

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 19, Issue 3 Old Antarctic Explorers Association, Inc Jul-Sep 2019



The McMurdo USAP Chalet—Soon to be Torn Down

Joint Task Force Kicks Off 64th Year Of DOD Antarctic Mission

A U.S. Air Force Globemaster III, assigned to the 304th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., landed at McMurdo Station, Antarctica, on 31 August 2019.

The aircraft delivered personnel and cargo to McMurdo, marking the first flight of the 2019–2020 Operation Deep Freeze season (ODF).

ODF is a joint service, inter-agency support for the National Science Foundation (NSF), which manages the United States Antarctic Program (USAP). Joint Task Force-Support Forces Antarctica (JTF-SFA), provides Department of Defense support to the NSF and the USAP through ODF.

“The 2019–2020 ODF season marks the 60th Anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty and the 64th year of military dedication, ingenuity, and labor in support of the Antarctic mission,” said Colonel Jamielyn Thompson, JTF-SFA deputy commander. “Each season presents new challenges; yet, the men and women volunteering to support ODF continue to demonstrate their courage, determination, innovation, and hard work. Without them, our ability to ensure the success of the scientific research and to provide transportation and logistics to the USAP and the NSF would be impossible.”

Continued on page 4

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Ed Hamblin—OAEA President

TO ALL OAES—Here it is, fall already (at least in this hemisphere).

Things happening this last quarter include scholarship awards, more in this issue. Also ongoing digitizing of membership applications and I have also been training on learning website administration thanks to Bob Gaboury, our very patient with me webmaster.



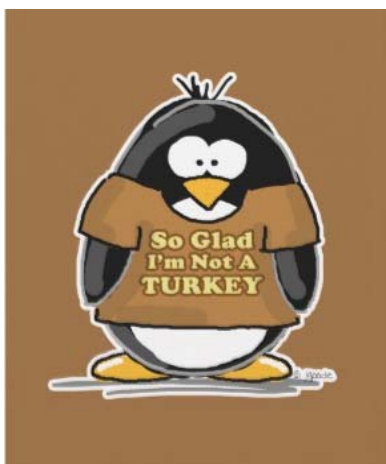
Dr. Dewey Painter in Jacksonville FL and George Lusk in San Diego have been working on the next two reunions. By the time you read this, I hope to have a Jacksonville reunion information flyer posted on the website. It is not the reunion information and registration which we will mail out to hands in the Spring (approximately 6-8 months before the reunion), but just an overview of what to expect and I hope enough to whet your appetite.

And ongoing, keeping track of new memberships and saying farewell to members who are no longer with us. Bob Gaboury the webmaster is still working very hard to keep people in the information loop. He has done numerous e-mails and a "phone blast" to try to get back in touch with members we haven't heard from in a while.

We are also continuing with the *Explorer's Gazette* subscription service, and have rolled into our second year of service on that.

Finally, the holiday season will be on use before the next issue of the Gazette hits the streets. Happy holidays. Stay safe, and stay warm until next time. Catch you down the road.

Ed Hamblin



GROWLERS & BERGY BYTES

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

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GUS SHINN TURNS 97

Actually we had a birthday breakfast at the Shake 'N Steak Restaurant in Pensacola on 11 September, which was one day before his actual birthday.

I was told that 20 people had been invited, but I only counted 17. According to Blackwelder 19 showed up. Not a big crowd, but everyone had a good time. I guess we were a bit rowdy because some of the other customers thought that we were having a 9/11 Remembrance party.



Gus when he was much younger



PPD SGT Maria Landy had to get back to work, so she is seen here giving Gus a so long hug

64 Years of ODF

From Page 1

JTF-SFA coordinates strategic inter-theater airlift, tactical deep field support, aeromedical evacuation support, search and rescue response, sealift, seaport access, bulk fuel supply logistics, port cargo handling and transportation requirements.



(USAF photo)

USAF C-17 Globemaster III is unloaded after returning from one of the last ODF flights of the 2018-2019 Antarctic research season at the Christchurch International Airport, on 21 February 2019. Led by Pacific Air Forces, the JTF-SFA provides the NSF-managed USAP with logistical support.



Christchurch Passenger Terminal at Harewood

“For the upcoming ODF season, we are conducting a proof of concept test with the Air Force Portable Doppler Radar system,” said Thompson. “This test will evaluate the PDR’s ability to improve detection and forecasting of hazardous weather conditions in the vicinity of McMurdo station. The PDR was chosen due to its reduced footprint, remote interface and capabilities to provide mission-impacting weather data in global austere environments via real-time Doppler products to designated sites.”

The intent of the PDR deployment to McMurdo will be to support JTF-SFA’s strategic inter- and intra-theater airlift missions.

“From October 2019 to February 2020, technicians will observe and evaluate the PDR’s operational capability in Antarctica’s extreme environment,” said Thompson. “If

successful, procurement plans are in place to deploy the PDR system on a long-term basis.”

The DOD’s logistical support to the USAP, helps enable the nation’s scientific research on the southernmost continent.



Sandwich Girl on the way South with all the people that she is bringing with her.



Sandwich Girl is at McMurdo Station, Antarctica, and the weather is 113 degrees colder (125 if you factor wind chill). Her husband Bryan will join her in a few weeks, and she couldn’t be more excited.

The 2018–2019 ODF season saw the first fully operational deployment of a USAF LC-130H fleet modified with new propellers. The aircraft supported JTF-SFA to oversee and direct 270 airlift missions, moving over 6.7 million pounds of material, nearly one million pounds of fuel and transporting 4,658 passengers.

The ODF season runs annually, 1 August through 31 July. This timeframe allows the NSF’s research teams and partnered entities the safest and most efficient method of accomplishing their joint goals.



Someone left the door to Sandwich’s room open

Hi Billy-Ace,

Just read the cover story and thought you did a good job editing it.

Good luck finding a photo of the geologic feature named after you.

--Mark Gordon
magordon@theriver.com

B-A,

In my opinion, the below email from Hilda Perlitsh is delightful enough to post in the *Gazette*. I believe her comment about 'preserving memory and fellowship,' etc. was directed to you – the Editor.

Max Perlitsh bio: CAPT (DC), USN (Ret.); w/o Little America V, DF-III. OAEA Life member.

Max and Hilda reside in Winchester, Mass.

I looked for a photo of Max in my Chapter database, but do not have one – not even a mug shot. As far as I can tell, he only attended one Chapter meeting – April 2006 with Hilda. He did NOT attend either the 2006 or 2016 reunion.

Marty Diller

From: Hilda D Perlitsh
To: mgdiller@comcast.net

Max had a triple bypass and valve replacement May 2 and is now better than ever! Doc says that he is "poster boy for bypass at 89"....Just Celebrated 90. Thanks so much. For future reference His email is mjperlitsh@gmail.com.



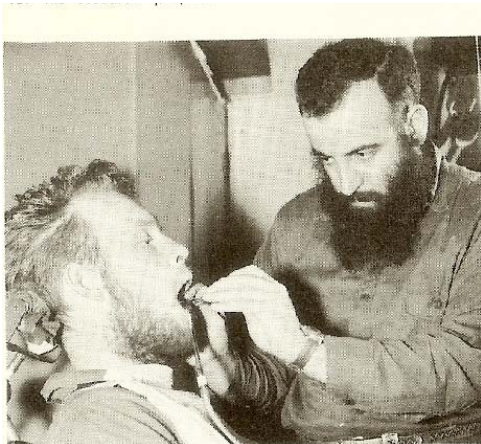
Dr. Perlitsh

The opening words of my toast were that "I am indebted to the Navy because the Navy kept him on ice for me so that I could meet this eligible bachelor when I moved to Boston in 1961."

PS, Love the *Gazette*! Keep up the great work of preserving memory and fellowship and sharing valuable information!

Best regards

Hilda D Perlitsh



Dr Perlitsh did monthly checks on each man at Little America V. Here Red Colder receives his exam,

Penguin:

I really enjoyed the latest *Gazette*. The cover story was very interesting.

Gus Shinn
via telephone

Aloha Billy-Ace,

CONGRATULATIONS! Another fabulous *Gazette*! I enjoyed seeing the OPERATION HIGHJUMP article. Every time I go to the ALL HANDS archives I find very poor quality reproductions with lots of grey shading and faded corners.

Whoever cleaned the up did an excellent job.

Keep up the great work!

Bruce DeWald
bdewald63@gmail.com

Hi Billy!

I hope you are well. Even the reunion is over a year away I'm looking forward to it. I've attached a picture of a wall quilt I made purely for ego gratification (hahahhh) bragging rights etc. I'll bring it to the reunion in Nov 2020 for giggles and grins. Thanks for keeping me in the loop!

Cheers!

Starr Seesler
sseesler@yahoo.com



Editor's Note: I really like it. Can you make one for me?

Dear Editor:

Thank you for this grand 44-page document. I enjoyed reading every page and found it fantastic that so much information had been gathered and assembled so well.

Just want to say thanks for an excellent publication.

Dewey Painter
oaea2020reunion@gmail.com

From Facebook: Andy Cameron writes:

My father passed away Sunday night on the flight home from Seattle. He was not in pain and did not suffer. His heart just stopped an hour out from home. A doctor and two EMTs on the flight tried to revive him with no success. I was at the airport, and brought him gently home. Per his wishes, his ashes will be returned to family, no memorial, no services, no church stuff, no flowers, his only request: "for everyone to read a poem to someone you love". (Most fitting of the man)



He worked both Arctic and Antarctic from the 1956/57/58 IGY. He was always impressed with the 'Courage Sacrifice Devotion' of the US Navy/SeeBees/VXE-6. From each loadmaster, pilot, ops mgr, and helped out with the Navy line cooks for breakfast and at Thanksgiving. He & I truly admire all you OAEs especially Billy-Ace Baker, the Chiefs, & all who truly pushed the Navy leadership spirit on the ice.

Dad never bragged, as he was more interested in others, your lives, and your stories. His obit is on the following website:

https://prod3.meaningfulfunerals.net/obituary/richard-dick-l-cameron?fh_id=15630. You can click on it to leave your comment in memoriam. If you had met him, he loved and admired you.

Andy Cameron

McM1977/SouthPole winter over 78/79



Dick, Bently & the Admiral after the traverse



Dick and Andy at NPX

From The Editor:

In the *In Memory* column of the last issue of the *Gazette* the death notice for Raymond Angleton stated that he was the first Coast Guard member to set foot at the South Pole and that he had won the trip in a drawing. The truth is that he was part of a working party. See the below photo from the TF-43 DF-60 cruise book.



EN3 Raymond Angleton, and SA Carl Fitton, became the first Coast Guard men to reach the South Pole. They were members of a special 10-man working party sent there to construct new buildings and assist with plane unloading.

Hi Billy-Ace;

I really enjoyed the article about Operation Highjump in the latest edition of OAEA Quarterly. A crewman of the *Pine Island* gave me a video of the MGM documentary of Operation Highjump called *The Silent Land*. If anyone is interested. I am having my copy transferred from VHS to DVD for better preservation. Your article expands much more information about the documentary, and I am keeping a copy of your article as a detailed description of that great event!

I was surprised to learn about an American being a stowaway crewman on Sir Ernest Shackleton's ship *Endurance*. The books I have on that excursion doesn't seem to mention that he was an American.

Keep up the good work.

Cleland McBurney
Deepfreeze '60-61
sockeye@terraworld.net

The next three letters are from the OAEA Guest Book:
Dan Evans writes:

I heard the Beach Boys perform **Here Comes the Sun** by the Beatles at Biltmore Estate in North Carolina last week. The words it's been a long cold lonely winter brought back memories from when I Wintered-Over at McMurdo.

SK3 Dan Evans
SS 76/77 W/O 78 NSFA.

Bob Gaboury writes:

My granddaughter is taking singing lessons and is about to perform at a mini-concert, She asked me what song I would like for her to sing and dedicate to me. What a coincidence It's this very same song **Here Comes The Sun**.

Gabby W/O DF-75 CEC

Kevin Ball writes:

Greetings to Billy-Ace from the Engineering Officer DF-76-79.

I want to mention the loss of Leonard LeSchack around Christmas 2017. He was on the IGY and other varied trips to the ice. He's better known for his CIA activities which, when portions were declassified, is fascinating. Just Google *Operation Coldfeet*. We talked a lot about the ice, and our 20-year gap in being there, at our local bar.

Also was curious about the Memorial List. Was that deaths on the ice or also in homeport? You would remember CEC Ralph Wright. Carried him out to the C-141 and that was the last I saw him alive. Ran into the PAO who followed Gene Valentine. He handled the ANZ-901 crash into Erebus. Only time I see him is on cruise boats in the Arabian or Bering Sea. Small world.

CAPT Kevin Ball
CEC, USNR (Ret) from Bonners Ferry

Editor's Note: I was able to find LeSchack's obit and it is in this issue. The Memorial List is just for those who were killed or died in Antarctica. And yes I remember Ralph Wright very well.

To Antarctic Admiral Billy Ace-Baker:

I'm stunned and pleased at the newest *Gazette*—44 pages of most interesting news from 'way down under, great information about groups and pictures! Pictures and Pictures. And I am only one third the way through, reading it at any time I have while slaving on my computer for sales of my products.

Congratulations Billy. Now please don't drive yourself into a rehab facility by trying to beat this edition with the next one. One wonderful OAEA newsletter per year is really enough and something.

Thank you sir.

Able Deckhand Member
John "Shivers" Lenkey

Hello Billie-Ace:

I was going through old emails to see if I had any from Dick Cameron. It sounds like he had a peaceful passing, especially being closer to heaven in an airplane! Very sad for his family and friends though.

I did not find correspondence from him but the letter below is from Dutch Dolleman's niece in 2013 was fun to read, especially the part about the grandmother inviting "nice, young men" from Grenier Air Field to their home for Thanksgiving. Dutch Dolleman is buried in Manchester, NH, not far from the airport that is fitting for him.

Savor the heat, winter will be coming!!

