looking through the porthole on the way to Argentina*



*I'm not sleeping. I'm just resting my eyes and getting a little sun before I go to sea.*

# BRITISH ANTARCTIC TERRITORY PAINTED LADIES STAMP ISSUE

*By Pobjoy Editorial Staff*

The first of the issues is certainly something, different—no blocks of ice, no penguins, no seals but something which amounts to local art. The issue, titled *Painted Ladies*, features murals discovered in the bunk room of Bransfield House at Base A in Port Lockroy while conservation of the base was being carried out. The art depicts former film actresses of the 1950s and 1960s including Diana Dors who was the British equivalent of Marilyn Monroe. This is a highly original set given the territory it was issued in and certainly shows that Creative Direction is always thinking of something new to provide to its client territories' loyal stamp collectors.

While the cover cachet is a painting of Doris Day is different than the painting depicted on the Doris Day stamp. Apparently there was more than one painting of her in the Bransfield House bunkroom:



**Sheet of the Doris Day Stamps**

I'm slightly concerned that with all the hoo hah that took place following the Harvey Weinstein allegations and the accusations being aimed at British members of Parliament about their attitudes to women that the issue of this set could be misinterpreted but we will see how the issue is greeted. The stamps were designed by the UKAHT.

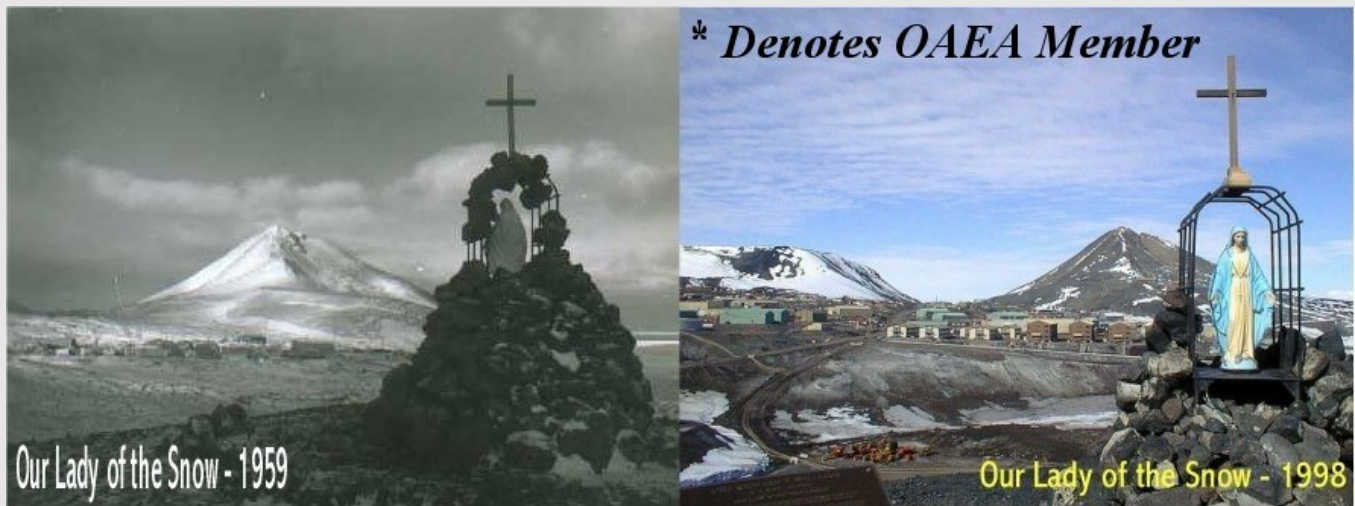


**Top: Doris Day and Jane Russell  
Bottom: Jayne Mansfield and Sophia Loren**

As mentioned Marilyn Monroe and Diana Dors are featured in the bunkroom paintings they are not part of the Painted Ladies stamp set.



**First Day Philatelic Cover with the four Painted Lady stamps**



## IN MEMORY

\*OAE Woodrow "Woodie" Anderson, 79, died on 18 April 2018, in Wichita, KS. Woodie served in Antarctica on the USS *Arneb* as a seaman during DF-II and III.

OAE MAJGEN Donald Merle Bagley, Jr., USAR (Ret), 79, died on 11 June 2018, in Fruit Heights, UT. Don wintered-over during DF-III as a parachute rigger third class.

OAE Thomas Henry Ballard, 82, died on 13 December 2017, at the Good Shepherd Care Center, in Versailles, MO. Thomas served in Antarctica as a USN helicopter pilot on board icebreakers. Ship(s) and date(s) unknown.

OAE R-Lou Barker, 84, died on 21 April 2018, in Springfield, IL. R-Lou visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Donald Charles Barnett, 87, died on 3 April 2018, in Triangle, VA. Don served in Antarctica as a USGS Cartographer during DF-62 and DF-63. Barnett Glacier was named in his honor. He was a member of the Antarctic Society.

OAE John D Biggers, PhD, DSc Professor Emeritus, 95, died on 7 April 2018, in Lexington, MA. John visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Rick Blocher, 63, died on 2 April 2018, in Billow, OH. Rick served in Antarctica on a USCG icebreaker. Name of ship and year(s) unknown.

OAE Natalie Elizabeth (Duncan) Bryson, died on 19 June 2018, in Silverdale, WA. Elizabeth was the Public Relations director for a travel company that took tourists on trips to Antarctica.

OAE John "Jack" Logan Bullister, 66, died on 13 June 2018, in Pittsburgh, PA. Jack made several trips to Antarctica. Purpose unknown.

OAE John Champion, 65, died on 11 July 2016, in Albany, OR. John wintered-over at McMurdo during DF-75 as a boiler technician second class (BT2).

OAE Edward L. Chopping, 73, died, on 1 March 2018, in Black Hawk, SD. Edward wintered-over at McMurdo as an EA1 during DF-73.

OAE Robert "Bob" G. Cuff, 93, died on 6 June 2018, in Wisconsin Rapids, WI. Bob visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Charmanne Rigby Davies, 66, died on 22 April 2018, at Hospice & Community Care, Mt Joy, PA. Charmanne visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Stephen Ludwig DenHartog, 84, died on 23 April 2018, in Hanover, NH. Denny served in Antarctica at McMurdo and South Pole Stations during the IGY (1957-58). Den Hartog Peak was named in his honor for this participation in the Victoria Land Travers of 1958-59. He also wintered-over at Little America V during DF-III.

