



EXPLORER'S GAZETTE

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

Uniting All OAEs in Perpetuating the History of U.S. Navy Involvement in Antarctica

Volume 5, Issue 3

Old Antarctic Explorers Association, Inc

Jul-Sep 2005

Antarctic Deep Freeze Association Observes 50th Anniversary of Deep Freeze During 8th Reunion



Dick Bowers *Mary McKee* *Jerry Marty* *Jerry McKee*
ADFA Historian *Guest Speaker* *ADFA Chairman*

Lobby of Palace Casino Resort, Biloxi, Mississippi

THE EIGHTH REUNION OF THE Antarctic Deep Freeze Association (ADFA) was held at the Palace Casino Resort in Biloxi, MS, from 3–5 May. This reunion commemorated the 50th anniversary of Operation Deep Freeze. Many old shipmates and friends were present, making this one of the best-attended ADFA reunions. A special exhibit area was set up in a large ballroom provided

By Jerry McKee



by the hotel. In this area were many exhibits featuring artifacts and other memorabilia proudly presented by members of the ADFA. Exhibits of special interest were those of Dave Grisez, Buz Dryfoose, and Bill Stroup, a few of the many involved in the exhibit set-up and display. The exhibit was open to the general public and it was well-received by the membership, their guests, and others who attended.

See Biloxi on page 4

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

John Lamont West—OAEA President

TO ALL OAE'S—With the first half of 2005 now being history, I hope that everyone enjoys good health and happiness during the rest of the year. The OAEA Board of Directors (BOD) has considered a number of issues during the first six months and more proposals are on the table for review.



The four resolutions that have been passed are:

1. An administrative action to grant signature authority for financial transactions to the individuals holding the office of President (John Lamont West); Executive Vice President (Henry Storm); and, Secretary/Treasurer (Jim O'Connell).

2. Action to Rescind BOD Resolution Pensacola 14. This was a proposal to establish a communications link between the OAEA Webmaster and Chapter Webmaster(s). The proposal was rejected; the rescinding of the proposal was simply an administrative action to clear the records.

3. The BOD voted in favor of a resolution to increase the FY2005 Scholarship Awards Budget from \$500 to \$2,500. As you are aware from the previous edition of *Explorer's Gazette*, the Para-Rescue Team donated \$1,000 to the fund. Since then, the Communicator's have remitted a donation in the amount of \$2,000 to the Scholarship Fund. In response to Jim Eblen's challenge in the Summer 2003 *Gazette*, the OAEA Educational Foundation is moving forward. There is still much to be done.

4. The resolution to establish November 30, 1999 as the OAEA birthday was accepted by the BOD.

Noel Gillespie wrote that there was a movement in Christchurch to encourage the USAF and/or the (US) government to sell the last Deep Freeze C-141 to the City of Christchurch so that the aircraft could be displayed at their Air Force Museum. Mr. Gillespie inquired whether the OAEA could assist Christchurch in their effort to obtain the aircraft. I am pleased to report that Walt Walter took action on the request by drafting a request to Senator John Warner asking him to assist the City of Christchurch in their quest to obtain the C-141 for display purposes.

On the home-front, the BOD are moving forward with an effort develop a campaign to raise funds to assist the National Museum of Naval Aviation in Pensacola to repair damage incurred by R4D BUNO 12418 (Que Sera Sera) during Hurricane Ivan. This is a huge undertaking and I see this as the next major effort of the BOD. Look for more information on this endeavor.

During the "Spring Fling" in Ohio, attendees expressed their desire to form a Midwest Chapter. OAEA members in Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois, Pennsylvania, West

Virginia, and Michigan should contact Edson Waite, acting coordinator, for more information.

Each of you are important in the advancement and growth of the Old Antarctic Explorers Association, Inc., I solicit your recommendations and suggestions on those areas you perceive as going well, as well as, on those areas where you feel we can do better. Feel free to e-mail me at Westjl42@aol.com or write me at 201 N. Bradford Street, Seaford, DE 19973.

To those who have lost a loved one, our prayers are with you. To those under the weather, we wish you a speedy recovery. Until next time, take care.

John Lamont West

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Cecil D. Harper—OAEA Chaplain

HOW CAN A PERSON keep his life clean? According to the 119th Psalm: "By keeping to thy word."


Keeping life clean, at any age, is no easy matter, and when one is away from home where no one seems to know and no one seems to care, it is much more difficult. One begins to say to himself, "What's the difference? Everyone else is doing it. It is not necessary for me to cling to any ideals now."

But is it stupid to hold on to ideals even though everyone else seems to give them up? Is it true that no one knows and no one cares? The ideal of a clean life is right no matter how many besmirch their character. Christ is our ideal, not the craven crowd. Someone does know and does care. You know and you care. Christ knows and he cares. And you two determine the quality of your whole life and the location of your whole eternity. Your mother cares, or cared when you still had her. Your wife, who is to be, or is or was, cares. Your children, which are or are to be care. We cannot let our ideals drag in the dirt without getting the dirt on others too.

How then shall we keep life clean? The psalmist's says, "by keeping to thy word." By being tied to God and His word. As a boy I loved to fly kites; and when one was up high pulling like a fighting trout on a fly rod, the temptation was to let go and see the kite fly on up and out. Once we yield to that temptation, instead of rising higher and flying on, the kite begins to buckle and fall. There is a lesson there. A kite to go up must be tied down. People are like that too. We must be tied to God and His word if we are to rise to His Kingdom. I pray that we should never give up our ideals. May we never let go of our God.

Cecil D. Harper





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

Old Antarctic Explorers Association, Inc.

Administrative Offices
4615 Balmoral Drive
Pensacola, FL 32504 USA

And is published four times annually

Editor
Billy-Ace Baker

Editorial Assistant
Gus Shinn

Editor Emeritus
Jim O'Connell

National Headquarters
10819 Berryhill Road
Pensacola, FL 32506 USA

Association Officers

President – John Lamont West
Executive VP – Henry Storm

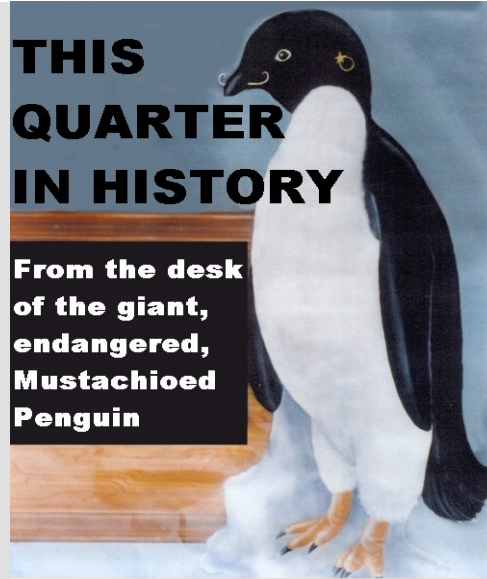
Secretary/Treasurer – Jim O'Connell
Life Director – Billy-Ace Baker

Past President/Director – Jim Eblen
Director – Marty Diller
Director – Buz Dryfoose
Director – Steve Edelman
Director – Bill Maloney
Director – Charles Verba
Director – Jim Wallace
Director – H. J. "Walt" Walter

Chaplain – Cecil D. Harper
Historian – Billy-Ace Baker

THIS QUARTER IN HISTORY

From the desk of the giant, endangered, Mustachioed Penguin



July Events

- 01 July 1964 PM-3A reactor scram & shutdown
17 July 1967 Penguin Lanes opens for final rounds of league bowling. The Zappers tie the world record for most consecutive gutter balls thrown in league competition
04 July 1971 Scott Base published special edition of Kiwi McMurdo One-Time newspaper
26 July 1975 First annual McMurdo County Fair
26 July 1985 Mear, Wood, and Stroud; In the Footprints of Scott Expedition return to Cape Evans

August Events

- 04 Aug 1934 Poulter leaves Little America in attempt to rescue Byrd but has to turn back again
13 Aug 1966 Coldest day of DF-66 –72°F recorded at Byrd Station, wind chill –104°F
24 Aug 1967 Fire destroys new head complex at Willy Field
12 Aug 1970 Deception Island volcano erupts
26 Aug 1975 Last day for credit sales at package beverage store

September Events

- 02 Sep 1902 Spring sledging commence from the *Discovery*
22 Sep 1908 Shackleton & party of 5 leave for *Discovery* Hut on depot-laying trip
17 Sep 1967 Sir Lofless and Miss Gretchen engaged to be married
05 Sep 1971 McMurdo fire chief Homar Hall burns lip while fighting fire at fuels building. HMC Bob Dinsmore reported that in his excitement Homar put the wrong end of his cigar in his mouth
01 Sep 1975 First WinFly of DF-76

Biloxi

From page 1

A special thanks goes to the CBC Gulfport, CEC/Seabee Museum for their efforts and contribution to this special reunion with regards to the prints on display and help with the exhibit. Our thanks go to Capt Bill Hilderbrand and Ms. Tina Rockwood. Also special thanks to the ADFA wives who spent countless hours selling shirts, memorabilia, and assisting with member registrations—all of which helped to make this reunion a great success. Last, but not least, Don Scott should not be forgotten for the magnificent job he did as auctioneer reaping a small fortune from the members to help finance our next reunion to be held in Corpus Christi, Texas in 2007.