Sarah Gillens
sarah.gillens@comcast.net

Dear Sarah:

Looks like another hot day today in the 90s. I received your book on Friday. I have never had such a quick turn-around time for a book order from a publisher - 24 hours! I enjoyed reading it last evening. Loved your illustrations and the photos helped the book to come alive!

Susannah and Hendrik Dolleman were Hendrik's parents. They lived just down the street (Winter St.) from the Fischer residence. My Aunt Frances who was an "old maid" and married Hendrik when she was in her 30s. She was very thin and frail, loved cats and kept an immaculate home. If you washed your hands in the bathroom, she'd be right behind you with the scouring cleanser to wash the sink (which to me seemed a bit excessive). I wonder if she met Hendrik because of the fact that my grandmother would always call Grenier Air Field and ask the C.O. to send two or three well-behaved young men to join the family for Thanksgiving dinner (as if 13 people were not already enough at the table). I fear she had ulterior motives!

The two sisters, Frances and Sylvia, were extremely close in life. It is no surprise that they and their husbands are buried together. Sylvia's children were treated as though they belonged to Frances. One of the differences between them and my mother, Frances' sister too, is that my father moved his family away from the West side of Manchester, where most of the Fischers lived, to the North end of Manchester and then out of the city altogether to Deerfield (1963). In those days, it was like we'd moved to the moon!

Patricia Cummings
quilter, quilt historian, magazine columnist, and book author
pat@quiltersmuse.com



Dutch Dolleman's tombstone

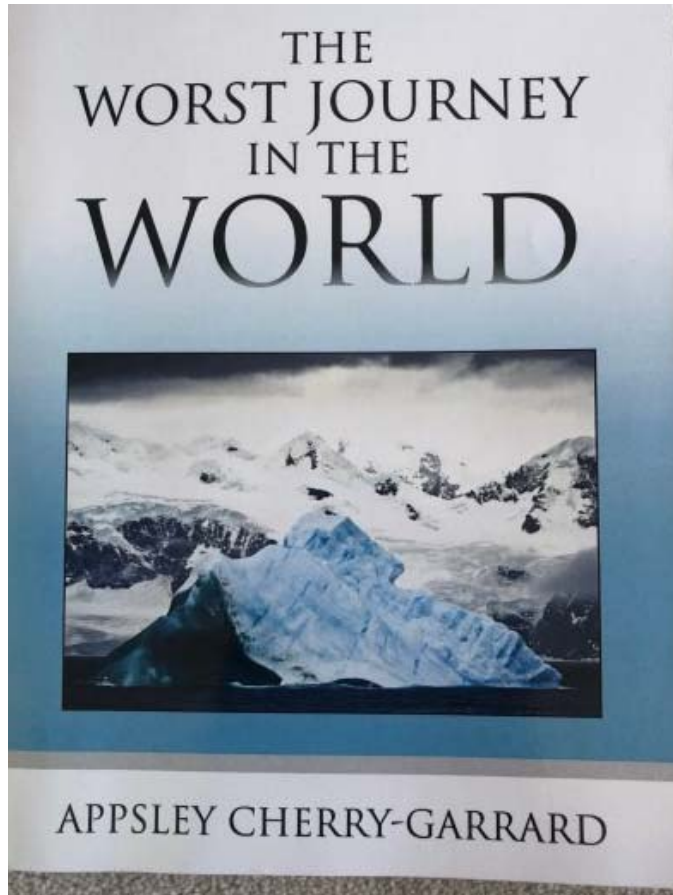
Billy-Ace

I just bought this at a used bookstore. Perfect condition!

I've scanned it for my research. I love that he waited to write it. I find the whole thing very sad.

Leilani Henry

leilani@beingandliving.com



Billy-Ace:

I'm getting quite a collection. I have not looked at these yet.

Leilani Henry

leilani@beingandliving.com



Billy-Ace:

A great paper really! Everything stops when it arrives, 'till I finish it.

Thank you for the great work.

Al Buckes

By snail mail

Hi Billy-Ace,

You talked me into it; attached is my Antarctic story, for what it is worth. I took the opportunity to have a brief exchange of email with Mark Gordon after reading his story.

Thanks for your continuing efforts with the OAEA. It takes dedicated people like you to keep an outfit like that afloat.

Regards,

Henry Brecher

brecher.1@osu.edu

Editor's Note: Henry's story begins below.

THE 'SARP WITH TWO SURNAMES

By Henry Brecher

Taking my cue from Mark Gordon's piece in the previous issue of the *Explorer's Gazette*, I have decided to accept your invitation to send you the story of my Antarctic experience. Incidentally, I am one of the other three trainee aurora observers who were with Mark at the Air Force Cambridge Research Laboratory (AFCRL) in 1969.

Unlike Gordon Valley, there does not seem to be a photo of "my" Antarctic topographic feature, Mount Brecher in the Wisconsin Range, on the web. However, a colleague at the Byrd Center

took a photo of it for me many years ago (see page 12). There is a bit of a story to tell about that.



By sheer coincidence the two peaks in the photo (nunataks really, not mountains; Mt. LeSchack on the right, Mt. Brecher on the left) happen to be named for two RPI alumni who graduated a year apart in the mid-1950s and later wintered over separately a couple of years apart at the same Antarctic station, Byrd, in the late 1950s without ever meeting or knowing each other. Incidentally, I had a second topographic feature named for me, Brecher Glacier, a very small tributary of Byrd Glacier, after doing field work there in 1978-79.

Antarctic Landmarks Named After Henry Brecher

Name: Mount Brecher
 Feature Type: Mountain
 Coordinates: 85°24'S 124°22'W
 Description: A jagged rock mountain, 2,100 metres (6,900 ft) high, standing immediately west of Mount LeSchack in the northern Wisconsin Range. It was mapped by the United States Geological Survey from surveys and from U.S. Navy air photos, 1959–60, and named by the Advisory Committee on Antarctic Names for Henry H. Brecher, a member of the Byrd Station winter party, 1960, who returned to Antarctica to do glaciological work in several succeeding summer seasons.

Name: Brecher Glacier
 Feature Type: Glacier
 Coordinates: 80°42'S 157°28'E
 Description: A broad glacier five nautical miles (9 km) long in the north Churchill Mountains that flows north between the Rundle Peaks and Mandarich Massif into Byrd Glacier. It was named after Henry H. Brecher of the Byrd Polar Research Center, Ohio State University; he conducted Antarctic glaciological investigations for over 30 years, 1960–95, including determinations of surface velocities and elevations on Byrd Glacier.

MY ORIGINS

My “origins” could hardly be more different from Mark’s. I was the only child of Ernst and Klara Tussig Brecher. I was born on 29 August 1932 in Graz, Austria (the second-largest city in the country) where my father was a merchant, in time to experience the Anschluss (annexation) of the country by Germany in 1938 when I was five-and-a-half years old.

Because we were Jewish, my parents decided (correctly) that they should get me out of the country before things got bad. Consequently, I went to live first with the family of a cousin of my father in Zagreb, Yugoslavia, Felix and Edith Rendi. Three years later, when the Nazis occupied Zagreb, I was sent to the town of Split to live with the Rosenthals. I was adopted informally by them and therefore used their last name for about 20 years thereafter. Then in the spring of 1944, my foster mother, Lydia Rosenthal, and myself along with her two children Alfred and Edith fled across the Adriatic Sea to Italy with the help of the partisan Underground Railroad. After a short stay in the Bari, Italy displaced persons camp and then in the countryside near Santa Croce, I came to the United States on the USS *Henry Gibbins*, a military troop transport. The refugees were taken to the Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego in

August 1944. In February 1946 I went to live with cousins in New York.

After the end of the war I was eventually allowed to remain as an ordinary immigrant.

Both of my parents perished in the concentration camps. Of my father’s (Ernst’s) four siblings, two uncles survived. One made his way to England via Shanghai; the other spent the war in internment camps in Siberia and later returned to Austria.



Ernst and Klara Brecher go for a walk in the park in Graz, circa 1934 with their son Heinz (Henry) and their dogs.



Heinz Brecher and his older cousin Robert Mayer stand next to a no parking sign in front of Heinz's apartment building in Graz.



Heinz (Henry) sledding near his apartment in Graz, 1935, age 3, university building in background



Henry at RPI, autumn 1954 soccer goalie

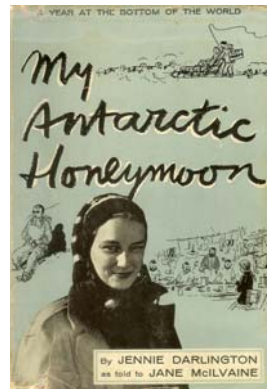
I graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in 1955 with a degree in mechanical engineering and after completing my ROTC military service obligation in the Air Force went to work for Pratt and Whitney Aircraft, the aircraft engine manufacturer, in East Hartford, Connecticut. Although the work itself was interesting enough I was not happy with the industrial atmosphere and after about a year was looking for something else to do. One day one of my co-workers told me about an announcement he had seen from an organization, which was looking for people to go to Antarctica. That's all I knew. He had an address (it was AFCRL) and I submitted my resume. I was soon hired to

winter over at one of the four U.S. Antarctic stations as aurora observer. Even though they were looking for physicists there was evidently a shortage of applicants and "any warm body" with a technical background would do; two of the four of us were in fact mechanical engineers. Because I had an uncle living in Buenos Aires at the time, I asked to be assigned to Ellsworth Station, on the South American side of Antarctica, in order to have the opportunity to visit him on the trip south. The powers that be, however, decided to send me to Byrd Station instead. In retrospect that was a very favorable decision for me because it turned out that ice conditions were so bad in 1959 that the ship with the replacement crew for Ellsworth could not reach the station. Had I been on that ship I would never even have reached Antarctica at all to begin with, much less become an OAE. My trip to Antarctica in November 1959 was by the usual flight on the Navy C-121 Super Constellation from Christchurch to McMurdo.



Super Connie Phoenix Six

Of course I knew nothing whatever about aurora physics—nor about Antarctica. I vaguely remembered having read an abbreviated story of Scott's ill-fated expedition to the South Pole in grade school. The training program run by AFCRL, which included visits to several academic establishments in the field, gave us a reasonable introduction to the science and taught us how to carry out the observations. These consisted in running two instruments, processing the film from them and making visual observations. Because the aurorae are generally not visible in daylight, there was no observing to be done during the first several months at Byrd after my arrival in November 1959. So I volunteered for odd jobs around the station and spent a lot of time in the darkroom processing film and making prints and producing Christmas cards for all and sundry. I also cadged rides on resupply flights to field parties and other flights from Byrd. Among others, I was on the reconnaissance flight, which "discovered" the Jones Mountains and determined that Thurston was an island, not a peninsula. I also read all of Jenny Darlington's *My Antarctic Honeymoon* on that flight. I recommend it highly.



Dust jacket of Jenny's book. I recommend it too!



Mount Brecher and Mount LeSchack. Named for two intrepid OAEs!

The winter at Byrd was an interesting and more or less uneventful experience. My exposure to, and very limited participation in, fieldwork in the 1959–60 summer made me want to get out “into the field” in the next summer season and so I tried to find a way to do that by contacting (buttonholing) anyone I could think of to let me accompany them in their 1960–61 field season, but to no avail. At the time I did not understand that a field party was assembled at home and they were not likely to need volunteers on arrival in Antarctica. But my efforts in this respect turned out to be not entirely in vain because one space for a “scientist” was still available on the Byrd Station to South Pole tractor train in the 1960–61 summer and I was offered the spot because I had been asking for such an opportunity. The operation was organized by the Naval Support Force specifically for the purpose of

transporting two Caterpillar D-8 bulldozers to Pole for construction at the station there. This turned out to be the first American party to reach the South Pole on the ground. Major Antero Havola, the officer in charge of the operation, wanted to have “science” done on the trip and two spare bunk spaces had therefore been made available for “scientists”. When Dr. Richard Goldthwait, a geology professor at Ohio State University and the founder of the Institute of Polar Studies there (now the Byrd Polar and Climate Research Center, BPCRC), who was at Byrd Station with a field party, found out that I was going on the tractor train he suggested that I could do some worthwhile glaciological work by making standard observations in pits along the route. He showed me what to do and I dug a pit and made observations every night along the whole 800-mile route. He asked me to get in touch with him and offered to provide me with a month’s office space and salary to write a report if I obtained any material. So I came to Ohio State in the spring of 1961 and wrote a report that was published later as a paper in the *Journal of Glaciology*.



Henry Preparing snow accumulation stakes to set out at mile markers on the Byrd to Pole traverse



Arrival of tractor train party at South Pole, January 1961. Henry standing left of sign



Digging one of the nightly 2-meter "glaciology" pits for measurement of accumulation and temperature profiles

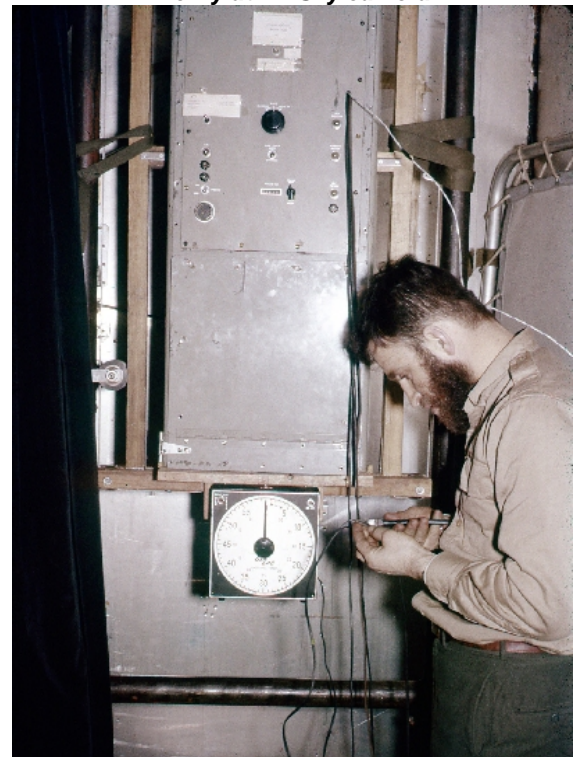
This was the beginning of my (now 57-year) association with BPCRC. At Dr. Goldthwait's suggestion I came back to Ohio State in January 1962 to start graduate school in Geodetic Science with a student assistantship at the Institute of Polar Studies. I did field work, mostly surveying and photogrammetry applied to glaciological investigations, both summer and winter and North and South, year-in and year-out. It included some 15 field seasons in virtually every environment in Antarctica, from Plateau Station to Deception Island, as well as many seasons in the Arctic and several glaciated high mountain areas in many parts of the world. Although I retired formally from Ohio State under an early retirement incentive program after 25 years of service at the end of 1988. I have been fortunate to be allowed to continue to stay connected with BPCRC for the subsequent 30 years—and counting!