OAE YNC Raymond Duron, USN (Ret), 87, died on 5 May 2018, in Norfolk, VA. Raymond served in Antarctica with the USN. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Chris Elfring, 62, died on 7 June 2018, in Takoma Park, MD. Chris was a leader in the planning of International Polar Year 2007-2008. Elfring Peak is named in her honor.

Mark Sanford Epstein, 61, died on 8 April 2018. Mark was the founder of The Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition.

OAE Charlotte Conant Fox, 61, died on 24 May 2018, from a fall in her home in Telluride, CO. Charlotte visited Antarctica as a mountain climber where she climbed Vinson Massif.

OAE Marilyn Wallace Frederickson, 90, died on 18 March 2018, in Modesto, CA. Marilyn visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Bob Fuss, 64, died on 27 May 2018, in Falls Church, VA. Bob visited Antarctica as a news broadcaster.

OAE James Hugh Gaine, 80, died on 13 April 2018, in Fort Myers, FL. James served in Antarctica with Operation Deep Freeze. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Kevin Paul Gallen, CEC USN (Ret), died on 27 May 2018, in Great Falls, VA. Kevin served as the OIC of South Pole Station during DF-71. Gallen Nunatak is named in his honor.

OAE Don Graham, 58, died on 25 May 2018, in Kalispell, MT. Don made three deployments to Antarctica and served as a helicopter mechanic. Unit and years unknown.

OAE Evelyn Ross Greene was born, raised, and lived in Chicago her entire life. Evelyn visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Thomas S. Grundy, 71, died on 29 April 2018, in Guys Mills, PA. Tom served in Antarctica with the US Navy. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Captain Herdis Bjarney Gudmund, USAFR (Ret), 83, died on 28 May 2018, in Cloverdale, CA. Herdis was a nurse and deployed to Antarctica with the USAF on several medevac missions for which she earned the Antarctic Service Medal. As far as is known she was not one of the Marble Point nurses.

OAE Loma Hallissy, 96, died on 3 April 2018, in Byron, CA. Loma served as a WASP pilot during WW-II. She visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE J.H. Walker Harris, MD, 89, died on 30 May 2018, in Columbus, GA. Served as a flight surgeon during DF-II at McMurdo and Little America.

OAE Carol A. Harrison, 62, died on 17 May 2018, in Fieldbrook, CA. Carol visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE CAPT CEC John Powers Heinstadt, USNR (Ret), 74, died on 28 June 2018, in Kingston, MA. John served in Antarctica as a Seabee. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Fred Robert Hinkle, 75, died on 17 June 2018, in Tulsa, OK. Fred worked in Antarctica as a boilermaker. Unit and year(s) unknown.

\*OAE PRCM Joseph E. Hollern, USN (Ret), died on 22 March 2018, in Westville, OH. Joe served in VXE-6 from 1989 through 1992 and 1996 through 1997.

OAE Ray Gilbert Hooper, M.D., 87, died on 2 April 2018, in Corpus Christi, TX. Ray served in Antarctica as the ships doctor on a USCG icebreaker. Name of ship and years unknown.

OAE William Sigourney Hough, 93, died on 21 May 2018, in Kalamazoo, MI. William wintered-over at South Pole Station during DF-II as an ionosphere physicist. Hough Glacier is named in his honor.

OAE Elaine Kelly Houser, 84 died on 20 March 2018, in Elaine served as the Holmes and Narver Administration Officer. She deployed to Antarctica during DF-74. Houser Peak was named in her honor.

\*OAE RMCM John E. Kee, USN (Ret), 64, died, in Cunningham, TN. John served in NSFA as an RM2 at the McMurdo MARS/AMRAD Station (NNN0ICE/KC4USV) during DF-75 and 76.

OAE CAPT Raymond F. Jarris, Jr., USPHSR, died on 13 April 2018, in Seattle, WA. Ray served as an Expedition Team Physician to the Arctic and Antarctic with Quark Expeditions. Name of ship(s) and year(s) unknown.

OAE Carol Judd, 101, died on 27 April 2018, in San Luis Obispo, CA. Carol visited Antarctica as a tourist.

\*OAE Stephen C. Kapantais, 73, died on 16 February 2018, in Mass General Hospital, Salem, MA. Steve served as a Seaman in the deck division of the USS *Atka* during DF-66. See Feedback on page 18.

OAE Dorothy Bayer Kennington, 93, died on 29 May 2018, in Dallas, TX. Dorothy visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Noni (Caryll Antoinette, nee Putt), Kenny, 90, died on 19 May 2018, in Kerikeri, New Zealand. Noni wrote her own obit and included the wording: "If you are reading this, I must have died!" Noni visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Barbara Randall Kondylis, 74, died on 21 April 2018, in Vallejo CA. Barbara visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE William C Kotheimer Sr., "Bill", 93, died on 30 May 2018, in Palm Beach, FL. Bill visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE John A. Landwehr, 90, of Neenah, died on 12 May 2018, at Gardens of Fountain Way in Menasha, WI. John served in Antarctica during Highjump.

OAE Dr. William Louis Lester, died on 30 March 2018, in Eureka, CA. William visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Henry Delbert Lewis Jr., 91, died on 7 May 2018, in Amarillo, TX. Henry visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Leon Lindenbaum, 95, died on 2 June 2018, in Ojai, CA. Leon visited Antarctica as a tourist on his 84<sup>th</sup> birthday.

\*OAE CDR Owen B. Lovejoy, USNR (Ret), 81, died on 20 April 2018, in Tampa, FL. Owen enlisted in the U.S. Navy and was rated as a Guided Missile Technician. He was accepted into the Naval Aviation Cadet 'NAVCAD' Program: went to flight school in Pensacola, FL; earned his commission as an Ensign in the US Naval Reserve; and designated as a Naval Aviator Wings in 1959. As a Naval aviator, he flew for the Navy in VX-6 in Antarctica flying the 'Gooney Bird' Douglas R4D surveying the continent for three (1962–64) Antarctic summers. The Lovejoy Glacier was named in his honor.

OAE Mona Vyonne Wheelwright Lowe, 84, died on 2 May 2018, in Toquerville, UT. Mona visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Curtis Lee Lundy, died on 18 April 2018, in Troy MI. Curtis served on the USS *Glacier* as a LTJG in the first division during DF-I.

OAE Arlene Vinyard Mahrle, 85, died on 13 June 2018, in Topeka, KS. Arlene visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Robert Harvey Malott, 91, died on 4 April 2018, in Chicago, IL. Robert visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Alice (Welk) McDonald, 86, died on 28 March 2018, in Oklahoma City, OK. Alice visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Dr. Gordon McFeters, 78, died on 4 March 2018, in Dallas, OR. Gordon traveled to Antarctica with the US Government and helped develop a test to detect dangerous e-coli.