Our speakers consisted of Jerry Marty who gave an overview of the new South Pole Station complete with a slide presentation showing construction progress. Captain Chuck Fegley gave a very informative presentation on the PM-3A nuclear power plant history and the part it played in power production and water desalination activities with respects to Deep Freeze operations from DF-62 through DF-74. In addition, informative talks from Mr. Phil Smith about his involvement with the Byrd Station Army-Navy Traverse during DF-II and his extensive involvement in later years in national and international polar policy issues. SWC Jose Torres from MCB-133 was also welcomed and gave a brief talk about the removal of the Dome from South Pole Station to Port Hueneme for possible inclusion into the new Seabee museum complex. Last but not least Dian Belanger gave an update about her new book soon to be published and very much anticipated by our membership.

During the general business meeting on Thursday nominations for BOD members were solicited and an election was held. The ADFA BOD members are as follows:

Jerry McKee, Chairman
 Billy-Ace Baker, Vice Chairman
 Dick Bowers, Historian
 Bill Stroup, Financial Officer
 Ken Waldron, Member
 Jim Bergstrom, Member
 Cliff Dickey, Member

Cliff Dickey, Billy-Ace Baker and Jim Bergstrom were newly appointed to the BOD. Jim Bergstrom had previously served as the project manager for the NSF Oral History Grant. Ken Waldron also serves as the Financial Officer backup and Billy-Ace serves as backup for the Historian.

Dinner was also well-attended with approximately 180 in attendance. Special awards were presented to Bill Stroup for a magnificent job in the

reunion coordination, along with his wife Grace, as well as their two sons and their wives. Jerry Marty was recognized for his continued faithful dedication to this association. For his monumental support and dedication to the ADFA Dick Bowers was presented with a flag that was flown at the South Pole. It was decided to set aside ADFA shirts and commemorative coins to be sent to the next-of-kin of deceased members of ADFA.

Raytheon Polar Services Representative Attends ADFA Reunion

By Elaine Hood, RPSC

Profound admiration, respect, and fascination are how I would describe my first impression of the men from



Operation Deep Freeze. I met these great men at the ADFA observance of the Deep Freeze fiftieth anniversary reunion in Biloxi.

My company, Raytheon Polar Services (RPSC), is the prime logistical contractor to the U.S. Antarctic Program. Each year we hire and send 1,000 men and women to Antarctica to do everything from construction and snowplowing to fueling and cooking. Today, 34% of the participants are female and the average age is 38, which accurately describes me when I made my first deployment to McMurdo in 1998. I am now the Communications Specialist (Public Affairs) for RPSC and was asked to attend the reunion to represent RPSC.

I had no idea what an amazing experience this would turn out to be.

Every man I met not only had a story to tell, but the stories were filled with laughter, adventure, hard work, and a few solemn moments. I heard first hand accounts of Admirals Byrd and Dufek; and civilian Paul Siple, men made

famous by Antarctic history. But it was the stories of the regular men that were of greater interest to me.

Some Highlights

Deep Freeze I members Al Hisey and Dave Grisez reminisced about spending the first winter at McMurdo with Doc Taylor, the Midwinter Day reenactment of Princess Grace's wedding, the 'Big Eye' stare, and endless hours of Road Runner cartoons. Both agreed that the most difficult experience was when the P2V crashed upon landing in McMurdo 18 October 1956, killing four of those onboard and injuring three others.

Patrick "Rediron" McCormick wanted to be sure I comprehended how remarkable Dick Bowers was. With virtually no training as a surveyor, Bowers was able to locate the geographic South Pole with amazing accuracy using only the sun and a theodolite. Rediron assured me that using the sun, with refraction of light on the icy white surface, was indeed difficult.

The stories from the YOG-34 men, Spires, Yeckley, Halloran, and Ledvina had me laughing the hardest with their tales of the slow and stormy trip to New Zealand in 1955 as their YOG was towed from the US. A terrific storm they encountered in the South Pacific resulted in them traveling more backwards than forward.



Elaine Hood of Raytheon and Bill Stroup reunion host and coordinator.



Earl Johnson, Cliff Dickey, Ken Waldron, Chet Segers, and Melvin Havener, all from DF-II, were among the first to winter at Pole. To now thumb through Paul Siple's book *90° South*, point to their photos and say, "I have met these men", absolutely humbles me.

Nearly everyone who has been to Antarctic since dogs were banned has wondered if there was any way to sneak a dog or cat down in their gear. I was delighted to learn Buz Dryfoose (DF-III+) snuck his German Shephard dog Utz to the Ice with him during his 1958-59 deployment and the following year became the first Navy pilot qualified in LC-130 aircraft. His collection of memorabilia is impressive.

The morning I was to leave Biloxi, I met Max Kiel's sister, Irma. Max, Construction Driver

2nd Class, was killed when the tractor he was operating fell into a crevasse near Little America V in March 1956. The tractor dropped 75 feet into the opening and the cab of the tractor was crushed against the main frame. Irma was 14 at the time her brother was killed and recalled learning the news.

The accomplishment of the Seabees and others, constructing towns within a few weeks' time, pilots landing on sea ice and taxiing to a fuel tanker to refuel, traverses into uncharted territory—these men were pioneers. And it is my greatest honor to have met some of them. I hope it is the beginning of many more such encounters.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

In the previous issue of the *Gazette* you listed PHC Frank Kazukaitis in the *In Memory* obituary column. You also listed his name in the new members column. What's the story here?

Gus

Editor's Note: Shortly before his death someone gave Chief Kazukaitis a gift membership in the OAEA.

Dear Uncle Billy:

In the This Quarter in History column for 21 June 1967 you refer to a photo of a Nodwell that is supposed to be on page 9 but there is no such photo on that page.

Kiwi Pam

Editor's Note due to the last minute receipt of the Senator Collins story the photo of the Nodwell had to be deleted. The missing photo and story are on page 8 in this issue.

Hello Billy-Ace,

Margie and I returned home yesterday from our 18-day trip to the South Island of New Zealand.

I have a current photo of Warner's Hotel and lots of inside shots of many photos on the walls of Bailey's Pub. We took many shots of Deep Freeze stuff and (other) Antarctic stuff, which adorn several of the walls. Margie and I spent one afternoon there at the beginning of the trip and also one afternoon at the end of the trip. We saw the Wizard, still preaching after all these years, in the square at the beginning of our trip. Someone burned down his house a few

years ago and he has plans to retire soon and move further south, but [in spite of his home being burned] the people seem to really respect him.

We went inside the Cathedral, and I have a photo of the Deep Freeze Commemorative plaque inside. I have a copy of the stature of Scott in the garden by the Avon but I narrowly missed taking one of him with a pigeon on his head.

The lady at Warner's said the rooms are going for \$180.00 per night NZ and that the hotel is doing well. She gave us a print of Warners from 30 years ago and I brought that back in a postal tube thinking you might want it? The pub with all its various rooms and outside beer garden seemed familiar after all this time, it's still cool and active. Guinness is \$7 NZ per pint!

I leave tomorrow for another month in Africa. I'll send you some photos in about 5 weeks. I was thinking you could scan some of the better ones and post them on the web site if you thought it was worthwhile.

While touring the Antarctic Center we were befriended by a retired police officer named Roger who is working as a driver of the two Haglund tracked vehicles they charge tourists to ride in. He took us inside a room with a current huge wall photo of Scott Base and it's just huge now. He also walked us over to the clothing warehouse and Antarctic offices. The *Dirty Duck* is not named the same but the buildings are well kept. All the old wooden building we used have long since been removed.

Dan and Margie (Bolton)

Editor's Note: Dan eventually sent some photos of his trip, but I haven't been able to do anything with them yet.



Dear Billy-Ace,

I am delighted to say that the University of Alaska Press and I have completed work on *Innocents in the Arctic* and have sent it off to the printers. It is due to be released in May.

I would be very pleased if you could post a publication notice in the *Gazette*. Also, as we have discussed, we would like you (or another reviewer) to print a review of the book reasonably soon and for this purpose I shall ask the Press to send you a review copy as soon as it is published.

To celebrate, Gill and I are shortly leaving for New Zealand where we will attend a reunion of the former inhabitants of Vanda Station. I look forward to it to no end.

Colin Bull

Editor's Note: I received the review copy and I am currently in the process of reading it. Anyone wanting more information or a copy of this books can contact Colin by email at CBULL61328@aol.com or by phone at: 206 842 9660.

Billy-Ace,

Good story on the dome (Vol 5, issue 2). There you go scooping me again.