Henry at All-Sky camera



***photo from the TF-43 DF-60 cruise book
At Byrd Station Henry Rosenthal (AKA) Brecher prepares
all-sky camera for installation***



Another scene of Henry at aurora equipment



On Christmas Eve 1959 R4D-8 (Buno 17154) crashed while attempting a landing in a whiteout at Byrd Station. Lieutenant Garland M. Regenar was on final approach when the Dakota stalled and the right wing dropped. Although Regenar applied power and used his rudder to compensate, the right wing hit the surface and broke. There were no injuries, but the aircraft was destroyed.



Henry at Byrd mess-cooking during winter



Henry carrying box that was aboard the Dakota that crashed at Byrd Station during DF-60. The box has DO NOT AIRDROP stenciled on it and it also has DEEP FREEZE FIVE and DEEP FREEZE V stenciled on it in several places. Editor's Note: DF-60 would have been DF-5 if the powers that be had not changed wording for the operation to be named for the fiscal year after DF-IV.



photo from the TF-43 DF-60 cruise book
Henry Rosenthal (AKA) Brecher poses for his mug shot



A recent photo of Henry

ANTARCTIC



ADVENTURES

Written by Yolonda Washington



Journey and her mother Yolonda

PART TWO

If you will recall, back in January 2019, in the newsletter was an article about my daughter Journey bringing her poster presentation, “Be Nice to the Ice” to the Gulf Coast Group Chapter meeting.



Journey and her poster at the January 2019 OAEA GCG Chapter meeting

I think it is important to take a moment to share why research about pollutants reaching the White Continent is an emerging science.

There she was climbing down a glacial rock face of a cliff on Antarctica’s Half Moon Island. What was she doing there? My daughter Journey was assisting in a research project.

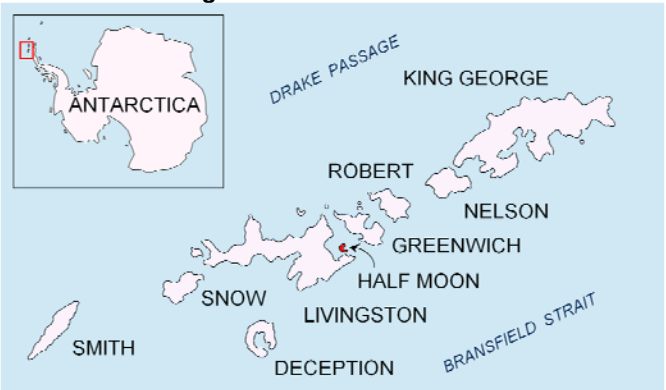
There is a huge problem developing on our planet that we can no longer ignore. It is expanding pollution. Humans are creating more pollutants than our planet can handle. It is now affecting our livelihood in ways we previously thought unimaginable.

We witnessed first-hand how far-reaching it has become. Journey had the great opportunity to support M. Ginzburg on his trip to Antarctica. She took part in the Citizens Science project that was investigating whether micro and macro plastics were reaching the White Continent. We are all aware of the mounds of garbage on land and the Pacific Ocean Garbage Patch. However, many thought that the wind and

water currents were keeping pollutants away from the large uninhabited continent located at the very southern portion of our world.

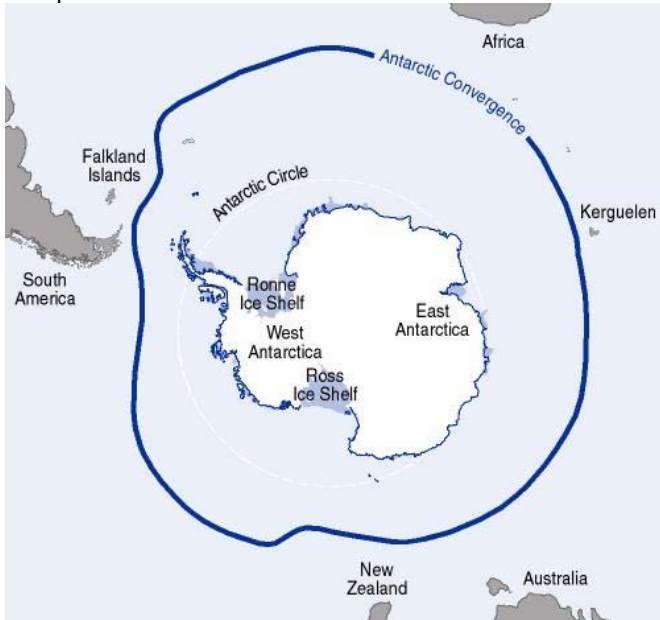


Half Moon Island from Kuzman Knoll, Livingston Island, with Greenwich Island in the background. The Argentine Navy Cámara Base is located on the island. It is only accessible by sea and by helicopter; there is no airport of any kind. The naval base is operational occasionally during the summer, but is closed during the winter.



Maps showing Half Moon Island

Unfortunately, the Antarctic Convergence, the circulating waterway traveling around Antarctica, has been transgressed by plastic. Journey found evidence of human garbage, dissolved plastic, and discarded items along its coast and waterways. Her job was to photograph, GPS the position, and collect pieces of the debris for measurement and identification. It was also interesting that other shipboard members aboard the MV *Ortelius* began to look around and take part.



The Antarctic Convergence or Antarctic Polar Front is a curve continuously encircling Antarctica, varying in latitude seasonally, where cold, northward-flowing Antarctic waters meet the relatively warmer waters of the sub Antarctic. Antarctic waters predominantly sink beneath the warmer sub Antarctic waters, while associated zones of mixing and upwelling create a zone very high in marine productivity, especially for Antarctic krill.

Why does this matter? It matters because now we have evidence that our planet is becoming more polluted and no area is immune. It matters because the once pristine waters can become infected and the wildlife there are in danger. It matters because we see that our efforts in basic recycling and clean-up are not enough.

It matters because it's no longer someone else's problem. It's all of ours. Antarctica is not owned or governed by a single entity; it is under collaborative governance. It is mostly a place of science exploration. But it is more than that; it is astonishingly beautiful. Less than 1% of the world's population has been there, so why is there evidence of trash? Because of human carelessness and disregard. We need greater surveillance and laws for tourism and science stations. The problem is growing everywhere and is now breaching into Antarctica.

What can be done? We need collaborative guidelines and enforceable laws governing waste disposal. As we venture into new territories, it is imperative that we establish strict

rules of engagement and interaction with the environment. And on a bigger scale we need even further study into the effects of pollutants on our health, because unfortunately until it becomes personal, many will not see reasons to act. We must develop and utilize our most viable solutions.



Journey



Fruit



Gopro

We plan to continue participation in the Citizens Science project.

Why should it matter? Because this is our home, and we all must care. Antarctica is considered "pristine", let us try to keep it that way!

(Thank you for taking time to read this "public service article" I have written. Next issue, back to our *Antarctic Adventures* toward the ice!!)

—*To Be Continued*



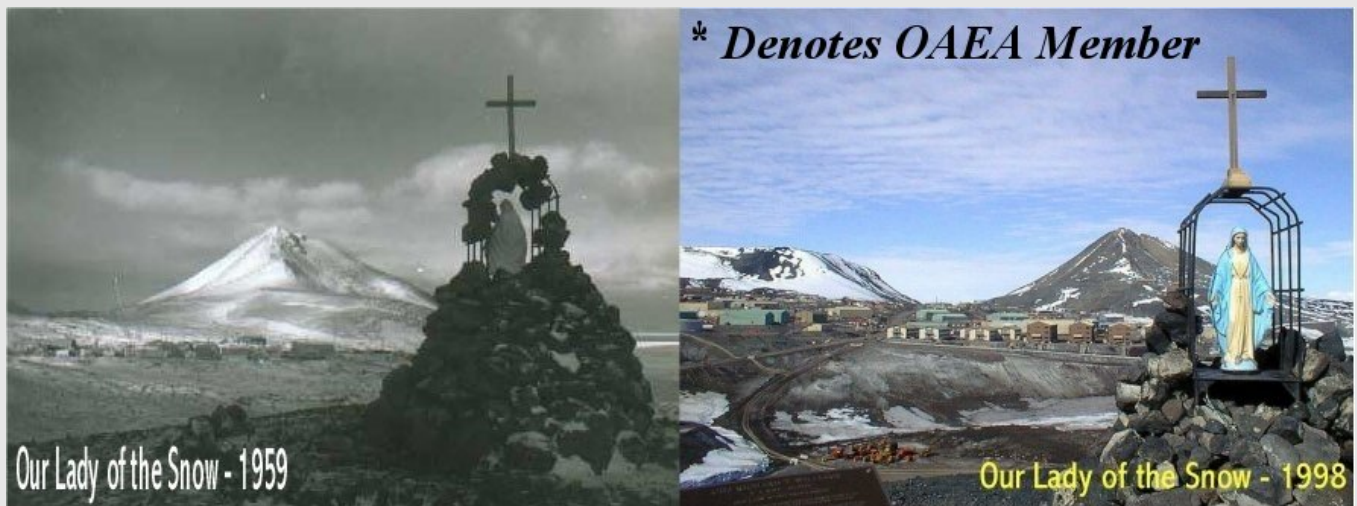
Tag on string



Michael and Journey



Plastic bottles in the dump. Editor's Note: In my days it was beer cans.



IN MEMORY

OAE Irmgard Alders, 80, died on 23 August 2019, at Glen Arden, Goshen, NY. Irmgard visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Ronald Ralph Anderson, 83, died on 25 June 2019, in Bath VA Community Living Center and previously of 31 Seneca Drums, Himrod, NY. Ronald served in Antarctica for six months while in the US Navy. Unit and year unknown.

OAE Prof Leslie William "Les" Barclay, OBE, BSc, died on 31 July 2019, at Saint Michael's Hospice, Harrogate, UK. Les wintered-over at Halley Bay in 1957-58 as a radio ionospheric researcher with the British Antarctic Survey (BAS).

OAEA Samuel Morris Bass, 94, died on 15 August 2019, in Fayetteville, NC. Samuel served in Antarctica on a merchant ship. Name of ship and year unknown.

OAE John Judson Beaton, 89, died on 2 August 2019, in Hampton Falls, NH. John was as high altitude mountain climber and he climbed Mt Vinson in Antarctica,

OAE Jack A. Bechtel, 85, died on 12 April 2019, in Shenandoah, TX. Jack visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE James "Jim" Ray Bobo, 9, died on 1 September 2019, at Valley Baptist Medical Center, in Harlington, TX. Jim visited Antarctica on his honeymoon with his wife Velma in December 2012. They were both 85

OAE Carl Salisbury Bornholt, 85, died on 2 August 2019, in Chicago, IL. Carl visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Raymond Edwin "Eddy" Bridges, 79, died on 29 August 2019, in College Station, TX. Eddy served in Antarctica while in the US Navy. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Master Chief (AGCM) James Oliver Bryant, Jr., USN (Ret), 80, died on 19 August 2019, in Pensacola, FL. Jim served in Antarctica with Antarctic Support Activities (ASA) as a meteorologist. Year(s) unknown.

*OAE Dr. Richard "Dick" Leo Cameron, PhD, 89, of Collinsville, IL, died on 22 July 2019, in St. Louis, MO. Dick participated in the International Geophysical Year (IGY) as Chief Glaciologist at Wilkes Station, Antarctica. He spent from December 1956 to February 1958 in Antarctica. From 1975 through 1985 he was the National Science Foundation (NSF) Program Manager. A big moment for him was standing at the Geographic South Pole with his son, Andy, in November 1979. Cameron Island is named in his honor. https://prod3.meaningfulfunerals.net/obituary/richard-dick-l-cameron?fh_id=15630

OAE Scott Eugene Campbell, 57, died on 18 January 2019, in Austin, TX. Scott served two seasons in Antarctica as a flight surgeon. Years unknown.

OAE Thomas Daniel Canup, 69, died on 7 August 2019, in San Jose, CA. Tom visited Antarctica as a tourist. He was active in amateur radio with the call sign KJ4D.

OAE Raymond Lattimore "Latti" Cavness D.D.S., 85, died on 9 August 2019, in Athens, GA Latti visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE James Lloyd Chapman, 79, died on, 25 June 2019, in Shoreline, WA. Jim visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Trevor James Hill Chinn, 81, of Lake Hawae, NZ, died on 20 December 2018, at Dunstan Hospital. In 1970 Trevor made his first of 20 trips, with NZARP, to Antarctica, where he studied the ice and Dry Valleys. Chinn Glacier is named in his honor.

OAE Peter Hugh Clemence, 94, died 18 June 2019, in Melbourne, Australia. Peter was a Royal Australian Air Force pilot. He flew fixed-wing and helicopters in Antarctica. He summered at Mawson Station, in 1955-56 and wintered-over at Mawson during 1957. Clemence Fjord and Clemence Massif are named in his honor.

OAE Carol Jeane (Menapace) Clise, 90, died on 9 August 2019, in Hope Mills, NC. Carol Jeane visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Robert Charles Clough, 72, died on 30 March 2019, in Australia. Charles aka Cloughy was a meteorologist with the Australian National Antarctic Research Expedition (ANARE). Cloughy wintered-over twice at Macquarie Island. The first time in 1978 and the second time 21 years later in 1999.