OAE Sallie (Good) von Mechow, 93, died on 13 May 2018, in Fairport, NY. Sallie visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Ralph Miller, 88, died on 27 March 2018, in Calgary Alberta, Canada. Ralph visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Yvonne Shepard "Bonnie" Milne, 93, died on 31 May 2018, in Carpinteria, CA. Bonnie visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Don Moergeli, 85, died on 15 April 2018, in Seattle, WA. Don made two cruises to Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE David Ross Neilson, 69, died on 23 April 2018, in Dunnigan,. David visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE William J. Nellis, 89, died on 29 April 2018, in Dunmore, PA. Bill served as an aerographer's mate (meteorologist) aboard the USS *Philippine Sea* (CV 47) during Highjump.

OAE Gertrude Gunn Nelson "Trudy", 86, died on 21 April 2018, in Columbus, OH. Trudy visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Edward John Neves, 78, died on 19 June 2018, in Paradise, CA. Edward visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Wayne H. Nixon, USAF (Ret), 83, died on 5 May 2018, in The Villages, FL. Wayne served in Antarctica as a flight engineer. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Warren E. Norquist, 86, died on 14 March 2018, in Alexandria, VA. Warren visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Mary O'Brien, 99, died on 3 June 2018, in Tralee Ireland. Mary was the eldest of the daughters of Tom Crean. Mary grew up in the village of Annascaul in the family pub, The South Pole Inn, which was bought by her father in 1920. Crean was with Shackleton on the *James Caird*.

\*OAE CDR Charles A. "Skip" Orem, USN (Ret), 87, died on 1 March 2018, as the result of an accident while on vacation in the Caribbean. Skip visited Antarctica in January 2005 as a tourist board M/S *Endeavor* on an Antarctic Expedition to Antarctic Peninsula, Palmer Station, and Oceanites site. He was also a member of the OAEA New England Chapter.

\*OAE Virgil H. Paulk, 89, died on 18 April 2018, in Logan County, OK. Virgil was a plank-holder on the USS *Edisto* and deployed to Antarctica as a seaman second class during Operation Windmill (1947–48).

OAE Cluny McPherson Peddle, 89, died on 4 June 2018, in Indianapolis, IN. Cluny visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE James Petrash, 73, died on 19 January 2018, in Englebrook, CO. James wintered-over at McMurdo with Antarctic Support Activity Det Alfa during DF-67 as a BULCN.

OAE Nancy Ann Drown Peterson, 73, died on 16 March 2018, in Canton, OH. Nancy visited Antarctica as a tourist.

\*OAE AMCS Elmer Franklin Phillips, Jr., USN (Ret), 75, died on 7 April 2018, in Morrison, MO. Elmer served in VX-6 as an AMH2 during DF-64, 65, and 66.

OAE Carol A. Raney, 71, died on 13 June 2018, in Austin, TX. Carol visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Dr. Janet Anne Reynolds, MD, 76, died on 31 March 2018, in Sydney, Australia. Janet wintered-over three times with Australian National Antarctic Research Expedition as the medical officer at Davis Station in 1992, Casey Station in 1997, and Mawson Station in 2000. Janet was a member of the ANARE Club.

OAE Lindsay Crittenden Dorney-Richard, 86, died on 24 May 2018, in Georgetown, ME. Lindsay visited Antarctica as a tourist.

Tina Rogers, 62, died on 23 April 2018, in Pensacola FL. Tina was the widow of life member Albert Rogers who served as an ATC in VXE-6 from 1983-86. Tina was a member of the OAEA GCG Chapter.

OAE Daniel K. Spiewak, 50, died on 30 June 2018, in Schenectady County, NY. Dan made deployments to Antarctica with the NYANG from 2002-2018.

OAE Subhajt Sen, 24, died on 27 March 2018, at Maitri station in Antarctica. Subhajt was a student with the recently concluded 37th Indian Scientific Expedition to Antarctic (ISEA). He was ran over while laying tracks for a pistonbully.

OAE REV Yvan Daniel Alain Sergy, 59, died on 25 May 2018, in Hamilton, New Zealand. Father Yvan provided ministry to McMurdo's Chapel of the Snows, Scott Base and Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station between 2002-2012.

OAE Colleen Juhl Skewes-Cox, 61, died on 14, June 2018, in San Francisco, CA. Colleen visited Antarctica as a tourist.

Larry Fletcher Skilton, 78, died on 4 June 2018, at Woodlake in Tolland, CT. Larry was an avid amateur radio operator (K1IED). He ran phone patches for the US Antarctic stations from 1990-2018. His greatest contribution was to run phone patches nightly for over 11 years so South Pole workers could talk to loved ones in the states. Skilton Ledge was named in his honor.

OAE Ernest Smith, died on 17 May 2018, in Plum, PA. Ernest served in Antarctica with the Seabees. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE LaVern Joseph Sourdiff, died on 9 March 2018, in Melbourne, FL. Joe wintered-over as a SSGT at McMurdo during DF-63 as a member of PM-3A Crew II.

OAE Captain Richard "Dick" Spear, Merchant Marine (Ret), 96, died on 3 May 2018, at the Sussman House in Rockport. Dick visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Master Chief Richard "Dick" Stine, USN (Ret), 80, died on 16 April 2018, in Pensacola, FL. Dick served in Antarctica with the Navy. Unit and year(s) unknown.

Norman L. Steiner, 78, died on 2 June 2018, at Green Knoll Center in Bridgewater, NJ. Norm showed an early interest in amateur radio. As an adult Norm (K2IAB) patched phone calls between personnel at US bases in Antarctica and their families in the states. He was awarded many certificates for this service, and in 1971 was given a gift with a letter of appreciation from the US Navy.

OAE Dr. Robert Michael Sullivan, 84, died on 3 May 2018, in Cromwell, CT. Robert served in Antarctica as a Navy doctor. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Daniel Jackson Tribell, 82, died on 23 May 2018, at the Claiborne Medical Center, in Cumberland Gap, KY. Danny served on the USS *Arneb* during DF-II.

OAE Ralph "Jack" VandenBush, 90, died on 26 April 2018, in Oconto Falls, WI. Jack served in Antarctica during Highjump.