I was glad to see the reprint of Karen Joyce's story (*The Immaculately Preserved OAE*), with the associated memoir. Very interesting, and thanks for handling it in a balanced way.

Stan (Kristan Hutchison
Senior editor, The Antarctic Sun)

Editor's Note: On 19 June Stan announced that the midwinter edition of the Antarctic Sun had been posted on the Sun web site at: <http://www.polar.org/antsun>. She also announced that this edition of the Sun was to be her last as editor. After five seasons on The Ice she has turned the reins over to Emily Stone.

Dear Penguin:

I was saddened to read in the Apr-Jun issue of the *Gazette* that my good friend James Goodlin had died. However, I think that Jim was older than 72. You didn't mention it, but Jim served in the squadron during DF-I and DF-II. I think you do a great job on the *Gazette*. Keep up the good work.

Gary Forney

Dear Editor:

Although an inactive member of the OAEA, I enjoy receiving the *Explorer's Gazette* and particularly the Jan-Mar 2005 issue. The picture of the group of 3-story dormitories on the cover seemed unbelievable. I served with the Seabees during DF-III at which time the main street consisted of orange prefab huts with the small chapel at the end. Of course that was 1957-58. I'm glad to see all the progress.

Ray Costello

Editor's Note: Thanks for the positive feedback. According to the OAEA Membership Registry you are a Life Member.

Dear Billy-Ace:

I noticed a slight error in the Apr-Jun *Explorer's Gazette* in the New Members column.

I am listed as winter-over DF-66, but I made E-8 on the ice and was transferred from the best duty of my career on 24 Feb 66. My intent was to winter-over, but BUPERS thought otherwise.

It was great to see that LCDR Bo Koloc is a new member also. I was on recruiting duty with him in Chicago 57-59.

Clair "Ed" Cunningham

Dear Billy-Ace,

I was interested to see the author's list on page 20 of the *Explorer's Gazette*, Vol. 5, Issue 2, and many thanks for including my book *An Alien In Antarctica*.

Actually I have published three more since that one. The complete list is now:

- o *Vodka on Ice, A Year with the Russians in Antarctica*
- o *Foothold on Antarctica, The First International Expedition (1949-1952) through the Eyes of its Youngest Member*
- o *Forty Years on Ice, A lifetime of exploration and research in the polar regions*
- o *An Alien in Antarctica, Reflections upon Forty Years of Exploration and Research on the Frozen Continent*

You are doing a great job with the *Gazette*! Keep up the good work.

Charles Swithinbank

Editors Note: All books are in print and available from booksellers, or direct from Charles (signed if requested) at: 7 Home End, Fulbourn, Cambridge CB1 5BS, UK, or charles.swithinbank@btinternet.com





OAEA MERCHANDISE

Tervis Mugs & Tumblers with embedded OAEA embroidered cloth patch. The mug is 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches tall and the tumbler is 6 inches tall. Both will hold 12 ounces of your favorite beverage.

The Tervis mugs and tumblers are \$15 each or a pair for \$25. Sets of four are available at \$40 per set. Sets may be mixed or matched. Shipping and handling will vary based on number of items ordered. To place an order send an email to Buz Dryfoose at: BUZSAM@aol.com. Profits from the sale of these items will be put back into the OAEA Merchandise fund or will go to the OAEA Educational fund.

For members who are not Internet capable, orders may be placed by telephone at: 812 988 2637.

GLOSSARY OF SNOW AND ICE



Compiled and edited by Billy-Ace Baker

Anchor Ice — Submerged ice that is attached to the bottom. French equivalent: *Glacé fixée par le fond*.

Dead Ice — Any part of a glacier that has ceased to flow. Dead Ice is usually covered with moraine. Spanish equivalent: *Hielo muerto*.

Nip — Ice is said to nip when it forcibly presses against a ship that is beset. Norwegian equivalent: *Presse opp*.

Shore Lead — A stretch of navigable water between pack ice and the shore. Danish equivalent: *Landvand*.

Cape Royds or Bust

The Apr-Jun 2005 (Vol 5, Issue 2) *Explorer's Gazette* reported that Dave Bresnahan failed to turn off the lights on a Nodwell that he drove through the ice on Mid-Winter Day 1967. Dave was part of a biology team from Old Dominion College in Norfolk, VA that came to the ice on WINFLY 67. The team was there to investigate what algae did in the winter. The date of the incident was actually 31 July on a trip to Cape Royds. During that time of the year good fast sea ice had not yet formed and the normal sea ice route to Cape Royds was not usable. Unfortunately the Nodwell went through a crack and sank. The taillights remained on, casting eerie beams of red light into the night sky. Personnel at the nuclear plant thought they were observing a UFO. Although the date reported in the Gazette was in error, the driver of the vehicle was Dave Bresnahan, as was reported.

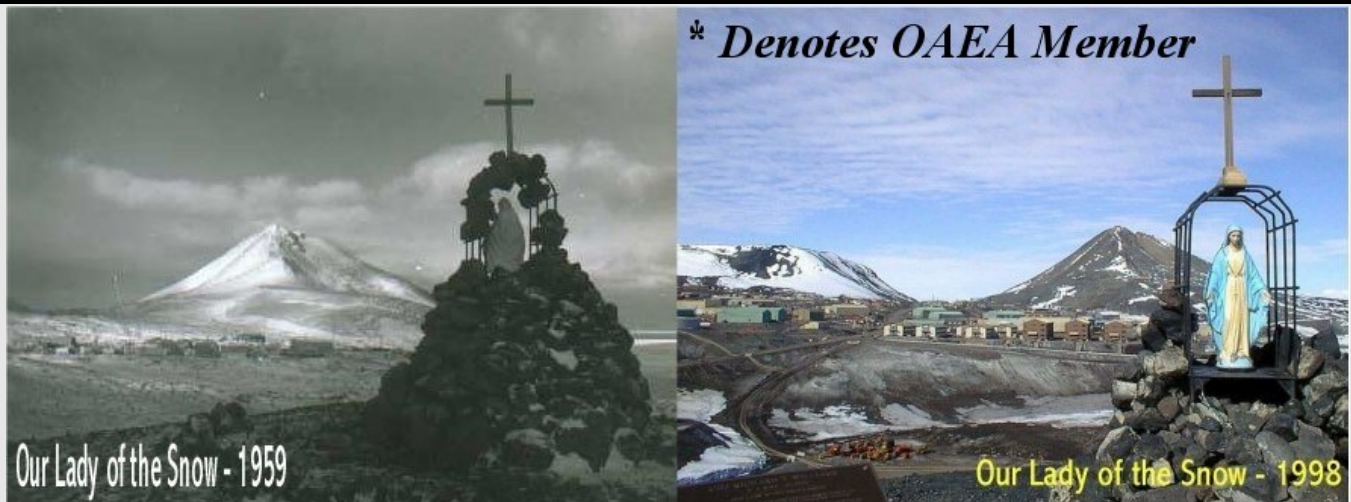
According to Bresnahan: "The last thing on my mind as I jumped clear of that sucker was turning off the damn lights". He goes on to say: "As I recall the Nodwell dropped through the ice the next 'night', likely at high tide".



Antarctic Journal, March/April 1968.
Photo by Graeme Johnstone.

"Thankfully, after we struggled to get the escape hatch open (it was sealed shut), we were able to fish all our critical gear out of the hatch with a big hook". Dave said: "Since that day, I always check the escape hatch on any vehicle I drive down here".

The incident occurred on Bresnahan's first of many trips to the ice. The group left the Ice on the second WINFLY in September.



* *Denotes OAEA Member*

IN MEMORY

OAE Dale Powell, RMCS, died on June 2005, in New Mexico. Dale served with MCB-Special during DF-I and wintered-over at McMurdo as an RM3. During DF-68, he wintered a second time at McMurdo as an RMC with ASA Det Alfa. He was a member of the ADFA.

OAE M. C. "Jack" Ashendon, died on 5 June 2005, in Wylie, Texas. Hacking Jack, as he was affectionately known, served with PM-3A in summer support during DF-66, 67, and 68. He wintered-over during DF-71.

*OAE Henry Moorehead, age 78, died on 4 June 2005, in Ormeau, Queensland, Australia. Hank served with VX-6 during 1965–1969 as a Connie crewmember.

OAE [Steven J. Morneau](#), age 48, died on 29 May 2005, in Gulfport, Mississippi. Steve was a Seabee who served on the ice with NSFA.

OAE Robert E. Borgerding, age 48, died on 7 May 2005, in Troy, Ohio. Robert was in NSFA summer support and served two seasons at McMurdo during the 1980s.

OAE [Gerard Richard "Jerry" Seeny](#), SKCS, age 77, died on 29 May 2005, at a hospital in Hopewell, Virginia. Jerry served on the USS *Glacier* from 1958–60 and made three deployments to the Ice. He was a member of the USS *Glacier* Association and the Glacier Society.

