



# 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 4

Old Antarctic Explorers Association, Inc

Oct-Dec 2005



after the Neptune crash, November 8, 1961 Wilkes

*Photo courtesy of Bill Birch, Wilkes Station 1961-62*

*Edward Thiel, William Counts, Romauld Compton, William Chastain, and James Gray died in the crash of BUNO 140439*

## BOD ESTABLISHES MEMORIAL MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

**B**Y A UNANIMOUS VOTE, THE OAEA BOD HAVE CREATED two new categories of membership. On 17 August 2005, OAEA President John West announced to the BOD that the resolution to create the Memorial Membership and the Commemorate Membership categories had passed. The Memorial Membership category is for those OAEs who were killed or died in Antarctica beginning with Operation Highjump in 1946 and ending in 1999 when the OAEA was established. Sixty qualifying OAEs, 55 Americans, four New Zealanders, and one Australian, were inducted into the OAEA in this category. The Memorial Members include OAEs from both the military and civilian communities. Commemorative Members shall be OAEs who, if living,

would be eligible for Regular Member status in the OAEA. Any person may submit applications for this membership category without consideration to their membership in the OAEA. There are no fees or membership dues required for Commemorative Memberships, but tax-deductible donations are welcome. There are currently eight Commemorative Members in the OAEA.

It is planned that the names of the Memorial Members will be engraved on a symbolic ice barrier to be created on the OAEA web site.

See also President's Corner on page 2.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

John Lamont West—OAEA President

**T**O ALL OAEs—My thoughts and prayers are with those living on the Gulf Coast who have suffered devastating losses due to hurricane activity. The Board of Directors (BOD) approved adding a link to the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society on our web site for those wishing to contribute to the hurricane disaster fund.



Your BOD has been actively serving you this summer. They have passed two resolutions in your behalf and are engaged in sorting out the details of another. The two resolutions that have been passed are:

1. Approval of a revision to the OAEA by-laws. The revised OAEA by-laws are identified by the revised date of 27 July 2005.
2. Approval to induct as Memorial Members of the OAEA, 60 individuals, who have been identified as dying or have been killed in Antarctica.
3. The resolution that is currently being processed is the 2006 budget allocations and sources of revenue to keep us operating.

Another item for everyone to begin making plans for is the OAEA Symposium/Reunion schedule to be held in Warwick, RI in August 2006. Mark your calendars and begin making your reservations to attend the Symposium. Marty Diller and his committee are determined to ensure everyone has a wonderful time.

Election of Officers and BOD members will be addressed in the near future. Four positions are to be filled and those who are elected will take office during the Symposium. An election committee will have to be identified. Nominations to fill the positions will be solicited after the holidays. Volunteers wishing to serve should let us know so your names can be placed on the ballot as candidates.

The effort to develop a campaign to raise funds to assist the National Museum of Naval Aviation in Pensacola to repair R4D BuNo 12418 (*Que Sera Sera*) is still being reviewed. A plan of actions and milestones are under development.

Membership growth is always a challenge. I would like to personally challenge each member to recruit a new member. Membership applications can be downloaded from our web site <http://www.oaea.net>, or can be obtained from our membership chairman. Contact Billy-Ace Baker for further information. Be sure to include your address.

Each of you is important to 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, and on those areas where you feel we can do better. Feel free to email me at

[Westjl42@aol.com](mailto:Westjl42@aol.com) or write me at 201 N. Bradford Street, Seaford DE 19973.

In closing, I wish to remember those who have lost a loved one, our prayers are with you. I express my condolences to the families of the many OAEs who have passed away this year. To those under the weather, we wish you a speedy recovery. Until next time, take care.

*John Lamont West*



## GROWLERS & BERGY BYTES

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

Cover Story—BOD Creates **Memorial and Commemorative Membership Categories**. Page 1.

§  
New Orleans, LA—**Penguin Pages**. Penguins evacuated from flooded aquarium and more. Page 4.