OAE Gerald John Cochrane, Jr., 67, died on 1 August 2019, in Gurley, AL. Gerald served in Antarctica with the Seabees. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Mary Jane "Teedie" Curtin, 94, died on 5 February 2019, in Fairfield, CT. Teedie visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Eleanor Carman Dahl, 88, died on 12 June 2019, in Emeryville, CA. Eleanor visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Paul L. Daignault, 78, died on 31 July 2019, in York Beach, ME. Paul served in New Zealand and Antarctica with the US Navy. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Mary Scarey Dailey, 91, died on 17 July 2019, in Bennington, VT. Mary visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE HMCS William "Bill" Douds, USCG (Ret), 81, died on 21 July 2019, in Solvang, CA. Bill served in Antarctica on a US Coast Guard icebreaker during DF-73 as a hospital corpsman. Name of ship unknown.

OAE Thomas J. Drought, 86, died on 9 August 2019, in Fox Point, WI. Thomas visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Dr. John Thomas Eagan Sr., MD, 90, died on 21 July 2019, in Birmingham, AL. John deployed to Antarctica as the Chief Medical Officer on the USS *Arneb*. Year(s) unknown. He was a member of the American Polar Society.

*OAE SWSC Richard E. "Dick" Edgerton, USN (Ret), 83 died on 22 August 2019, in North Kingstown, RI. Dick deployed to Antarctica aboard the USS *Nespelen* and wintered-over at McMurdo during DF-III as a steelworker first class with MCB(Special), and was at McMurdo during DF-73 with Antarctic Support Activity (ASA) as a Chief Steelworker.

OAE Roberta "Robbie" Hahl Edwards, 88, died on 4 September 2019, in Colorado Springs, CO. Robbie visited Antarctica as a tourist.

Dr. Henry Ferguson Ph.D., 92, died on 17 August 2019, in Albany, NY. Henry was the great-great-grandson of Admiral Charles Wilkes, leader of the United States South Seas Exploring Expedition of 1838, which discovered the landmass of Antarctica.

OAE Timothy Michael Flahive, 92, of Jefferson, NC, died on 13 July 2019, at Westwood Hills Nursing & Rehab Center in Wilkesboro, NC. Timothy served in Antarctica in the US Navy during Operation Highjump. Unit unknown.

OAE Rudolph "Rudy" Arthur Foldvary, 91, died on 5 September 2019, in Middletown, CT. Rudy served in Antarctica as a US Navy photographer during Operation Highjump.

OAE Adrian Dahood-Fritz, 40, died on 2 September 2019, off Santa Cruz Island near Santa Barbara, CA. Adrian and her husband were killed in a dive boat fire while on vacation in California. Adrian was a research scientist who had done work in Antarctica and gave talks at Central Texas schools about being involved in science.

OAE Donald Francis Gardner, 70, died on 17 August 2019, in Eugene, OR. Donald visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Barbara Lee Gieschen, 85, died on 25 August 2019, in Thousand Oaks, CA. Barbara visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE LT John G. Griffin, FDNY (Ret), 81, died on 19 July 2019, in Stony Point, MA. John served in Antarctica in the US Air Force during DF-III (1957-58).

*OAE AEC Donald R. "Uncle Don" Giannelli, USN (Ret), 90, died on 9 August 2019, in Braintree, MA. Don served in Antarctica for two seasons (1963-65) with VX-6. He was a member of the New England Chapter.

OAE Barbara Lee Gieschen, 85, died on 25 August 2019, in Thousand Oaks, CA. Barbara visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Dr. Jack Everett Goodwin, MD, 93, died on 9 September 2019, in Frankenmuth, MI. Jack visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Joseph E. Haas, 82 died on 10 July 2019, in North Ridgeville, OH. Joseph served in Antarctica while in the US Navy. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Master Sergeant Ronald Jens Hermansen, USAF (Ret), 81, died on 6 September 2019, in Rialto, CA. Ronald served in Antarctica with the US Air Force. Year(s) unknown.

OAE Charles "Chuck" Ward Holmes, 81, died on 4 October 2018, in Tallahassee, FL. While with the U.S. Geological Survey Chuck did research that led to a better understanding of the geology of the area between Patagonia and the Palmer Peninsula, Antarctica.

OAE Umihiko Hoshijima, 28 died on 7 August 2019, in an apparent diving accident on research trip to Alaska. Umihiko was an accomplished diver whose work took him beneath the surface of the ice in Antarctica. Year(s) unknown.

OAE Barbara Ann Bell Hove, 92, died on 15 July 2019, in Apple Valley, CA. Barbara visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Seward Lewis Irland Sr., 84, died on 15 July 2019, in Seneca Falls, NY. Seward served Little America, Antarctica as a member of the U.S. Army Signal Corp Research Team during DF-II.

OAE Michael J. Kittredge II, 67, died on 24 July 2019. in Boston, MA. Michael visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Captain Leonard LeSchack 82, died on 15 December 2017, in Bonners Fairy. Leonard served in Antarctica during DF-III as an assistant seismologist. Since the U.S. Navy handled most of the logistics, he got to know the Navy officers and men, resulting in the Navy's senior commander in the Antarctic agreeing to recommend LeSchack for Navy Officer Candidate School after returning to the U.S. His next assignments included acting as the U.S. official representative to the Argentine Navy in the 1962–63 Antarctic Expedition, and studying in Paris at Les Expéditions Polaires Françaises and geophysics at the University of Wisconsin (Madison). Mount LeSchack is a distinctive flat-topped mountain, 2,265 meters, standing on the north side of Perkins Canyon in the Wisconsin Range, Horlick Mountains.

OAE LCDR William Everett Lucas, USN (Ret), 87, died on 27 August 2019, in Pensacola. FL William deployed to Antarctica. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Jean LeStrang, nee Mentzer, 95, died on 5 August 2019, in Ann Arbor, MI. Jean visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Melinda Jones Lukei, 81, died on 8 September 2019, in Virginia Beach, VA. Melinda visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE David Perry Maestas, 70, died on 18 August 2019, in Richfield, ID. David visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE James "Jim" Marc Mantock, 65, died on 11 August 2019, in Jacksonville Beach, FL. Jim visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Robert "Bob" W. McDonald, 82, died on 13 August 2019, in Seattle, WA. Bob visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Helen Mary McCammon, 85, died on, 13 August 2019, in Sequim, WA. Helen served on the USNS *Endeavor* during the early 1960s as a USARP grantee to collect brachiopods at various localities in the Tasman Sea.

OAE Anthony J. Mecca, died on 6 July 2019, in New York, NY. Tony served in Antarctica during DF-II as a member of MCB-1 aboard the USS *Arneb*.

OAE Marilyn Irene Miller, 81, died on 25 November 2018, in Chico, CA. Marilyn visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Marilyn Keach Milota, 89, died on 20 May 2019, in Kalispell MT. Marilyn visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Clarence "C. D." Moates, 92, died on 1 August 2019, in Slaton, TX. CD served in Antarctica during Highjump while in the US Navy. Unit unknown.

OAE Earl J. "Jerry" Morris, Jr., USAF (Ret), 88, died on 16 July 2019, in San Antonio, TX. Jerry served in Antarctica while in the Air Force. Unit and year(s) unknown.

*OAE LCDR Irving James "Jim" Morrison, USN (Ret), 95, died on 4 August 2019, in Concord, NH. Jim served in VX-6 for eight seasons during the 1960s (see New Member column) as an LC-130 crewmember. Morrison Hills is named in his honor. He was a member of the New England Chapter.

OAE Helen M. Mundel, 88, died on 9 January 2019, in Ithaca, NY. Helen visited Antarctica as a tourist. As a side note, Helen was a journalist. Helen broke gender barriers by writing easily understandable technical manuals for Electric Boat's nuclear submarines, which included her shimmying down through manhole covers to see everything firsthand until she was too pregnant to fit through the hatch.

OAE Jeffery Thomas Myers, USN (Ret), 59, died on 24 August 2019, in Franklin, VA. Jeff served in Antarctica. Unit and year(s) unknown.



OAE Kennard Nicholas "Pinky" Nagel, USN (Ret), 86, died on 30 August 2019, in Piney Point, MD. Pinky served in Antarctica for four seasons while in the US Navy. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Mary-Ida (nee Hanson) Olson, 91, died on 7 August 2019, in Hartford, CT. Mary-Ida visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE William H. "Bill" Payant, 93, died on 19 July 2019, at his home in Sun City West, AZ. Bill visited Antarctica as a tourist.

*OAE ETC David George "Pete" Peterson, USN (Ret), 79, died on 20 August 2019, in White Lake, WI. Pete, aka Dave, was an electronics technician first class (ET1). He wintered-over at South Pole Station during DF-63 and DF-68. He also served in NSF Summer Support at McMurdo from 1970–75 traveling to many outlying Antarctic stations. Both US and foreign operated. He used his electronic and mechanical skills to maintain radio and communications equipment and antennas for scientists in the field and at the outlying stations. Peterson Hills is named in his honor. He was a ham radio operator with WB9IAX call sign.

OAE Gordon Gibson Prouse, 86, died on 27 July 2019. Gordon served in the Navy as a hospital corpsman and deployed to Antarctica during DF-I (1955–56). Unit unknown.

OAE Marion Teresa Rafferty, 92, died on 10 August 2019, in Arlington, VA. Marion visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE James "Jim" J. Reilly, 88, died on 4 July 2019, in Valley Falls, NY. Jim served in Antarctica in the US Navy as a member of Task Force 43 staff. Year(s) unknown.

OAE Vernon Haskins Rochelle, 81, died on 15 August 2019, in Morehead City, NC. Vernon served on Task Force 43 Staff as an Ensign during 1960–1962. He spent time in Christchurch, NZ and at McMurdo Station.

OAE ET1 Calvin L. "Lee" Russell, USN (Ret), 73, died on 27 August 2019, in Klamath Falls, OR. Lee made two deployments to McMurdo. Years unknown.

OAE Cole Smith, FAIA, 92, died on 25 August 2019, in Dallas TX. Cole was an artist. He made trips to Antarctica and the Galapagos in his eighties for painting vistas most will never see.

OAE William Thomas "Bill" Soper, 90, died on 7 July 2019, in Frederick, MD. Bill served as a US Navy photographer during Highjump. Unit unknown.

OAE Kenneth Ralph Stephens, 66, died on 29 July 2019, in Ashton, ID. Kenneth worked in Antarctica for several seasons as a heavy equipment operator. Unit and years unknown.

John Stewart, 67, died on 22 June 2019, in West Jefferson, NC. John aka Black Jack of Ballarat, was the author of *Antarctican An Encyclopedia*. Jack had not yet made it to Antarctica, but he was a Life Associate Member of the OAEA. Over the past few years he wrote several columns for the *Explorer's Gazette*. The last being; *The Life and Times of Lionel Wafer*. He will be missed.

OAE Edna Mae Kennedy St.Clair, 81, died on 11 April 2019, in Tucson, AZ. Edna visited Antarctica on a Christmas tour.

*OAE Carl O. Trusler, M.D., 72, died on 27 June 2019, at Abilene Regional Medical Center, in Abilene, TX. Carl wintered-over at McMurdo during DF-75 as the doctor and executive officer of the winter-over detachment.

OAE MCPO Larry Washington, USN (Ret), and his wife Teruyo died in a car crash, on 11 July 2019, in Camarillo, CA. Larry served in VX6.

OAE Joseph "Joe" Nicholas Weiss, 98, died on 20 July 2019 in Camp Hill, PA. Joe served in Antarctica for two months in 1972. TAD to NNPU Det McMurdo.

OAE Audrey L. Wheeler, 68, died on 8 July 2019, in Brentwood, CA. Audrey visited Antarctica as a travel agent.

OAE CHMACH Lyle Francis Whitson, USN (Ret), 96, died on 29 August 2019, in Portland, ME. Lyle served on the USS *Staten Island* during DF-II.

Olga Annette Ingebrigtsen Wyckoff, 100, died on 6 July 2019, in Sherwood, OR. Olga's husband George Edward Wyckoff, was a US Navy submariner, veteran of WWII and of the United States Antarctic Service Expedition.

OAE Rear Admiral James Austin Yeager, NOAA, (Ret), 82, died on 22 July 2019, in San Antonio, TX. James served in Antarctica. Unit and year(s) unknown.



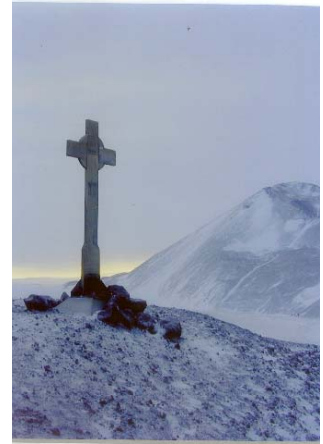
Chaplain's Corner

Johnnie Draughon—OAEA Chaplain

⁸If we live, we live for the LORD; and if we die, we die for the LORD. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the LORD. (Romans 14: 8, NIV)

I was talking with a friend recently and she said, "I'm just getting so depressed lately." When I asked why, she said, "I keep going to so many retirement parties." Retirement parties? I love retirement parties. I responded to her that, "I keep going to funerals and most of them are for people younger than me." I guess that becomes more and more the norm for each of us as we mature in this world. "Ace" and I were talking about that via email as we, yet again, passed along an obituary for one of our OAEA friends. Dying is a normal part of living (not trying to be morbid here—just dealing with a reality of life.) So, each of us should be ready for that eventuality in the comfort and knowledge that we have lived a life worth living. We need to make sure that our loved ones and friends know how much they mean to us.

Share that love every day. As the Apostle Paul stated 2000 years ago: "If we live, we live for the LORD; and if we die, we die for the LORD. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the LORD." We also have lots of stories to share with our Antarctic friends, so I want to encourage each of you to join us in Jacksonville, November 2020, for the next OAEA reunion. (Shameless plug I know, but we have lots of stories and we don't want to wait until it's too late to share them.) Just something to think about—are you ready?