OAE Walter Roy Seelig, age 85, died on 29 April 2005, at a hospital in Rockville, Maryland. Walter deployed to the Ice numerous times. He was the NSF Representative in Christchurch for 11 seasons. Mount Seelig is named in his honor.

OAE [Miles Alton](#), age 74, died on 13 May 2005, in Chicago, Illinois. Miles worked for NOAA as a marine biologist and made several trips to Antarctica.

*OAE Herb McClung, age 67, died on 18 February 2005, in Metairie, Louisiana. Herb wintered-over at Byrd Station during DF-65 as the medical officer. Mount McClung in Marie Byrd Land is named in his honor.

OAE Donald Dymont, age 68, died on 1 February 2005, at the Maine Medical Center in Portland, Maine. Don wintered-over at Byrd Station during DF-67 as a CS2. Dymont Island is named in his honor.

OAE [Angelo F. Spano](#), age 75, died on 5 May 2005, in Tarpon Springs, Florida. Angelo wintered-over at Wilkes Station during DF-60 with the Australians. Spano Island in the Windmill Islands group is named in his honor. He was a member of the ANARE Club.

OAE Ian James Corin, age 26, died on 2 May 2005, in Thailand. Ian was a New Zealand Air Force cargo specialist and served on the ice with the Terminal Operations Department at Williams Field and Hill Cargo at McMurdo during the DF-01 summer season. Ian was a member of the McMurdo Society of Old Antarctic Explorers.

OAE Spencer Smith, RADM, age 89, died on 6 March 2005, in Honolulu, Hawaii. Spencer served with the Seabees..

OAE Lindell "Red" West, MSGT, USAF (Ret), age 69, died on 9 April 2005, in Batesville, Arkansas. Red served with the MATS, C-124 TCS, Air Force Task Unit from DF-61 through 64.

*OAE John K. Allison, CDR, age 82, died on 24 February 2005, in San Marcos, Texas. As a LCDR Ken was the OIC of the VX-6 winter-over detachment at McMurdo during DF-IV. Allison Glacier, descending from the West slopes of the Royal Society Range is named in his honor.

OAE Bobby Poitevant, RMC, age 64, died on 26 April 2005, in Cairo, Georgia. Bobby served in ASA and wintered over at Palmer Station during DF-67 as an RM1.

OAE Dixon J. Arnold, COL, age 93, died on 25 April 2005, at his home in Clairemont, California. As a LTCOL Dixon served during DF-III as a C-124 pilot with Detachment 1, 53rd Troop Carrier Squadron.

OAE Roger Earl Smith, age 74, died on 22 April 2005, in Upland, California. Roger wintered-over as an AG2 at Wilkes Station during DF-III, and at McMurdo Station during DF-61. Smith Islands in the Windmill Hills are named in his honor.

OAE Keith Budnick, age 68, died on 3 January 2005, in Australia. Keith wintered over at Wilkes Station during 1964 as a surveyor with the ANARE program. Budnick Hill on the Budd Coast is named in his honor. Keith was a member of the ANARE Club.

OAE [Robert Edward Ward](#), age 72, died on 14 April 2005, at Norwood Hospital in Norwood, Massachusetts. Robert deployed to McMurdo and the South Pole as an employee of Antarctic Support Associates contractor.

OAE [Alvah Edwards](#), EOCS, age 74, died on 10 April 2005, in Maricopa, California. Alvah wintered-over at Little America V during DF-I. As a CD1 Alvah was a member of the Army-Navy Trail Party that traversed from LAV to establish Byrd Station in 1956. Edwards Spur located on the lower slopes of Mount Moulton is named in his honor.

OAE [John S. Oller Jr.](#), CAPT, USN (Ret), died on 8 April 2005, in Sterling, Virginia. John served in Highjump as a meteorology officer.

OAE [John Alden Randall](#), EQCM, age 69, died on 5 April 2005, at home in St. Leonard, Maryland. John served in MCB Special during DF-I, II and III. During DF-II, as a CM3, he was a member of the advance construction party to be landed at the South Pole on 20 November 1956.

OAE James W. Starr, SWCM, age 69, died on 11 April 2005, at home in Warrenton, Oregon. Jim wintered over at McMurdo with ASA Det Alfa during DF-62 as an SW1. He was in ASA summer support during DF-66 through DF-68. Starr Nunatak in Victoria Land is named in his honor. Also Starr Lake, a small melt water lake; a source of water for McMurdo Station on Ross Island was named for him. Jim was closely associated with the development of the lake as a water resource.

OAE John William Orystick, TM1, age 83, died on 2 April 2005, in Clairemont, California. John served on the USS *Sennett* during Operation Highjump.

*OAE Marion "Moe" Morris, CDR, age 78, died on 2 April 2005, in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Moe AKA Joe Dover, served in VX-6 during DF-64, 65, and 66, and was the commanding officer of VX-6 during DF-66. Morris Glacier, a 10-mile long glacier that drains to the Ross Ice Shelf between Lillie Range and Clark Spur is named in his honor.

OAE Homer "Pete" Abele, age 83, died on 12 May 2000, at a nursing home in Hamden, Ohio. Pete visited Antarctica on a VIP tour when he was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. He was a member of the Society of the South Pole.

*OAE Robert Arthur Johnson, RD1, age 71, died on 20 March 2005, in Port St. Lucie, Florida. Robert made three deployments to the ice in 1957 and 1961-63 aboard the icebreakers: USS *Edisto*, USS *Staten Island*, and USS *Burton Island*.

OAE John Richard Fisher, RADM, age 80, died on 28 March 2005, in Fountain Hills Arizona. John was a CEC officer and served in Antarctica with the Seabees.

OAE [Robert H. Williams](#), age 84, died on 23 March 2005, at a medical facility in Bonita, California. During the IGY (1957) Robert deployed to the ice as a reporter.

OAE [Walter Dougherty](#), age 77, died on 28 March 2005, in Atlanta, Georgia. Walter was a crewmember of the USS *Phillipine Sea* during Operation Highjump.



Sisters Pledge \$1 Million To Seabee Museum Construction Fund

The May 2005 issue of *The Seabee Quarterly* reported that the four daughters of Martin and Martha Smith pledged \$1,000,000 toward construction of the new Seabee Museum at Port Hueneme, CA. The daughters are the administrators of the Smith Foundation. In 1941 Martin Smith acquired a 12-stool hamburger stand in Oxnard that by 1996 he had parlayed into a multi-million dollar development empire. According to one of his daughters Smith had always maintained that he owed much of his success as a developer to the presence of the Seabee base. The Smith Foundation becomes the first Founding Sponsor (\$1 million) and brings the museum campaign total to \$3.6 million.

On the other end of the spectrum the CEC Spouses Club of Port Hueneme presented a \$6,373.63 check to the museum construction fund. The club collected the funds from the sale of CEC Cook Books.

Tidewater Group Meeting

By Ed Hamblin

Here in Tidewater, we had our more-or-less regular quarterly social get together on 4 June. This installment included Charlie Thompson (VXE-6er from the Richmond VA area), Homar Hall (W/O 71 Fire House) Bill Raymus (NSFA W/O 74 Fire Chief), Bob Cantrell (USMC VX-6 Herc pilot), Jack Bengel (ASA/NSFA Det C Met Officer early 70s), Marty Nemcosky (ASA/NSFA Met Officer early 70s), and Ed Hamblin (W/O 74 guy, and NSFA S/S 75-78). Except for regular John Strider, who was conspicuous by his absence, it was our usual typical, small turnout.

Bill Raymus provided lots of pictures including several before unseen about winter over social activities. Bob Cantrell kept the group entertained with endless stories about his pre-VX-6 flying experiences, including the classic of how he became a Marine.

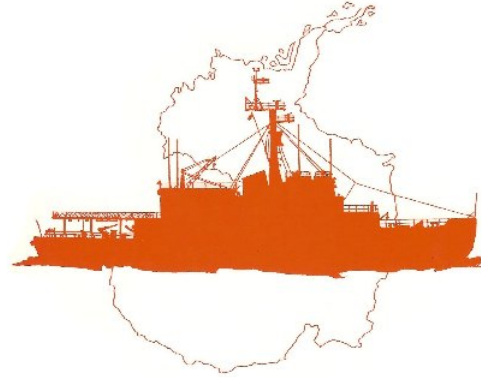
The issue whether or not to become an organized chapter of the OAEA, was again broached to the small group present. At this time, the interest "energy level" in the Tidewater area doesn't support the effort that would be required.

Before the group broke up after a couple of short hours of lively conversation and a meal, it was decided the next get together would be 10 September at the Norfolk House Of Eggs Restaurant.

Editor's Note: Ed reported that his camera malfunctioned and he was unable to provide photographs of this meeting.

USS/USCGC *Glacier* (AGB-4/WAGB-4) 1955-1987

32 Years of Polar Service



USS/USCGC *Glacier* Named Historical Landmark

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS (ASME) has designated the *Glacier* as a National Historic Mechanical Engineering Landmark. The retired icebreaker deployed to Antarctica for every Deep Freeze beginning with DF-I through DF-87.