§  
Letters To The Editor. **Praise, criticisms, and assorted comments**. Page 6.

§  
Pensacola, FL—OAEA member **George Griffin** featured in NAS Pensacola *Gosport* Viewpoint column. Page 7.


§  
Bullard, TX—The **Chaplains Corner** has been moved to Page 9.

§  
Pensacola, FL—OAE Honored for donations to **OAEA Educational Foundation**. Page 10.

§  
Oxnard Reunion Memory Book—**For information regarding the Memory Book** see Page 14.

### HURRICANE KATRINA RELIEF FOR MILITARY FAMILIES

On 5 September 2006 OAEA President John West asked the OAEA Board of Directors to vote on a motion to endorse the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) as the OAEA agency of choice for rendering financial assistance to military families on the Gulf Coast who were adversely impacted by Hurricane Katrina. The BOD unanimously approved the motion. Please give your support by going to the NMCRS web site and make a contribution: <http://www.nmcrs.org>.



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 Assistants**  
Gus Shinn  
Kerry Konrad

**Editor Emeritus**  
Jim O'Connell

**National Headquarters**  
10819 Berryhill Road  
Pensacola, FL 32506 USA

**Association Officers**

**President** – John Lamont West  
**Executive VP** – Henry Storm

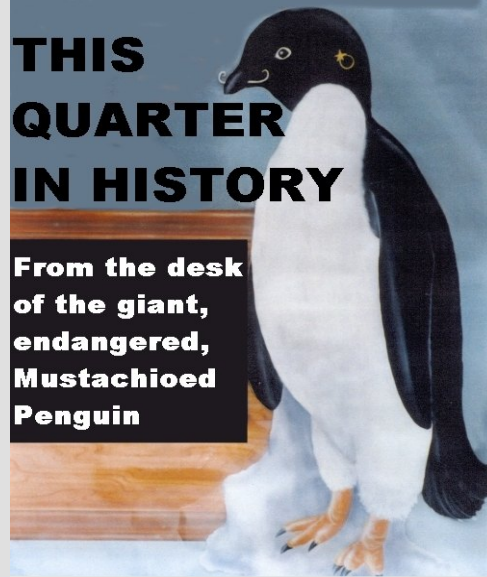
**Secretary/Treasurer** – Jim O'Connell  
**Life Director** – Billy-Ace Baker

**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**



### October Events

- 14 Oct 1819 Captain William Smith discovers the South Shetlands. First confirmed sighting of land South of 60°S
- 16 Oct 1957 USAF Electronics Test Unit, OIC Major James Lassiter, arrives in the S. Shetlands
- 16 Oct 1958 Six USAF personnel killed in Globemaster crash at Cape Roget (near Hallett Station)
- 31 Oct 1960 USN Project Magnet Constellation, *El Paisano* crashed near McMurdo. No casualties.
- 20 Oct 1973 Final PM-3A Weekly Operating Report forwarded to Fort Belvoir

### November Events

- 03 Nov 1911 Captain Robert Falcon Scott leaves the Discovery Hut for the South Pole
- 21 Nov 1915 *Endurance* crushed by pack-ice
- 29 Nov 1972 Doctor David Lewis in *Ice Bird* capsizes for first time
- 15 Nov 1985 BAS ship *John Biscoe* trapped in the ice near Antarctic Peninsula
- 23 Nov 1986 Two USARP personnel killed while hiking near McMurdo

### December Events

- 05 Dec 1820 Nathaniel Palmer completes cruise around Livingston Island
- 25 Dec 1894 The Norwegian ship *Antarctic* crosses the Antarctic Circle
- 29 Dec 1915 Shackleton establishes Patience Camp
- 13 Dec 1955 VX-6 aircraft poised at Harewood for flight south
- 27 Dec 1976 Ida Grove, VXE-6 candidate for Ice Queen received 3386 votes coming in a close second behind winner Earl Haney of NSFA