Vince's Cross
Photo By Irma Hale

May the blessings be,
Johnnie Draughon, Chaplain

KNOW YOUR PENGUINS



SCHOLARSHIPS

Due to members' generosity this past year Old Antarctic Explorers Association scholarship fund was able to award \$1000 to four individuals. The four winners and their sponsors in alphabetical order are:

Hannah Roby will be attending Texas A & M University in Galveston. Her major will be science with concentration in marine biology. Her grandfather, Larry Hunter of Griswold, CT sponsored her.



Hannah wrote, "I would like to say thank you to the Scholarship Committee for choosing me to be this years' winning recipient of the OAEA Scholarship. The awarded money will help me immensely in terms of affording my education as I pursue my Bachelors of Science in Marine Biology. Also, I'd like to thank my grandfather, Larry Hunter, for being my sponsor and his service in the U.S Navy."

Kaitlyn Smith will be a freshman at Hill College in Hillsboro, TX and will be taking engineering related courses. Tracy Smith, her grandfather and OAEA sponsor lives in Hewitt TX.



"Thank you, OAEA Members, for this scholarship award. Your contribution is greatly appreciated, and I look forward to the following school year. Thank you for your support as I start this next chapter of my life.

Sincerely,
Kaitlyn Smith"

Ashlyn Taber from Plainfield, NH plans to attend Syracuse University in NY and major in food and nutrition. Sarah Gillens also of Plainfield, NH, was sponsor for her granddaughter. Sarah emailed after she heard the results, "This is great news and much appreciated."

Dear OAEA,

"I sincerely thank you for awarding me with one of your generous scholarships this year. I'm grateful and honored to

be selected as one of this year's recipients. Over the years I have enjoyed hearing stories from my grandmother, an OAEA member, of my distant relative Jack Tuck and his time in the South Pole. This past year, I read *Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World* featuring Shackleton and his crew, which allowed me to establish an even greater respect for those who have researched and explored on the continent of Antarctica.

"This fall I am excited to continue my education at Syracuse University in New York. I am studying in the David B. Falk College which focuses on sports and human dynamics where I will likely declare a major in nutrition or food studies with a minor in sports management. Receiving this award will ease the financial burden I will have at the end of my schooling, and I guarantee you it will be well spent—one can never study enough.

"Thank you to all the members of the OAEA.

Sincerely,
Ashlyn Taber"



Toriana Witmer is a familiar name from last year. She is entering her second year at South Puget Sound Community College in Olympia WA and will be obtaining an Associate of Science degree in the spring. She plans to transfer to a four-year college fall of 2020. Her grandfather, Robert Buettner of Lacey WA sponsored her.

"Dear OAEA,

"Thank you for your continued support of my college career. I'm grateful that I qualified for such a prestigious scholarship. The fact that I was chosen as one of the individuals to gain a scholarship is immensely humbling. I plan on using my scholarship to further my education, which is focused on the sciences rather than a generalized degree.

Sincerely,
Toriana Witmer"

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU

Congratulations to all winners and their proud grand-parents/sponsors. FYI: There is no need to send the scholarship application by costly special handling, Fed Ex, or two-day delivery. Simply have the envelope postmarked by July 1 to be eligible. The scholarship committee allows ample time for delivery. AND—rhetorical question—why are there so few, if any, males submitting applications? Kudos and praises are directed to the three-committee members who took time to review and rank the many pages of submissions. You have my heartfelt THANKS!

SCHOLARSHIP PLEA

Let's replenish the pot from which the scholarship money came. At the end of the year I personally will be donating part of my required minimum distribution from retirement monies to the OAEA scholarship fund. Please join me in contributing any amount. Money may be tax deductible for IRS purposes. Look for a donation form on the website or just include a note saying "for the scholarship fund." Make the check out to OAEA and send to OAEA Scholarship Fund, 3104 Deepspring Drive., Chesapeake VA 23321

Linda Hamblin



TIDEWATER GROUP GET TOGETHER

by Ed Hamblin

Our last Tidewater OAE lunch was in early July. We didn't have a large turnout for this one, but still had a reasonable good time with the small circle of "ice mates" who were there. The food was good (and cheap!), and the conversation was excellent. Those who made it out: Ed & Linda Hamblin, Robert Cardona, Bill Raymus, Charlie Thompson, Bill Raymus, Ron Rooks, and Herb Schaefer.

As you see this, the 5 October get together will be history; however the December outing will be Saturday 1 December. We meet up at Terrie's Breakfast and Lunch Diner, 3320 N. Military Highway in Norfolk VA; back dining area about 1130. Pictures, cruise books, stories, and, memorabilia are welcome. If you aren't already receiving them and would like to be added to the e-mail notification reminder that is sent out the week before each get together, contact me at ehamblin74@verizon.net.



Herb Schaefer and Charlie Thompson



Bill Raymus and Ed Hamblin



Robert Cardona



Herb Schaefer, Charlie Thompson, and Ron Rooks

The Penguin Knife

By Billy-Arse Baker

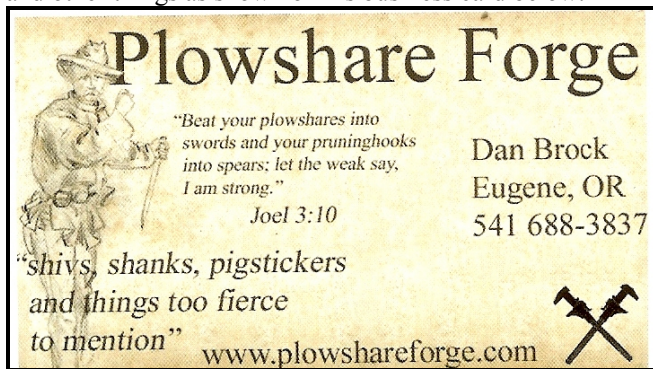
The knife in these photos was custom made for me by Dan Brock. Dan wintered-over with me during DF-75.

I recently made contact with Dan and since he was not an OAEA member I sent him an OAEA Information Package and he joined as a Life Member. As always happens when I make contact with someone I spent time with on the ice we got in a discussion via email about what we had been doing since we wintered together.



UT3 Dan Brock on the Ice DF-75 WO

After we exchanged information about our families and careers after the ice Dan sent me a link to his web site at: www.plowshareforge.com. Turns out that he makes knives and other things as shown on his business card below.



Dan's business card.

After I looked at his web site I asked him if he could make a custom knife for me with a penguin handle

His reply was: "Short answer: hell yes. What do you want? Unless you want a penguin to be able to hold it."



Casting Pattern

Dan didn't wait for me to make a decision and before I knew it I received this notice: "Billy: I'm afraid you planted the seed and I went off on my own hook. Pictured above is the casting pattern I've made for it—9 inch Bowie blade and a cast aluminum handle. It's essentially the same as the other knife pictured below.

Not being my namesake bird, I'm unsure as to my accuracy re appearance. He seems a bit svelte from the front for an emperor. Your thoughts?"



Nine inch Bowie blade



Above are photos of the completed Penguin Bowie. It was brilliantly painted by Dan's daughter



Brock at his workshop. Looks like he is wearing a tutu.



Dan asked me if I wanted a sheath or a box, so I selected both. The knife including the blade and the handle is 14 inches in length

SYMPHONY ANTARCTICA

ALBUM REVIEW



Edited by Billy-Ace Baker

INTRODUCTION

The music on this album continues a 25-year interest in Antarctica that began with my first visit in 1993 as a tourist and continued through four more trips to the Antarctic Peninsula, the Ross Sea area and along the coast of Western Antarctica. While it may be easier to develop music for particular locations or events, much of the music on this album is based on broader themes related to the continent. The three movements include 1) musical interpretations of Antarctica's seasons in *The Seasons*, 2) the exploration of outer space from the South Pole in *Telescopes to the Stars* and 3) a portrayal of the unseen under-ice Lake Vostok, and of the lava lake inside Mt. Erebus, Antarctica's active volcano in *Icescapes and Landscapes*.

This project would not have been possible without the compositional and keyboard wizardry of my musical collaborator, Michael Stibor—thank you, Mike.

—Valmar Kuroi

Montreal, Canada, July 2019



2015: Valmar in front of Mount Erebus on the Ortelius

This album represents a year and a half's worth of dedication, hard work, and musical collaboration with Valmar. Our goal was to write music that would not only provide the listener with a sense of time and place, but at the same time to tell musical stories that would transport the listener to faraway places not easily, or often, reached. I am



extremely pleased and honoured to share this music with you.

—Michael Stibor

Montreal, Canada, July 2019



Mike Stibor in the loo

Movement 1: The Seasons

Antarctica may be considered to have only two seasons, a winter of constant darkness during which the sun does not rise and the continent is frozen in, and glorious summer, when the sun doesn't set and the continent comes alive in a burst of energy. However, the northerly latitudes closer to the Antarctic Circle, particularly around the coastlines of the Antarctic Peninsula and the Ross Sea area, have distinctive spring and fall seasons. Spring brings the melting of coastal ice and the return of wildlife such as penguins, seals, and birds. Fall months lead to the return of wildlife to the seas for the winter and the regrowth of ice around the continent as it begins to freeze in again. Now, with increasing global warming, all the seasons may be seeing changing timelines and weather anomalies, with drastic effects.

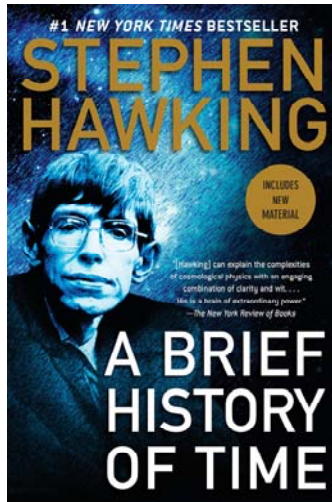
Our polar *Summer* begins with a slow welcome that builds on the summery warmth and then ebbs and flows during the later season, ending in a final flurry of activity. The appearance of *Fall* brings a mellow, wistful mood, followed by the harsh, dark *Winter*. *Spring* promises a rebirth with new life and beginnings.

Movement 2: Telescopes To The Stars

The South Pole is one of the best places on earth to observe space because of its high altitude on the globe and the clean, dry surrounding air. The main telescope at the Amundsen/Scott South Pole Station is used to measure microwave background radiation related to the Big Bang

theory of cosmological expansion, to search for galaxies, and to study the physics of the universe. The East Antarctic plateau is also the location of a major automated Chinese-international telescope used to search for super-novas and to study the life cycles of stars. The book, *A Brief History of Time*, by the late physicist and cosmologist Stephen Hawking, is a great introduction to the concepts of space, time, and the origin of our universe. To turn the tables, what if playful, otherworldly life forms are out there looking back at us as we try to peer into their world?

Our Antarctic cosmology music is in five parts: *Seeking Galaxies*, *Beginning of Time*, *Cosmic Strings*, *Quiet Nights*, and *The Unfolding Universe*.



Valmar freezing his six off in front of the Ross Ice Shelf in 2015

Movement 3: Icescapes And Landscapes

Massive sheets of ice and glaciers cover 98% of the continent, parts of which are compressed below sea level by the enormous weight of the ice. This movement contrasts two unusual Antarctic lakes, one subglacial and the other a lava lake inside a mountain.

Over the past 50 years, scientists have identified close to 400 subglacial lakes in Antarctica, lying under several miles of ice, and isolated for as long as 35 million years. Lying in bedrock hollows, many of the lakes may be interconnected.

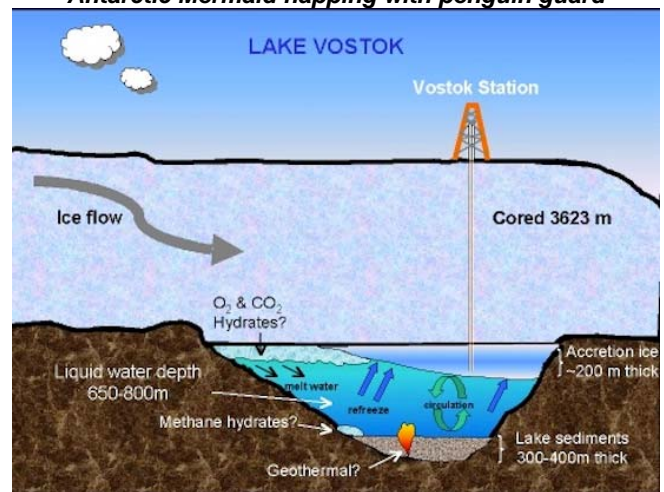
Most of the lakes are in East Antarctica, linked to the East and West Antarctic Ice sheet merge. The largest is Lake Vostok, about the size of Lake Ontario in Canada, located at the Russian Vostok Station, 800 miles from the Geographic South Pole. It is formed of two basins, separated by a ridge, about 2.5 miles below the surface of the ice with average depth of 1,400 ft. A borehole has been drilled to near the top surface though it has not yet broken through, due to fears of contamination. Samples of ice close to the lake have been identified with various microbes, including bacteria and fungi, indicating the lake may contain ecosystems similar to other marine environments. Skeptics believe this may be from contamination and not a preview of what may be in the lake.

Lake Vostok presents both the mysterious, unknown aspects of the lake, as well as a humorous consideration of the presence of Antarctic mermaids and other creatures.



Nap by Moni

Antarctic Mermaid napping with penguin guard



Lake Vostok

There are four active volcanoes on the mainland of Antarctica, and others on neighbouring coastal islands. The best known is Mount Erebus, the earth's southernmost active volcano, which is adjacent to the Ross Sea. In the summit caldera is a lava lake, one of only five such lakes on

earth. The pool of magma inside the crater often emits lava bombs up to 10 feet wide, as far as a mile away.