Owned by the Glacier Society the ship is undergoing restoration for future use as a floating university, museum, and medical facility.

Commissioned on 27 May 1955 as the USS *Glacier*, her Navy service extended until she was transferred to the Coast Guard on 30 June 1966 and served until being decommissioned in May 1987.

The only ship of its class, the *Glacier* is the sole remaining diesel electric DC powered icebreaker. The ASME designation lists various mechanical engineering concepts, features, and characteristics that make the vessel unique. Also noted in the ASME citation was equipment that was designed for the *Glacier* that remains unique to this day.

On her maiden voyage, during Deep Freeze I in preparation for the IGY, *Glacier* was the flagship for Admiral Byrd on his final trip to the Antarctic.

The mission of the Glacier Society is for the ship to be a memorial to the knowledge of Polar Regions. Educational and medical cruises will be conducted and the ship will be made available to the public as a museum. A medical team from Yale University will operate a medical facility aboard the ship that will provide free medical care to native populations while conducting cancer related environmental studies.

Editors Note: Condensed from a press release by Avril M. Westmoreland, Public Relations. The Glacier silhouette is from the USCGC Glacier cruise book for DF-87.

Communicator Scholarship Fund

by Billy-Ace Baker

AT THE SECOND NATIONAL OAEA SYMPOSIUM IN OXNARD the Para-Rescue Team donated a check for \$1,000 to the Scholarship fund. At the Pensacola 2002 Symposium the Para-Rescue Team challenged all OAEA members to do likewise. No other member or group answered the challenge. However, a group of Radiomen and Electronics Technicians decided to start a scholarship fund of their own. The original intent was to at least match the OAEA Para-Rescue Team Scholarship Fund donation. As it turned out response was good and the Communicators were able to exceed the original \$1,000 that the Para-Rescue Team donated. On 26 May the chairman of the Communicator Fund mailed a check for \$2,000 to the OAEA Secretary/Treasure thus earning a Silver Adelie Club plaque for the group. A photo of the Para-Rescue Team plaque is shown at right. The Communicator plaque has not yet been presented so it was not available to be photographed.



Silver Adelie Club Plaque for Donations of \$1,000

The contributors to the Communicator Fund were Radiomen, Electronics Technicians, Communications Officers, and Electronic Material Officers who served with Antarctic Support Activities, Naval Support Forces Antarctica and Air Development Squadron Six. The names of the contributors are as follows.

* Denotes those who attended the Oxnard Symposium.

*Billy-Ace Baker	*Daniel Bolton	John Bowling
John Boyda	Bill Caton	*Bob Conner
Alex Decess	Douglas Dixon	*Jim Evans
*Richard Everett	Andrew Herman	Robert Kniese
James Mortier	George Parker	*Harold MacPherson
Daniel Parkin	William Ryan	Karl Sackman
*Francis Stokes	Everett Suchland	O. "Tom" Thompson
Thomas Wilborn	Noah White	Howard Wick
*John Lamont West		

OAEA Donor Penguin Awards

Submitted by Jim O'Connell

SINCE THE AWARD LEVELS WERE last updated (Apr-Jun 2005 *Gazette*) one individual and two groups have joined the Blue Adelie Club. One individual advanced to the Silver Adelie Club and one group joined the Silver Adelie Club. The asterisks (*) indicate new donors, or donors who have reached the next level, since the last report.

BLUE Donations of \$50(1st 100 only)
Baker, Billy-Ace
Biery, Roger W.
Blackwelder, Billy
Blewett, Thomas
Bolt, Ron L.

Boyer, Robert E.
*Communicator Group Fund
Cordes, Fauno
Dostal, W (Dusty) A.
DuBeau, Earl
Eubanks, Paul
Hall, Richard M.
Henley, Joseph
Hilt, John W.
Morris, Marion
*Moulder, Evelyn
Munson, Evelyn
*OAEA Gulf Coast Group
Owler, Robert
VX/VXE-6 Para-Rescue Team
Werner, Alexander
Wick Jr. Howard J.

BRONZE Donations of \$100
Biery, Roger W.
Bolt, Ron L.
Boyer, Robert E.
Dostal, W (Dusty) A.
Hall, Richard M.
Henley, Joseph
Munson, Evelyn
Owler, Robert

GOLD Donations of \$500
Cordes, Fauno

SILVER Donations of \$1,000
*Baker, Billy-Ace
VX/VXE-6 Para-Rescue Team
*Communicator Group Fund



REUNION INFORMATION

Send reunion information to Billy-Ace Baker at upizauf@aol.com for publication in the Gazette

USS Pine Island (AV-12): Charleston, SC, 6–8 October 2005. Contact Karen Buscher, 7741 NW 21st St, Topeka, KS 66618, 785 582 4460. The USS *Pine Island* served during Highjump.

USS Yancey (AKA-93): Norfolk, VA, 10–13 November 2005. Contact George Clifton, 708 425 8531, clifs@ameritech.net. The *Yancey* served during Highjump.

USS Thomas J. Gary (DER-326): Macon, GA, 18–20 August 2005. Contact Ron Day, 315 344 8823, ronday@westelcom.com. The USS *Thomas J. Gary* served during DF-66 and 67.

Parachute Riggers (USN, USMC, USCG): Kissimmee, FL, 20–24 October 2005. Contact Ray Weismann, 1406 Julip Dr., Orlando, FL 32825, 407 281 4888, riggerray@juno.com.

USS Wilhoite (DE/DER-397): Philadelphia, PA, 24–27 August 2005. Contact Frank Roche, phone 570 287 3992, email froche@citizensvoice.com. The USS *Wilhoite* served during DF-61.

NMCB-1: Virginia Beach, VA, 7–9 October 2005. Contact Peter S. Dodd, 89 Edward Rd., Marshfield, MA 02050, 781 837 0393, mcb1reunion@direcway.com. MCB-1 served during DF-II and 62.

USS Wyandot (AKA-92): San Antonio, TX, 17–21 September 2005. Contact W. Tribble, 3815 W. Sublett Rd., Arlington, TX 76017, email ever2tribble@yahoo.com, or phone 817 572 0804. The USS *Wyandot* served during Deep Freeze I through IV, and 64 through 72.

USS Currituck (AV-7), All Squadrons, Staff, and Detachments. Northbrook, IL, 28 September–3 October 2005. Contact R. Curtis, 895 Country Road 703, Bland, MO 65014–3065, email gunner@direcway.com, phone 573 943 2349. The USS *Currituck* served during Highjump.



NEW OAEA MEMBERS

The below listed personnel have joined the OAEA since the Apr-Jun 2005 issue of the *Gazette*

*Denotes Associate member

Alley, Morris A. GMG2	Annual	USS <i>Glacier</i> 63–65
Belanger, Dian O. Civ	Annual	Oral History DF-01
Bell, James Ed, BM2	Life	USS <i>Yancey</i> Highjump
Branch, Byrd B. SN	Life	USS <i>Pine Island</i> “ “
Callender, Gordon LT	Life	OIC Byrd WO DF-66
Dibbern, John S. Civ	Annual	USARP DF-85, 86, & 88
Dodson, Harry Civ	Life*	Merchant Marine Assoc
Dwyer, Phillip, JTJG	Annual	ASA DF-65
Erwin, Spencer LTJG	Life	USS <i>Arneb</i> DF-I
Flint, Robert, Civ	Life	USARP. WO 3 times
Forman, John, EQCM	Life	ASA DF-IV
Garofalo, L. J. SK3	Annual	CBU-201 DF-67
Grant, LeRoy	Life	USCGC <i>Eastwind</i> DF-I
Hall, Michael L. AT3	Life	VXE-6 70/73
Hemeon, John, EOH	Life	MCB-1 DF-II & IV
Herman, Tony, RMCM	Life	RM2 WO Byrd DF-63
Hood, Ron, AN	Life	VX-6 63-65
Hough, Gil, PCCM	Life	TAD NSFA DF-77 to 80
Hunter, William LCDR	Life	USCGC <i>Eastwind</i> DF-I
Hyatt, Gus, BUC	Life	MCB-6, & 8; ASA WO
Killian, David P. AN	Life	VXE-6 70/73
King, Hugh A. LT MC	Life	ASA OIC Hallett DF-64
King, Dianne R., Civ	Life*	Wife of Hugh
Koenig, Anthony A1C	Life	63 rd TCW DF-63
Kulbacki, Edward RM2	Annual	VX-6 DF-64 thru 66
McGovern, Stephen	Annual*	
Metzger, Bruce E. AN	Annual	VXE-6 DF-71 & 72
Miller, Robert J. AK2	Life	VXE-6 DF-70 & 71
Moon, Curtis J.	Life	ASA DF-70
Mooney, John F. AN	Annual	VX-6 63-65
Orem, Charles A. CDR	Life	2005
Orem, Jerry Civ	Life	2005
Oshner, Ronald CDR	Annual	CBU-201 68/70
Prevette, Al “Putt Putt”	Annual	AFCM VXE-6 75–79
Rambo, Rick A. AK3	Life	VX-6 WO Det DF-69
Richards, Margaret	Life*	Wife of Squatty
Schwalenberg, Edward	Life	WO Palmer DF-77 Civ
Spletstoesser, John	Life	BAS/USARP Numerous
Tuttle, Robert J. LCDR	Annual	VXE-6 83/86
Wilson, Fred N. ABH-1	Life	ASA/NSFA 71-74



OAEA LOCATOR

CORRECTION

In the Apr-Jun 2005 issue of the *Explorer's Gazette* it was reported in the story about the Antarctic Place Name Certificates that Dean Fadden had passed away. The Editorial Staff is happy to report that Dean is alive and well and resides in Gulfport Mississippi.