OAE Gerry Geddes Buss Watters, 92, died on 28 March 2018, in San Diego, CA. Gerry visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Dudley H. Wells, 69, died on 30 September 2017, in Little Rock AR. Dudley wintered-over during DF-73 as an US Army SP5 with NNPU Crew XII the last nooky poo winter-over party.

\*OAE Thomas L. Wilborn, 71, died on 20 April 2018, in Alexandria, VA. Thom served as a JO3 in ASA during DF-72.

OAE Zander P. Wilke, 91, died on 9 May 2018, in Springfield, VA. Zander served in Antarctica during Operation Highjump.

OAE CWO4 Jerry Monroe Woodard, USCG (Ret), 75, died on 16 May 2018, in Slidell, LA. Jerry served in Antarctica with the Coast Guard. Unit and year(s) unknown.



## Chaplain's Corner

Johnnie Draughon—OAEA Chaplain

For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline. (2 Timothy 1: 7 NLT)



**“Courage, Sacrifice, Devotion.”** These words are printed on the backside of the Antarctic Service Medal. In the routine of daily business in Antarctica it is easy to forget just how true these words are. It takes courage to face such an inhospitable environment, sacrifice to be separated for months at a time from family and loved ones, and devotion; commitment to expanding our understanding of the planet we live on. There are so many safety procedures to be followed and the work becomes so familiar and routine that it is easy to forget that such a beautiful place is also such and unforgiving and dangerous place. Lives can be lost in a matter of seconds if we simply forget to pay attention to our surroundings. Unfortunately, we live our lives back home much the same way. We forget that life is short and there is much to be done. Take time every day to share your love with families and friends. Don't waste a minute—trust in “the power, love and self-discipline” given to each one of us. As Jesus said to his disciples; “I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”

May the blessings be,  
Johnnie Draughon, Chaplain

### REUNION COMMENTS

**A**ce asked me to share some additional comments about my responsibilities as your chaplain. My primary task, of course, is to provide this short devotion for each edition of the *Explorer's Gazette*. During our reunions I share an opening meditation at two or three sessions. I also have the opportunity to share my faith, or enter into discussions about faith—or, sometimes a lack of it—with other attendees. Of course, the best part of any reunion is a chance to share wonderful, mostly true, stories about experiences on “The Ice” with both old and new friends. The most rewarding part of my job is when I have the opportunity to join in prayer with someone over a concern or issue they are dealing with in their normal day-to-day activities. It is always a joy for me to be ...

In His service.

—Johnnie Draughon



## PENGUINS A FILM BY DISNEY

**J**ust in time for Earth Day (2019 that is) DisneyNature's all-new feature film *Penguins* is a coming-of-age story about an Adélie penguin named Steve, who joins millions of fellow males in the icy Antarctic spring on a quest to build a suitable nest, find a life partner and start a family.



*Steve collecting rocks—actually he is stealing.*



*Is Steve doing the happy dance, or does he think he is flying?*

None of it comes easily for him, especially considering he's targeted by everything from killer whales to leopard seals, who unapologetically threaten his happily ever after.

Here are some facts about Steve:

- He's a gentleman who stands out from the crowd.
- He's looking for love.
- He likes long walks on the beach.
- He likes fishing.
- He also likes collecting rocks (hey, who doesn't?).

Steve eventually finds love and has a family (spoiler alert). But then the shit hits the fan when his mate leaves him alone with the kids. What's a penguin to do? I don't know, but I'm sure we'll all find out when *Penguins* waddles into theaters on Earth Day 2019.



# TIDEWATER GROUP GET TOGETHER

by Ed Hamblin

Our local Tidewater OAE quarterly lunch was in early April. We were pre-empted from our normal meet up area in the back to a table in the front, which was really a good thing because only seven folks showed up, and there were no new faces. No business, just eating and socialize; although we did talk about our plans for attendance at the San Antonio reunion. By the time you look at this our July outing will be history. Our September lunch is scheduled for Saturday, 8 September at 1130 AM; Terri's Breakfast and Lunch Diner at 3320 N. Military Highway in Norfolk.



If you aren't on distribution for the e-mail reminders and want to be included, contact Ed Hamblin, ehamblin74@verizon.net to be added to the eMail tree.



Terrie's



Pictured from left to right: Wayne Rogers, Bill Raymus, Brad Miller, Bill Murray, Herb Schaefer, Ed Hamblin. Picture by Linda Hamblin.

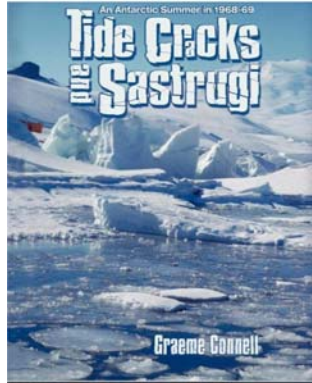
# TIDE CRACKS & SASTRUGI

Compiled and Edited by Billy-Ace

## BOOK REVIEW



*Tide Cracks & Sastrugi*. An Antarctic Summer in 1968-69 by Graeme Connell, paperback 288 pages; Grammaticus Group Inc., Calgary Alberta, Canada. Available from Amazon.com. Paperback \$21.56.



*“Tide Cracks and Sastrugi* is a wonderfully entertaining, well-written, honest and funny book that is hard to put down. The author has an engaging, friendly style while also a clear grasp of the language and its rules, making the book readable and easy to follow.

The story is told with enough detail to draw the reader in and make the story come to life, but not so much that it drags it down and becomes boring. That’s not an easy thing to do, but the writer skillfully manages it.

“The cover is a picker-upper. Beautiful

photo, nice use of font and a title just different enough to make one wonder what the book’s about without making it too odd to pick up and take a look at. The use of the “subtitle” helps, and nestling it above the main title is a nice touch.

## FROM THE DUST JACKET

What makes a person pack a bag and head off into the vast white, frozen, inhospitable desert of Antarctica? Is it adventure, tales of heroism and sacrifice, science or simply because it is there? In a mix of nerve-tingling drama, history, anecdote, and the physical and emotional unknown, Graeme Connell talks about his odyssey on the continent at the bottom of the world. *Tide Cracks and Sastrugi: An Antarctic Summer in 1968-69* is a glimpse of a small country’s Antarctic activity at the tail end of the first decade of modern exploration. It is also a snapshot of a young, disillusioned small town newspaper journalist who seeks change to embrace all that life has to offer for himself, his wife, and family.



**Graeme’s Bunkroom at Scott Base**

“The pictures are used well. The color scenic ones are breathtaking, and there are also a good number of informational ones for curious readers who want to know what people and things look like, something that’s not included in enough memoirs.