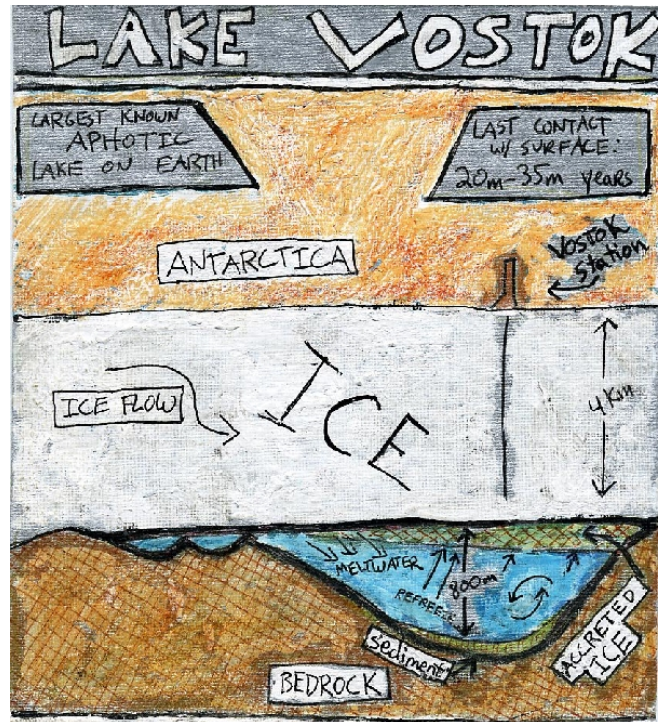
Erebus Lava Lake depicts the changing dynamics of the lake with restful, sputtering, and rhythmical episodes.

More information about the album is available at: www.symphonyantarctica.com.

Copies of the album are available for \$9.49 from amazon.com.



Mount Erebus Lava Lake



Childs drawing of Lake Vostok



Valmar in front of Mount Erebus and Shackleton's Cape Royds Hut in 2015

MCMURDO — A VIETNAM DIARY

Compiled by Billy-Ace Penguin

BOOK REVIEW



McMurdo. A Vietnam Diary. By Pete Kearney. Paperback. Amazon \$14.99

McMurdo is a light-headed account of sailors sitting out the war in a frozen hamlet of Antarctica. Under cover of all day night the book touches on military discipline, psychedelics, and busting balls of a diverse crew.

Peter Kearney wintered-over at McMurdo Station during Deep Freeze 71 (1970-71). This book is a tribute to the men who suffered his company.

In Pete's own words. "McMurdo is a retelling of the diary I kept in Antarctica during the Vietnam War. Aside from asides and free associations these are the events that happened on the dates they happened".

Editor's Note: The photos in this review are from the Antarctic Support Activity Detachment Alfa Deep Freeze 71 cruise book: *Winter's Reflection*

"I'm a young sailor among sailors supporting scientific research in Antarctica. Yippee!—we're not in Vietnam. We don't kill people or burn villages. We flaunt regulations in a climate that makes it easy to risk censure. What are they going to do—make us winter-over?"

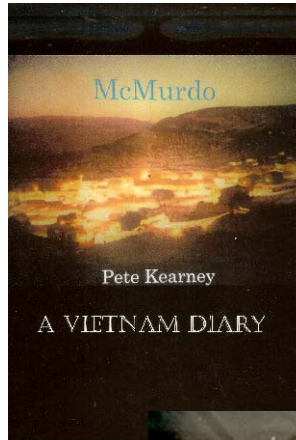


Pete Kearney

13 October: At the firehouse our movie feature is *The Viking Queen*. Second Class Tom Conrad is our projectionist. When he's ready to start he yells MOVIE in a crowded firehouse.



DC2 Tom Conrad



18 October: Robbie and I shoot pool at the firehouse. Stick and Nealey (sic) come in drunk and challenge us. I tell Nealey to piss off and he wants to fight. He calls Robbie "black boy" and I have to stop Robbie from swinging the bridge (rack) at him. Robbie is smaller than me and I'm not big. We are chip on the shoulder featherweights ready to fight if the other is threatened. An alarm sounds and we run to our trucks.



DC2 Kirk Stickels

CE2 Charles Neeley

23 October: Homer (sic) has us plant dry chemical fire extinguishers in a snow bank outside the firehouse to test their resistance to the cold. Kees adds a sign that reads Ansul Garden.



DC1 Homar Hall



SH3 Billy Kees



Ansul Garden

15 November: SH2 Donald Pytlik runs the ships store. I buy his writing paper Christmas cards, and record albums. There is perfume to send to your girl. Sometimes the perfume gets as far as your rack. Scented sheets are a thrill in a roomful of beer farts. Pytlik is base barber to a company of men in a hurry to grow their hair long. He sports his own surfer bang.



SH2 Don Pytlik

20 March: We're painting the radio station. After work I drink some wine with Homer in his room. We're not going to agree on hash but I respect the man and ask him to set for an interview for the base newspaper. Tim Groshen (sic) and I shoot pool. I propose an idea of using bamboo strips to frame the walls of the radio station.



RM3 Tim Groshong

25 March: Meher Baba kept a vow of silence for 13 years. He would have been a blast on the ice... John offers me a pamphlet, as a break from Apolliniare. When Frank sees me reading it he asks in dead earnest—"Does Meher Baba jerk off?" I find no mention of masturbation in his text so I assure Frank that he does and doesn't talk about it. Baba is a god and a regular guy.



Meher Baba

28 March: When Fang smiles his teach reach out to grab you around the neck. He had his nickname long before I knew him in Davisville. At McMurdo he is the assistant editor of our newspaper, *The Super Sunday Sometimes*.



RM2 Frank "Fang" Lucas



Vol 1 No 1 of the SSS

31 May: I try to interview guys who don't eat at the same table as me. Guys usually sit with the other guys from their shop. Just like high school. I target Chief Dinsmore and Charlie Webb. I'll even interview a Seabee.



HMC Robert Dinsmore



UT1 Charles Webb

22 June: The base shuts down for our Mid-Winter Party. It takes place in the mess hall where a banner announces it as The Big Eyeball. There is a stage for people to get up and pose on. ... Homar is dressed fatter than most fire hydrants. Billy Baker wears a gas mask to top off a swamp thing costume. Roger Turner and Tim Groshong are in drag. ...



Bowling, Groshong., Unknown, Baker, Homar, Unknown

8 August: John and I take half hits of mescaline and play cards in his room. A Seabee named Hair has his tape recorder playing Gordon Lightfoot non-stop. You can hear it from down the hall.

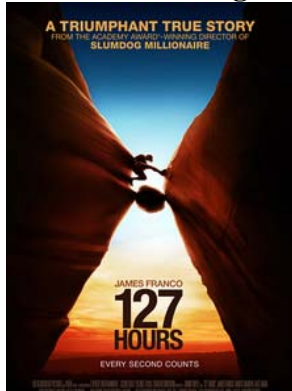
Editor's Note: I would like to continue this, but I am out of room.



CM2 Dennis "Hair" Havlin

PICTURES AND STORIES FROM DAYS GONE BY RUSSIAN DOCTOR CUTS OUT OWN APPENDIX

If you think House and the guy who James Franco played in *127 Hours* are tough, you haven't heard of Leonid Rogozov.



BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH

In 1960, the young 27-year-old surgeon Leonid Rogozov joined the 6th Soviet Antarctic expedition and moved to the Antarctic. A team of 12 had been sent to build a new base at the Schirmacher Oasis. The following year he began working as a doctor at the newly opened Novolazarevskaya Station.



Novolazarevskaya Station in Antarctica, where Leonid Rogozov was stationed when he contacted appendicitis.

The Novolazarevskaya Station was up and running by the middle of February 1961, and with their mission complete the group settled down to set out the hostile winter months.

In 1961, Rogozov was stationed at a newly constructed Russian base in Antarctica. The 12 men inside were cut off from the outside world by the polar winter by March of that year. In April, the 27-year-old Rogozov began to feel ill, very ill. His symptoms were classic: he had acute appendicitis. By the end of April, Rogozov's life was in danger and he had no hope of outside help. The journey from Russia to the Antarctic had taken 36 days by sea, and the ship wouldn't be back for another year.

He knew that if he was to survive he had to undergo an operation. But he was in the frontier conditions of a newly founded Antarctic colony on the brink of the polar night. Transportation was impossible. Flying was out of the question, because of the snowstorms and darkness. And there was one further problem: he was the only physician on the base.

He was confronted with a very difficult situation of life and death. He could wait for help, or make an attempt to operate on himself.

There was no question that he'd have to operate. The pain was intolerable and he knew he was getting worse. He recorded his thoughts in his journal:

"I did not sleep at all last night. It hurts like the devil! A snowstorm whipping through my soul, wailing like a hundred jackals. Still no obvious symptoms that perforation is imminent, but an oppressive feeling of foreboding hangs over me—This is it—I have to think through the only possible way out: to operate on myself—It's almost impossible—but I can't just fold my arms and give up."

UNAVOIDABLE SURGERY

On 30 April the surgery started. Meteorologist Alexander Artyemyev, who helped with the medical instruments, and mechanical engineer

Zinovy Teplinsky, who held a mirror and a lamp, assisted Leonid.

Rogozov was in a semi-lying position on the left side. After injecting a local anesthesia with Novocain, he made a 12 cm incision in the right iliac region. Partly with help of the mirror and partly by touch, he started to search for his appendix.



This is really from days gone by!

The sight of Leonid Rogozov searching for the appendix in his guts almost caused his assistants to faint. Station head Vladislav Gerbovich, who also attended the surgery, recalled that the two assistants were whiter than a sheet, but made great efforts to stay calm.

Thirty to forty minutes after the surgery began, Rogozov felt very weak and dizzy, forcing him to make small breaks—every 5-10 seconds each five minutes. The doctor tried to stay calm and collected during the whole process.

Still, the final part almost cut Rogozov's tolerance. "Finally here it is, the cursed appendage! With horror I notice the dark stain at its base. That means just a day longer and it would have burst. My heart seized up and noticeably slowed, my hands felt like rubber. Well, I thought, it's going to end badly and all that was left was removing the appendix," he recalled.



Image copyright by Thinkstock

The cursed appendage

Operating mostly by feeling around, Rogozov worked for an hour and 45 minutes, cutting himself open and removing the appendix. The men he'd chosen as assistants watched as the "calm and focused" doctor completed the operation, resting every five minutes for a few seconds as he battled vertigo and weakness. He recalled the operation in a journal entry:

"I worked without gloves. It was hard to see. The mirror helps, but it also hinders—after all, it's showing things backwards. I work mainly by touch. The bleeding is quite heavy, but I take my time—I try to work slowly. Opening the

peritoneum, I injured the blind gut and had to sew it up. Suddenly it flashed through my mind: there are more injuries here and I didn't notice them—I grow weaker and weaker, my head starts to spin.

"And then I realised that, basically, I was already saved". The surgery took 1 hour 45 minutes in total, and ended successfully. In five days his temperature normalized, and two days later after that the stitches were removed. Two weeks later, he was back on regular duty.

Just a little reminder that humans can complete some pretty amazing physical feats when their lives hang in the balance.

Doctor Leonid Rogozov managed to successfully perform an unbelievable surgical operation to extract his own appendix at the Soviet station in the Antarctic. Becoming a national hero.

Believe it or not, Soviet doctor Leonid Rogozov's self-surgery to remove his own appendix was not a one-of-a-kind operation. In 1921, American surgeon Dr. Evan O'Neill Kane had performed an experiment during which he cut out his own appendix and sewed himself up.

The difference between his and Rogozov's cases was that the Soviet doctor wasn't in a comfortable operating room surrounded by a team of professional surgeons ready to help him if something went wrong. He didn't do it for the sake of science, but to stay alive.



Leonid Rogozov lying down talking to his friend Yuri Vereschagin at Novolazarevskaya.



Photo copyright Vladislav Rogozov
Leonid Rogozov (R) relaxing with one of Antarctica's best-known inhabitants



Just wow!! A Mind Blowing photograph of Dr. Leonid Rogozov performing surgery on himself in 1961. The Doc recovered and went on to live a happy life.

ANOTHER ROGOZOV

Leonid's son Vladislav was interviewed by *Witness* on BBC World service:

It was not an easy choice. Rogozov knew his appendix could burst and if that happened, it would almost certainly kill him—and while he considered his options, his symptoms got worse.

"He had to open his own abdomen to take his intestines out," says Vladislav. "He didn't know if that was humanly possible."

In addition, this was the Cold War, with East and West competing in nuclear, space and polar races—the weight of which rested on both nations and individuals.

The commander in charge of the Novolazarevskaya base had to get Moscow's blessing for the operation to go ahead. "If my father was to fail and die it would definitely put a hard hat of negative publicity on the Soviet Antarctic programme,"

Rogozov made his decision—he would perform an auto-appendectomy rather than die not doing anything. "This is it—I have to think through the only possible way out—to operate on myself—It's almost impossible—but I can't just fold my arms and give up."

Rogozov worked out a detailed plan for how the operation would unfold and assigned his colleagues specific roles and tasks. He nominated two main assistants to hand him instruments, position the lamp, and hold a mirror—he planned to use the reflection to see what he was doing. The station director was also in the room, in case one of the others became faint.

"Dad was so systematic he even instructed them what to do if he was losing consciousness—how to inject him with adrenalin and perform artificial ventilation," says Vladislav. "I don't think his preparation could have been better."

A general anaesthetic was out of the question. He was able to administer a local anaesthetic to his abdominal wall but once he had cut through, removing the appendix would have to be done without further pain relief, in order to keep his head as clear as possible.



**Image copyright Vladislav Rogozov
Leonid Rogozov with a very young Vladislav in 1969**

"My poor assistants! At the last minute I looked over at them. They stood there in their surgical whites, whiter than white themselves," Rogozov wrote later. "I was scared too. But when I picked up the needle with the novocaine and gave myself the first injection, somehow I automatically switched into operating mode, and from that point on I didn't notice anything else."

But he didn't fail. After nearly two hours he had completed the operation, down to the final stitch.

Then, before allowing himself to rest, he instructed his assistants how to wash the surgical instruments and only when the room was clean and tidy did Rogozov take some antibiotics and sleeping tablets.

