

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 4 Old Antarctic Explorers Association, Inc Oct-Dec 2019



Photo Dylan Taylor (ALE)

Unpredictable Antarctica

By Martin Walsh

The first Antarctic explorers trudged into the white nothingness with primitive gear and little idea what to expect. It's not surprising, then, that tragedy, heroic failures, and extreme suffering distinguish the so-called Golden Age of polar exploration. Robert Scott's expedition ended bleakly just 18km from a food cache that would have saved their lives. Another member of that expedition, Apsley Cherry-Garrard, who did not join his commander to the South Pole, survived his own harrowing adventure, which he describes in the famous Winter Journey section of his book, *The Worst Journey in the World*. Some, including Paul Theroux, consider this the best travel book ever written.

These days, Antarctica is typically less a Worst Journey than a dream destination for tourists, outdoor athletes, and scientists. Visitors are much better equipped. They no longer need to come by ship and winter. Instead, they fly straight into the interior and can base themselves in camps with washing facilities, restaurants, and even volleyball courts.

For modern adventurers desiring a trek, not a taste, Antarctic Logistics & Expeditions (ALE) can drop extra supplies en route, offers daily in-depth weather forecasts and even send a rescue plane if your expedition is in danger of going the way of Scott's.

Continued on page 4

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Ed Hamblin—OAEA President

TO ALL OAEs—Happy Holidays to all!

I can't give Christmas presents out to everyone, but I can give out thanks and acknowledgements. First, since OAEA inception, there have been quite a number of memorial donations received. I would like to take the opportunity to formally recognize those generous folks. The list I have put together of memorial donations to date appears on page 30 of this issue of the Gazette.



Also, I want to thank the following people who continuously work behind the scenes on behalf of the organization to keep the routine going: Marty Diller (Secretary), Bill Rouzer (Treasurer), Billy-Ace Baker (Membership Chairman and Editor/Publisher of the *Explorer's Gazette*), and Bob Gaboury (OAEA Website Administrator).

Thanks to John Lamont West for “having my back” this last year as Vice-President. He hasn't had to step up, but just knowing he was there has been a comfort. John Lamont has “been there and done that” and it is nice having an old salt as backup. He gives great thoughtful guidance, too!

Thanks to Linda Hamblin who finished her third year as head of the scholarship committee.

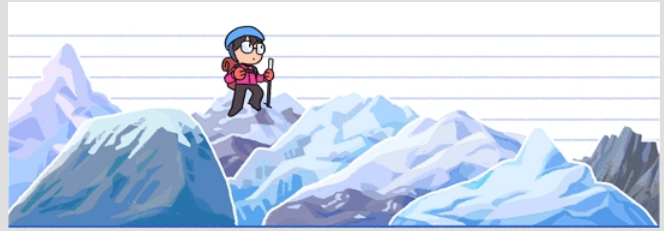
Thanks to the OAEA Board of Directors for “answering the mail” when called on.

Thanks to Life Members Dr. Dewey Painter (Jacksonville 2020) and George Lusk (San Diego 2022) who have stepped forward to head the next two reunions.

Finally, I want to remind everyone that the 2020 OAEA election cycle is starting. So, a special thanks to Bob Gaboury who has once again stepped forward as Election Committee Chairman; this time to head up the 2020 elections. There is more about the election in Marty Diller's article on page 11.

So with that, I am out of here until the next issue. Everyone stay warm and safe.

Ed Hamblin



GROWLERS & BERGY BYTES

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

| | Page |
|---|------|
| Cover Story— Unpredictable Antarctica | 1, 4 |
| Chesapeake, VA— President's Corner | 2 |
| Chesapeake, VA— The Phantom Swede | 3 |
| Here and There— Feedback & Letters to the Editor | 7 |
| Brunswick, ME— OAEA 2020 Election | 11 |
| Reno, NV— VX/VXE-6 Reunion NOLA 2019 | 12 |
| London, UK— 20 Mysterious Facts About Antarctica ... | 14 |
| Navarre, FL— Antarctic Adventures | 18 |
| Here and There— In Memory: Obituaries | 21 |
| Virginia, Beach, VA— Chaplain's Corner | 25 |
| McMurdo— Dick Cameron | 25 |
| Pensacola, FL— A Little More On Dick Cameron | 27 |
| Chesapeake, VA— Tidewater Group Meeting | 29 |
| Chesapeake, VA— The Memorial Donations | 30 |
| Brunswick, ME— NE Chapter Fall 2019 Meeting | 31 |
| Pensacola, FL— The Man Who Discovered Antarctica ... | 33 |
| Pensacola, FL— Days Gone By. Dark & Stormy Night ... | 35 |
| Pensacola, FL— New Members & Reunions | 39 |
| Here and There— Locator Column | 40 |
| Pensacola, FL— GCG Chapter Meetings | 42 |
| Yorba Linda, CA— FY-2019 Accounting Statement | 44 |

DISCLAIMER STATEMENT

The Old Antarctic Explorers Association publishes the *Explorer's Gazette* quarterly. Opinions expressed by the editorial staff or contained in articles submitted by members, and non-members are not official expressions of the OAEA nor does the mention of books, products, or events constitute endorsement by the OAEA. In accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. Section 107, any copyrighted work in this newsletter is distributed under fair use without profit or payment for non-profit research and educational purposes only.





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

Old Antarctic Explorers Association, Inc.

National Headquarters
10819 Berryhill Road
Pensacola, FL 32506-6201 USA
Phone 850 456 3556

And is published four times annually

Editor

Billy-Ace Baker

Editorial Assistants

Gus Shinn
Kerry Konrad
Kenneth Henry
Pam Landy

Gravity Physicist Emeritus

John Stewart (RIP)

Editor Emeritus

Jim O'Connell
2001-2003

Association Officers

President – Ed Hamblin
Vice President – John Lamont West

Secretary – Marty Diller
Treasurer – Bill Rouzer
Life Director – Billy-Ace Baker

Past President – Laura Snow
Director – David Bresnahan
Director – Rob Buettner
Director – Allen Cox
Director – Wayne Germann
Director – Thomas Henderson
Director – Robert Conner
Director – William Smith
Director – Dick Spaulding

Chaplain – Johnnie Draughon
Historian – Billy-Ace Baker
Parliamentarian – Vacant

THE PHANTOM SWEDE

By Ed Hamblin

I have about a half dozen full page WO-74 life cartoons that were created by Rick Kemper, a young builder from our WO party that were put out with the *McMurdo Sometimes* winter issues. Rick sent them to me last year with a "release". Would you be interested in using them in the *Gazette* with a little back-story as I can provide about the subject matter? Rick's tag was always the little hooded fellow sitting under a mushroom.



BU3 Rick Kemper

The story behind the Phantom Swede was this was a winter-over character that started showing up on the industrial net right after the winter started; we knew it had to be someone who had regular access to the radios (sick bay, MAA shack, Fire House, Ops Bldg). It was driving our PW officer Chris Stockwell wild and we could never ID the Swede; for instance,



the Chaplain was one of the suspects, but he happened to be under watch one time when the Swede made a broadcast, so that ruled the Chaplain out. As far as I remember, Swede made his last "appearance" on the net on opening day flight. I was in one of the Water Trotters with John Laszik out at the strip to meet the flight when the Swede came up with the signature tag line "Honky Bonky, yah shuuuurr, I bane the Phantom Swede".

Unpredictable Antarctica

From Page 1

Still, the white continent has not lost its ability to shock and awe. First—and there's no getting round this—temperatures can drop to -90°C, and even summer is no picnic. December at the South Pole is a comparatively balmy -25° to -30°C; windchill can make it feel much colder.



Photo: Tre-C Dumais/ALE

Route finding through snow “mushrooms” on Mt Sidley.

Antarctica's unpredictability surprises even those who have made a career here. “Antarctica can never be taken for granted,” says ALE Managing Partner David Rootes. “The most experienced know to be wary at all times. Antarctica will always catch the complacent.” The weather begins to complicate logistics even before you arrive. Flights from Punta Arenas are regularly delayed by a day or two. The problem used to be much worse. Before moving their main operational base to Union Glacier, ALE used a spot called Patriot Hills. At this more exposed location, the weather sometimes delayed flights for two weeks.



Photo: Christopher Michel/ALE

Union Glacier Camp, with Mount Rossman in the background.

The weather in Antarctica acts as an incredible preservative. *Leave no trace* is a fairly recent mantra, and occasionally, history re-emerges from the ice, as Australian adventurer Damien Gildea discovered while attempting to

climb Mount Tyree in 2008. An earlier 1966–67 American mountaineering expedition to the newly discovered Sentinel range left behind a cache of food and medical equipment. Forty years later, it was finally defrosting, and Gildea, Christian Stangl, and Walter Laserer took the opportunity to grab a free lunch. There were Choc Wheaten cookies, originally supplied to the 1966 team by Norman Hardie, a Kiwi climber who was part of the first team to successfully summit Kangchenjunga. Other goodies included Cadbury's chocolate (still edible) and some chewing gum that Gildea reports was “a bit hard.”



Photo: Damien Gildea

Apparently, this looked appetizing to Gildea & his partners

Antarctica drives the world's weather, because conditions here influence large-scale ocean circulation—the process whereby warm tropical currents move toward the poles. Conversely, this means that conditions elsewhere, such as a strong El Niño/La Niña year, can impact even the interior of Antarctica.

Likewise, climate change is rapidly warming the upper 1,000m of the Southern Ocean. This, in turn, melts the sea ice girdling the continent. For expeditions, this can mean more fog and snow because of increased moisture in the air. Despite advanced predictive technology, Antarctica's weather remains as fickle as ever.

Last year, unseasonable warmth disrupted several expeditions. Soft, deep snow slowed the progress of those setting off from Hercules Inlet. This, and poor visibility, swiftly killed the hopes of three separate skiers trying to set speed records to the South Pole. Richard Parks, Jenny Davis, and Erik Larsen all eventually abandoned their expeditions. Japanese soloist Masatatsu Abe needed an unscheduled resupply when his trek dragged on far longer than expected. Fortunately for tourists, ALE builds wiggle room into all its logistics. Rootes recounted a recent example. It sounded simple enough at first: a tractor broke down in the middle of nowhere because of a faulty fuel injector. In Antarctica, you can't just call AAA, but that's why an engineer was driving the vehicle.

Despite his expertise, the tractor still wouldn't start. Apparently, its software system needed a full reset to get

going again. That meant calling the manufacturer in the U.S. and flying someone out. Only one engineer in the company had an active passport, and he soon found himself on a flight to Antarctica.



Photo: Carl Alvey/ALE

Sunshine is sweet but can be too much of a good thing in Antarctica. Carry 115-block sunscreen, and make sure it's cream, so it doesn't freeze in the tube. And no cheap sunglasses

In another example of polar unpredictability, then-fledgling ALE guide Alice Wang thought she'd be fairly well equipped for her first trip into the interior. She'd worked on cruise ships in the Southern Ocean and was familiar with the Antarctic Peninsula. "On the Peninsula, I knew what I was getting myself into," she recalls. "But the amount of UV in the interior is so much more extreme. Even inside my tent, I had to put on sunscreen before going to bed."

Then her vision deteriorated. Her sunglasses, perfectly suitable elsewhere, did not block out enough UV on this ozone-thin, dazzlingly bright inferno. She became snow-blind.

Hours in total darkness brought her sight back, but she had to wear a pair of goggles for the rest of her trip. Now experienced, Wang checks her clients' kits thoroughly before leaving Punta Arenas. Apart from scrutinizing sunglasses, she still finds herself weeding out items of cotton clothing. As experienced outdoor people know, cotton absorbs sweat and is the least suitable material for a cold environment.

Wang also recommends that her female clients bring a pee funnel. Camps provide toilets, but trekking 25m to them during the night, or in a gale, is a pain. Therefore, most guys elect to use a pee bottle. For women, the funnel device allows staying in the comfort of the tent. Prudently, Wang suggests testing the funnel at home in the shower first.

Antarctica isn't only a physical challenge. The isolation and other-worldliness can be mind-bending, especially for soloists. It's easier nowadays, with pod casts and music and satphones, but some historic expeditions suffered extreme mental distress. Members of the Australasian Antarctic Expedition of 1911-1914, led by Douglas Mawson, were troubled by strange dreams and even by the behaviour of their huskies. Once, far inland, a lone petrel flew headlong into one of the tents, further shattering the men's fragile peace of

mind, because they could not figure out where the bird had come from.



Photo: John Beatty/ALE

The Vinson Base Camp biffy (toilet). Very pleasant in calm air and sunshine, less so in a gale.

More recently, Damien Gildea found that ghost critics were unfavourably judging his descent on Mount Epperly. Together with Camilo Rada, he had just climbed the 4,359m mountain via a new route. During the continuous 30-hour marathon, Gildea began to hallucinate. First, legendary climber Conrad Anker appeared in a bright yellow one-piece that Gildea has seen him wearing recently. With Anker were three corporate types in business suits, who sat at an imaginary desk on the mountain while Anker crouched mutely in the snow. The corporate committee muttered to each other under their breaths; Gildea was sure that they were discussing his admittedly sloppy downclimbing technique.



Photo: Damien Gildea

Conrad Anker (right) rocking the spectacular yellow onesie that Gildea "saw" him wearing on Mount Epperly.

Gildea is a treasure of slightly barmy Antarctic stories. In 2001, he visited the Vernadsky Research Base. Originally British, it had been sold to Ukraine for a symbolic one pound in 1996. Now, it features homemade vodka, a pool table and a pseudo-famous "bra bar". Gildea included photos to show that he wasn't hallucinating this time.



Photo: Damien Gildea

Gildea wasn't sure who left this particular one behind.

Because of the isolation, the weather, the general unpredictability, anyone who visits Antarctica needs to shift mentally from their back-home state. Here, a simple lack of patience can be dangerous. “[This is the] first challenge for everyone going to the Antarctic for the first time,” says Wang.