# PENGUIN PAGES

## Penguins from New Orleans

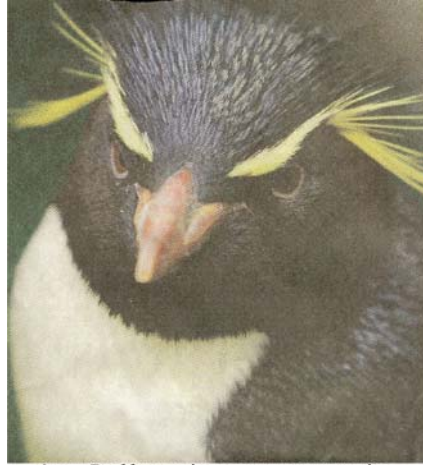
**T**HE AQUARIUM OF THE AMERICAS in New Orleans has asked the Monterey Bay Aquarium in California to temporarily accept 19 penguins while New Orleans recovers from the effects of Hurricane Katrina. Unfortunately, damage to the aquarium's life support system meant that much of its aquatic collection was lost.



Attended by two Aquarium of the Americas staff, the flightless birds arrived by cargo plane on Friday, 9 September, and are doing well. The penguins (three rockhoppers and 16 African blackfooted) are currently in quarantine behind the scenes. This is for the penguins's well-being and to mitigate the risk of contagion.



The penguins, now in the Splash Zone exhibit, are on loan from the Aquarium of the Americas. The staff of Monterey Bay extends sincere thanks to two generous donors whose support made this rescue possible.



*Angry Rockhopper in temporary quarters in Monterey after arriving from New Orleans Aquarium of the Americas.*

Some of the rescued penguins are related to those in Splash Zone and shared a colony with them in New Orleans.

Everyone at the Monterey Bay Aquarium would like the people of the Gulf Coast to know that their thoughts are with those who have suffered, and continue to suffer, because of this monumental disaster. Monterey Bay personnel will continue to support and aid their colleagues at the Aquarium of the Americas in recovery from this over-helming tragedy.

## Mating season in the Antarctic Defies Intelligent Design

by Emma Tom

**F**LIGHTLESS SEABIRDS HAVE replaced Mel Gibson as the preferred pin-up for religious extremists. It's all because of a new nature film called *March of the Penguins* which depicts the mating ordeals of Antarctic emperor penguins—ordeals including long, icy marches, short, icy intercourse, and an alleged lack of interest in multiple partners.

Many Christians, educators, and conservative politicians believe the film and its waddling stars support intelligent design and affirm passionately traditional norms such as monogamy, sacrifice, and child rearing.

One breathless religious type said it was just as enjoyable as *The Passion of*

*the Christ* and cleverly renamed it *The Passion of the Penguins*.

But using animal habits as allegories for human values is risky. Sure it can work when applied selectively, but the big picture is not so neat. Take emperor penguins, for instance. Couples are monogamous during the breeding season, but only one in twenty penguin pairs are still together after two years.

The rest engage in a partner-swapping spree that makes the key party scene in *The Ice Storm* look like a Hillsong sing-along.

Female emperors head back to sea immediately after laying, leaving dad to spend the next few months freezing and foodless with an egg balanced above his feet and beneath his, ahem, "brood flap".

By the time his chick hatches, dad has lost 50 percent of his body weight and must engage in the thankless task of regurgitating esophageal excretions until mom deigns to return. Parental responsibilities are then shared until the chick is about 150 days old. At this point, it is promptly abandoned. Really quite different to accepted human norms in child care when you think about it.

More bad news comes from the swinging world of chinstrap penguins. Roy and Silo are two gay chinstraps that live in Manhattan's Central Park Zoo. Contrary to the erratic behavior of their heterosexual peers, Roy and Silo have been going steady for six years straight (or should that be six years bent?). In addition to hanging out, these lovebirds exhibit what penguin pundits call "ecstatic behavior" including neck entwining, vocalizing, and, "getting it on"

Roy and Silo have refused all offers of lady friends and are so family oriented they attempted to incubate a rock. Eventually, their sympathetic keeper offered them a fertile egg and the pair hatched and raised a daughter called Tango. The zoo is also home to another young, gay chinstrap couple, as well as two lesbian gentoos.