It was a staggering achievement. "Most importantly he was relieved because he had another chance to live," says Vladislav.

There was to be one more twist to this extraordinary story. A spell of exceptionally bad weather and thick sea ice meant the ship due to pick them up in April 1962 couldn't get close enough and the team thought they would have to spend another year in Antarctica.

As a surgeon, Rogozov was concerned about losing touch with the medical world, and on a personal level he was trapped in the place where he had the most terrible experience of his life.

In his diary he wrote: "More and more often waves of dull home sickness and hatred of this cursed Antarctica wash over me. How odd it seems that I ever agreed to go on this expedition. All the exoticism of Antarctica was exhausted within a month and in return I'm losing two years of my life. My clinic, which I love more than any worldly pleasure, seems as far from here as Mars."

To the relief of the whole team they were eventually airlifted out, albeit slightly later than planned.

"They had to be evacuated by single-engine planes," says Vladislav. "Very dramatically one of the planes almost dropped into the sea."



V.Fedoseyev/TASS

Leonid shortly after his return from Antarctica

"I was a medical student in the early 60s and remember being taught what to do if we found ourselves in the Antarctic with appendicitis. We were told to sit upright with our knees pulled up to our chests. Then if the appendix did burst, in this position we had the best chance of pus draining into the bottom of the pelvis and becoming walled off in an abscess, rather than infecting the peritoneum—the membrane that covers the inside of the abdomen. Peritonitis can kill you. We weren't advised to reach for the scalpel."

Appendectomies are now compulsory for Antarctic explorers from several countries such as Australia. And some in the medical profession have suggested the procedure should be given to any future astronauts leaving the Earth to form a colony on Mars or the Moon.

Looking back at his father's legacy, Vladislav believes it is one of inspiration. "If you find yourself in a seemingly desperate situation when all the odds are against you. Even if you are in the middle of the most hostile environment, do not give up. Believe in yourself and fight, fight for life."

In October 1962 Rogozov returned to Leningrad and started working as an MD at his alma mater. In September 1966 he published an MD thesis entitled Resection of the esophagus for treating esophageal cancer. He later worked as a doctor in various hospitals in Leningrad. From 1986 to 2000 he served as the head of the surgery department of Saint Petersburg Research Institute for Tubercular Pulmonology.

When Leonid Rogozov returned home, he was greeted as a real celebrity and national hero. He became popular not only in the Soviet Union, but abroad as well.

Rogozov became the hero of articles, books, films, and songs. Hundreds of people wrote him letters from all over the Soviet Union and other countries. For his courage he was decorated with one of the highest Soviet awards—the Order

of the Red Banner of Labor Badge—which honoured great deeds and services to the Soviet state and society. His bravery was held up as a symbol to the rest of the world: "Look at this generation of young people that our system has produced - young, handsome, smiling, nice fellows," says Vladislav. "But at the same time made of steel and iron determination."



Red Banner Of Labor Badge



Honored Polar Explorer Badge

He was also awarded the USSR Honored Polar Explorer badge for those who winter-over at a Soviet Antarctic Expedition Station. And to top it off he was presented a flat in Leningrad.

A SECOND GAGARIN

Rogozov returned home a national hero. However he shunned the publicity. The day after he returned home he went back to his hospital and resumed his career. His incredible survival story was a powerful tool for the Soviet propaganda machine. Just 18 days before performing his operation, fellow Russian, Yuri Gagarin, had become the first man in space, and comparisons were drawn between the two men.

"It was a strong parallel because they were both of the same age, 27, they both came from working class backgrounds, and they both achieved something that had not been achieved in human history before. They were prototypes of the ideal national superhero," says Vladislav.

Rogozov wasn't the first person to remove his own appendix but in the Soviet Union he was considered a pioneer. In any case, the conditions in which he performed the self-surgery were incredibly grim.

Rogozov died in 2000, aged 66, in Saint Petersburg, Russia, from lung cancer

Ancient penguin the size of a human discovered in North Canterbury, New Zealand

14/08/2019

Scientists have discovered a massive penguin that would have been as tall as an adult human.

The *Crossvallia waiparensis* would have been around 5 foot, 3 inches tall and weighed up to 154 to 176 pounds when it walked the earth between 66 and 56 million years ago during the Paleocene Epoch.

Amateur palaeontologist Leigh Love found the bones in the Waipara Greensand fossil site in North Canterbury in 2018.

Fossil preparator Al Mannering got them ready for study and the bones were analysed by Canterbury Museum curators Dr Paul Scofield and Dr Vanesa De Pietri, and Dr Gerald Mayr of Senckenberg Natural History Museum in Frankfurt, Germany.

The team published a paper about the discovery this week in *Alcheringa: An Australasian Journal of Palaeontology*. Dr Scofield said the bones show New Zealand's close connection with Antarctica.

"When the *Crossvallia* species were alive, New Zealand and Antarctica were very different from today—Antarctica was covered in forest and both had much warmer climates." *Crossvallia waiparensis* is the fifth ancient penguin species to have been uncovered at the Waipara Greensand site.

The *Crossvallia waiparensis* fossils will go on display at Canterbury museum later this year, alongside fossils from other giant species.

It is not clear why the giant penguins disappeared from the oceans millions of years ago but it may be linked to the arrival of large marine competitors such as seals and toothed whales.

Researchers Describe Giant Penguin Straight Out Of A Lovecraftian Nightmare

David Bressan Contributor
Canterbury Museum/AP

Crossvallia waiparensis, a newly described fossil penguin species from New Zealand, dwarfing any living species.

"I deal with the rocky road to our modern understanding of earth".

"For it was only a penguin—albeit of a huge, unknown species larger than the greatest of the known king penguins, and monstrous in its combined albinism and virtual eyelessness."

At the *Mountains of Madness* is a science-fiction/horror story written by American author H.P. Lovecraft in

February/March 1931 and first published in the February, March and April 1936 issues of the pulp magazine *Astounding Stories*. In Lovecraft's tale, a scientific expedition to Antarctica discovers the ruins of a vast underground city, constructed millions of years ago by some unknown force. The underground tunnels and caves appear abandoned, only inhabited by giant penguins living near vents feed by geothermal activity. However, as the last survivors of the expedition venture deeper, something has awakened...

Lovecraft was interested in science and in his stories often includes notions about astronomy, biology, and geology. He was an early supporter of the controversial continental drift theory as proposed by German geophysicist Alfred Wegener in 1906. It seems that he was also (by mere chance) right about imagining an unknown species of giant penguin.



The Lovecraft penguin

The study of some fossils recovered by amateur paleontologist Leigh Love at Waipara, on New Zealand's South Island, revealed a new species of penguin standing more than 5 feet (1,6 meters) tall. Based on the size of the leg bones, *Crossvallia waiparensis* was four times heavier and one third taller than the largest living species, the Emperor Penguin (*Aptenodytes forsteri*). The scientific description of the fossil remains by a team from Canterbury Museum in Christchurch and Senckenberg Natural History Museum in Frankfurt was published in the *Australasian Journal of Palaeontology*. *Crossvallia waiparensis* lived about 62 to 58 million years ago when New Zealand was still connected to the continent of Antarctica and the South Pole was not yet ice covered (curiously, also described in Lovecraft's tale). Scars left by the muscles on the studied leg bones suggest that *C. waiparensis* was a powerful and fast swimmer, maybe even more than modern penguins.

Penguins likely evolved between 66 and 56 million years ago. After the mass extinction of large marine reptiles at the



Cretaceous-Paleocene limit, penguins recolonized the empty seas of the southern hemisphere evolving quickly into larger species. *Crossvallia unienwillia*, identified from fossil material found in the Cross Valley in Antarctica in 2000, measured about 4.6 feet (1.4 meters). *Inkayacu paracasensis*, discovered in 2010 in Peru, was about 5 feet (1.5 meters) tall and nearly twice as heavy as an Emperor Penguin. About 36 million years ago the giant penguin species went extinct, may the evolution of large marine competitors such as seals and toothed whales played a role in their demise.

Giant 'human-sized' monster penguin remains discovered in New Zealand

By James Rogers | Fox News

Scientists have identified a new species of giant penguin from fossils discovered in New Zealand.

The extinct penguin lived in the Paleocene Epoch between 66 million and 56 million years ago, according to the Canterbury Museum.

Taller than the modern Emperor Penguin, the penguins, named *Crossvallia waiparensis*, stood about 5 feet and weighed up to 80 kilograms (176 pounds).

The fossils were discovered by amateur paleontologist Leigh Love at the Waipara Greensand fossil site in North Canterbury on New Zealand's South Island in 2018. Canterbury Museum curators Paul Scofield, Vanesa De Pietri, and Gerald Mayr, of Senckenberg Natural History Museum in Frankfurt, Germany, studied the bones and found that they belonged to a previously unknown penguin species.



This illustration provided by the Canterbury Museum shows the approximate height of a giant penguin, a "crossvallia waiparensis," next to a human being. (Canterbury Museum via AP)

Scofield said the leg bones indicated the monster penguin's feet might have played a bigger role in swimming than is the case with penguins today.

He said that following the extinction of dinosaurs, marine reptiles and gigantic fish, it seemed there was an evolutionary opportunity for penguins to thrive and grow in size.

"The oceans were ripe for the picking with the lack of mega predators," Scofield said, according to the Associated Press. "It looks like what was going on was that penguins were just starting to exploit that niche."



Dr. Paul Scofield, senior curator for natural history at Canterbury Museum, holds the fossil, a tibiotarsus, top, next to a similar bone of an Emperor Penguin in Christchurch, New Zealand, Wednesday, 14 August 2019. (AP Photo/Mark Baker)



A close up view of Dr. Paul Scofield holding the fossil, a tibiotarsus, left, next to a similar bone of an Emperor Penguin. (AP Photo/Mark Baker)

The findings were published this week in "Alcheringa: An Australasian Journal of Palaeontology."



Squawkzilla.

Wren in left corner

Fox News' Chris Ciaccia and the Associated Press contributed to this article.

Follow James Rogers on Twitter @jamesjrogers

NEW OAEA MEMBERS

Thanks to Ice Cap News, Obit Messenger, Pensacola News Journal, OAEA Web Site, Messenger, Marty Diller, Black Jack Stewart, Elaine Hood, Starr Sessler, Radioman Facebook, Google Article, Bill & Neola Waller, Chris Shepherd, Phone Blast, PPHSGB, Gary Skaar, Bob McCauley, Ed Hamblin, Pam Landy, VX6 Facebook, and Scott Mosher for recruiting new members or for providing names and contact info for prospective members.

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

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

*Denotes Associate Member

§Denotes Upgrade to Life or Renewal of Annual Member

ΦDenotes Upgrade to Regular Member

Bevan, Beau CIV	§Annual	USAP Contractor SS McMurdo 2016-17
Brock, Dan UT3	Life	WO DF-75 NSFA McMurdo Station
Damvelt, Karen CIV	§Life	Niece of LCDR Harvey Speed
Fry, George HTFN	Life	NSFA SS 1970-74
Hisey, Howard AI BU2	Comm	MCB(Special) McM/ South Pole 1955-57
Kurol, Valmar CIV	Life	MV <i>Ortelius</i> . Research 1993-2015
LaForest, B. AKC	Life	VX-6 1965-66
Markisenis, Ron RM2	Life	ASA Winter-Over South Pole Station DF-65
Morrison, Irving LCDR	Life	VX-6/VXE-6 1958-62/ 1965-68
Pedone, Martha CIV	*Life	NE Chapter Groupie
Showalter, Mike AT2	Life	VX/VXE-6 1968-69



REUNION & MEETING INFORMATION

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

All AKAs In Antarctica: Buffalo/Niagara Falls, NY, 5-9 September 2019. POC Louis "Skip" Sander. Skip can be reached at: (412) 367-1376, or at: LSander153@aol.com.

USS Wilhoite: Boise, ID, 26-29 September 2019. POC Bob Piazza. Bob can be contacted at: 707 337 9700, or piazzarw@gmail.com. The *Wilhoite* serving during DF-61.

USS Cacapon: Long Beach, CA, 18-22 September 2019. POC Bruce Webster. Bruce can be contacted by phone at: 949 786 9663, or by email at: bruce.Webster@cox.net. The *Cacapon* participated in Highjump.

USS Yancey: Buffalo, NY, 5-9 September 2019. POC George Clifton. George can be reached at: 708 425 2065, or clifs@ameritech.net. The *Yancey* served during: Highjump.

USCGC Westwind: Wilmington, NC, 13-15 September 2019. POC Alex Malvica. Alex can be reached at: 845 352 7040, or amavica@optonline.com. The *Westwind* participated in DF-IV, 67, 68, 70, and 71.

MCB-1: Virginia Beach, VA, 3-9 October 2019. POC Wally Johnson. Wally can be contacted by phone at: 757 570 5864, or by email at: wallyjohnson1711@gmail.com. MCB-1 participated in DF-II, IV, and 62.

OAEA: Jacksonville, FL, 11-13 November 2020. POC Dewey Painter. Dewey can be contacted at: 904-962-1928, or at: oaea2020reunion@gmail.com

VX/VXE-6: New Orleans Airport in Kenner, LA, 24-29 September 2019. POC: Robert Louis McCauley. Bob can be reached at: bobmccauley2@cox.net, or at: 702-242-4240. VX-6/VXE-6 participated in DF-I through DF-99.

USS Vance: Nashville, TN, 20-25 October 2019. POC: Jim Ensey. Jim can be reached by phone at: 410-442-9839, or by eMail at: nunuz@verizon.net. The *Vance* participated in DF-62.

Antarctican Society: Mystic Seaport Maritime Museum 16-18 July 2021. POC Paul Dalrymple. Paul can be reached at: pcdal@adelphia.net, or at: 207-372-6523.

Belvoir Nukes: Deadwood, SD, 15-20 September 2019. POC Jerry Schloredt. Jerry can be reached at: 307 283 1448.