Adds Ravid Rootes: “Plan A will nearly always fall over, and it is necessary always to have Plan B, and probably C and D.” This need for good-natured patience can begin as early as Punta Arenas if the flight is delayed.

Of course, mental challenges don't have to be negative. For Wang, Antarctica helps bring about a feeling of “presentness,” where you are totally focused on where you are and what you are doing. Here, she achieves the sort of calm people seek through meditation or mindfulness exercises.

This mental state has heightened some of her favourite moments at the bottom of the world. “I've been wakened up by an Emperor Penguin right by my tent,” she recalls. “They're absolutely fearless. I've also heard a whale breach before I've seen it, and as we went by each other, I smelt it too. It was pretty fishy! These experiences can't be captured in a photograph or a video.”

The surprising abundance of wildlife is one of the continent's biggest draws. On the edge of the southern Weddell Sea, the simple ALE camp at Gould Bay hosts visitors interested in meeting Antarctica's most sharply dressed inhabitants. Up to 8,000 pairs of Emperor Penguins raise chicks nearby. It was the eggs of this largest species of penguin that Cherry-Garrard collected (elsewhere) during his Worst Journey.

The camp hosts around 15 guests at a time. It is located a respectful distance from the colony and shielded from their view. However, this doesn't deter the more curious birds from investigating the brightly clad strangers just over the rise. No matter what the experience, Antarctica always surprises.



Photo: Dylan Taylor/ALE

The solitude doesn't have to be a negative.



Camp Ice Sculpture

FEEDBACK & LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Billy:

You are the greatest journalist. Thank you for all you do for everyone. Thank you for the wonderful stories in the newsletter.

Mary Lou Platt
By Snail Mail



Chief:

Happy Veterans Day Chief. I'll never forget the friendship and kindness you showed me and other dumbasses who were too young to know better.

Dennis "Hair" Havlin
DF-71 Winter-Over
Via Messenger



A more recent photo of Hair

Editor's Note: I'm happy that Hair did not say anything about my leadership skills. See below article from Pan Landy.

Uncle Billy:

In the book review *McMurdo A Vietnam Diary* in the Jul-Sep issue of the *Gazette* you did not mention the card game that you were in.

Quote: 3 April—Chief Baker visits the firehouse doused in drink. In respect to his rank we make him a place at our poker game. He eats the first card dealt to him. Frank, Ed, and I go to lift weights. Try to make that sound interesting. Unquote

Kiwi Pam
kiwipam@aol.com

Aloha Billy-Ace,

Ref: Vol 19 Issue 3. Another fabulous edition of the *Explorer's Gazette*!

I particularly liked the photo of Erebus Lava Lake on page 29.

It was great, at last, to read the story behind the story, Russian Doctor Cuts Out Own Appendix, page 32–35. I had heard of this operation before, however I did not know any of the details.

I also was very interested in the story, Ancient Penguin The Size Of A Human Discovered In North Canterbury, New Zealand, page 36–37.

Keep up the good work!

Aloha Bruce DeWald
bdewald63@gmail.com

Hi Billy-Ace,

Just got the July-September issue and want to send a line to say thanks for doing such a great job on the article.

Regards, Henry Brecher
brecher.1@osu.edu

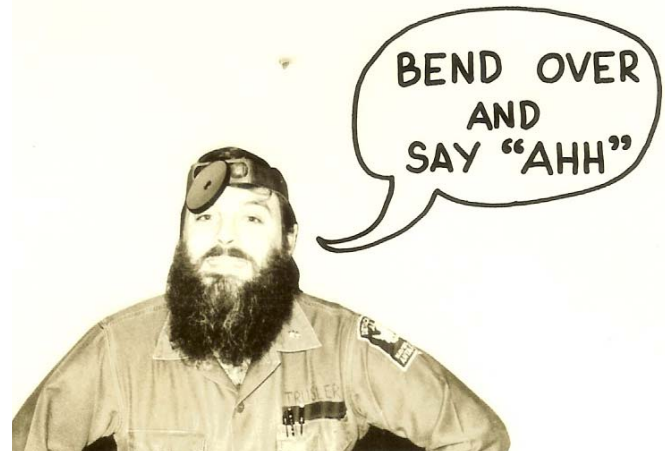
Billy-Ace:

I was surprised to read of Carl Trusler's death in the most recent OAEA newsletter. He was only 72.

I remember that he was from Abilene, and he died there, so I assume that's where he returned to practice medicine after he left the Navy. As I also recall, he came from a very wealthy family.

R.I.P.

Jim Mathews
jcm1054491@aol.com



From the *DF-75 WO Cruise Book*
LT Carl Trusler, *McMurdo Winter-Over Doctor*

Dear Mr. Baker,

This is Pat McCormick's daughter Monica. Elaine Hood has given me your email address so I could let you know that my Dad passed away peacefully in the care of hospice last Wednesday night.

As you know he had COPD for the last 20 or so years. He had been housebound for the last several years, and had been in and out of the hospital although not too frequently. After the last hospital stay about three weeks ago he could no longer get out of bed. It was an abrupt and big decline. Last Monday he went to inpatient hospice and Wednesday night he passed with my sister by his side.

Thank you for being such a good friend and supporter of him. It meant so much to him and us. Sincerely,

Monica M. McDougall
MMMcDougall@msn.com



Rediron at South Pole Station back in the day



Rediron age 76 at an ADFA reunion

Via The OAEA Guest-Book:

With Rediron's passing, and a mention of Byrd, I am wondering how many DF-I (1955-56) volunteers are still living? Coasties, Seabees, Airedales, Army types, and AF dog musher. We had a mixture on the USCGC *Eastwind* in 1955.

Dave Hoff
dmhoff@chibardun.net

Editor's Note: DF-I members are getting fewer and fewer far between. Even worse are the members of Operation Highjump. I no longer receive as many obituaries on Highjump men as I did in the past.

Billy-Ace:

Sorry to hear this. It's been a rough autumn. First Rediron and now Charlie Bevilacqua.

Bill Spindler
wjspindler@gmail.com

<https://www.southpolestation.com>
<https://www.pammerstation.com>
<https://www.mcmurdostation.com>

Bill Spindler's Antarctica



*From the DF-I Cruise Book
BU1 Bevilacqua on the USS Wyandot*



*Photo by from the USAP Antarctic Photo Library
Chief Bevilacqua at South Pole Station*

Hi Billy!

The Internet is great, isn't it! With a little help from Bing I found out about the grand McMurdo remodel. I found a document showing the plans for a beautiful, multi-use building that includes NSF adminso the Chalet is long gone, looks like Mammoth Mountain Inn (where I was housed) too. Gosh I would have loved to have a "souvenir" from the demolished office where I worked. Hahahaha

Thanks.

Starr

sseesler@yahoo.com

Billy-Ace,

Thank you so much for the information and obit on Ron Bodziony. I'll pass that to the "Troops", send cards and a short note to his family.

As you know, this is the Second OIC (during my Tenure) that has passed. LTC Emick and Now LTC Bodziony. Major Christiano, as you may know is a "Lawyer" in Ventura and the other Officers, and SNCO's I've simply not been in contact with. "MSG" Nicky Gandy and I remain both great friends and in contact. Nick was one of the truly Good Guys.

I sincerely hope you and yours had a great Thanksgiving, are healthy, well adjusted in all things and holding the Florida State Winning Lotto Ticket. Look forward to the next Reunion; Nick and I are planning on being there.

Again, great to hear from you, saddened by the news about our former TERM OPNS Boss.

Jerry n' Hanne

schleining.jerry@gmail.com

Editor's Note: Bodziony's death notice is listed in the In Memory pages of this issue of the Gazette on page 21.



Then Major Bodziony from DF-77 cruise book.



Bodziony from his obit

Mr. Baker,

First, let me apologize that no one has replied to your request to do a book review on *The American On The Endurance* until now. My name is Jim Aanstoos, and I am a son-in-law of Elizabeth Rajala (married to her daughter Sarah).

I created the web site dukeshall.com to help Elizabeth make available the book of her father's memoirs. Elizabeth is slowing down and decided last year not to do a third printing of the book. I kept the web site open after that, in part because I had prepaid for the domain registration for three years in advance and also to help people interested learn about the story.

As Elizabeth slowed down I stopped having the Dukes Hall emails forwarded to her, and only occasionally monitor the account myself. Elizabeth and all three of her daughters are now together this weekend as we celebrate her 92d birthday, and we looked into it together and pulled up your newsletter on the web. We see that you went ahead and published the review with the illustrations, and that is fine. The review looks good and helps to get the word out, and Elizabeth was happy to see it and the responses from your readers. Greetings from Sarah Rajala and Elizabeth Bakewell Rajala.

Jim Aanstoos

dukeshall@gmail.com



Editor's Note: The above photo of William Bakewell taken in 1917 was not published in the book review which appeared in the Apr-Jun 2019 issue of the Gazette on page 24.

Hi Billy,

Thanks again for the fantastic newsletter, as it's always got such interesting articles and updates that we OAE's enjoy!

Take care

Jim "Doc" Durham
retirednavy1978@aol.com

Via the OAEA Net: In reference to the Jul-Sep Gazette.

Nice one, Billy-Ace!

Samuel Feola
samfeola@gmail.com



B-A:

I liked the book review *McMurdo A Viet Nam Diary* in the latest issue of the Gazette. I haven't heard any comments about the review from the author Pete Kearney?

Marty Diller
mgdiller@comcast.net

Editor's Note: I am glad that you like the review. I was mentioned more than once as you previously mentioned—and I left out the best part about me.

B-A,

In your reply to my email regarding the death of Dr Schall, I believe you said you had this death in the *Gazette* already, but I didn't see it in the newest edition. I assume he went into the south Polar Regions as a tourist.

I'll look for it in the next issue.

Marty
mgdiller@comcast.net

Editor's Note: I limit the In Memory section to four pages. When I get to four pages I have to start deleting tourists when I receive an obit for someone who was in DF or HJ. And that is why I deleted Dr Schall from the obit section. I do NOT put the deleted tourists in a future edition of the *Gazette*. There are some members who complain because I put any tourists at all in the obit section.

From the OAEA Guest Book:

I noticed that the names under the pictures of Neeley and Stickels on page 30 of the latest newsletter are reversed; Stickels is the one with the beard.

Warm regards.

Dale Myers
dale_myers@att.net

Editor's Note: You are correct—and I wintered-over with them. Thanks for reading the *Gazette* and providing feedback.

Hello BAB!

At Last! I offer a squib for our newsletter. How's this for a little humor but also reality from, your devoted member. See attached, and a photo or two of the box.

Best wishes for 2020.

John Lenkey III
sellam@bugs.net

Editor's Note: John's article with photo is included below. For John Lenkey: What do you mean, our newsletter? This is my newsletter!

NOW, OAEA MEMBERS CAN SALUTE SIR ERNEST SHACKLETON IN STYLE

By Member John Lenkey III

Charles Mackinlay @ Co. Blenders & Distillers in Scotland have developed and are marketing "Shackleton Blended Malt Scotch Whisky" copied from a very famous original.

You all may know that when Sir Ernest's Antarctic Expedition and he performed miraculous rescues of his men, that they abandoned 11 bottles of Mackinlay's Old Highland Malt Whisky that lay under the ice for 100 years.

In 2007, all 11 bottles were rescued from their freezing storage beneath remains of Shackleton's base camp and returned to Mackinlays. Master blender Richard Peterson embarked to re-create the original blend, and succeeded, to anyone who tasted the 1907 remainders and the new one, they say.

It is described as a blended malt with a whisper of smoke and notes of vanilla and honey.

This dedicated member obtained a litre bottle and is enjoying confirming his success, one highball glass with only one ice cube so as not to dilute the great taste very much.

While you can find sources for it online, it is not all commerce. Every bottle sold will also carry a contribution to the Antarctic Heritage Trust in New Zealand, which can be accessed at www.nzaht.org that supports the ongoing care of

Shackleton's Antarctic base and to encourage the spirit of exploration.

And an insouciant note from your correspondent: Does anybody know what whiskey my hero Paul A. Siple drank?



OAEA 2020 ELECTION

Looking for Leaders to take the OAEA into the next decade!



*Editorial by Marty Diller
OAEA Secretary*

Bob Gaboury, who has chaired the OAEA Election Committee for every election since 2008, has recently volunteered to chair the 2020 committee. Gabby will be preparing a self-nomination form for the election and setting a deadline for mailing these forms to the Election Committee. The nomination form will soon be available on the OAEA website (www.oaea.net) for downloading. Further details on the election timeline will be forthcoming and available on the website, and you can expect election information to be also arriving in your inbox via the OAEA member email platform, Traffic Wave.

We are looking for volunteers holding Regular membership status to run for office. Past President (and current Vice President) John West described our search best when he stated that “the strength of any organization lies within the cohesiveness and participation of the membership of that organization. You and only you can determine the future of the OAEA. We need your input and help as the OAEA continues to expand.”

This year, candidates for the following offices will be needed:

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Four Directors

According to the OAEA By-Laws, the President and Vice-President serve four-year terms and the Treasurer and Directors terms are for eight years. Except for OAEA reunions, there are NO meetings to attend. Between reunions, all OAEA business is conducted via email by the Board of Directors, so candidates should have access to the internet.

Note: Associate members are not eligible to vote or hold office. Regular members can run for only one office and can only nominate themselves for a position. There are eight Directors on the Board.

There are many well-qualified members in the OAEA and if you feel you are one of these with leadership qualities to lead the OAEA into the future, get your name on the ballot by downloading a nomination form from the OAEA website.

The new officers will be installed at the OAEA National Reunion during the second week of November 2020, and their terms of office will begin at the adjournment of the General Membership meeting there in Jacksonville, FL. The Special Reunion Edition of the *Explorer's Gazette* is expected to be published by early April 2020 and will contain details of that 3-day event.