- Looking for a full-color Antarctic Service Medal Certificate issued by CNSFA. If anyone has one please contact the editor at upizauf@aol.com or 850 456 3556.

- Steve Schultz is looking for anyone who was in the 32nd winter-over crew (DF-87) with him. Steve can be contacted at: schultzs@subasenlon.navy.mil.

- The Glacier Society is looking for volunteers to man their booth at the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers' Maritime Technology Conference and Expo and Ship Production Symposium 19-21 October 2005 in Houston, Texas. If you can devote some time and energy in greeting delegates and welcoming guests from across the country, while spreading the word of the Glacier's goals and mission, contact Gloria Lockett at 203 380 3466 or glockett@glaciersociety.org.

- Don Leavitt orchestrated the 50th Anniversary reunion for Operation Highjump; held in Norfolk, VA in 1996. Don is tentatively planning a 60th Anniversary Reunion on a cruise ship to Antarctica. Anyone interested should contact Don by phone at 610 461 1623 or donleavittsr@juno.com.

- Several members have contacted Jim Maddox about forming a Western Chapter of the OAEA. Jim has looked at several areas the chapter could cover if members were interested in doing so.

- A California chapter for California members only.
- A Southwest chapter to include California, Nevada, and Arizona members.

Members who are interested in forming a California or a Southwest OAEA Chapter should contact Jim Maddox at: jmaddflynav@cs.com, or 661 945 0469.

- Jerry Schleining has volunteered to assume leadership of the Northwest OAEA Group when Dave Kahlow relocates. Anyone living in Oregon, Washington, or Idaho who is interested should contact Jerry at: csmgjs@verizon.net, or 503 661 2986.

- Guillaume Dargaud is currently wintering-over at Concordia Base (Dome Charlie) and seeks photographs and information about the history of Dome C for his web site and a possible book. He can be contacted at: dargaud.guillaume@concordia.pnra.it.

- There are still nine Geographic Names of the Antarctic Certificates on-hand for personnel who have not yet been located. If anyone knows the address, or has any other information, on any of the following OAEs please notify the *Gazette* Editor at upizauf@aol.com or at the National Headquarters address on the last page of the *Gazette* or by phone at: 850 456 3556.

- ETN2 Thomas H. Oliver
- BU2 Rudolph D. Terrazas
- UT1 Harold D. K. Crain
- BU3 Charles E. Gorham
- HM1 Stephen E. Terwileger
- SK2 James T. Wells
- EM2 Howard W. Broome, Jr.
- CM1 Floyd Virdin
- CE3 Lawrence D. Bean

ACTIVITIES BY LOCALE

New England Area—See articles in this issue (page 19) concerning recent activities in the New England area. The New England chapter meets quarterly. Contact Marty Diller at mgdiller@blazenetme.net or 207 729 0197 for additional information.

Gulf Coast Group—See articles in this issue (page 17 and 18) concerning recent activities in the Gulf Coast Group. For further information contact Les Liptak at 850 492 1666 or lcliptak@hightec.com or Billy-Ace Baker at 850 456 3556 or upizauf@aol.com

Tidewater Group—See article in this issue (page 11) concerning recent activities in the Tidewater area. Contact Ed Hamblin at ehamblin@cox.net or 757 405 3362 for more information.

Midwest Group—See article in this issue (page 20) concerning recent activities in the Midwest Group. For further information contact Ed Waite at 937 233 0613 or ebw@thewaitegroup.com.



Oscar-winning British actor Sir John Mills dies

Compiled by Billy-Ace Baker

*Beyond this flood a frozen Continent
Lies dark and wilde, beat with perpetual storms
Of Whirlwind and dire Hail, which on firm land
Thaws not, but gathers heap, and ruin seems
Of ancient pile; all else deep snow and ice.*

John Milton

Sir John Mills, age 97, died on Saturday, 23 April 2005, at his home in Buckinghamshire. He had been ill for about a month with a chest infection. Mills had roles in more than 100 films. He won an Oscar in 1971 for his portrayal of a mute village idiot in *Ryan's Daughter*. However, members of the OAEA probably know him best for the title role in *Scott of the Antarctic*.



British actor Sir John Mills is shown with his British Academy of Film and Television Arts honorary award in London in 2002. (Reuters/file Photo)

Show business dignitaries, including Sir Roger Moore, Dame Judi Dench, and Twiggy attended funeral services for the actor. His second wife, Mary Hayley Bell, son Jonathan, who is a screenwriter, and daughters Juliet and Hayley, survive him. His daughters are both actresses who made their stage debuts at an early age in some of their father's productions.

Mills, who was knighted by Queen Elizabeth in 1976, made his name in patriotic films during and after World War II. Mills had many offers to go to Hollywood, but he turned most of the offers down; when it looked like he would take them up on their offers, his career was interrupted by the war. After the war, he received other offers from Hollywood, but he made his fame in the English motion picture industry that included a good number of war dramas. He embodied the archetypal British wartime hero. When a director wanted someone to personify "Englishness", Mills would top the list.

Scott of the Antarctic

John Mills took the title role in the much-trumpeted *Scott of the Antarctic* (1948) and played the ultimate stiff-upper-lipped hero in this semi-documentary dramatization of the doomed South Pole expedition. The films' visual effects are great and the score is excellent, but the film is ponderous. At this point, his screen career took a downturn. Many of the films that followed were mediocre, but in spite of it all, Sir John Mills was one of the UK's most enduring movie stars.

Base D

Base D was a British military station built at Hope Bay, Trinity Peninsula, by personnel of Operation Tabarin, in 1945. It was the third-ever permanent base in Antarctica. In late 1945, it became a Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey (FIDS¹) scientific station. The base was closed in 1963.

David James was a surveyor with the 1945-46 winter-over party at Base D. James, who had no experience in film production, was hired as the Antarctic advisor for the movie. Shortly after returning to England after wintering-over, James reported to the Ealing Studios with a sense of trepidation and an innate suspicion of the film industry in general. The production took over two years, with locations in Antarctica, Norway, and Switzerland. By that time, James had settled in and had discovered that his fears and suspicions were unfounded. Afterwards, he wrote the book, *Scott of the Antarctic*, the Film and its Production.

Production of the Film at the Antarctic Location

At the request of James, John Mills wrote the foreword to the book. The story of Scott is told in the first chapter and the rest of the book tells the story of the production of the film from beginning to end.

When the movie was made, many of the original members of Scott's Antarctic expedition and the relatives of those who died, were still living. Scott's widow, Lady Kennet, was the first to be approached; she readily gave her consent, and assisted by giving the studio free access to her recall and polar library. After her death, in the summer of 1947, her son, Peter Scott, also gave his assistance. The book lists all the survivors and family members who assisted. Professor Frank Debenham, who provided expert appraisal and accuracy of the script, was acknowledged as one of the films staunchest advisors.

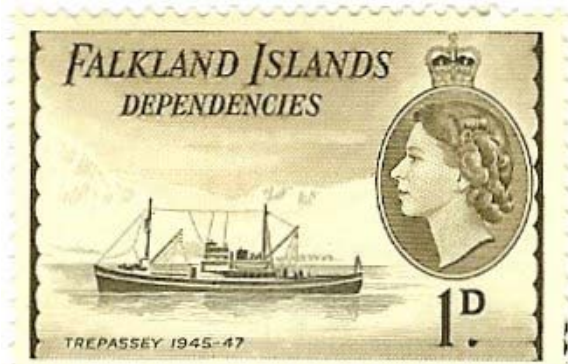
¹ FIDS was renamed BAS (British Antarctic Survey) beginning on 1 January 1962.



John Mills as Captain Scott

Before production started, for purposes of getting authentic Antarctic background, it was decided to send a film crew to Antarctica to get footage of tabular icebergs and Antarctic wildlife that would include penguins, skuas, and killer whales. For various reasons, it was impossible to send a crew to Ross Island, but the animals and background scenery could be filmed in the Antarctic Peninsula region where the FIDS maintained a base.