Women in Antarctica: Byrd Center Ohio State University, 17-18 October 2019. POC Laura Kissel at kissel.4@osu.edu. On behalf of the Byrd Center, and organizing committee, I am happy to announce that the registration site for the October 2019 symposium, Women in Antarctica: Celebrating 50 years of Exploration, is now open. <https://byrd.osu.edu/celebrate-women>. On the website you will find the symposium schedule and registration details. Everyone is welcome. You must register to attend.



OAE LOCATOR

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

- Laura Snow obtained a photograph album that contains photos of personnel and activities in Antarctica. The year and location is not known. If anyone knows anything about these photos please let Laura know. She can be reached by email at: snowlg@cox.net, by phone at: 850-572-0036, or by snail mail at: PO Box 13164, Pensacola FL 32591-3164.

Editor's Note: Three of the photos are shown below. My guess is that the photos are of VX-6 personnel and may have been taken at Little America V Station.



It appears that the guy in the middle is named Boardman



The aircraft in this photo is the Takahe. BUNO 17163 R4D-5L Dakota. It was used by VX-6 during DF-II, III, IV, & 60. It crashed at Hallett Station on 15/09/59 and wintered-over.



The guy in front has "HONCHO" on his name tag. I assume that is a nick name. The other three guys appear to be wearing masks.

- Rebecca Pyne, Georgia Grant, and Christoph Kraus are looking for personal photographs of Antarctica. They are committee members of the New Zealand Antarctic Society Wellington Branch, "Antarctica Uncovered": an exhibition of personal photographs with a focus on how people interact with each other and the environment in Antarctica.

Every year, people from diverse backgrounds journey to this frozen landscape to research and explore. They capture their experiences as most of us do; through the eye of a camera. For many, they are capturing their first impressions, their awe at experiencing the vastness of this alien landscape for the first time. For others, this land is not alien but familiar, they capture a view of a world they have come to know so intimately.

These captured viewpoints are often only shared with family and close friends and then stored away. The NZAS would like to uncover these spectacular images and display them to the public for the first time. Unlike professional photographs of Antarctica used in advertising and media, these intimate, personal images reveal the experiences of people living and working in this fascinating part of our planet. Images may include action shots, experiences, photos of animals or unique landscapes.

The exhibition will feature a two week display of the photographs, and will close with an open auction of all items in the exhibit. The proceeds will be donated to the New Zealand Antarctic Society, Wellington Branch. These donations will be used to cover costs and aid in future Antarctic Society events.

It is hoped that OAEA members will support this endeavor. For more information, and how to submit photos visit: <https://antarcticsociety.org.nz/antarctica-uncovered/>.

Editor's Note: Sort of like the photos in the album that Laura Snow obtained.

• Mike Maish is looking for information about the Scott & Shackleton Altar that disappeared from the Chapel of the Snows and would also like to learn your sentiments about the chapel being torn down under the Antarctic Infrastructure Modernization for Science (AIMS). Mike can be contacted by email at: maish@oneimage.com and by phone at: 303-494-3072, and by snail mail at: 16541 Elbert Court, Broomfield, CO 80023. Mike wintered-over at Byrd Station during DF-67 and at Vostok in 1969.

Editor's Notes: I am providing some information about AIMS and the missing altar below.

What is **AIMS**: The Antarctic Infrastructure Modernization for Science (AIMS) project is a part of the Future USAP long-range investment program for McMurdo Station.

Once AIMS is completed, McMurdo Station will look very different than it does today. The footprint of the new, more efficient station means also that a number of existing buildings will have to be torn down, including the small aerobic gym, the coffee house, chalet, the chapel, the current medical center and firehouse, since all of these functions will be incorporated into the Core facility.

Ultimately, Building-155, a big blue building in the center of the station that currently houses many station services, will also be razed. It will operate until the new Central Services building is fully up and running.

The construction on AIMS will begin this coming season with the Vehicle Equipment & Operations Center (VEOC) building and new 285 bed Lodging Building. Next season work will begin on Central Services with Field Science and Industrial Trades Buildings following a couple of years later.

For USAP information on AIMS go to:

<https://future.usap.gov/what-is-aims/>

For a video go to: <https://future.usap.gov/aims-video/>



The current Chapel of the Snows

The "Chapel of the Snows" has been historically significant to the continent, but more importantly has provided a sense of normalcy and feeling of home to those living at McMurdo for long periods of time. Mike Maish

(Byrd DF-67, Vostok DF-69) would like to hear about your sentiments about the Chapel and your thoughts about the pending demolition of the building.

The 'Scott & Shackleton Altar' that was placed in the new Chapel has gone missing, and has not been seen since 1989! Mike Maish is requesting information regarding what happened to the Altar and where it could be located if it has not been destroyed.

Mr. Maish has been investigating important Chapel artifacts, and what happened to the 'Scott Alter'. Recently the Pastor from the church (Lyttelton, NZ) which donated the Altar to the temporary Chapel has been contacted. (see email below).

Interestingly his understanding is that the Altar was temporarily in the new Chapel—but it has since disappeared.

It is possible that the altar got burned up when the temporary chapel burned. But no one currently involved in the program knows the history. Mr. Maish has found pictures of the Altar in the temporary chapel, but has not found any evidence it existed much beyond the opening of the New Chapel building.



St. Saviour's Church

Dear Mr. Maish:

Thank you for your enquiry about the altar from St Saviour's Church Lyttelton, which was given to the Chapel at McMurdo.

The first Vicar of St Saviour's from 1883 until about 1919, was a sea captain. The church was built near the wharves at the less salubrious end of the town, as a place for workers and especially seamen, who sometimes came on church parades (attendance). (And whose bathing facilities may not have been of a high standard.)

Thus it was that both Shackleton and Scott brought their crews here while in the port. We can be confident that the altar was used on their visits.

In 1976, the church was closed and the Parish rejoined to the main Parish in the Town. The building was cut into pieces and transported over the hill to Christchurch; it was re-erected again as the Chapel for the Cathedral School. The School principal didn't want the altar for some reason and was keen to get another one. After the 1988 Fire at McMurdo there was a call for

suitable furniture to replace what had been lost. With its history this altar was clearly a front-runner.

Enter the Reverend Michael Brown, Vicar of Merivale and later Dean of Wellington. The NZ DSIR deployed him, as a Chaplain to care for the families of the twelve NZ scientists wintering over in Antarctica at Scott Base, should anything untoward happen at either end. He arranged for the altar to be taken apart (no nails or screws, it was pegged together) and then transported to Antarctica. He and the Governor General went down with a service to consecrate the altar in situation.

When they arrived, the Roman Catholic Chaplain (US Navy) said he wasn't having the altar but wanted one from a Navy catalogue. The American Commander had to adjudicate, and ruled for the historic altar. The service happened and everyone went home. Almost immediately the altar disappeared and has not been seen since.

There may be a twist in the tale, in that there was another fire, in which everything may have been destroyed, but the missing altar wherever it was lost or saved is not known.

Hope this is helpful.

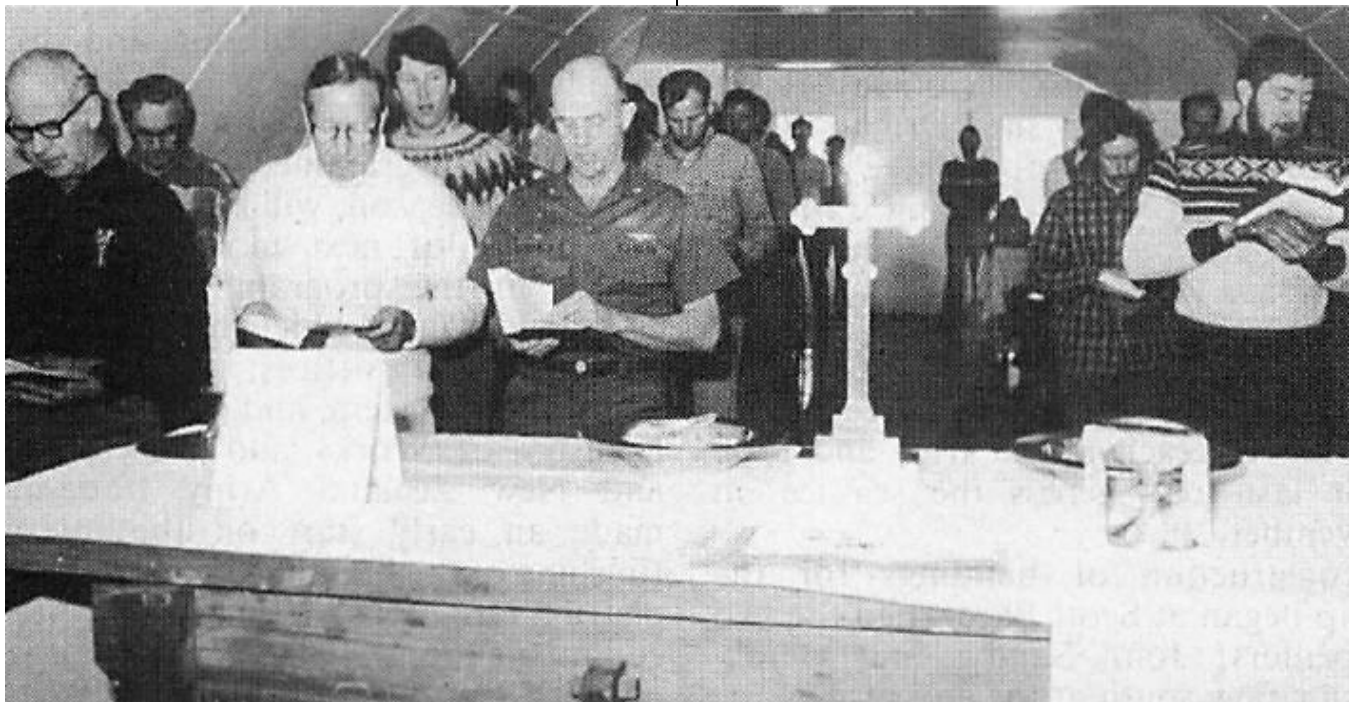
With all good wishes,

/s/

Fr Peter Williams.



The current Chapel of the Snows with the Navy Supply System alter. The original altar from St. Saviour's Chapel was gifted to the Antarctic Division of the former government department, DSIR, for installation in the chapel at Scott Base. It is believed to be currently installed in the Chapel of the Snows, at McMurdo Station.



*Antarctic Division photo
Americans and New Zealanders before the historic altar in the Chapel of the Snows. From left are Mr. R. B. Thomson, director, Antarctic Division, D.S.I.R., New Zealand's Governor-General (Sir David Beattie), and Captain Brian Shoemaker, commander, United States Naval Support Force, Antarctica. The chalice and paten used by the Rev. A. P. Spencer-Smith and his stole are on the right*

Gulf Coast Group Chapter Happenings

by Billy-Ace Penguin Baker

Saturday 6 July 2019

Meeting—Thirty-one members and guests showed up for our July meeting at the Cactus Flower.

First time guests were Tessa St Cyr, and Kyarington George who were the guests of Ashlee Baker. My family and Ashlee's two guests totaled eight people or about 25 percent of the attendees. The only family members missing were Sean Baker, who was at a local emergency room all night and Tracey Baker who was on a kayaking trip with some friends. Oh, and my niece Kiwi Pam was also missing. I think she just forgot about the meeting.



Billy-Ace and Kyarington

Another first time attendee was OAEA Life Member Major Robert Pocreva. Bob served in the USAF 79th Air Rescue Squadron during DF-63. His mission was to fly SAR for R4D flights between Christchurch and McMurdo.



Billy-Ace and Bob Pocreva

For Show and Tell Roger "Duck" Talbert had his old Byrd Cloth jacket from when he wintered-over during DF-72. At the April meeting Les Liptak spoke about Bravo who was the South Pole Station dog during DF-II. Les procured some copies of the book *Bravo For Bravo* that was written by OAEA Life Member Sara Tuck-Gillens—and he sold all the copies.



Duck with his PM3A Byrd Cloth jacket. Note the Screwed Penguin patch.

BRAVO FOR BRAVO

First Dog To Winter Over
At the South Pole

By
Sarah Tuck Gillens



On the left the cover of Bravo For Bravo and on the right; Les getting ready to sell copies of the book.

After the telling of a few Sea Stories, Fairy Tales, and the selling of books—ask Me Maw about her copy of *Bravo For Bravo....*, it was time for the drawings. For the door prizes Les donated a bottle of Penguin Beer that was brewed for the first OAEA reunion in 2002 and Sharon Preston donated a wire penguin bird feeder. The Penguin Beer was won by the Preston's and Al Burton won the penguin bird feeder.



The Penguin Beer versus the Penguin Bird Feeder



In the front: Me Maw Konrad and Bradley Konrad. At the table in the rear: Marsha Vatne, Cindy Liptak, Fred Stallworth, and Les Liptak



In the front: Jim Norris, Amy Preston, Sharon Preston, and Karl Jackson. In the rear: Jim Speed, Billy-Ace, Carol Speed, Duck, and Rainy Talbert.

After the door prize drawing where done and finished it was time for the 50/50 drawing. Duck, again, had been selling tickets and he asked Bradley Pye to draw a ticket to see who the winner would be. However, Ken and Bradley had left early, so Duck got someone else to draw a ticket and it turned out that Rainy Talbert held the winning ticket and she took home \$40 as her share.



Bradley Pye patiently waiting to pull raffle tickets



Bill Fazio and Ken Pye. "Come on Brad, let's get out of here."

That just about wraps up the meeting. Thanks to Kerry Konrad for taking the meeting photos. UNODIR the next meeting will be at the Cactus Flower Café on Saturday 12 October 2019. Come one, come all!

Your humble and faithful servant.

Billy-Ace Penguin Baker
upizauf@aol.com



Bob Pocreva pointing his finger while making his introduction talk. Looks like Jack McLendon (orange shirt) is taking a nap.



**Gus Shinn checking his cell-phone! AYSM?
Gus don't own a cell-phone!**



This looks about like everyone who is at the meeting. I am patrolling to make sure that everyone has signed the muster list. Actually I am looking for the muster list.