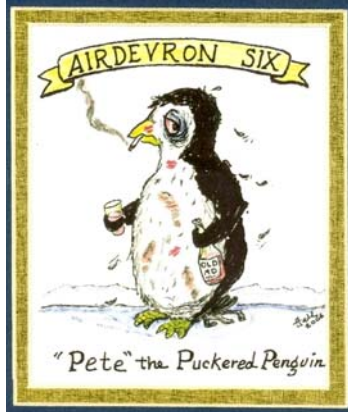


VX/VXE-6 Reunion New Orleans 2019

*By Bob McCauley
VX/VXE-6 Ex-President*

2019 NOLA PUCKERED PENGUINS REUNION

The Association Contracted with the Crowne Plaza New Orleans Airport for a rate of \$99. Per night including buffet breakfast, parking, shuttle service to the airport and comp WIFI. No resort fees, nor fees for meeting room, banquet room set-up, audio use fee. No carving station fee and we were not prohibited from bringing in snacks and beverages to our no fee hospitality room. US flag provided as well as microphone for Reception, General member meeting and Banquet.



Wednesday 25 September 2019 the hospitality room had a soft opening for the early arrivals while the Opening ceremony was conducted that evening including the pledge of allegiance followed by introduction of all 33 members and their guests totaling 57 all told. Special warm welcome given to Billy-Ace Baker of the OAEA's, a sister Antarctic remembrance society that many of us are members of. Next was the delicious Icebreaker reception menu with all the trimming including a carving station with both Ham and Roast beef. Announcement regarding times and places were made available with emphasis on attending the Saturday morning General Membership meeting.

Our Hospitality room, called the IHG Lounge, was just terrific with four sliding under counter refrigerators for keeping our beer, wine, water bottles, and soda chilled, while the counter acted as our back wall for assorted liquors and mixers and a mini kitchen since we had a wet sink. We also stocked breads and cold cuts, cheeses, potato salad, and using the microwave oven even had ¼ lb Beef HOT dogs too. Not to mention the individual assorted potato chip bags, and a full-service hot coffee station and we never ran out of anything. We even supplied bottled waters to take to their rooms and on our tours.

On our free open day (Thursday) many wanted to see downtown New Orleans and the French Quarters or Jackson Square while some wanted to see the swamps, which we helped arrange into groups with similar interest to ride share or use Uber or Lyft. From the swamp and marchlands we heard Alligators live in the marsh and eat marshmallows and will even jump out of the water over three foot high to get them, learn something every day.



Dick Spaulding stands while introducing himself with Nick Licciardi looking on.



Some goofy dude poses with Glyniss Harris in the French Quarter.



Maria Landy on swamp tour holding baby alligator

Friday saw us load the bus and depart at 0830 for the full day adventure, the WWII museum, which was a super tour and a must see. We also saw the extra feature film "Beyond all Boundaries" narrated by Tom Hanks.



Entrance to WWII Museum

Saturday saw our General Meeting that was attended by over 26 members. The meeting discussed our future and how to attract more squadron members since we are not making any more and to attend reunions. The writing is on the wall

as all lodges, clubs and, veterans organizations have lost their luster with sagging attendance and membership. The meeting highlights were the Election of our New President Jeff Underwood, while the past president stepped into the Secretary Office that was previously dual hatted to Tracy Smith who remains as Treasurer.



New VX/VXE-6 Association President Jeff Underwood shakes hand with outgoing President Robert McCauley.

The Creole Buffet banquet Saturday evening opened with the pledge of allegiance and announcement of the election results. Following dinner, the New President took the oath of office. The senior squadron member from 1960 was recognized (Barry Chase) as well as the most junior (William Lamar (1991). This followed the remembrance and reading of the names of our departed since our last reunion. An auction was conducted from donated goods that yielded \$460. towards our reunion pantry fund.



All Hands chowing down on the Creole Buffet



Stuffed Penguin being auctioned off

20 Mysterious Facts About Antarctica We Keep Ignoring

By Evan Alexander On 28 November 2019 In Destinations

Sitting down at the southern tip of the globe and isolated from the rest of the world, the Antarctic has remained somewhat of an undiscovered enigma. While no single country actually has ownership claims to the continent (that's right, it IS a continent, after all), a number of different nations do still have research bases stationed down in the icy expanses.

Year after year, we discover more and more about this fascinating, sometimes-unsettling piece of land—from gold-sputtering volcanoes to underwater rivers and even a blood-red waterfall.

So grab your mittens and keep warm because we're about to dive into the curious world of Antarctica (read: not the Arctic—that's the one up at the North Pole with Santa and the polar bears).



20 Hundreds of researchers have disappeared—via National Geographic

As much as we all want to high-five the penguins down at the South Pole, there's a good reason why average Joes aren't allowed to visit. Simply put, the conditions are some of the most brutal on the planet. Over the years, scientists and explorers have been forced to learn that the hard way.



19 It used to be a rainforest—via Pinterest

It might be a little hard to come to terms with considering that, these days, Antarctica is nothing more than a vast expanse of frostbite-inducing ice and emptiness. However, way back in the day, before the ice age struck, the area actually played host to a lush tropical rainforest.



18 Dinosaurs once strolled around—via Twitter

So, when the lush rainforests called Antarctica home, among the countless species of wildlife roaming the plains were, of course, the dinosaurs. One hundred million years ago, long before the disastrous meteor would come down and squash our favourite long-gone Jurassic beasts, they skipped around the expanses freely.



17 More meteorites are found here than anywhere else—via boredpanda

While we're on the topic of meteorites, head to the Antarctic to find some. First of all, it's because the Antarctic has remained relatively untouched all this time, we're yet to dig them up to make room for skyscrapers, and secondly, the extremely dry climate better preserves the rock compared to say, jungles.



16 The two types of ice—via Financial Times

As we look in from the outside, the Antarctic seems like nothing more than one giant slab of slowly-melting, penguin-abundant ice. However, that's not quite the case. In reality, there are two types of ice down there—land ice, which is formed over land, and sea ice, over water.



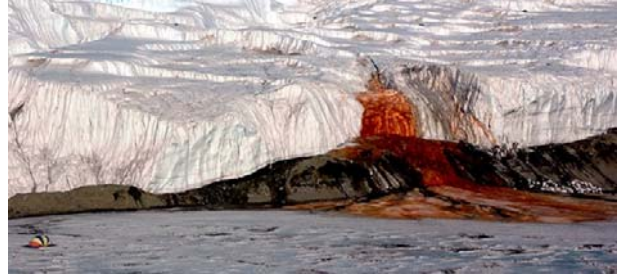
15 It's the largest desert on earth—via Oceanwide Expeditions

Move over, Sahara Desert. You might boast 3,300,000 square miles of scorching sands and dusty plains but that doesn't even come close to the whopping expanse of the deep southern Antarctic. Officially the largest desert in the world—a 'cold desert', technically—Antarctica covers 5,500,000 square miles.



14 The presence of gold-spurting volcanoes—via National Geographic

They say that money doesn't grow on trees (although we all wish it did), however, down in the icy abyss of Antarctica, gold really does shoot out from volcanoes. As part of what is already a miraculous environment and ecosystem, the eruptions from Mount Erebus contain microscopic particles of our favourite shiny mineral—gold.



13 It's home to a blood-red waterfall—via boredpanda

Ah, Mother Nature—And we've seen this one before. The almighty builder of our world sometimes becomes bored with her regular, clear water features, and, as is the case here, decides to add a splash of violent colour. The devilish tinge is actually a result of the sediment underneath the water mixing with the current, creating the b-grade horror set you see before you.



12 The endless maze of underwater rivers—via National Geographic

Hold on a second. How could water flow underneath a frozen slab of ice? This is it this way: when you put a tray of soon-to-be ice cubes in the freezer, the top solidifies before the middle and the bottom, right? Therefore, we see water continue to flow underneath the solid ice.



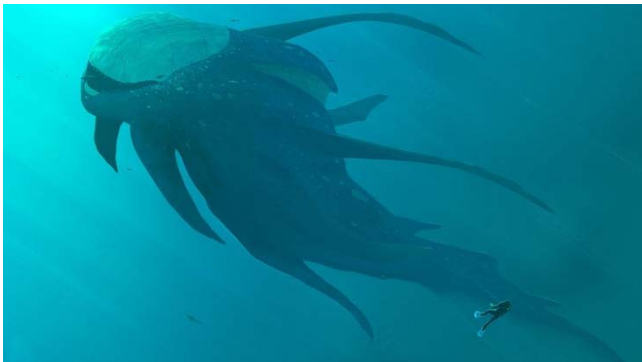
11 Who actually owns Antarctica—via Australian Antarctic Division

We have to wind the clock all the way back to 1959, where 12 countries (although now it has expanded to 52) came together and decreed that the Antarctic would not belong to any single nation. Instead, it would be shared land, governed by the Antarctic Treaty, and a place solely for scientific exploration and preservation.



10 It's way bigger than we think—via NASA

We've never been there, it sits all the way at the bottom of most maps, and frankly, whatever happens down in Antarctica doesn't really affect us on a day-to-day basis (excluding global warming). Without much of a focus on it, people are often shocked to hear that Antarctica dwarfs the USA in size.



9 The mystery of "The Bloop"—via Intellectual Event Horizon

Back in 1997 an aquatic mystery called 'the Bloop' occurred, a sound so incredibly loud that it was captured by multiple hydrophones (underwater microphones) thousands of miles apart. While many pinned the sound to aquatic dinosaurs or undiscovered species, it was eventually assumed (read: still not proven) to be ice crashing into the seabed.



8 There's a canyon as deep as the Grand Canyon—via Raw Story

At around two-thirds the size of Manhattan and almost 1,000 feet deep (according to NASA), the enormous cavity developing over on the western side of Antarctica is a force to be reckoned with. It's located toward the bottom of the Thwaites Glacier, and if it continues to grow then, sorry folks, we could be in trouble.



7 The 15-million-year-old lake—via Matrix World Disclosure

If you thought that your great-grandma turning 90 was old, wait 'til you take a look at the intimidating Lake Vostok. It's found over in the eastern side of the continent in Princess Elizabeth Land, and, surprisingly, despite its age, the 15-million-year-old was only officially discovered a few decades ago.



6 It's melting more than we think...—via Yale E360

It was only a matter of time before we came across this sad reality. We can't keep sweeping it under the rug—Antarctica is melting, and fast! According to Scientific American, we're waving goodbye to 252 giga-tons of precious ice every single year over the last decade, which is a formidable increase on decades prior.



5 ... Causing sea levels to rise...—via pinterest

What happens to ice when it melts? It turns to water, of course. As expected, this is causing our sea levels to rise. As told by Scientific American, that ice "has raised global sea levels by 14 millimeters since 1979." While 14 millimeters might not seem like much, just wait until you hear what's still possible...



4 ... And it it all melted, we'd be screwed—via IMDb

This, ladies and gentlemen, is when reality starts to hit home. “Or when the shit hits the fan!”

From the wise people over at the American Museum of Natural History, “If all the ice covering Antarctica... were to melt, sea level would rise about 70 meters (230 feet). The ocean would cover all the coastal cities. And land area would shrink significantly.”



3 It lacks an official time zone—via cruxnow.com

If you hop on a plane at LAX in Los Angeles and deplane out in New York City, you'll have added an extra three hours to your journey. If you fly from one corner of Antarctica to the other, however, you might just be in exactly the same time zone. Without large populations, the continent has no official time zone.



2 Sled dogs are banned—via boredpanda

Since 1994, our beloved sled dogs have been banned from visiting Antarctica. That’s a lot of disallowed cuteness. While they would have been beneficial for a number of reasons, ultimately, the decision was based on the fact that they could be a disturbance or even a threat to the local wildlife.



1 Tinder actually exists down there—via boredpanda

The ice is melting, volcanoes are erupting, and there might be a sea monster making all kinds of noise down there. But enough of that nightmarish stuff: don't forget that an American scientist got a Tinder match down in Antarctica, another researcher who was a mere 45-minute helicopter ride away.

Sources: NASA, AMNH, Scientific American, boredpanda

ANTARCTIC



ADVENTURES

Written by Yolonda Washington



Journey and her mother Yolonda

PART THREE

CAN YOU GET THERE FROM HERE?

Yes, you can! Anyone can reach the White Continent from anywhere in the world, however it will take some doing! Our trip to Antarctica was two years in the planning. You see we live in Florida and we not only had to plan for the particulars of travel down there but also the change in climate across three continents. North America to South America to Antarctica. Also for clothing unless you are into hiking, you don't always have B1 hiking boots handy!

Historically there are science stations and most people have gone there through the military or contractual companies serving the military. Recently there is an uptick in tourist excursions. Did you know that less than 1% of the world's population have ever stepped foot on the continent? Consider yourself one of the few of the fewest who have ever been. Very Rare Adventure!



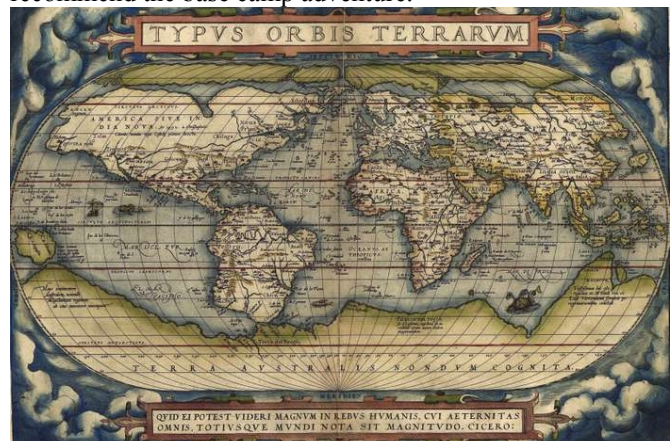
Journey and Yolonda on the Bridge on the MV Ortelius

I secured passage aboard Oceanwide Expeditions vessel MV *Ortelius*. The *Ortelius* was named after the Dutch cartographer Abraham Ortelius (1527–1598) who published the first modern world atlas. It was previously a research vessel for the Russian Academy of Science. The ship is now

a passenger vessel. *Ortelius* is 91m long, 17.6m wide and has a maximum draft of 5.80m with an Ice Strength rating of UL1/1A, top speed of 13 knots and one diesel engine generating 200 kW. We choose this trip and vessel also because we knew it would have more scientists and lecturers aboard at the time we were going. My daughter Journey and I wanted to learn all we could about Antarctica, participate in research and partake of all the on-ice activities and adventures. I recommend the base camp adventure.