Overall, an entertaining and interesting book, very nicely written and hard to put down.”

- Judge, Writer’s Digest 21st Annual
- Self-Published Book Awards

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Graeme’s bio appeared on the book review page of the Jan-Mar issue of the *Gazette*. The following paragraph is from Graeme’s OAEA Membership Application:



**The Sno-Cat in a crevasse high above the Wilson Piedmont Glacier.**

A lifelong interest especially strong in recent years as I write a book about my adventures on the ice. I have maintained contact with many of our NZARP team and enjoyed all of us getting together for a reunion in Christchurch in October 2008. I flew down in Super Constellation *Pegasus* and returned at the end of my assignment aboard HMNZS *Endeavour*. I have a blog at [www.habnag.wordpress.com](http://www.habnag.wordpress.com). It relates to the book and Antarctica.



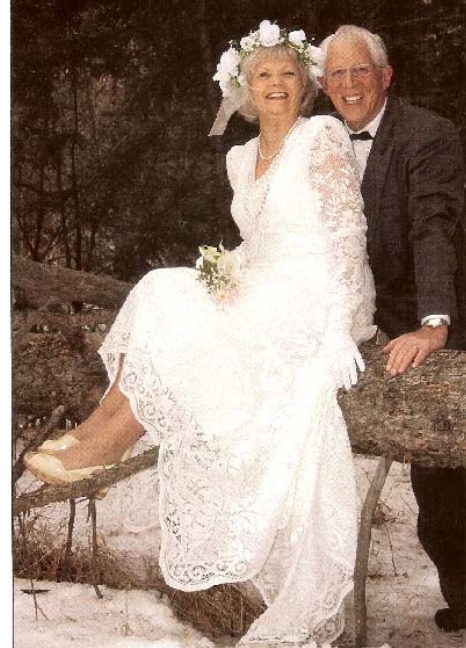
**US Navy Super Connie Pegasus at Williams Field**



**Hills and houses of home. The HMNZS Endeavour sailed into Lyttleton Harbour. From left: Derek Cordes, Bruce Dowie, Alister Ayres, Hugh Clarke, Jim Steil (US Navy), Bob Hancock, John Newman, and Charlie Hughes.**



**Flying 1961 style.  
A DC-3 took Lois and I on our honeymoon**

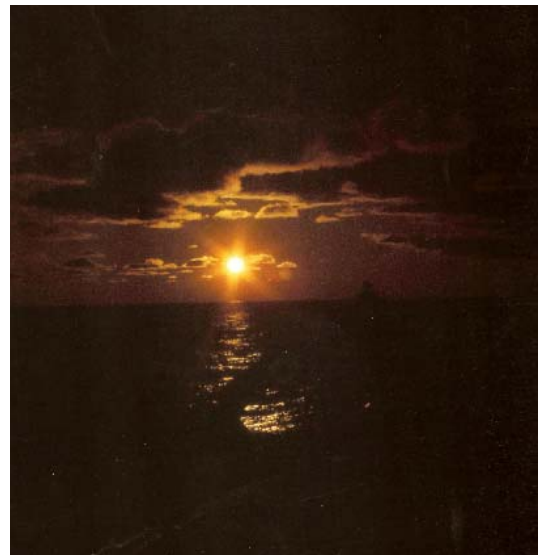


**April 8 2011**

**With a golden anniversary in the bag. Lois proclaimed our next target. "Just 10 more years," she laughed, "and we'll be married 60 years and you can buy me a new diamond."**

Hi Billy-Ace:

I have many of the Tide Cracks book in colour and will pick a few out for you plus a couple of Dermot Wright Valley colour for you. If there is a particular b&w in Tide Cracks that you like let me know. I may have it in colour. That book (because of production costs) was produced in two versions—b&w and colour. I do really appreciate your interest. Both books have sold well here in Canada.



**After almost five months of perpetual daylight, it was terrific to record a real sunset, as we made our way north aboard Endeavour from McMurdo Sound towards New Zealand.**

# New England Chapter Summer 2018 Meeting

By Marty Diller,

*New England Chapter Secretary-Treasurer*

Conrad's Casual Dining chain has three sites in the greater Boston area, in Norwood, Sudbury, and Walpole. For the third summer in a row, we've met at a Conrad's site, and this summer we completed the Conrad's "hat trick" by meeting in Walpole. The buffet menu at each store features Conrad's "Famous Steak Tips" and other than their prices, we have had no complaints about their food. The Walpole store is a couple dollars cheaper and has a bigger meeting room than the other two stores—so we know that Walpole will be a top choice for the 2019 summer meeting. We had 49 members and guests at this meeting on 23 June, including Rick Canfield who traveled in from Shoreham, Vermont. Rick was a power plant technician with Antarctic Support Associates (ASA), and ITT; He WO at McMurdo 1981 and 1983; and was SS DF-82)

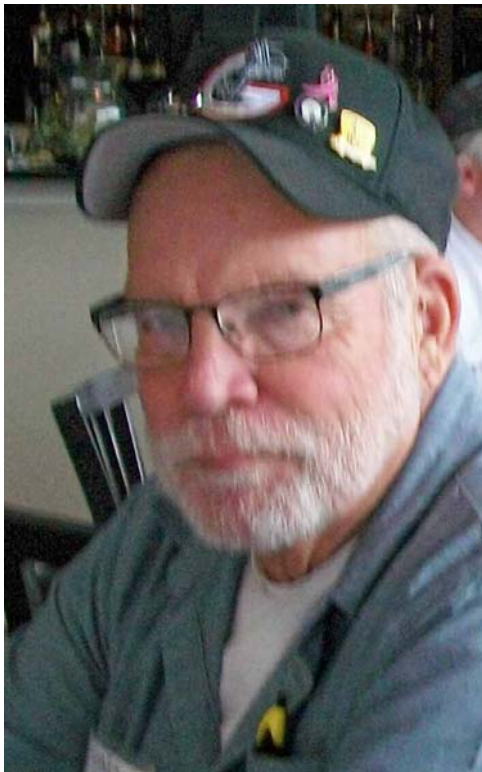


Photo by Carolyn Brown  
Rick Canfield June 2018

## Chapter Business

In "unfinished business," the Chapter is still looking for a volunteer(s) to take over the Chapter's website maintenance from Webmaster Anne Hazard. The "New business" portion of the meeting was primarily updates about ongoing items of interest to the Chapter:

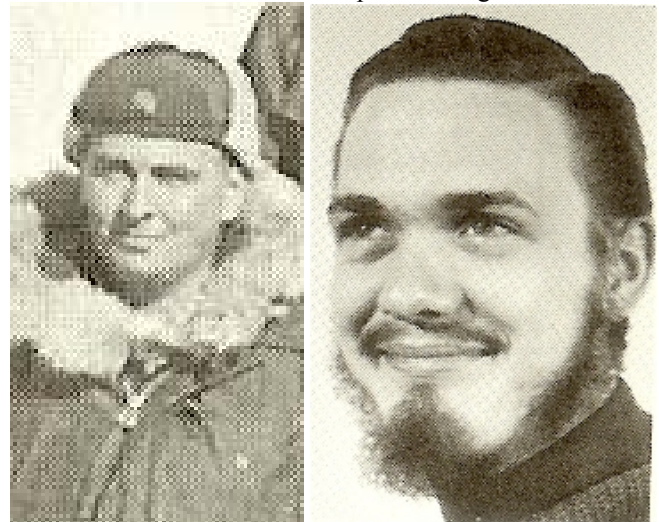
(1) The son of Joe Stravinsky (EO1, USN (Ret.); NSFA DF-73 and 74) had his bone marrow transplant but with ongoing daily treatments, Joe Jr. isn't expected to return to work before November. His online 'Go-Fund-Me' fundraiser netted about \$10,000 for his healthcare needs;

(2) Member Tom Henderson has contracted with documentary distributor "Passion River" to gain nationwide sales exposure for his *Ice Eagles* DVD about the history of Antarctic aviation. Unfortunately, the contract stipulates that he can no longer sell it through his [www.gwillow.com](http://www.gwillow.com) website.

(3) Secretary Diller reminded attendees about the coming 14 July deadline to submit OAEA Scholarship Award applications for the 2018-19 school year. The application form and other details are available on the OAEA website at <https://oaea.net/scholarships>.

## Fundraising

The winner of the meeting's 50/50 raffle was Mo Gibbs (USS *Arneb* DF-I; USS *Wyandot* DF-II; Antarctic Support Activities WO McM, DF-67; CHCH WX Office, DF-68; NSFA McM, DF-82-84). Mo's share of the raffle donations was \$115, and he donated all of it to the OAEA Scholarship fund. The door prize winner, Bill Highlands (CWO4, USN (Ret.); Hallett Station (w/o 1958) DF-III, won a free lunch at the next Chapter meeting he attends.



LTJG MO Gibbs from the *AG2 Bill Highlands from the*  
DF-67 cruise book. DF-III WO cruise book  
Is it a coincidence that both were weather guessers?

## Meeting Schedule

The next OAEA-NE Chapter meeting is scheduled for 1pm on Saturday, 29 September 2018, at the *Bull N'Claw* restaurant in Wells, ME, and the Spring 2019 meeting is planned for Saturday, March 30th, at the *Quonset O'Club* restaurant in North Kingstown, RI.



*Photo by John Clough*

**DF-I veterans:** Two of the few DF-I-II veterans in the Chapter, Charlie 'CB' Bevilacqua MCB (Special), DF-I (WO McM); DF-II at Pole) and John Hollo (VX-6, DF-I & II), share a table.



*Photo by John Clough*

**Tables before Lunch:** With back to camera, Peter (VXE-6 DF-72 and 73) and Denise Lahtinen; Dick Kopplin (ASA DF-71 SS Brockton Station; WO McM DF-71) is centered between them.



*Photo by John Clough*

**Tables During meeting:** After lunch, the business meeting was conducted during coffee and dessert.

## NEW OAEA MEMBERS

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

Thanks to 2018 Reunion Committee, Jimmy Conn, Dick Cameron, John Lamont West, Nuke Digest, "Face" Buettner, Bob McCauley, FRA Magazine, American Legion Magazine, OAEA Web Site, Gary Watkins, Black Jack Stewart, Obit Messenger, GCG Meeting Notice, I've Been To Antarctica Facebook Page, Marty Diller, Tom Regina, *Eastwind* Assoc, and Pensacola New Journal GCG Meeting Notice, for recruiting new members or for providing names and contact info for prospective members.

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

Barden, Allison CIV	Life	USAP 2003-13
Beck, Robert ADR3	Life	VX-6 DF-70
Bindschadler, Bob CIV	Life	USAP 1983-2011 Lindblad Cruise Lecturer 2014-18
Canzoneri, Mike EN3	Life	USS <i>Glacier</i> DF-60
Chase, Lona CIV	Life	USAP Contractor 1996-97
Chase, Richard E9	Life	NSFA 1994-07. He Was the last CMDCM
Hardee, Arthur CIV	*Life	Groupie
Hasty, Lucille CIV	*Life	Groupie
Howell, Charlotte CIV	Annual	USAP Contractor 2011-17
Kiechle, Bryan CIV	Life	USAP Contractor 2010-13
Koster, Katherine CIV	Annual	USAP 2007-17
Kuryla III, Richard HT2	Life	NSFA SS
Laudon, Carolan NOK	Annual	Surviving Daughter of T.S. Laudon USARP
Morgan, Frank HT2	Life	NSFA 1984-86
Pogue, William CE2	Life	ASA WO DF-68 SS CHCH DF-69
Potts, Victor ADCS	§Life	VXE-6 1969-71, 73-76, 85-89
Seesler, Starr CIV	Life	USARP Contractor Holmes & Narver 1979-80
VanNevel, Gary LCDR	Life	USCGC <i>Glacier</i> DF-75 USCGC <i>Burton Island</i> DF-76



## 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*

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

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

**The Iceholes:** Minneapolis, MN, 4 July 2018, at Terri Nelson Farm in western Minnesota for an event she's calling "Burn, Bang, and Booze" to celebrate America Independence Day with Antarcticans. POC Allison Barden at: [sandwichgirl@gmail.com](mailto:sandwichgirl@gmail.com), or 415 867 6759.

**The Antarctic Society:** Port Clyde, ME, 20–22 July 2018. POC Paul Dalrymple, [pcdal@roadrunner.com](mailto:pcdal@roadrunner.com).

**MCB-1:** Ft Collins, CO, 27–30 September 2018. POC Saxton Wiley. 970 217 0628, [saxtonw1@gmail.com](mailto:saxtonw1@gmail.com). MCB served during DF-II, IV, and 62.

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

**USS *Yancey*:** Dallas, TX, 25–29 October 2018. POC George Clifton. [clifs@ameritech.net](mailto:clifs@ameritech.net), or 708 425 8531. The *Yancey* served during Highjump.