While it's tempting to dismiss all this as New York flamboyance, homosexual activity has been documented in a whopping 450 species of wild animals.

For instance, Bonobo apes are not only bisexual, but crazed sex addicts. Females have been observed engaging in girl-on-girl action on an almost hourly basis.

Ten to 15 percent of female western gulls are lesbians and known to mate with males only to produce fertile eggs before returning to their Sapphic sisters. Same-sex shagging is also common among dolphins and rhesus monkeys

It'd be fascinating to hear how theology would reconcile this type of natural homo romping with the intelligent design theory. After all, if a higher power intelligently designed female monkeys to play games of erotic peek-a-boo, who's to say he wasn't planning something similar for humans, when he dreamed up the ingredients for Mardi Gras?

For the record, the evolutionary theory is that homosexuality developed to ensure the survival of the species by being a nanny for relatives' offspring.

But perhaps the safest conclusion is the one that recognizes diversity and what's known as "biological exuberance".

Some of us mate for life while others hump and dump. Some of us like it both ways; others have a definite sexual preference.

Arguing there's only one, correct, emperor penguin way of doing business is just plain silly. Apart from rendering the vast bulk of the natural world indecent, the only approved sex act would be one that's performed once a year for an average of 10 seconds in sub-zero conditions.

Surely Mother Nature would allow us something a little longer and hotter than that.

The bottom line is that due to a .05 percentage of homosexuality in the male



Adelie penguin, "the penguin with the muddy footprints on its back is not always the female".



## Penguin Season in Hollywood

by John Lippman

**H**OLLYWOOD IS IN THE MIDDLE OF its most disappointing summer movie season in memory. But there is some cold comfort for studio executives: Penguins. Moviegoers are flocking to a French-made documentary about commitment, struggle, and the cycle of life—amid a community of flightless birds in Antarctica. As of the first week of September *March of the Penguins* had taken in more than \$63 million at the U.S. box office. It is one of the few films so far this year to generate serious Oscar buzz.

Penguins also make an appearance in at least four current and upcoming animated movies. *Madagascar* by DreamWorks didn't perform as well as the studio had hoped—it brought in a solid \$186 million—but its Beatle-esque bird characters proved so popular in test screenings that the studio ended up boosting their role in the final cut. The *Madagascar* DVD includes a separate 10-minute short starring the penguins.

In addition, three big studios—Warner Bros., Sony Pictures, and Disney—have penguin projects in the works. "They feel a lot like an adorable version of humans," says Mark Gill, president of Warner Independent Pictures. The studio's parent, Warner Bros., is planning a November 2006 release for its animated movie *Happy Feet*, in which an Emperor penguin who can't sing like the other penguins becomes a champion tap dancer instead. Nicole Kidman and Robin Williams have signed on to provide voices.

Dick Van Dyke, who arguably gave the penguins their first big break in movies with the tea-and-dance with penguins scene in 1964's *Mary Poppins*, is not surprised at how they have become hot in Hollywood. "Almost every kid I've ever talked to says they liked the 'It's a Jolly Holiday' scene above everything else," says Van Dyke.



"It's their personality. They are exactly like people."

Sony Pictures chose penguins as the lead characters for its *Surf's Up*, a digitally animated movie set for release in 2007. The plot, Sony says, centers on "the high-octane world of competitive penguin surfing." Meanwhile, Disney has its own project in development: an animated movie based on *Mr. Popper's Penguins*, a 60-year-old children's book about a housepainter who ends up managing a troupe of performing birds.