Abraham Ortelius



Map of the World by cartographer Ortelius

We embarked on a three-day cross continent itinerary to get to the ship. From Pensacola, Florida we flew to Atlanta-Hartsfield Airport and then down to Buenos Aires, Argentina

into the Ministro Pistarini Airport. Due to the flight schedule, you spend a day in Buenos Aires and then take a flight the next day down to Ushuaia. You can also fly to Chile before flying to Ushuaia. We did not mind this layover at all! What a wonderful addition to the adventure to be able to spend a full day in Buenos Aires. By the way the weather was warm and summer like, we wore shorts! So far from Florida to Argentina, no cold weather yet!

Argentina is fascinating. Such a vibrant and colorful place. My daughter knew some Spanish, but do not worry about the language barrier, everyone is very helpful. We took tours of the city and sites and that evening we took part in a traditional Argentina dining experience and learned to make Mate tea. Argentineans are serious when it comes to the method and will have vigorous debates on which way is best.



Mate tea

I don't drink much but I must say Argentina Malbec is delicious and now my new favorite alcohol based drink. Beef and other meats are also prevalent. Very delicious too! The burgers are to die for! And the size is enough for two!

Do take the time to visit Tierra del Fuego and walk down to the "end of the world". If only to visit the Tierra Del Fuego passport station! But the best is being able to walk down to the "end of the road" the last road on the South America continent, Ruta 3 Bahia Lapataia.



Tierra Del Fuego Passport office



Here we are at "The end of the Road" Ruta 3

That next morning we gathered our luggage and made way to the Ministro Pistarini Airport and flew to Ushuaia's Jorge Newbery Airport. On the Tierra del Fuego archipelago, at the southern tip of South America, sits the Argentinian city of Ushuaia, known as the southernmost city in the world, or sometimes, "the end of the world." When you land there, once again you will spend the day on land and board your ship the next morning. Once again, we did not mind. It was a wonderful opportunity to explore this city. Ushuaia means "bay" or "cove" and in its background is the Martial Mountains. The hotels were great, good food and the city is welcoming. There is a small artist fair of original crafts at the El Paseo de los Artesanos.



The city and port of Ushuaia



Journey at the famous "Fin Del Mundo" sign

Yes, this is where you take the iconic photo! "El Fin del Mundo".

The next morning we boarded the MV *Ortelius*. The *Ortelius* is a converted icebreaker ship. It is a warm, cozy, comfortable ship that holds 116 passengers. The accommodations were just fine and had all the necessary amenities. We sailed under the watchful eye of Captain Ernesto Barria and his international crew. Our expedition team consisted of mountaineers, camping, kayak, photographer, and general expedition guides.

Passengers were mainly a group of well-traveled individuals, couples, and families. At this stage of travel, most have been to many places around the world and were seasoned travelers. So we all knew what to expect and were comfortable with the old adage, "Be patient, and go with the flow as changes are inevitable when traveling." As well as the quote from Mark Twain, "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness."



**Teens onboard the MV *Ortelius*
(Journey and her two new friends)**

The food was fantastic. There was one seating for each meal and snacks in the lounge area. Meals were global in taste and varied in selection. Overall a very enjoyable experience at each seating. They were even so kind as to bake a birthday cake for my daughter, who was celebrating her 16th birthday on this trip. So was I, but I am not going to tell you my age as I look so wonderful and younger than my age!! (so they tell me).



Journey celebrating her 16 birthday aboard ship

On the day our trip embarked out to sea it was a glorious morning. It was bright sunny and there were many birds out to guide our passage. We had the customary lifesaving training drills and introductions. We all celebrated with

champagne in the lounge. The excitement was palpable. We were all so thrilled. We relished in the fact that we were beginning an adventure that less than one percent of the world's population has done. Many of us stood on deck as we passed the lighthouse and Mount Olivia as the sun dipped below the sky and gave us a wonderful parting sunset as we headed into the Beagle Channel.



Bow of MV *Ortelius* heading out



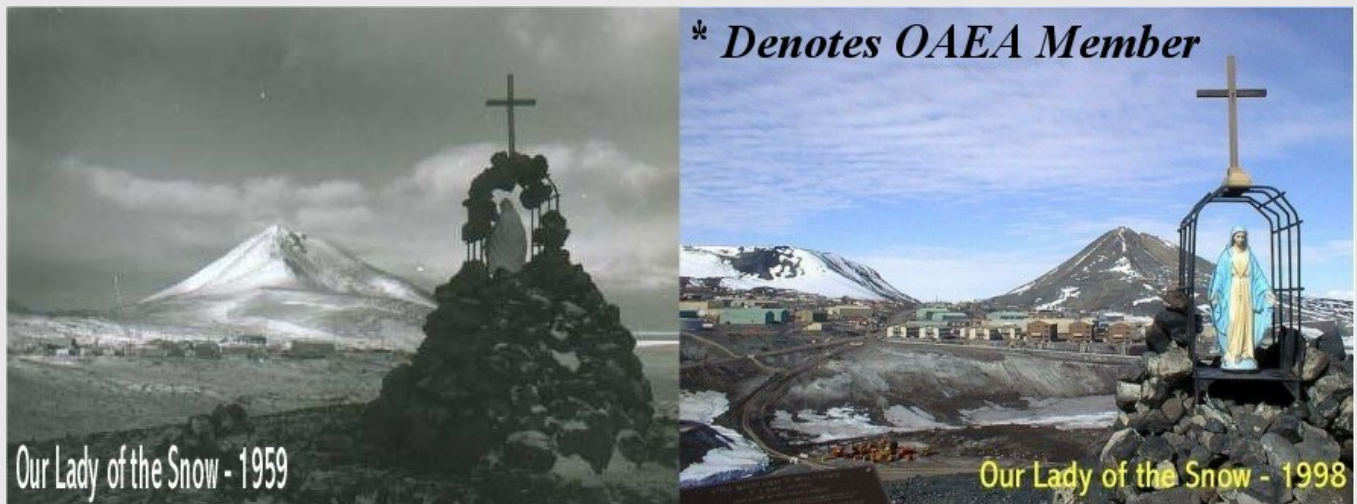
Mount Olivia



Hard to find Antarctica/Antartida/Argentina patch

NEXT ARTICLE—PART FOUR: "Drake's Passage" Shake, Rattle and Roll or Not???

—To Be Continued



IN MEMORY

OAE LCDR Charles L. Arsta, USN (Ret), 83, died in December 2019, in Cape Girardeau, MO. Charlie served in Antarctica while in the US Navy.

OAE ADC Duane E. Ash, USN (Ret), 82, died on 16 November 2019, at CHI Bergan Mercy Hospital in Omaha. NB. Duane made two deployments to Antarctica on an icebreaker. Name of ship and years unknown.

OAE Bernard "Bernie" Barke, 83, died on 22 October 2019, in Morgan Hill, IL. Bernie visited Antarctica on a Russian icebreaker.

OAE Robert "Bob" Beavers, M.D., 90, died on 24 October 2019, in Dallas, TX. Bob served in Antarctica with the USAF. Year(s) unknown.

OAE SCPO Paul E. Bechard, USN (Ret), 95, died on 10 December 2019, in Worcester, MA. Paul served in Antarctica while in the US Navy.

OAE Richard A. Belcher, USN (Ret), 87, died on 17 October 2019, at St. Mary's Home East, in Erie PA. Dick served in Antarctica with the Seabees. Unit and year(s) unknown.

*OAE CWO Charles A. "CB" Bevilacqua, USN (Ret), 89, died on 25 November 2019, at the Aberjona Nursing Center in Winchester, MA. As a BU1 CB was in MCB (Special) and helped to build McMurdo Station during DF-I. After wintering-over at McMurdo he was promoted to BUC and he went to the geographic South Pole and helped to build South Pole Station. Mount Bevilacqua is named in his honor. CB was a member of the New England OAEA Chapter.

OAE Robert Stephen Bickerstaff, Jr., 73, died on 4 October 2019, in Austin, TX. Bob visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Melvin Robert Blaquiere, 82, died on 9 December 2019, at the Masconomet Healthcare Center in Topsfield, ME. Melvin served in Antarctica aboard the USS *Atka* during the 1950s.

OAE LTCOL Ronald J. Bobziony, USA (Ret), 79, died on 26 November 2019, in RI. Ron served as the Naval Support Force Antarctica Terminal Operations Officer from 1973 to 1978 as a Major. Mount Bodziony is named in his honor.

OAE WR Boles, 80, died on 26 October 2019, in Amarillo, TX. WR served in Antarctica with the US Navy Seabees. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Martha E. Bridges, 90, died on 30 September 2019, at Northwest Community Hospital/Journey Care Hospice, in Arlington Heights, IL. Martha visited Antarctica as a tourist.

*OAE AD1 David L. Brown, USN (Ret), 76, died on 6 October 2019, in Bloomsburg, PA. David served in VXE-6 as an AD2 LC130 Flight Engineer, from 1970 to 73.

OAE Marie Buchler (nee Darby), 79, died on 10 October 2019, at Te Omanga Hospice, in Lower Hutt, NZ. Marie was a biologist, Antarctic explorer, teacher, and artist. She was the first New Zealand woman to visit the Antarctic Mainland. In January 1968 she traveled on the MV *Magga Dan*, the first tourist vessel to visit the Ross Sea, and visited Scott Base with other staff and tourists. Mount Darby is named in her honor.

OAE Myrna R. Burbank, 83, died on 16 November 2019, in Bedford Hills, NY. Myrna visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Nancy Jean Burkman, 86, died on 30 September 2019, in Tallahassee, FL. Nancy visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Pauline Carr, on 9 September 2019, in New Zealand. Pauline and her husband Tim, who arrived at South Georgia on their yacht, *Curlew*, were instrumental in developing the South Georgia Museum into a collection that represented every aspect of the island. After 24 years' living and working on South Georgia, they decided to retire. After several more years working on South Georgia support they settled in New Zealand.

OAE Dorothy "Dottie" Grace Bigham Comfort, 94, died on 3 November 2019, at First Community Village in Columbus, OH. Dottie visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Robert Coolidge Carter, 100, died on 7 October 2019, in Ann Arbor, MI. Robert visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Arnold Chase, 80, died on 1 October 2019, in Fair Lawn, NJ. Arnold visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Paul A. Criley, died in April 2007, in Bloomfield, CO. Paul served on the USCGC *Eastwind* during DF-II.

OAE Barbara Dahn, 97, died on 28 November 2019, in Pasadena, CA. Barbara served as the first west coast representative for the travel company that was founded by her friend, Lars-Eric Lindblad. Her impact as a woman exploring exotic places such as Antarctica was felt by the industry at large.

OAE Alfred S. Dauphinais, died on 5 February 2019, in Barnstable, MA. Al served on the USCGC *Eastwind* during DF-61 and DF-62 as a Chief Engineman.

OAE Joan Cralle Day, 84, died on 21 October 2019, in Louisville, KY. Joan visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Robert E. Dorchuk, died on 3 December 2019, in Indio, CA. Robert wintered-over in NNPU Crew IV during DF-65 as a CMI.

OAE William Ryan "Bill" Drew, 83, died on 17 October 2019, in Milwaukee, IL. Bill visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE John Frank Albert Dubbelman, 93, died on 2 November 2019, in Cedar Grove, NJ. John visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Karin M. "Kar" Erickson, 76, died on 18 October 2019, in Caserta, Italy following a tragic accident. Kar traveled to all seven continents and loved Antarctica the best.

OAE David B. Ferland, died in July 2018, in Stuben, NY. David served on the USCGC *Eastwind* during DF-66.

OAE Dr. Stanley P. Filewicz, M.D. 86, died on 25 October 2019, in Jensen Beach, FL. Stanley served on the USS *Glacier* as the medical officer during DF-61.

OAE Phillip A. Flasch, died on 9 December 2019, in Muskego, WI. Phil traveled to Antarctica to distill and purify drinking water. Year(s) unknown.

OAE Helen Forsgard, 93, died on, 26 November 2019, in Scituate, MA. Helen visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE LCDR Thomas H. Foster II, USN (Ret), died on 21 December 2019, in Jacksonville, FL. Tom retired after serving several tours in Antarctica with Operation Deep Freeze. Name of command and dates unknown.

OAE John A. "Jack" Gagliastro, 79, died on 30 December 2019, in Worcester, MA. John served in Antarctica aboard the USCGC *Eastwind* during DF-I.

OAE Richard Lowell Goode, MD, 83, died on 30 October 2019, in Stanford, CA. Richard visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Gloria Marie Greve Perry George, 75, died on 26 October 2019, in El Paso, TX. Gloria visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Mariellen Greenbury, 88, died on 23 October 2019, in Fort Myers, FL. Mariellen and her husband Donald celebrated their 50th Anniversary with a trip to Antarctica to complete the list of all seven continents.

OAE Ann Roth Gronich, 80, died on 14 May 2019, in El Paso, TX. Ann made a visit to Antarctica in 2000 as a tourist.

OAE Arnold Heine, 93, died on 8 October 2019, in Woburn, NZ. Arnold began his Antarctic career with the Department of Industrial and Scientific Research (DSIR) during the first IGY year (1956). Originally selected to spend the 1958 winter at Scott Base, he sailed south with others in the NZ IGY and TAE team in December. He was a field assistant on the 1957/58 NZGS Tucker Glacier Expedition and next year the 1958/59 NZGS Wood Bay Expedition. After spending the 1959 winter at Scott Base, he joined an international team as assistant to French glaciologist Claude Lorius for the pioneering 1959/60 2500-km traverse to Charcot Station in North Victoria Land as assistant glaciologist. He was a Life Membership of the NZ Antarctic Society. Mount Heine is named in his honor.