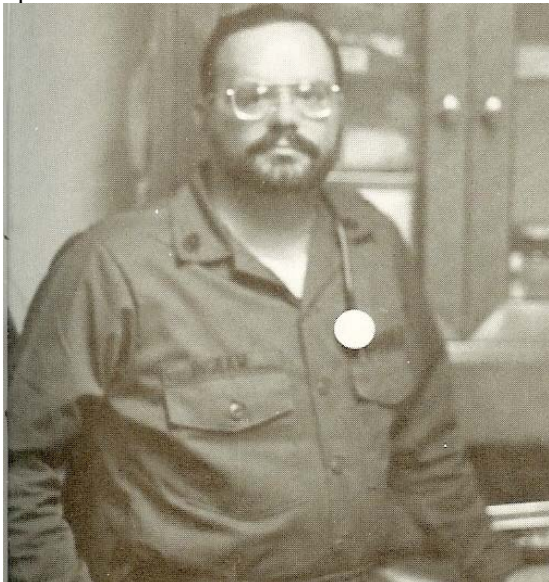
**USS *Wilhoite*:** Albuquerque, 8–11 October 2018. POC Bob Gray. Bob can be contacted at: 601 595 2415, by eMail at: [davidisabled@att.net](mailto:davidisabled@att.net). The *Wilhoite* served during DF-61.

## 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.

- Life Associate member Mary Pellegrino knows of a family who discovered a trunk containing the Antarctic memorabilia of former VX-6 member "Dee Cee" Nolan, who is deceased. Mary would like to help return these items to Nolan's family, and is looking for former VX-6 members who knew him or his family. Mary can be reached at: 24 Whispering Pines, W. Greenwich, RI 02817, or by phone at: 401-397-6346, or by email at: [mary@bucciinsurance.com](mailto:mary@bucciinsurance.com).

- HMC John C. Ingram who served in VXE-6 from 1982-86 lost all his pictures from his 1st year at McMurdo. He would like to buy, or borrow, any negatives you can part with they will be returned. He is also looking for any sailor who was assigned to Byrd Surface Camp in Nov 1982. John spent six weeks with that group and he needs pictures from there and from the underground Byrd Camp that they explored. John can be reached by email at: [jcingram2249@verizon.net](mailto:jcingram2249@verizon.net). By snail mail at: 5015 Courtside Dr. #138 Irving, TX 75038, or by telephone at: 972-257-2239.



**HMC Ingram from the VXE-6 DF-83 Cruise Book**

- Mike Canzoneri was an EN3 aboard the USS *Glacier* during DF-60 and 61 would like to know the rate of George Granatis. Mike was in engine room 2 and has many memories of the great crew he served with. Mike is also a member of the USS *Glacier* association and would like to contact as many members that he served with as well as members who also enjoyed the great adventure of Antarctica. Mike can be contacted by email at: [mike63vett@hotmail.com](mailto:mike63vett@hotmail.com), or by telephone at: 352 209 5701, or snail mail at: 2 Redwood Track Trace Ocala FL 34472-6178.

- Frank Graveson is looking for the names of some DF dogs. Below are the two emails he sent to me on the subject:

Dear Billy-Ace,

I have written a fairly comprehensive history of the rescue dogs, which were taken to McMurdo in 1955. I will send it separately.

One important piece of the story which I have been unable to discover is the full list of names of the team of 11 dogs which went to the South Pole—the first dogs to reach there since Amundsen in December 1911.

They deserve to have their names recorded. The dogs were flown in two R4-D flights on 20 November 1956 and returned to McMurdo on 7 January 1957.

Fortunately, they were not needed as rescue dogs but did perform valuable work collecting supplies from the parachutes, which landed some distance from the Pole.

The names, which I have been able to discover, are Toklet, Turk, Monad, and Blackie. I wonder if any of your members have a memory or a record of the names, which they could send to me.

Frank

**Editor's Note: The below photo is from Dave Grisez's slide collection. Unfortunately Dave did not mention the names of any of the dogs.**



*Photo by Dave Grisez*

**Dick Prescott and his dogs at the South Pole**



**Dave Grisez at the 2015 ADFA reunion**



**Dick Prescott at the 2011 ADFA reunion**

Dear Billy-Ace,

Another dog mystery. In early December 1957, Paul Dalrymple flew from McMurdo to South Pole Station with a young pup called "Blizzard" who was to be the station mascot for the 1958 winter.

**Editor's Note: The photos of Dalrymple, Blizzard, and the British Trans-Antarctic Expedition dogs are from the DF-III (1957-58) WO cruise book. The photo of Blizzard and Beauty are from the DF-IV (1958-59) WO cruise book. Apparently both dogs remained at South Pole Station.**



**Paul Dalrymple**



**Blizzard**

In late January 1958, the British contingent of the Trans-Antarctic Expedition arrived at the South Pole with 18 huskies. Admiral Dufek agreed to fly the dogs to McMurdo but as they were being loaded on to the plane, one escaped and refused to be caught. It was a female named "Beauty". Attempts to shoot her were unsuccessful and she roamed free until Paul Dalrymple befriended her and she remained as his personal pet for the winter.



**"Blizzard" and "Beauty"**  
Antarctica's laziest and the Queen's finest. From the DF-IV WO cruise book

**Editor's Note: South Pole Deep Freeze IV's polar pets, huskies of Alaskan and Siberian descent, maintained morale when they weren't mastering the art of not-too-malicious mischief. Their habits: Eating, sleeping, and contaminating the station water supply.**



**Fuchs's dogs resting after arriving at the South Pole**

When it came time to evacuate the two dogs to McMurdo in November 1958, Buzz Dryfoose, the pilot of the P2V, refused to take them as he had his own German shepherd dog on his plane.

What happened to the dogs after that is not recorded. Did they stay at the Pole for the 1959 winter? It has been suggested that, once more, Beauty was used for target practice—again unsuccessful—and she survived outside throughout the winter.

A Scott Base story says that "Beauty" was delivered there in late 1959 slung under a helicopter, but that dog (renamed "Beau") was a male and looked nothing like "Blizzard".

So what happened to "Blizzard" and "Beauty" and where did "Beau" come from?