*March of the Penguins* has been a surprise success. The documentary, which cost \$7 million to produce, was made by a French filmmaking team that spent 13 months in the Antarctic recording penguins' intricate courtship, mating, and family-raising behaviors. Warner Independent Pictures acquired North American distribution rights (jointly with National Geographic Feature Films) at the Sundance Film Festival this year for \$1 million.

The French version featured dubbed voices for the penguins, along with a techno-pop soundtrack. Warner Bros. and National Geographic dropped the talking penguins and spent an extra \$600,000 to write a new musical score and a script narrated by Morgan Freeman.

When *Penguins* opened on June 24, it grossed \$36,000 a showing—more than twice the per-showing average for *War of the Worlds* five days later. Warner quickly increased distribution. On 5 August it expanded from 700 theaters to 1300 theaters and by the first week of September it was showing in 2500 theaters.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

B-A:

The Gazette [on-line version] opens fine in Acrobat Reader 5.0.5 for Macintosh and in the Apple Safari browser's PDF reader. Another excellent issue, by the way.

Bob Nyden

Editor:

I was re-reading Vol 5, issue 2 (Apr-Jun 2005) and noticed where I may have made a mistake. I was listed as being in DF-IV. I was actually on the ice in 1960, which I believe was DF-6. I enjoy the Gazette.

Thanks Dave

*Editor's note: It depends. If you were on the ice in Jan through March of 1960 it was DF-60. If you were there during the next season or the last few months of 1960 then it was DF-61. Confusing huh?*

Billy-Ace,

A fine issue, they keep getting better and better. The only thing that was a bit sad to see was the two pages of obituaries.

Excellent coverage of the events in Biloxi and elsewhere, and Dave Bresnahan's fateful 1967 Nodwell accident. When did you get those quotes from him?

I'm sharing the Gazette with the folks down here.

Bill [Spindler]

*Editor's Note: Bill is currently wintering at South Pole and by the time this issue of the Gazette is out he may be in CHCH enjoying the sun and having fun. Oh, Bresnahan made his comments in an email message to me before the Oxnard reunion, and he did show a photo of the Nodwell in question during his Oxnard presentation.*

Hi, Billy-Ace!

Just downloaded the Gazette and scanned it while it was printing. I am continually impressed with your accomplishments particularly with this newsletter! Each one is very professional, and each one exceeds the one before it.

We're looking forward to lots of emails and phone calls for the mugs and tumblers with the OAEA patch imbedded. We've secured numerous boxes from the post office and we're ready to start packing and sending. I do still have the initial listing of those who'd indicated their interest in our original "straw vote" prior to having the mugs and tumblers made. The choices of those who'd responded may have changed, so we'd appreciate hearing from those interested

parties as well as those who're responding for the first time.

Sam [Dryfoose], CO's TT

*Editor's Note: Sam is Buz Dryfoose's wife and she is known as the Typing Turtle (TT) on the OAEs-and-FNGs OneList of which Buz is the CO. Hopefully mugs and tumblers have been ordered by everyone by now, but I know that there are still a few left, so don't delay. Ordering information is contained on page 7 in this issue of the Gazette.*

Billy-Ace,

Another good Gazette, for which many thanks.

On page 17 you evidently paraphrased me without reading my email of 02 May. It is a far too insignificant misprint to warrant correcting, so don't!

But for your info, the last toast at the Antarctic Club dinner is "To those who have voyaged to explore the Antarctic regions and have not returned." We stick to those exact words.

Charles [Swithinbank]

*Editor's Note: OK, I won't correct it.*

Hi Billy-Ace

. . . I just downloaded the Explorer's Gazette and read it from page to page. Very nice job . . .

Donald E. Cushing

Billy-Ace:

I got my latest edition of the Gazette today and have already read it from cover to cover. I have never had an edition that didn't bring back memories of my time on the ice. It is always good to see names of folks who I served with.

It was good to see Gus Hyatt's name listed under the new members list. I worked for Chief Hyatt in 1970. He was a great person for which to work.