OAE Stuart Heydinger, 92, died on 6 October 2019. Stuart was a photographer from England who photographed Edmund Hillary and Dr Vivian Fuchs when they meet at the South Pole in January 1958.

OAE Barbara Hillary, 88, died on 24 November 2019, in New York City, NY. In 1961 at the age of 79 Barbara became the first black woman to reach the geographic South Pole. "She died in the season of 24-hour sunlight at the South Pole".

OAE Rodney F. Holcomb M.D., died on 20 September 2019, in Orlando, FL. Rod visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Timothy Hugh Hollick-Kenyon Sr., 91, died on 8 November 2019, in Canada. Tim voyaged to the Antarctic to add to his bird-sighting list and visit the area where his father flew and navigated for explorer Lincoln Ellsworth. Hollick-Kenyon Peninsula, and Hollick-Kenyan Plateau are named in his father's honor.

OAE HM James E. Hueber, USN (Ret), 86, died on 18 September 2019, in Bedford, VA. James served as a hospital corpsman during the first US Navy effort to support Operation Deep Freeze in Antarctica. Unit unknown.

OAE Karen P. Karjala, 75, died on 4 October 2019, in Saint Augustine, FL. Karen visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Robert Emmet Keating, Jr., 89, died on 8 December 2019, in Niskayuna, NY. In November of 1958, Bob represented the Hearst Newspapers as one of the few civilians in the world selected to travel to Antarctica for four weeks with the departments of Navy to cover the International Geophysical Year

OAE Lewis "Lew" R. Keith, 89, died on 24 September 2019, in Las Cruces, NM. Lew visited Antarctica briefly in connection with his profession as a plumber. Unit and year unknown.

OAE Melbourne Edgar "Mel" Kensinger, 91, died on 12 November 2019, in Pikes Peak, AZ. While in the US Navy Mel served on the USS *Pine Island* during Operation Highjump.

Joseph Francis Knapp Sr., 95, died on 29 October 2019, in Missoula, MT. Joe served in the U.S. Navy and he worked in Washington DC, in support of the Antarctic scientific explorations in the 1950's. It is not known if he deployed to Antarctica.

OAE CDR (CEC) Arthur Degen Kohler, Jr., USNR (Ret), 83, died on 28 October 2019, in Kennewick, WA. Arthur wintered-Over at McMurdo during DF-68 as the Crew VII OIC of the PM3A Nuclear Power Plant.

OAE Anton "Tony" Komarek, 87, died on 7 November 2019, in Port Charlotte, FL. Tony visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Jack E. Lee, 85, died on 30 November 2019, in Bucks County, NE. Jack served in Antarctica with the US Navy. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Claire Lelli, 80, died on 31 October 2019, in Vineland, NJ. Claire visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE John Joseph Leshinski, 72, died on 8 September 2019, in Scottsdale, AZ. John proudly conquered his seventh continent, Antarctica, earlier this year.

OAE LCDR Jerry Lee Locke, Sr., USN (Ret), 88, died on 8 October 2019, in Mobile, AL. Jerry served at Christchurch, New Zealand for Operation Deep Freeze (Det VXE-6) supporting scientific research in Antarctica. Jerry also deployed to Antarctica for short periods of time.

OAE GMCS Richard Locke, USN (Ret), 80, died on 17 September 2019, in Austin, TX. Richard served in Antarctica with the USN. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE MAJ Michael Joseph MacDonald, USAF (Ret), 77, died on 31 December 2019, in Whispering Pines, NC. Michael served on the staff of Commander Naval Support Forces Antarctica. Year(s) unknown.

*OAE Patrick D. "Rediron" McCormick, 84, died on 2 October 2019, in Cumberland, RI. Pat aka Rediron served in Antarctica with MCB (Special) during DF-I and II as a Builder Second Class. He wintered-over at McMurdo during DF-I and spent 29 days at the geographic South Pole working on the erection of the first South Pole Station during DF-II. He was a member of the Antarctic Deep Freeze Association.

OAE Wayne Blair McFarland, USN (Ret), 87, died on 30 December 2019, in Richmond, VA. Wayne served in Antarctica with the US Navy. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Grace S. "Gracie" Machermer, 93, died on 8 October 2019, at the Woodland Senior Living Center in Waterville, ME. Gracie was a long-time Antarctica Society member and partner of Antarctic Society Treasurer Paul Dalrymple, Gracie was a very gracious co-host of many of the Antarctica Society gatherings at Port Clyde, Maine. She visited the Antarctic Peninsula as a tourist with her companion Paul Dalrymple.



OAE ADR1 Richard Louis Mastriano, USN (Ret), 85, died on 28 December 2019, in Hightstown, NJ. Richard served in Antarctica with VX-6 during DF-II.

OAE Dorothy Lee Maney, 87, died on 5 November 2019, in Tallahassee, FL. Dorothy visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Helen Black Maupin, 94, died on 21 September 2019, in Columbia, MO. Helen visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Gloria Roberts Meitzen, 89, died on 24 October 2019, in Lubbock, TX. Gloria visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Philip "Phil" Moore Miller, 87, died on 30 October 2019, in Austin, TX. Phil visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Jay H. Moore, 78, died on 9 October 2019, in Billerica, NH. Jay served in Antarctica onboard the USS *Glacier* as a Seaman during DF-61.

OAE Charles Harrison Neeley, Sr., USN (Ret), 78, died on 13 December 2019, at Haven Hospice in Lake City, FL. Charles served in Antarctica with the US Navy Seabees. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Frank Alfred Oliver, USN (Ret), 69, died on 29 October 2019, in Oxnard, CA. Frank served in Antarctica while in the US Navy. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Patricia Ann O'Neill, 81, died on 3 October 2019, in Milton, MA. Patricia visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Donald Robert Rae, USN (Ret), 85, died in September 2019, in Turlock, CA. Donald visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Phil Richardson, 86, died on 17 December 2019, in Athens, GA. Phil served in Antarctica aboard the USS *Nespeleon* during High Jump as a fire control technician.

OAE Stephen "Steve" Rodemeyer, died on 26 October 2019, in Fresno, CA. Steve visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Peter F. Rohloff, 78, died on 5 October 2019, in Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada. Peter visited Antarctica via the Falkland Islands as a tourist.

*OAE Robert "Bob" Hoxie Rutford, 86, died on 1 December 2019, in Dallas, TX. Beginning in the late 1950s, Bob embarked on more than two-dozen treks to Antarctica as a USARP grantee. In 1975 he became the director of the Division of Polar Programs for the National Science Foundation. Mount Rutford, located in the Ellsworth Mountains in Antarctica, is named for him, as is the 130-mile-long Rutford Ice Stream.

OAE Gene Howell Sapp, 93, died on 16 September 2019, in Panama City, FL. Gene visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Andrew Schmitt Jr., 88, died on 22 September 2019, in Staten Island, NY. Andrew visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Sara Lockhart Simmonds, 101, died on 15 November 2019, in Alexandria, LA. In 2017, at the age of 98, Sara went skydiving to support cadets. Sara visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Billy Beth "Bitsy" Middleton Smith, 87, died on 23 October 2019, at The Oaks of Louisiana-North Pavilion, in Shreveport, LA. Bitsy visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Anne Lundquist Stiles, 84, died on 16 November 2019, in Irvine, CA. Anne visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE George Sutton, 96, died on 22 November 2019, in England. George was the leader of a daring expedition to scale previously unconquered, ice-bound slopes on South Georgia. He was only 31 when he led a team of five to the British overseas territory of South Georgia in 1954. Sutton Crag in South Georgia is named in his honor.

OAE Gloria Winifred Verbic, 91, died on 16 November 2019, in Elgin, IL. Gloria visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Louis Vettese, 88, died on 16 October 2019, in La Jolla, CA. Louis loved Antarctica, traveling to that frozen continent three times. It was there that he met his second wife Doris, while hiking along the shore of Carcass Island.

OAE Thomas J. Wajda, 78, died on 15 October 2019, in Frederick, Md. He was 78. Thomas traveled to Antarctica where he served as a labor advisor. Unit and year(s) unknown.

OAE Virginia "Ginny" Ware (nee Price), 92, died on 26 September 2019, at Westminster Place in Evanston, IL. Ginny visited Antarctica numerous times as part of the tourist industry.

OAE Dr. Carl Frederick Wellstead, 68, died on 13 October 2019, Charleston WV. While attending Ohio State University Carl took a break from classes to join an Ohio State research team for a field season in Antarctica. Year unknown.



Chaplain's Corner

Johnnie Draughon—OAEA Chaplain

³³ “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” (John 16: 33 NIV)

Recently a friend said to me, “There has never been a worse time in our country.” I had to give that some thought. I don’t know about you, but we’re doing pretty good right now. Life is good. I replied to my friend that I thought perhaps things were not as good for some people when we had Jim Crow laws in the early to mid-1900s. Or during the



Great Depression? Or how about WWI and WWII? Or life certainly could not have been better during the Civil War? In the 16th chapter of the Gospel of Matthew Jesus is asked about “end times”: and he describes events that seem to be going on in the world during every generation. And in 21st chapter of Luke’s Gospel he warns his disciples that when people talk about “end times,” “Do not follow after them.” (v8b) We all live in our own end times and Jesus warns us that “in this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” Life is good – enjoy it. And when tough times come remember that we can find peace in Jesus Christ. Just food for thought.



Matthew by Rembrandt

May the blessings be
Johnnie Draughon, Chaplain

DICK CAMERON

By Elaine Hood

I don’t remember exactly when I first met Dick Cameron, but I do remember his personality. He was giving a talk about Wilkes Station, where he was a glaciologist during the 1957–58 International Geophysical Year (IGY).



OAEA File Photo

Dick Cameron and Elaine Hood enjoy a beer together at the Antarctic Deep Freeze Association 2009 Reunion in Gettysburg. This may have been their first meeting.

Richard “Dick” Cameron passed away 22 July 2019, at age 89. (Editor’s Note: See the In Memory Column in the Jul-Sep issue of the Gazette).

Dick was animated. He was laughing. He definitely had a sense of humor. He was full of life as he zipped through the slides that illustrated this important work more than 50 years prior.

Dick was one of the first IGY scientists I had seen give a presentation about their work. I had met some of the other scientists over the years, but this was the first time I was seeing visuals with the stories. I was captivated.



Photo by Olav Loken

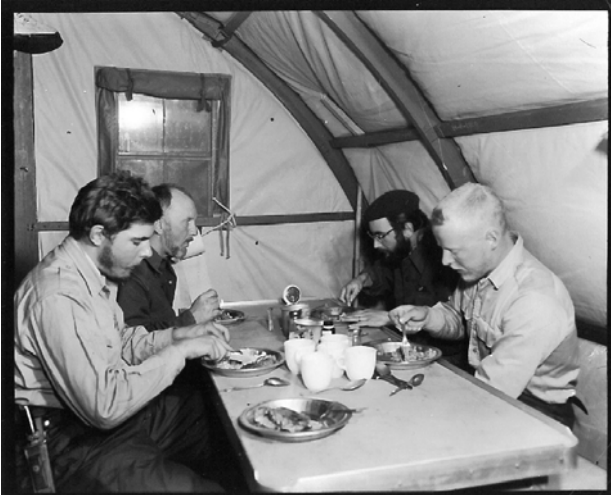
Geophysicist Richard Berkley and glaciologist Dick Cameron make radio contact with Wilkes Station from Site 2, a glaciology camp located 85 kilometers from Wilkes Station during the IGY in 1957–58.

I had already been working for the US Antarctic Program (USAP) prime logistical contractor for about ten years at this point, but his stories were unlike any I had heard.

“Once we were stranded...as the vehicle refused to run and our communications were poor. After three days the base sent out a group to find us. We were three men for three days in a two-man tent. I froze my feet and they were numb for several months. Another time we had two weasels [a type of

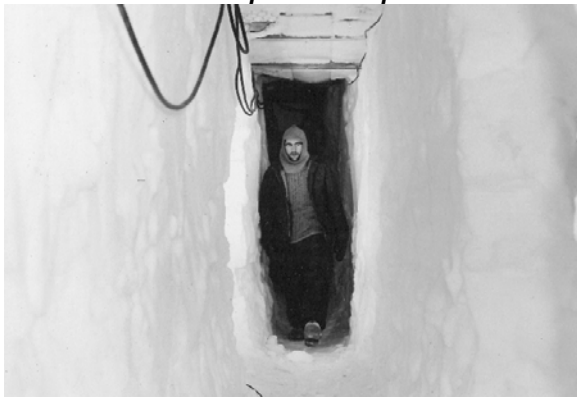
tracked vehicle] out at S-2 and neither would start. As there was a D-4 tractor 20 miles away on the Station to S-2 trail, the mechanic and I walked the 20 miles and thank goodness the tractor started.”*

He knew how to hold his audience



U.S. Navy Photo

Dr. John Molholm, Dr. Carl Eklund, Dr. Dick Cameron, Dr. Olva Loken eat a meal at Site-2 (S-2) glaciology station. The Wilkes winter crew included a team of three glaciologists led by Richard Cameron. One of their key objectives was setting up a glaciology research base on the polar ice cap.



U.S. Navy Photo

Dr. Dick Cameron, Chief Glaciologist, in a tunnel at S-2 Site. S-2 was a glaciology sub-base of Wilkes Station built during the International Geophysical Year (IGY) in 1957. It was intended to study the accumulation of snow on the ice cap.

He ended his presentation talking about his tenure as National Science Foundation Program Manager for Glaciology and describing a crazy idea a Saudi prince once had in the late 1970s. This prince worked with some professors at Iowa State University to study the feasibility of towing icebergs to the Middle East to provide fresh water. That story made me blurt out an exclamation, resulting in Dick stopping and looking at me—this woman who interrupted his presentation. I said, “One of those ISU professors was my father-in-law!” Poor Dick. I had just put

him in the delicate position of finishing his story about these idiots, but not wanting to insult this woman (me) in the audience.