Perhaps someone from OAEA can help with the answers? Sincerely,

**Editor's Note: Frank can be reached at: [frank.graveson@gmail.com](mailto:frank.graveson@gmail.com), or by snail mail at: 8A Cambria Rd Devenport Auckland 0624 New Zealand.**



**Fuchs's party and his dogs arrive at the South Pole**



● Pat McCormick is looking for anyone who remembers Dick Bowers, to send Dick greeting by email or card. Dick, who was at the time a CEC LTJG, was the construction officer for both McMurdo and South Pole Stations during DF-I and DF-II. He was a fine officer and is a very good friend. Although he suffers dementia he remembers clearly his/our exploits in Antarctica. He celebrated his 90th birthday on 19 June. Send him a card and express your thanks to one of the true Antarctic pioneers. His address is: Dick Bowers 9999 Hoosier Village Drive, Apt 141 Indianapolis IN 46268. His email address is: [rbowersindy@comcast.net](mailto:rbowersindy@comcast.net).

**Editor's Note: I also received a similar email from Dick's daughter Sue Huffer who expressed the following: If you have any way of contacting the few remaining members of Deep Freeze I & II, and wouldn't mind passing on this email to them, that would be great. A simple email would be welcome. Sue can be contacted at: [indyhuff@comcast.net](mailto:indyhuff@comcast.net)**



*Photo by Sue Huffer*  
**Dick at the ADFA Reunion 2015 in Indianapolis**



**Dick Bowers and Paul Siple at South Pole Station**

● Joyce Hopkins is planning on taking an Antarctic cruise. She would like to hear from anyone who has recently done so. She would like to know which cruise lines are recommended. She knows that all of them are expensive but would like to hear from some people who have taken them. Joyce can be contacted by email at: [jhop7134@aol.com](mailto:jhop7134@aol.com), by phone at: 281-794-7656, or by snail mail at: 19811 Corey Bend Ct., Richmond TX 77404.

● Steve Kelly who wintered-over at McMurdo during DF-72 as an RM1. Would like to hear from any one who wintered over with him. Steve can be contacted at: [skelly56@cox.net](mailto:skelly56@cox.net), 14011 Rose Ct, Poway, CA 92064-4033, or by phone at 480-926-1832.



**"Country" Steve Kelly from the DF-72 WO Cruise Book "An Invisible Sun"**

● Bruce DeWald found the below photo of *Phoenix Six* mislabeled as a VXN-8 aircraft on the VPNAVY website. Bruce would like to know if anyone knows the date and the location of where the photo was taken (with LC-130F 148320 in the background)? Bruce can be contacted by snail mail at: 929 E. Crown Ridge Drive, Oro Valley AZ 85755-8800. Or by telephone at: 520-825-6731. Or by email at: [bdewald63@gmail.com](mailto:bdewald63@gmail.com).



**Where and when was this photo taken?**

## Gulf Coast Group Chapter Happenings

by Billy-Ace Penguin Baker

**Saturday 7 April 2018**

**Meeting**—Only 17 members and guests showed up for our second meeting at David's Catfish House. The meeting room was not set up, so early arrivals had to remain outside until tables and chairs were arranged.



**Ken Pye looks on while Billy Blackwelder, and Gus Shinn give Billy-Ace a friendly hug**

There was no guest speaker and we did not hold 50/50, or door prize drawings. And the photo above was the only one taken.

While waiting for our food to be served OAEA GCG Chapter President, "Duck" Talbert made a few announcements about the forthcoming 2018 OAEA Reunion in San Antonio, TX. And due to the reunion being held in early May that we would not have a GCG Chapter meeting in May. He also announced that this would be our last meeting at George's and that we would be looking for a new meeting location. I volunteered to check with Sonny's BBQ on Navy Boulevard when I return from San Antonio.

**Editor's Note: Upon my return from San Antonio I contacted Sonny's and made arrangements to have our next meeting there on 2 June.**

**Saturday 2 June 2018 Meeting**—23 members and guest attended our first meeting at Sonny's BBQ since 7 March 2015.



**Our guest speaker, Jacquie Bashaw**



**Danny Thomson & Memaw Konrad**

Because I had waited to reserve the meeting room at Sonny's the management had booked another group at 2 p.m. and asked that we be out not later than 1 p.m. I had scheduled a guest speaker before I went to San Antonio and I was afraid that we would not have sufficient time to eat lunch, and have our raffles in addition to the guest speaker. However, Carl Jackson, who had arranged the speaker, assured me that there would be plenty of time for the speaker. Well, to make a long story short, we had lunch and the speaker, but there was not enough time for our raffles. Even though Mary Lou insisted that we all fall in for a group photo.



**Nellie and Walter Marsh**



**Carl Jackson, and Jacque Bashaw of the Myrtle Grove Neighborhood Watch**



**Almeda Thompson & Martha Nash**



**Mary & Bill Fazio**



**Ken Pye & Pam Landy**

Two members who we have not seen in a long, long time were in attendance. Namely Jim McCreary (VX-6 60-62), and Lee Wright (USS *Atka*, helo Det 61-62)

Our guest speaker was Jacque Bashaw who is president of the Myrtle Grove Neighborhood Watch. In addition to her presentation she passed out several handouts that included an Escambia County Emergency Management Disaster Guide. Following a question and answer period Duck made a few announcements, and we had a group photo taken by Mary Lou.



**Jim Speed & Gus Shinn**



**Jack sips his drink while Rainie & Duck cuddle.**



**Me in the front**  
**Jack McLendon, Rainie Talbert, Mary Lou Platt & Duck**  
*in the background. I wonder what Duck did to get banished to the sidelines?*



**Gus hitting on our waitress**

An interesting side note is that I was informed that Jacque is the widow of PR2 Bashaw who served in VX-6 during DF-62 and 63. The name rang a bell, so when I got home I checked the OAEA GCG Chapter Roster and found that he was a member, but he was not a member of the OAEA. Apparently I sent him an OAEA Info Packet back in 2011, but he never joined. After doing some more research I found out that he had attended the VX6/VXE-6 reunion in 2011 and I got his name and address from the reunion roster.



**Bob Bashaw 1963**



**Jacque & Bob Bashaw**

Thanks to our guest speaker, Karl Jackson, and Memaw Konrad for passing out the literature. Thanks to Dick Spaulding for providing the black and white photos of Bashaw. Thanks to Sean Baker and Mary Lou for taking the candid photos. Our next meeting will be at Sonny's on 7 July.



**Group Photo of 2 June Meeting**

**Standing:** Almeda Thompson, Martha Nash, Liz Konrad, Ken Pye, Billy-Ace, Jack McLendon, Daniel, Sean, Reine & Duck, Jim McCreary, Pam Landy, Walter & Nelly Marsh. **Seated:** Carl Jackson, Jacque Bashaw, Gary Forney, Jim Speed, Gus Shinn, Mary & Bill Fazio. **Not pictured:** Lee Wright