Tell me more about the Antarctic Deep Freeze Association (ADFA). That sounds like an organization on the par with the OAEA. Am I correct?

Thanks for keeping the memories alive and for keeping us informed. Keep up the good work.

Dale [Cockrill]

*Editor's Note: Thanks for the kind word. For info about the ADFA contact Dick Bowers at [rbowersindy@comcast.net](mailto:rbowersindy@comcast.net) or visit the ADFA web page at <http://www.oaedks.net/adfa.html>*







## OAEA MERCHANDISE

**Tervis Mugs & Tumblers** with imbedded OAEA embroidered cloth patch. The mug is 4 ¾ 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 orders send an email to Buz Dryfoose at: [BUZSAM@aol.com](mailto:BUZSAM@aol.com). Profits from the sale of these items will be put back into the OAEA Merchandise fund or will go back into the OAEA general funds.

**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*

**Anti-icing** — The prevention of ice accumulation on aircraft and other objects. Spanish equivalent: *Anticongeleacion*.

**Flaw Lead** — A navigable passage between pack ice and fast ice. French equivalent: *Chenal intermediaire entre la glace fixee et le pack*.

**Hostile Ice** — From the point of view of a submariner, an ice canopy containing no large ice skylights or other features, which permit a submarine to surface. Icelandic equivalent: *Vondur is*.

**Shuga** — An accumulation of spongy white ice lumps. Spanish equivalent: *Grumo*.

## Gulf Coast Group Member Featured In NAS Pensacola Gosport

*by Billy-Ace Baker*

**PENSACOLA—GEORGE GRIFFIN WAS FEATURED IN THE** Viewpoint Column of the 9 September 2005 issue of the Pensacola Naval Air Station newspaper, the *Gosport*. George served on the USCGC *Northwind* during Deep Freeze IV as a member of the Navy helicopter squadron HU-1, Detachment 31. A *Gosport* staff journalist asked George and four other people what they thought the long-term effects of Hurricane Katrina would be. George's response was: "I'm more concerned about Hurricane Ivan. We haven't gotten over that one yet — Stop blaming everyone else over Katrina."

George was previously featured in the *Explorer's Gazette* when he was the guest speaker at the 5 March 2004 Gulf Coast OAEA meeting at Seville Quarter (See Volume 4, Issue 2, Spring 3005).

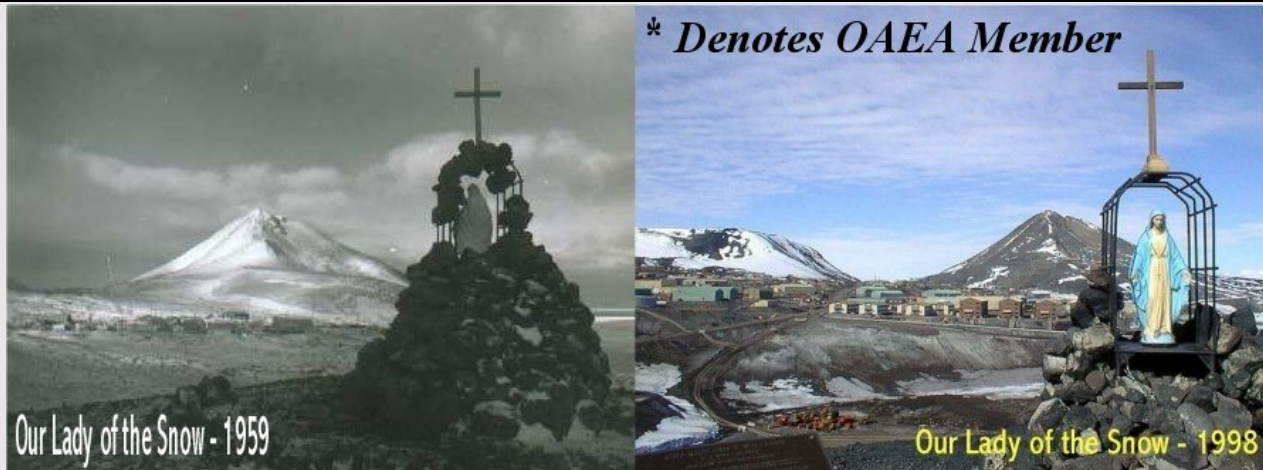
George, who is originally from Texas, joined the Navy in 1955 and spent 22 years, 6 months and 15 days in the service. According to George the extra 15 days was so that he could get another paycheck. During his career George had four tours of shore duty—all of them were in Pensacola.