The Colonial Office was approached for permission to send a unit down with FIDS and they agreed, on stipulation that the film crew secure film footage for a documentary on the work of the FIDS expedition. They would need to be in Montevideo on the River Plate in time to catch the December ship for the Falkland Islands. Accordingly, the Antarctic film team departed England via ship in October 1946. Once at Port Stanley, the film crew departed for the Antarctic on 12 January 1947 aboard the wood-hulled HMS *Trepassey*. En route, the ship was required to resupply and relieve personnel on several bases. During this time, the crew filmed scenes, including icebergs and pack-ice.



Trepassey Postage Stamp Issued by the FIDS

The film crew was eventually dropped off at Hope Bay and the ship returned to Port Stanley. A total of 36 scenes were shot in Antarctica for the film and an unspecified number of

scenes and footage for the Colonial Office documentary. The film was shot in color in order to do justice to the blue and greens of icebergs and pack ice. The Antarctic scenes were also shot in black and white because they were to be isolated in Antarctic for three months it was feared that the color film might deteriorate. Completion of on-shore filming at Hope Bay was critical and they needed to complete their work before the season became too advanced. In addition to sledging scenes, they also filmed on a glacier the scene where Scott and his four companions first sighted the Norwegian tent that told them that Amundsen had beat them to the Pole.

When they filmed on location in the Antarctic Peninsula, the major actors in the film had not been selected, therefore, John Mills did not appear in any of the background footage. Instead extras were used in the required scenes and facial shots were avoided.

During the month of February, the film crew was subjected to almost three weeks of continuous bad weather and was unable to leave their quarters, but on several days they were able to film some scenes for the Colonial Office. In March the weather improved and they were again able to do outside filming.

After nine days, the weather again deteriorated and during this period the film crew got word that the *Fitzroy* and *Trepassey* had sailed from Port Stanley and would pick them up after taking the Governor on a routine inspection of the bases. During the delay for the ships tour of the South Orkneys, the worse storm of the season hit them. They experienced sustained winds of 100 mph. It was estimated that the wind gusted to 130 mph, but by that time all the meteorological instruments had been blown away.

On the last day of March, the *Fitzroy* and *Trepassey* arrived at the Ronne Antarctic Research Expedition base in Marguerite Bay, Stonington Island. During the night, the *Trepassey* caught fire and was severely damaged. The ships stayed a few days longer while temporary repairs were made to the *Trepassey* and then on 5 April they rushed north. By this time the temperatures were getting low and winter was setting in. When the ships arrived at Hope Bay to pick-up the film crew, the bay was covered with pancake-ice. Had the ships arrived even twenty-four hours later, the film crew would have been cut-off and might have been forced to winter-over. With the steel-hulled *Fitzroy's* pipes and ballast tanks freezing, the Captain was not anxious to delay any longer and the film crew was anxious to get away before it was too late. A week later they were in Port Stanley and on 2 May they arrived in Montevideo. While one member of the film crew flew to Hollywood to supervise processing of the color film, the rest of the crew flew back to England.

Epilogue:

LONDON 1947—Each year on the Friday nearest to January 17—the date on which Scott arrived at the South Pole—The

Antarctic Club holds its annual dinner in London. Limited in membership to those who have wintered in the Antarctic with British Expeditions, the club was founded by Commander J. H. Mather, who was a seaman in the Terra Nova. Apart from the dinner, the only business of the evening is to elect the following year's president.

At an early stage of the meal, the secretary rises to his feet and says: "Gentlemen, as you know, it is our President's custom to take wine with representatives of every expedition here tonight. First, it will be his pleasure to drink with members of Captain Scott's *Discovery* Expedition of 1901." Up then stand, say, an Admiral and a retired stoker who are toasted by the President amid general acclamation. A few minutes later members of Sir Ernest Shackleton's *Nimrod* are called, followed after an interval by Scott's *Terra Nova*. And so throughout the evening, the expeditions are called in order of seniority: *Southern Cross*, *Discovery*, *Nimrod*, *Terra Nova*, *Aurora*, *Endurance*, *Quest*, *William Scoresby*, and *Periol*. Romantic sounding names, suggestive of great days and great men.

At the end of dinner the President rises to his feet for the last time to call a toast, which is drunk in solemnity and silence: "Gentlemen, let us drink to those who voyaged to the Antarctic, never to return: Scott, Wilson, Oates, Bowers, Evans; Vince, Mertz, Ninnis, Mackintosh, Hayward, Spencer-Smith; Shackleton."

—David James, 1948

LONDON 2004—Each year at the Antarctic Club annual dinner, the Secretary still calls for members of expeditions (in chronological order) to stand up and take wine with the President. As the list is now long, the Secretary brackets together groups of expeditions, so that the President is still able to stand at the end.

The first toast after the meal is to the Sovereign—called the Loyal Toast (always drunk with port wine). The second is to Absent Friends. The last is "To those who have voyaged to explore the Antarctic regions, never to return." The names are not called out—there are too many of them now.

—Charles Swithinbank, 2005

James Nunatak, located on the Antarctic Peninsula on the East Coast of Palmer Land was named by the FIDS for David James

Sources:

Associated Press online

Reuters online

The Polar Times, June 1947, page 19

The Polar Times, December 1946, page 13

James, David. *Scott of the Antarctic*. The Film

Darlington, Jennie. *Antarctic Honeymoon*

Ronne, Finn. *Antarctic Conquest*

Rubin, Jeff. *Antarctica*

Stewart, John. *Antarctica An Encyclopedia*

Gulf Coast Happenings

by Billy-Ace Baker

PENSACOLA, 08 APRIL—Twenty members and guests were in attendance at the 1300 meeting at Kooter's. Our leader, Les Liptak, was not present due to a 1300 appointment at the VA Clinic. There was no

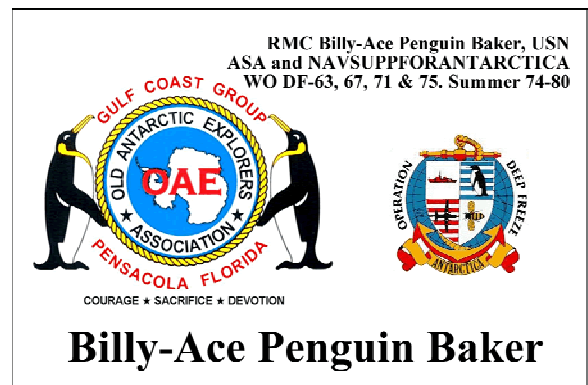
rolled the OAEA was acknowledged as contributing to the production of the documentary.

Before showing the documentary a form, was passed around for those in attendance to fill in with information that would be required for the Gulf Coast nametags. A photo of the nametag design was circulated with the form.



Sign at Kooter Brown's

scheduled guest speaker, so the TV documentary featuring Father Bill Menster, who was the task force chaplain during Operation Highjump, was shown. When the credits were



Design Approved for Gulf Coast Nametags.

Following the video presentation, the floor was turned over to Jim O'Connell, the National Secretary/Treasurer. He announced that the Fourth OAEA Symposium/Reunion

would be held in Pensacola in 2008. Following a brief discussion, Jim stated that he would ask for reunion committee volunteers at the June Gulf Coast OAEA meeting.

There being no further business, Glen Harris pointed out that we had not had our 50/50 raffle. Glen was presented with the roll of tickets and he circulated through the group selling them while Lennie Bourgeois separated the tickets and mixed them up in a greasy French-fry basket. Paul Dickson's wife Judy was asked to draw a ticket from the basket. When Glen called out the winning number several times with no response it was evident by looking around the room that Gus Shinn and Frank Stokes were not paying any attention; it turned out that Frank held the winning ticket. His share of the proceeds was \$27.

For show-and-tell Lennie produced a piece of one of the props from 321 the LC-130 that crashed at D-59 on 4 December 1971. Lennie said that Jim Landy gave him the propeller fragment many years ago. There must be a story here, but Jim was not present to confirm or deny the story.

PENSACOLA, 06 MAY—Thirty-three members and guests turned out for the May meeting. Associate Member Stella Leek, AKA Kiwi Stella, from Carson City, Nevada made a not totally unexpected appearance at the meeting. Stella attended the Oxnard Symposium, and more recently, made a brief stop at the ADFA reunion in Biloxi on 4 May.

Our guest speaker, Buz Dryfoose and his lovely wife Sam managed to arrive on time after leaving the Biloxi ADFA reunion early that morning, but his presentation turned into a disaster due to his slide screen falling apart. Since Buz was unable to show his slides, which were a key part of his presentation, he gave a brief over-view of his Antarctic Experiences and the rest of the meeting was turned into an informal show-and-tell with those members who brought along cruise books scrapbooks and other memorabilia, sharing them with others.



Kooter's Welcome Sign for Buz & Sam Dryfoose

Ashlee Baker was also in attendance for the first time since we moved our meeting place to Kooter's. Ashlee is the youngest OAEA Associate Life Member in the Gulf Coast area. In addition several of Buz's former crewmembers

showed up for their first time at a Gulf Coast Group meeting. Since they had not seen one another in many years there was a lot of catching up to do.