Photo by Jerome Chappell

Dick Cameron poses with Julie Palais in 2017. Palais followed Cameron as the Glaciology Program Manager at the National Science Foundation.

I had heard the “iceberg” story since first meeting my in-laws and how they brought an iceberg, and the Saudi royals, to ISU. Now I was hearing the NSF side of the story.

And that is how I met Dick Cameron, a man I would enjoy visiting with at future conferences.

I last saw Dick, along with his dog Sandy and son Andy, at the Old Antarctic Explorer’s Association reunion in San Antonio in May 2018. We talked about icebergs and had more laughs.



OAEA File Photo

The Cameron’s at the 2018 OAEA Reunion in San Antonio, Texas. Andrew (Andy), Richard (Dick), & Sandy

*quoted paragraph taken from:

<https://ntrs.nasa.gov/archive/nasa/casi.ntrs.nasa.gov/20130009173.pdf>

A LITTLE MORE ON DICK CAMERON

Compiled By Billy-Ace

“Antarctica is a special place. It is a place where men and women of all nations and ethnic backgrounds can live and work in harmony”



Dick wearing his Antarctic Tartan tie

Dr. Richard L. Cameron has a B.Sc. in Geology from the University of New Hampshire. He made his



graduate in glaciology and Quaternary studies at the University of Stockholm and his Ph.D in Geology from The Ohio State University. In 1957, he first wintered in Antarctica at Wilkes Station. He has been Chief of Geotechnics Branch, Terrestrial Sciences Laboratory, Air Force Cambridge Research Laboratories; Assistant to the Director, Institute of Polar Studies, Ohio State University as well as Assistant Dean of University College and Assistant Dean for International Programs; Program Manager for International Organizations, International Programs and then Program Manager for Glaciology for the Division of Polar Programs of the National Science Foundation.



Dick in his yellow jacket



Dick and Rudi Honkala. Glaciology versus Meterology



John Molyholm, Rudi Honkala, and Dick Cameron check instruments and make entries in logs

My cousin gave me a copy of “The Royal Road to Romance”, by Richard Halliburton, which peaked my interest in seeing the world. In 1953 between my junior and



Ralph Glasgal & Dick Cameron using the Weasel as a windbreak while cooking

senior year at college I attended of The University of Oslo Summer School and then worked with the Norwegian Polar Institute on glaciers in Norway. After that I knew what I would be doing for my life's work: Greenland 1954; Sweden 1955; Antarctica 1956–1958; and so on studying glaciers. I eventually became the Glaciology Program Manager in the Division of Polar Programs. When I was at the National Science Foundation I was on a committee studying the possibility of towing icebergs as a source of water for Saudi Arabia. Prince Mohamed al Faisal al Saud was funding the project. I received a call that a meeting was to be held the following week in Paris. I said I was particularly busy and probably could not make it. They said, "Take the Concorde". I said, "I'm coming". It took three and a half hours to get there from Washington, D. C. Halfway across the Atlantic on the return flight I was invited up to the flight deck and sat for some time with the pilots. Quite a thrill and at 60,000 feet. You can see the curvature of the Earth. During the austral season 1964–1965 I participated in the Queen Maud Land Traverse from the geographical South Pole to the Pole of Relative

Inaccessibility in the middle of East Antarctica. Charlie Bentley lead the first half of the traverse and yours truly the second half. Going from 2820 m (9,250 ft). elevation at the South Pole to 3657 m (12,200 ft). at Inaccessibility we travelled 1200 km (750 miles) at the breakneck speed of 8 km/h (5 miles per hour). Undertaking a series of studies en-route, the traverse took two months. It was exciting to be crossing a part of the Earth where no man had been before. A great moment for me was standing at the geographical South Pole with my son Andy in November of 1979. He was just finishing his winter-over year at the Pole and I had just arrived to be the NSF Representative at the Pole for the summer. Antarctica is a special place; as I consider it the epitome of the way the rest of the world could one day be. It is a place where men and women of all nations and ethnic backgrounds can live and work in harmony. The IGY was the prime example of cooperation 'ON ICE' when their respective countries were at odds with one another.

© Le Cercle Polaire—January 2015—Tous droits réservés



Photo by Olav H. Loken.

The Wilkes IGY scientists during the 1957 winter. Back row from left to right: Garth Stonehocker, Dr. Gilbert Dewart, Dr. Carl Eklund (Station Scientific Leader), Rudi Honkala, Dr. Richard Berkley (partially obscured) and Dr. Olav Loken. In front from left to right: John Molholm, Dr. Richard Cameron, Robert L. Long Jr., and Dr. Ralph Glasgal

TIDEWATER GROUP GET TOGETHER

by Ed Hamblin

The Tidewater OAEA social group had their scheduled quarterly lunch at the beginning of October. As our quarterly sessions go, this one was very small, but still fun. So many stories to tell and listen to! Herb Schaefer, Bill Raymus, Wayne Rogers, Ed and Linda Hamblin, Robert Cardona, Manny Perry, and Ron Rooks made it out. Some UK produced Penguin Chocolate Covered Biscuit Bars (AKA cookies) also showed up, and were "modeled by" Robert Cardona and Linda Hamblin. Wayne Rogers had some more "new stories" about Highjump.

Our next scheduled outing (weather permitting) will be Saturday, 4 January 2020 at Terrie's Breakfast and Lunch Diner, 3320 N. Military Highway in Norfolk. If you aren't already receiving reminders and would like to be added, drop an e-mail to ehamblin74@verizon.net, or call at 757-405-3362. Hope to see you in January.



Linda Hamblin & Crackers



Robert Cardona & Crackers



Bill Raymus



Herb Schaefer



Ron Rooks & Manny Perry



Wayne Rogers & Brad Miller

The Memorial Donators

By Ed Hamblin
25 November 2019

Over the years there have been quite a number of memorial donations. We have never done anything to formally recognize these generous folks. Here is the list I have put together of donations to date:

| <u>Donor</u> | <u>In Memory Of</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Leslie Abbott | Dean E. Abbott | \$1,000.00 |
| Billy-Ace Baker | Howard A. Hisey | \$ 20.00 |
| Christian Beiller | Kenneth Styer | \$ 50.00 |
| Wendy Bernstein | John W. Goodman | \$ 500.00 |
| Donald Bolich | Robert D. Grass | \$ 50.00 |
| William Bourgeois | Bruce Raymond | \$ 100.00 |
| Andrew Breschini | Ralph Breshchini | \$ 8.00 |
| Dorothy Burgus | Robert D. Grass | \$ 10.00 |
| Alonzo Clayton | C. B. Williams | \$ 25.00 |
| John Clements | Robert D. Grass | \$ 75.00 |
| Veryl Cobb | Robert D. Grass | \$ 25.00 |
| Zoe Courville | Harold "Rex" Wolvin | \$ 50.00 |
| David Duke | Byron Duke | \$ 20.00 |
| James Durham, Sr. | Dale Twitty | \$ 200.00 |
| Robert Epperly | Robert "Hoot" Hartman | \$ 50.00 |
| Sarah Gillens | Jack Tuck | \$ 25.00 |
| Donna Grass | Robert D. Grass | \$ 250.00 |
| Susan Hartman | Robert "Hoot" Hartman | \$ 200.00 |
| Janet Hartman | Robert "Hoot" Hartman | \$ 100.00 |
| John Hasty | Mary Hasty | \$ 50.00 |
| Phil Holloway | F. J. Whitney | \$ 50.00 |
| Phil Holloway | Bruce Raymond | \$ 50.00 |
| Robert Judd | Robert D. Grass | \$ 200.00 |
| Walter Komhyr | Robert D. Grass | \$ 50.00 |
| Carolann Laudon | Thomas S. Laudon | \$ 50.00 |
| Harrison McCann | Leon W. Lecy | \$ 50.00 |
| James Mourlas | Katherine Mourlas | \$ 100.00 |
| OAEA-GC Chapter | Al Rogers | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-GC Chapter | Conrad Jaburg | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-GC Chapter | Jamie Baker | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-GC Chapter | Walter Ray Smith | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-GC Chapter | John A. Yeckley | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-GC Chapter | William R. Statler | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-GC Chapter | James "Doc" Abbott | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-GC Chapter | Muriel Dufek | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-GC Chapter | Jim Landy | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-GC Chapter | Charles Warner | \$ 100.00 |
| OAEA-GC Chapter | Charles Bishop | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-GC Chapter | Philip Arther Balink-White | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-GC Chapter | Arthur F. Schneider | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-GC Chapter | Ray Malinowski | \$ 50.00 |

| <u>Donor</u> | <u>In Memory Of</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| OAEA-NE Chapter | David E. Martin | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Lee Grant | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Charles Orem | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Frederick C. Walters | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Robert Archer | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Byron Duke | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Claire E. Cunningham | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Farrell Whitney | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Mary Hasty | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Robert "Hoot" Hartman | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Herschel Smith | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Chet Thomas | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Karen Newquist | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Win Hames, Jr. | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Harold J. Robicheau | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | R. T. Getman | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Ray Costello | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | A. W. Jones | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Gary Newquist | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Francis S. Thomson | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Quentin Risher | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Robert Epperly | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Kenneth Waldron | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Ed Cohen | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | John H. Swenson | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Ronald S. Hood | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Stephen Kapantis | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Calvin E. Fuller | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | James B. Beyersdorf | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Robert L. Sexton | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Edward Driscoll | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Irving James Morrison | \$ 50.00 |
| OAEA-NE Chapter | Donald R. Gianelli | \$ 50.00 |
| Henn Oona | Robert D. Grass | \$1,500.00 |
| Barbara Orr | Thomas E. Orr | \$ 100.00 |
| Harland Priddle | Robert D. Grass | \$ 35.00 |
| Harland Priddle | Donna M. Grass | \$ 100.00 |
| Paula Reynolds | Robert D. Grass | \$ 500.00 |
| Howard Sargent | Robert D. Grass | \$ 50.00 |
| Robin Seib | Phil Toussaint | \$ 50.00 |
| Sandra Stanley | Bruce Raymond | \$ 25.00 |
| Susan Tobey | Stephen Tobey | \$ 250.00 |
| Pat Unger | R. K. Waite | \$ 25.00 |
| Mildred Wallace | James Wallace | \$ 50.00 |
| Gloria Wallace | Jim D. Wallace | \$ 25.00 |
| Michael Walsh | Donald Cupit | \$ 100.00 |
| Mingta Yuen | Ernest Shackleton | \$ 50.00 |

New England Chapter Fall 2019 Meeting

*By Marty Diller,
New England Chapter Secretary-Treasurer*

Our Fall meeting found us back at the Bull N'Claw restaurant in Wells, Maine on a sunny, seasonably mild New England Saturday. It was a good day to take a drive and view the changing foliage—unfortunately, credit the weather to cause some unusually congested I-95 northbound traffic. As a result, some members from the Boston area and points south were latecomers to the meeting. In the end, we had 42 members and guests for this event.



Rolinda White (left) and Beverly Diller check-in meeting attendees. Bev accepts their payments for the plated lunch and Rolinda accepts their donations for tickets for the 50/50 raffle at the end of the meeting.

Chapter Business

I reported on our FY-2019 finances and membership stats; there has been no significant change to our bank account balance over the year, but the Chapter did experience the death of seven members in 2019. On the positive side of our membership situation, we have the same number of members that we did this time last year: 214.

The big item of 'New Business' is the upcoming election of Chapter officers in 2020. Under 'Old Business,' we were expecting the Lead Docent at the Collings Foundation's 'American Heritage Museum' (AHM), Mr. Colin Rixon, as a guest at this meeting. In the APR-JUN 2019 Gazette, I reported we had donated to the AHM some VX-6-related artifacts/memorabilia that were recovered in July 2018 from the now defunct Quonset Air Museum. Mr. Rixon was expected to share his plans for an Antarctic exhibit at AHM, as well as his proposal for Chapter members to conduct periodic presentations on Antarctica at the museum in Hudson, MA. Unfortunately, however, the Collings Foundation lost a B-17 warbird in a fatal crash in Connecticut earlier in the week, and he had to cancel his plans to join us this date. Look for an update on the Chapter's collaboration with the AHM in a future *Gazette*.

We did have another guest join us at this meeting: Catherine Brabec, a film director/producer from NY City. She is researching a potential documentary film project involving Antarctica, with an interest in meeting people who have had time on the Ice, to learn about their experience and hear their stories. Her father, LCDR Richard Brabec, was a VX-6 LC-130 pilot in 1964 and '65. Her idea for a film started with the discovery of letters he wrote to her mother while he was deployed, and Catherine is looking to expand the story of the personal experience of time on the Ice. Catherine described her project to the attendees and talked with many members during this event. She would like to hear from anyone who may want to share their Antarctic story and letters/photos/videos with her. Catherine can be contacted by email at: cmbfilms@gmail.com.



Catherine Brabec **LCDR Richard Brabec**
Film director/producer Catherine Brabec explains to the meeting attendees her idea for a potential documentary film project that would explore the personal feelings and experiences of OAEs during their time in Antarctica. Her father (LCDR Richard Brabec) was a Navy LC-130 pilot and was on the Ice in 1964 and '65. The idea for a film started with the discovery of letters that Catherine's father wrote to her mother while he was there.

Fundraising

The winner of the meeting's 50/50 raffle (\$91) was Jim Kelly (ASA Det 'C' DF-72-74). The door prize winner, Martha Pedone (wife of Jim Pedone, CBU-201; Palmer Station DF-69), won a free lunch at the next Chapter meeting she attends. In a special bonus drawing—courtesy of Katie Koster (NSF weather observer; 2007-present), who attended our spring meeting and donated many Antarctic trinkets—the following additional door prizes were awarded: South Pole Station polo shirt (John Drews; ITT Contractor DF-85); Stuffed penguin toy (guest Genevieve Ellison; USAP; Pole,

MCM, Palmer 2004-14); Ross Island Trail System ballcap (Martha Pedone); and South Pole 'NPX' bumper sticker (Catherine Brabec).