Gulf Coast Group May Guest Speaker Buz Dryfoose

Charlie "Mighty Fine" Henke sold tickets for the 50/50 raffle and \$88 was collected. Billy-Ace won the drawing and donated his \$44 share to the kitty.

PENSACOLA, 03 JUNE—There were 22 members and guests present. First time guests in attendance were Bill Hess, guest of Les Liptak, and Kristen Williams; 14-year-old granddaughter of Lennie Bourgeois. Kristen had been visiting with Lennie and Helen in Valparaiso.

There was no scheduled speaker, but Billy Blackwelder showed his famous video of Mike Walsh streaking the VXE-6 change-of-command ceremony that many of us have seen a few times and a few of us have seen many times. However, this time there was a surprise ending. Billy had added a video clip of a helo excursion to the crater of Mount Erebus in which one of the participants appeared to be urinating into the caldron. Not so surprising, the culprit looked like Billy himself.

Les Liptak announced that he had a few copies of the Movie *The Secret Land* combined with *The South Pole Chaplin* in VHS format for sale for \$10. The video and Gulf Coast Group polo shirts will be available as long as anyone is interested. The sales of these items generate funds for the Gulf Coast Group and the OAEA, as well.

Sean Baker conducted the 50/50 ticket sale and he asked Kristin to draw the winning ticket. Bill Fazio was the winner and he took home \$28 as his share of the drawing. The meeting was adjourned after the drawing and the next Gulf Coast meeting will be in August.

Following the regular meeting Jim O'Connell called for a pre-meeting meeting of the Pensacola 2008 Reunion Committee volunteers. Billy Blackwelder was elected as committee chairman. The first regular meeting of the committee will be held in November.

New England Chapter Visits Duffy's Tavern

By Marty Diller, New England Chapter Secretary-Treasurer

The New England Chapter of the OAEA (OAEA-NE) gathered at Duffy's Tavern in the village of Wickford, RI, for its most recent (spring) quarterly meeting. Despite the 90-degree temperatures that jammed the local roads with beach-goers, 26 OAEs showed up to beat the heat with cool memories of the Ice. Many Quonset Point/ Davisville sailors will remember Duffy's Tavern—and may have been regulars at the bar there—remembering it as a run-down shack and former horse barn across the road from the junior high school.



Charlie 'CB' Bevilacqua provided the US Flag for the opening Pledge of Allegiance, accompanied by a POW/MIA flag. These particular flags are very special because they have been flown many years at the South Pole each Christmas Day, and have then been returned to the states and also honored during a special Father's Day POW/MIA ceremony in Meredith, NH, CB's summer hometown. CB claims that Meredith has maintained the longest continuous standing POW/MIA vigil in the USA—since August 1989—with a ceremony year-round each Thursday night in any weather. The special Thursday Father's Day-related event is attended by part of the Rolling Thunder organization each year.

The Providence Journal published our pre-meeting press release, and we had some locals come see what the OAEA was all about. One gentleman showed up with a pack of original letters and telegrams—including some dated 1935 with a Little America postal cancellation on them—that have been held by the John Muir family. (Billy-Ace Baker has advised that a J.J. Muir was an officer on the *Jacob Rupert* during the 2nd Byrd Antarctic Expedition.) The documents were in very good condition, and the Muir family is attempting to determine if they may be of some historical value—as well as get a recommendation on whether and where to have the papers sent for study or display. The individual, who is a friend of the Muir family, was referred to B-A for guidance and advice and didn't stay for the afternoon's activities.

Chapter Sec/Treas. Marty Diller provided an update on the growing Chapter membership rolls, now at 82, as LCDR

Don LeRoi, USN (Ret.), of Old Lyme, CT, submitted his OAEA membership application and Lifetime dues at the meeting. Don is an NSFA veteran of 1981–84 and most recently, DF-05 as a member of NOAA's Killer Whale Research Team.

Other New England Chapter Meeting News

Chapter By-Laws Revision. Marty Diller briefed the group on major Chapter By-Laws revisions proposed by the OAEA-NE Board of Directors. The revisions, which involve major changes to the Chapter membership categories, were voted in by the members present. To summarize, there are now only two categories of membership in the New England Chapter—Member and Member at Large, and these changes in no way affect a Chapter member's status as a member of OAEA National, which maintains six categories of membership.

2006 Reunion Update. Reunion Committee Chairman Marty Diller briefed the attendees on the progress of the Reunion Committee in preparing for the August 2006 OAEA National Symposium/Reunion in Warwick RI, and made an appeal for more volunteers—especially volunteers in the Warwick area—to assist in the planning and execution of this major event.

Fundraising

At this meeting, OAEA-NE polo shirts and ball caps were again available for sale, and the usual raffle ticket drawing was conducted. Raffle winners included: John and Lorna Hemeon, who won a beautiful framed penguin quilt sampler made and donated by Anne Hazard; Dave Killian, who won the 176-page book *Antarctica—A Year at the Bottom of the World, 2002*, by Jim Mastro; Don LeRoi, who won a 1-year gift membership to the American Polar Society donated by APS Chairman Charles Lagerbom; Hoot Hartman, who won a 3'x5' American flag and staff; and Bev and Marty Diller, who won a vintage 2003 bottle of 'the Little Penguin' wine—an Australian-made Chardonnay. All raffle prizes were donated by chapter members.

Charlie 'CB' Bevilacqua CB also had Antarctic medals/ribbons, hatpins, and other Antarctic items available for a small donation to the Chapter in addition to the NSF-published booklets that he provides on a continuing basis.

The next OAEA-NE Chapter meeting is scheduled for 1:00 pm on Saturday, 1 October, at Cap'n Newicks Lobster House in South Portland, ME.



Ohio Spring Fling

Compiled by Billy-Ace Baker

THE SPRING FLING (22-24 April) weekend was a success. There were a total of 34 OAEs, spouses, and friends in attendance.

According to attendee Bruce Raymond, of Fruitport, MI: "Ed Waite did an excellent job not only of organizing a smoothly run weekend but a top notch job estimating expenses".

Ed Waite reported that registration was \$35 per person and after all the bills were paid there was \$8.58 left in the treasury.

RF Kiser and his wife Faye, of Whitesburg, Kentucky, reported that they had a great time. RF said that he was impressed with Ray Hall's story about the origin of the Puckered Penguin. RF said: "Ray even drew an original sketch of Pete for us".



The attendees gathered at the Holiday Inn, Fairborn, Ohio at about 1730 Friday evening and gabbed, ate and carried on until about 2330. There were 29 present for the evening. Host Pam Waite, served trays of cold cuts, veggies, and desserts to the guests and no one went away hungry.

On Saturday many of the attendees enjoyed a tour of the Air Force Museum at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

Saturday evening everyone assembled in one of the banquet rooms at the Holiday Inn and attendance swelled to 34 present for dinner. A buffet dinner of roast beef and chicken/with mushrooms was served. Ed Waite said: "I felt the meal was quite nice. I believe so did the others".

Following the meal a few announcements were made and then it was decided that each attendee stand, introduce

himself and then tell of their Antarctic experiences or fondest memories. It was incredible to hear the stories that came forth. The stories flowed until near midnight at which time everyone called it a day.

Sunday morning, 16 of the attendees gathered to meet one final time to discuss the potential for a Midwest Chapter of the Old Antarctica Explorers Association (OAEA). During the course of the weekend it was evident that attendees were in favor of forming a Chapter. To that end, those attending the Evaluation Meeting approved Ed Waite as President, Betsy Henley as Secretary, and Alex Decess as Treasurer. (These positions are temporary until a chapter is granted and actual office holders can be elected.)

The provisional Midwest Chapter of the OAEA will cover Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Kentucky. Those who qualify for membership in the OAEA in Pennsylvania and Missouri and other contiguous states will be welcome to become members of the Midwest Chapter.

According to Henry Storm, OAEA Executive Vice President: "The purpose of an OAEA Chapter is to expand the membership of the OAEA national association and whatever the local chapter would like to pursue as long as it is consistent with national OAEA purposes and approved by the national organization".

In Conclusion—I wish to thank all those who attended, and hope that everyone had an enjoyable time meeting old friends and making new ones.

It is my hope that we can do it again next year, and that we can bring onboard many more OAEs from the surrounding states.

I also wish to thank the personnel at the National Museum of the USAF, the staff at the Holiday Inn of Fairborn, Ohio and the Greene Co. Visitors Bureau for their help bringing this event to a successful conclusion.

Ed Waite, Jr.
Dayton, Ohio

Editor's Note: Ed Waite, Betsy Henley, RF Kiser, and Bruce Raymond contributed to this article. Due to space

limitations much of the text and most of the photographs that attendees sent could not be included. Ed Waite has plans to create a Midwest Group web site in the near future and hopefully the rest of the story and the photographs will be included on the site.