Other door prize winners: Malcolm Dixon (CBU-201 1968-69), a 2016 OAEA Reunion tote bag donated by the Chapter; and Bill Highlands (Hallett Station (w/o 1958) DF-III,-IV), a book ('Seabees of WW2,' by CDR. Edmund Castillo) donated by Sarah Gillens (Life Associate member).

Meeting Schedule

The next OAEA-NE Chapter meeting is scheduled for 1pm on Saturday, 28 March 2020, at the *Quonset O'Club* restaurant in North Kingstown, RI.

Editor's Note: Photo of Richard Brabec from the VX-6 DF-65 Cruise Book. All other photos in this report are by Dave Hazard.



Catherine Brabec (center) talks with John Henry (ASA, w/o at McM, DF-II); her significant other, Jim Purpuri listens in.



In the center, John Petrakis (USAP DF-92-94) talks with (back left) Nick Pellegrino (VXE-6 DF-71, 72), while Beth Ann Petrakis (left) and Bill Highlands (Hallett Station (w/o 1958) DF-III,-IV) listen in.



Meeting guest Genevieve Ellison (USAP; Pole, MCM, Palmer 2004-14) shares her Antarctic experiences with her table mates, Gordon & Sarah Gillens, (on the left) and Catherine Brabec & Jim Purpuri, on the right. Genevieve was referred to the OAEA by Charlie Bevilacqua (MCB (Special), DF-I (w/o McM); DF-II at Pole), who first met her at a 2016 Antarctic Society gathering.



On the left, in the foreground is Malcolm Dixon (Seabee; CBU-201, 1968-69) with Al Buckes (Seabee; ASA, D-66-67). On the right is Rick Canfield (ASA, ITT (powerplant technician); 1981-83, w/o McM 1981 and 1983; s/s 1981-82) and his wife, Jeri.

THE MAN WHO DISCOVERED ANTARCTICA

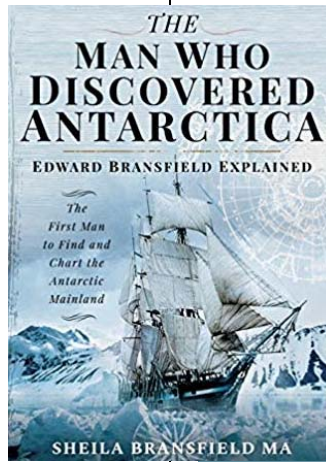
Compiled by Billy-Ace Baker
Editor Explorer's Gazette

BOOK REVIEW



The Man Who Discovered Antarctica.
By Sheila Bransfield MA. Available from Amazon: Hardback \$31.53, ebook \$24.99.

Review by Kathy Bailes
News 1 UK



Portsmouth, Minorca and a 12,000-mile journey to the Antarctic.

It also resulted in Sheila writing a number of articles for historical journals and magazines before being accepted by the Greenwich Maritime Institute (University of Greenwich) for a Master of Arts in Maritime History due to her research and publications, receiving her award in 2002.

The Man Who Discovered Antarctica: Edward Bransfield Explained—The First Man to Find and Chart the Antarctic Mainland is published by Pen and Sword.

Sheila has finally published her book

It has been a labour of love taking some 23 years of painstaking research, travel and writing but now Acol resident Sheila Bransfield has published a true tale of 19th century discovery.



Sheila holding a copy of her book

The 74-year-old, a member of the UK Antarctic Heritage Trust, has produced the definitive biography of one of Britain's greatest maritime explorers—Edward Bransfield.

The book has been endorsed by the UK Antarctic Heritage Trust, whose patron the Princess Royal has written the foreword.

Former PA and current village parish councillor Sheila says the fascination with the explorer who shares her surname began when she was a child but research in earnest was undertaken from 1996, after her children had grown up.

She said: "When I was little we had a huge admiralty chart in the house and it had the Antarctic and the Bransfield Strait.

"I was fascinated by the place with our family name."

That fascination prompted a research mission involving years of trips to the National Archives, family records centre and the British Library as well as travel to Ireland,



The Bransfield Strait with Brunow Bay, Livingston Island in the foreground, and Antarctic Peninsula in the background. Image by: Lyubomir Ivanov [GPL (<http://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl.html>)]

Edward's tale

The book charts the life of Irishman Edward Bransfield who was the first man to chart parts of the shoreline in Antarctica in 1820, almost 50 years after Captain Cook claimed the honor of being the first man to sail into the Antarctic Ocean but declaring that there was no such thing as the Southern Continent.

Edward was 18 when he was press ganged into the Royal Navy but through hard work rose up the ranks to become a shipmaster.

Sheila said: "He worked hard, was never recorded as drunk and references from captains and officers all talk about his sobriety. He could probably read and write even though education of the Irish was not allowed under the British. It is likely he learnt from a 'hedgerow' teacher, named because they literally taught behind hedges.

"The book is about his journey and there is quite a lot about his later life in the Merchant Navy after his Antarctica

discovery. He made the best of things and became a master navigator, the main person on a ship, so he made a place for himself."



Brig Williams by the late Mike Skidmore, the idea taken from the original by Commander G.W.G. Hunt RN, most southerly position 23 February 1820. (Author's photograph 2014)

However, Edward did not receive the recognition he deserved with people of the time more interested in celebrating the North West passage.

Sheila said: "He did not enlist again. I think he was annoyed that people ignored him."

Edward, who also discovered what is now Elephant Island and Clarence Island, claiming them for the British Crown, may or may not be Sheila's great-great grandfather.

She knows from research that Edward and her great-great grandfather were both born in Cork around 1785 but definitive proof they are one and the same man has proved difficult to gain.



Renovation of Edward Bransfield's grave 6 June 1999. The author before the unveiling. (D. Hayfield 1999)

Sheila said: "I don't know if we are related, Irish records before 1837 are very difficult to find, during the Troubles the main centre for records burnt down, but I know both families came from Cork.

"At times I would spend all day checking files, would find nothing, but still go back. The first time I held the master's log in my hands I burst into tears, I was so moved that I was holding work he had actually written.

"When the book was published I was over the moon. It shares the story life then, a grim life and nothing like Hornblower!

"When I look at my own beginnings and what I've done, I feel I have achieved something too and so feel a lot like Edward."

Despite Edward's achievements, and many parts of Antarctica and an Antarctic survey vessel being named after him, as well as a Royal Mail commemorative stamp being issued in his name in 2000, the full story of his historic journey has not been revealed until the publication of Sheila's work.

Even his grave, in Brighton, was in poor condition until Sheila was alerted to its location and poor condition in 1998 and began raising funds for its renovation.

The Man Who Discovered Antarctica: Edward Bransfield Explained—The First Man to Find and Chart the Antarctic Mainland can be found in shops and on sites including Amazon, priced £25 hardback and £8.99 ebook. Or US dollars at: \$31.53 hardback and \$24.99 for ebook.



Captain Stuart Lawrence, RRS Bransfield. Reading his address acknowledging the renovation and new inscription. (D. Hayfield 1999)

Editors Note: There are 16 b/w plates in this book. The three plates in color in this review (here on page 34) are identical to the b/w plates in the author's book and were taken from her website.

PICTURES AND STORIES FROM DAYS GONE BY

IT WAS A DARK AND STORMY NIGHT

by Billy-Ace Penguin Baker

Prolog:

It was a dark and stormy night and it was the Amerkin night at the Scotch Base PO. The guys who came over from McMurdo to call their girl friends or wives in CHCH, had finished their calls and were working on the two cases of beer they had brought along with them—a regular Wednesday night ritual and it made no difference if the phone calls got completed or not. The Kiwi House Mouse was anxious that the yanks would hurry and finish their beer and get their arses back to McMurdo so that he could bank the fire in the galley range and go choke his chicken. The other Kiwis had long since gone to their individual rooms—leaving the yanks and their one-eyed troll to finish the beer.

Sir Lofless, the troll who lived in Mount Erebus and whom the infamous McMurdo Dragon Watch Society, had made a knight, was in a corner speaking gibberish to no one in particular while listening to a Roy Orbison tape. Of late Lofless had been drinking used DFA, which he had been seen taking from the recycle buffalo out behind the Heavy Shop at McMurdo. The yanks were trying to ignore Sir Lofless because not a solitary one of them wanted to take the responsibility for getting him back to Mount Erebus, so the duty House Mouse left the mess and headed for the garage. He came back shortly thereafter leading a large husky dog by the name of **Precious McKenzie**. Those yanks who were still in touch with what was going on watched thru hooded and bloodshot eyes as the House Mouse proceeded to put Sir Lofless on the back of Precious McKenzie. After several false starts Sir Lofless was finally firmly if not steadily mounted on the dog's back. Then the House Mouse led Precious over to the outer door and opened it. The wind came howling in thru the door into the mess bringing with it a flurry of snow. In unison all the yanks set up straight and hollered out: **Surely you wouldn't send a knight out on a dog like this?**



The dog named Precious McKenzie

Precious McKenzie. Although the Kiwis at Scotch Base named one of their dogs after him the real Precious McKenzie was born in South Africa. He was given the name Precious after surviving serious surgery soon after his birth, his father was killed whilst crocodile hunting when McKenzie was still a baby. An ambition to become a circus acrobat brought him into contact with weight-lifting and he soon progressed to be South African record holder.

Classified as “coloured” by the South African authorities he was overlooked for the 1958 British Empire Games in Cardiff in favour of a white rival he had previously defeated. Frustrated in his international ambitions he moved to England in 1963 and took a job working in a shoe factory. His application for British citizenship was hurriedly approved to allow him to compete in the 1966 Commonwealth Games where he took the first of his four successive Commonwealth gold medals in Kingston, Jamaica.

After his victory in the 1974 Commonwealth Games in Auckland he settled there and represented New Zealand from 1977 onwards. Five times world power lifting champion, he works as a consultant on back injury prevention. In 2006, over forty years after he left his native country, he was inducted into the South African Sports Hall of Fame.



The real Precious McKenzie



Precious holding a photo of himself and Mohammed Ali in 1974



Katrina Grant, Precious McKenzie, Joline Henry, and Owen Glenn arrive at the Westpac Halberg Awards at the SkyCity Convention Centre on 10 February 2011 in Auckland, New Zealand.

CHAPTER 1:

I have camped for many seasons at the McMurdo Station dump site. I lived there in an old CONEX box spending my Navy retirement check at the Ships Store on beer and smoked oysters. When my money ran out I would go into the village of McMurdo—to the Officers Club, or the Chief's club and sometimes to the lowly Enlisted Men's Club. Dressed in my finery of rags and cast-off clothing, I would tell the officers, chiefs, and white-hats grand sea stories and fairy tales of what it was like in Antarctica in the olden days. The sea stories and fairy tales could only be distinguished one from the other by their beginning preamble. Fairy tales always start with: “once upon a time”, whereas sea-stories

always begin with: “This is no shit”. My stories were many and I told and retold them numerous times and with the retelling the stories become more wondrous and elegantly embellished. I would spin yarns about Jonathan Livingstone Skua Gull, the bird who refused to fly north, and Sir Lofless, the one-eyed troll who lived in the fumaroles of Mount Erebus and who would slip into town and drink MOGAS straight from the fuel pumps while filing jerry cans with gasoline to take back to his cauldron. But that's another story.

As payment for my stories the officers would give me popcorn and throw me out into the snow. The chiefs, of whom I myself was once one, would only tolerate me for we were brothers but they would call me asshole and make me sit in a corner upon a high stool and force me to watch old Audie Murphy movies. The young Sailors, who were more impressionable, would buy me a few measly drinks and they would heap scorn and ridicule upon me for it was known throughout that miserable cold land, that at one time I had been the exalted *Dragon Killer Supreme*. The being that had rid the icy continent of the formidable dragons. But that also is another story.

When the night comes to Antarctica and the coastline is inaccessible with new pack ice the Adelie Penguins go north to the very edge of the pack in search of open water. The Emperor Penguin goes further inland to breed. At the same time the Skua should also go north, but they are dim-witted and greedy and the dump has wonderful things to eat. In addition to eating baby penguins they are eaters of carrion, garbage, and other unspeakable things. As the polar sun sets for the last time the skua looks to the North and starts to leave, but circling the dump one last time, he decides to stay.



This was the time when I would no longer venture out of my CONEX box. I was like a huge bear snuggled in his den. My beer and smoked oysters were plentiful. There was no reason to venture out. The last thing I saw as I closed myself into my CONEX box was the reluctant skuas. Some had grown so fat partaking of refuse that they could no longer fly even if that had been their desire. Even the sailors had gone north leaving only a few hardy and brave souls, who had foolishly listened to false promises and had volunteered to winter-over and await the return of the sun and the false hope of being rewarded for their folly, but rewards were few and the sacrifice was great.

The winter was just a very cold, dark, and stormy night. It was so cold that your very breath would come from your body as vapors and would instantly freeze and be snatched away by the Hawk. If the Hawk was not howling and

blowing you could hear your breath as it froze into ice crystals—making hollow popping sounds and when the ice crystals dropped to the compacted snow, which crunched when you walked upon it and it made a sound as if you were thumping a ripe watermelon. If you listened very carefully, you could hear tiny tinkling sounds as the ice crystals came to rest on the snow.

CHAPTER 2:

When the sun finally comes back to McMurdo it is August, but it is spring in Antarctica and everything, that hasn't blown away, is covered with drifted snow. The dump even looks radiant and pristine. But, here and there, in and around the dump stand skua gulls. Frozen sentinels, solid ice, standing on one leg with their head tucked under one wing. Some with wings outstretched as if they had attempted to fly away just as the blood in their veins was congealing. As I came out of my CONEX I would walk over to the closest skua and kick it with a vengeance as if I were attempting to make a field goal. The skua would invariably explode into icy fragments that resembled shards of broken crockery. Their entrails would be full of frozen Vienna sausages, cigarette butts, fruitcake, veggie-mite sandwiches, and other putrid, disgusting, and repulsive unmentionable goop. It was all over for Jonathan Livingston Skua Gull, but I had another season to get ready for.

The men of WINFLY would soon arrive harking a new season and bringing with them their common colds, vile diseases and other filthy germs from the more temperate regions. A new breed of predator—The USARPs, would follow not far behind the penguins! The deadly red-jacketed 'SARP. They who arrive flying in giant Globemasters and come into town riding in style in *Ivan the Terra Bus* and are

delivered to the Chalet to dine on caviar and partake of rare wines. Where they thump upon one another's back and congratulate each to each other their extreme cleverness and grantsmanship in persuading the foundation to give them huge sums of money to carry out their ridiculous projects. While the more unfortunate Fengees and Airdales ride in broken down Power Wagons and are delivered to canvas Jamesways, wannigans, and other hovels to dine on Spam and gobbered beer.

The SARPs are the masters of my universe and I must avoid them like the plague lest they deport me. I will remain on the fringes of the camp. Lurking about the dump and visiting only the clubs until they, the stinking SARPs, depart again. Unlike the skua gulls, and the winter-overs, the SARPs have the wit to leave this desolate place before the darkness and loneliness settles over the land.

" . . . No one knew what happened down here in the International Geophysical Year, no one knew what the U.S. Navy years had been like, no one knew the history of the Australian sector, or the Kiwis up at Lake Vanda, or the slow trickle of solo crossings and the like. Nothing remembered but the beginning . . ."

— *Antarctica*, by Kim Stanley Robinson

Epilog:

It's all gone now. The Navy now gone, the camaraderie and the clubs, as I knew them now gone. In their stead are coffee houses and wine shops where contract workers sip



Ivan the Terra Bus



their mochas and lattes and quaff cheap wine as if they were connoisseurs, reading poetry and conversing with false intellect one to one another. For these are the new OAEs and some, like me, never leave and others come back year after year.



Time has moved on and many of the buildings I once knew are now gone and although nothing really ever changes the International Orange Day-Glo paint has weathered on the large rock. OAEs and Fengees alike pass it without as much as a glance. No one knows how it got there or how long it has sat there dark and stormy night after dark and stormy night as if marking the spot where the CPO Club once stood.

No longer able to make my customary rounds of the clubs I have disguised myself as a wizard—Wearing a wizard's costume—bedrapped all over in aluminum foil, sporting a wizard's wand and wearing a wizard's cape. In this guise I will conduct Terra Bus windshield tours of McMurdo and its environs.

I will show the 'SARPs—who are now known as 'SAPs, but who the New OAEs refer to as *Beakers*—the exotic secrets of McMurdo such as *Lakey's Landing*—the place where only I know about—the place where the last 55-gallon drum of Fanny's Secret Barbecue Sauce in the whole world is buried. I will show them the spot where Baker's Rock was rolled into the Chief's Club Lounge on a Christmas Eve a long, long time ago, by two of the duty drunks. A rock so heavy that it could not be removed from the lounge by anyone lest they be drunk and two weightlifters had to be recruited to dispose of it. They came in black body-suits and thick leather belts, they grunted and they groaned and when veins were bulging on their foreheads and their shaved bodies, already anointed with oil, were covered with sweat they finally managed to budge the boulder. By the time the rock was removed, the weightlifters had to be taken to McMurdo General to be examined for hernias by DR Ben Crazy. The rock was sprayed with Day-Glo international

orange paint—Not as a monument, but as a road hazard, for the weightlifters had left the rock resting in the middle of Main Street unwilling and unable to move it any further. I may even show the SARPs the old Admirals Quarters where Inspector Zeek Zapp stood on the roof and urinated on Admiral Byrd's bust while the Chief of Navy Chaplains stood below, in the plume of yellow spray, having his photograph taken for prosperity. The chaplain still brags that he was fortunate to be a McMurdo during one of the rare occasions when it rained. Don't eat the yellow snow.



The penguin said: Don't eat yellow snow

I will show the SARPs these and many other wondrous things and I will tell them sea stories and fairy tales and I will prosper. In my prosperity I will move from my small and cramped CONEX box into a grand and spacious MILVAN, hopeful it will be one that has only been dropped on Wallace's Ice Pier once. There I will wait, drinking beer and eating my smoked oysters. I will wait until the Navy returns. God alone knows how long I will have to wait.

GLOSSARY

- PO: Post Office
 MOGAS: Gasoline
 CONEX: A large metal cubic box used for shipping security cargo
 MILVAN: Larger than a CONEX Box. Designed to fit on a flat bed trailer or a flat car.
 SARP: Short for USARP

Copyright by: Billy-Ace Penguin Baker
 Old Antarctic Explorer,
 Dragon Killer Supreme,
 Old Bag Man, LSMFT!

NEW OAEA MEMBERS

Thanks to OAEA New England Chapter, Dale Reed, Bob McCauley, 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 information 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

| | | |
|--------------------|---------|---|
| Ankenbaur, Gil CIV | Life | USARP Dry Valleys Drilling Project 73-74 |
| Arola, John CIV | Life | USARP Dry Valleys Drilling Project 1973 |
| Evans, Carl D. AT2 | Life | VX-6 Det Alfa WO DF-63 McMurdo |
| Hunt, Douglas EO1 | Life | NSFA SS/NSFA Det McM WO 1985-88 |
| Koether, Ben LTJG | Life | USS <i>Glacier</i> 1959-61 |
| Mahitka, Bill ADJ1 | Life | VX-6 1964-68 |
| Murphy, Danny SK2 | Life | NSFA Det A DF-74 |
| Newell, George ADC | §Annual | VXE-6 1981-85/89-92 /95-98 |
| Sheehan, Kevin CIV | §Life | USARP Contractor Kirby Knight Ltd 1977-78 |

REUNION & MEETING INFORMATION

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

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: oea2020reunion@gmail.com

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.

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.

- Film Director/Producer Catherine Brabec is researching a potential documentary film project involving Antarctica (see NE Chapter 2019 Meeting Report, this issue) and would welcome hearing from anyone who might want to share their Antarctic story and letters/photos/videos. She can be reached by email at: cmbfilms@gmail.com, snail mail at: 1727 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10029, or by telephone at: 212-722-0775 (landline)/212-203-9178 (cell).



Catherine taken at the VX/VXE-6 Reunion.

- James McElligott would like to know if there a term that applies to guys who have been to the South Pole? James was under the Artic Circle and when you crossed the Latitude 66 degrees 33 minutes north you became a "BLUE NOSE"they didn't go under the ice because they wouldn't be able to launch missiles. James has never been to Antarctica. He can be reached at: M3586@aol.com.

- Lyonel Young was with VX-6 during DF-II and III. He is interested in what is going on within the OAEA organization. Lyonel retired as a Chief. He would enjoy hearing from anyone in the OAEA and he is interested in attending an OAEA reunion. He lives in Missouri just outside of Branson. He can be contacted at: 411 Hill Dr., Galena MO 65656, or by email at: lyonelyoung@outlook.com.

- Allison Barden (aka Sandwich Girl) is looking for anyone that wintered-over at McMurdo in 1974? She is working in the science lab this year, and there is a picture of Mary McWhinnie, and it mentions that her and her assistant Mary Odile Cahoon were the first women to winter-over at McMurdo. She would love some stories about them if anyone has some to share. Allison can be reached at: sandwichgirl@gmail.com.

Editor's Note: I sent Sandwich Girl the names and email addresses of some of our OAEA Members who wintered-over during DF-74 at McMurdo.

- David Culpin of Raytheon would like to contact Thomas Regina a former U.S. Navy Photographer Mate. His neighbour and friend (Lorraine) was good friends with Thomas more than 50 years ago and has asked Dave if he can try to find Thomas. Lorraine has shown David some amazing pictures that Thomas took whilst he was part of Operation Deep Freeze in the early 60's. Dave can provide Lorraine's contact details in case Thomas does not want to disclose his contact information at this time. David can be contacted at: David.Culpin@Raytheon.com.au. Or by mobile telephone at: 0459 802 003.

Editor's Note: Tom was not a member of the OAEA, but I knew him from DF-63 when he was a second class petty officer. Tom may have passed away. Some of our members may know of Tom or a member of his family.



PH2 Thomas Regina uses a 16 MM camera to record scenes and activities at McMurdo Station. From the DF-63 Cruise Book

• Dan Goewey whose Dad, Lee Goewey, was a pilot for VX-6 in the early 60s, has been going through many of his dad's 35mm slides from those deployments. He Flew 319, 320, and 321. Dan would love to supply some of these to the OAEA or other web site as well as a Christmas card from that time frame that I think your members would appreciate. Dan can be contacted at: muskkrat60@att.net, 1717 W. Downer Place, Aurora, IL. 60506.

Editor's Note: Dan attached a copy of one of the slides he worked over. Dan is not sure where this would have been taken but would guess that it may have been at the start of a seasonal deployment. Perhaps at Christchurch. Any info you can give him would be of interest. And the photo of the Christmas card is also included below.



The Chapel Of The Snows. Old Christmas card

• Bob Molla would like to know if there is a list of the old timers of Deep Freeze I, II, or III that are members of the OAEA? As a Deep Freeze II member that wintered over at Little America and tractor trained to help build Bird Station not many of his time are left. Some of the guys in OAEA NE are mostly summer support groups of the later years. Bob can be reached by email at: rmolla@ssvotech.org, by snail mail at: PO Box 714, Norwell MA 02061, or by phone at: 781-659-6570.

Editor's Note: There is no list per se, but Bob Gaboury the OAEA web site manager can provide you with the password for the entire OAEA roster and you can look it over for those member you are trying to locate. Bob can be contacted at admin@oaea.net, or Ed Hamblin may be able to make a special list for you. Ed can be contacted at ehamblin74@verizon.net.



Photo of the Byrd Traverse DF-III



Where was this photo taken?

Gulf Coast Group Chapter Happenings

by Billy-Ace Penguin Baker

Saturday 12 October 2019

Meeting—Only 17 members and guests showed up for our October meeting at the Cactus Flower. I think the low attendance was due to the meeting being on the second Saturday vice the first Saturday of the month as our custom has been.



I don't believe that there were any first time guests, but three of our members, Billy Blackwelder, Duck Talbert, and Jim Speed who normally attend with their wives showed up single. Joyce Blackwelder, and Carolyn Speed were out of town visiting other family members and Rainey Talbert was at home cooking for a family get together. However Billy Blackwelder brought his son John Perry with him, or was it the other way around?

My granddaughter Ashlee Florence Baker and her friend Jade Hancock had to leave early to attend a school function.



Jade and Ashlee getting ready to leave for another engagement

Bill and Mary Fazio bought some hand-outs about financial aid for veterans that I passed out to the attendees. We are scheduled to have a guest speaker at a future meeting who will speak about the same subject.

Several members have complained about all our recent meetings being at Mexican establishments. After

some discussions of the pros and cons, the cons won out and Pam Landy volunteered to investigate other venues and get back to us.



Tracey, Danny, and Sean Baker



Left to right by tables from back to front: Gus Shinn, Jim Speed and Duck Talbert; Pam Landy, Dan Knox and Mary & Bill Fazio; John Perry & Billy Blackwelder

Due to the small attendance we did not hold any raffles. Thanks to Kerry and Sean for taking photos. However Kerry deleted the photos of herself from her camera before sending the meeting photos to me, so I am enclosing one of her when she was a little girl.



Kerry all painted up to go trick or treating (krilling?)



Billy-Ace, Kerry Konrad (I guess she didn't delete all her photos after all), Carl Jackson, Danny Thompson and Tracey Baker.

Our next meeting will be on 4 January 2020 and may be at Sonny's Barbeque. Only time, or Pam, will tell.





**Old Antarctic Explorers Association (OAEA)
FY 2019 Accounting Statement**

I certify that the following report is a true accounting of financial transactions conducted by the Old Antarctic Explorers Association, Inc. during FY 2019 (1 October 2018 to 30 September 2019) as of 30 September 2019.

| FY 2019 ACCOUNTING STATEMENT | | | |
|---|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| INCOME | | EXPENSE | |
| <u>Donations</u> | \$6,132 | <u>Administration</u> | \$2,145 |
| Gazette | | Office Supplies | \$591 |
| Undesignated | \$1,164 | Office Equipment | \$64 |
| Scholarship | \$4,440 | Advertising/Recruiting | \$893 |
| Subscription | \$528 | Postage | \$498 |
| | | Internet Security | \$100 |
| <u>Dues</u> | \$1,164 | Newsletter | \$300 |
| Life | \$1,030 | Newsletter /Reunion | |
| Annual | \$32 | Ballots | |
| Entrance | \$102 | Web Page | \$325 |
| <u>Interest</u> | \$13 | Florida License | \$114 |
| <u>Market Investments</u> | \$1,033 | Scholarships | \$4,440 |
| <u>Other</u> | | To Students | \$4,000 |
| | | To Mutual Funds | \$410 |
| | | Other | \$30 |
| | | Other | \$6 |
| TOTAL INCOME | \$8,342 | TOTAL EXPENSES | \$7,330 |
| | | GAIN | LOSS |
| | | \$1,012 | |
| FINANCIAL STATUS OF OLD ANTARCTIC EXPLORERS ASSOCIATION, INC. AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 2019 | | | |
| Summary Statement | | Asset Distribution Statement | |
| Beginning Balance 10/1/2018 | \$77,836 | Account | Tangible |
| FY 2018 Transactions | <u>1,012</u> | Bank Accounts | \$31,285 |
| Ending Balance 9/30/2019 | \$78,848 | Scholarship Mutual Fund | \$47,563 |
| | | Ships Store | 0 |
| | | Totals | \$78,848 |
| MEMBERSHIP STATUS OF OLD ANTARCTIC EXPLORERS ASSOCIATION, INC. AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 2019 | | | |
| Membership as of 30 September 2019 | | | |
| Membership Change – 32 | | | |
| Memorial Members – 72 | Commemorative Members – 69 | Annual Members – 6 | |
| Lifetime Members – 1545 | Deceased Members – 425 | | |

W. W. Rouzer
Treasurer 12/24/2019