During his first tour, over 49 years ago, he met and married Dorothy, a native Pensacola girl. On one of his tours they purchased a home here and since his retirement, nearly 30 years ago, George and Dorothy have lived in Pensacola. They have three sons and three grand children.

For recreation, when not attending OAEA meetings, George likes to fish while Dorothy tends to their riverbank campsite.



*George Griffin,  
USN Retired*



\* *Denotes OAEA Member*

Our Lady of the Snow - 1959

Our Lady of the Snow - 1998

## IN MEMORY

OAE [Charles E. Purcell](#), 79, died on 5 September 2005, at a hospital in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Charles served on the USS *Mount Olympus* during Operation Highjump.

OAE Billy Lee Heid, Capt, USN (Ret), 68, died on 31 August 2005, in Grafton, Virginia. Billy wintered over at McMurdo as an AT2 with VX-6 during DF-III.

\*OAE Buddie Eugene Berryhill, 68, died on 22 June 2005, at his home in Gladwin, Michigan. Buddie wintered over at South Pole Station as an ET1 During DF-70.

OAE [Harlan W. \(Colonel\) Johnson](#), 77, died on 12 August 2005, in Sun Lakes, Arizona. Harlan wintered-over at PM-3A as a member of Crew I during DF-62.

OAE [Charles Jacobson Reuther](#), 81, died on 14 August 2005, in Lewisville, Texas. Charles served in Antarctica during DF-64 as a helicopter tech-rep. Reuther Nunataks in the Heritage Range was named in his honor.

OAE [John Michael Milliron Jr.](#), 67, died on 28 July 2005, at his home in Tempe Arizona. John was an ETC on the USS *Burton Island* during DF-66.

OAE [Nicholas Vartzikos](#), 73, died on 4 August 2005, in Washington, DC. Nick worked for the National Science Foundation and made several trips to Antarctica.

OAE Gordon "Tiny" Tyler died on 25 July 2005, at his home in Quitman, Arkansas. Tiny served with MCB-Special and wintered-over at McMurdo during DF-I as an AD-3. He was also a member of the construction team that built South Pole Station. Tiny was a member of the ADFA.

OAE Benjamin Ray Lund, 29, was killed on 15 July 2005, in a motorcycle accident in Mayport Florida. As a PR3 Ben served in VXE-6 from 1995–99. At the time of his death Ben was stationed aboard the USS *John F. Kennedy*.

OAE George A. Hall, 81, died on 6 April 2005, at Providence, Alaska Medical Center. George was a founding member of the American Society of Polar Philatelists.

OAE Peter Wilkness, 70, died on 10 June 2005, in Anchorage, Alaska. Peter served in various positions with the NSF Division of Polar Programs from 1984–93. Wilkness Mountains in Victoria Land are named in his honor.

OAE Gwion "Taff" Davies, 87, died on 22 June 2005, in the United Kingdom. Taff wintered-over with Operation Tabarin at Port Lockroy 1943–45, and Hope Bay 1944–45. Davies Dome on James Ross Island is named in his honor.

OAE Samuel Lee Gravely, Jr., VADM, 82, died on 22 October 2004, at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. Admiral Gravely visited Antarctica during DF-77 on an inspection tour when he was serving as COMTHIRDFLT.

OAE Douglas Malcolm Johnston, 76, died on 22 April 2005, in Australia. Douglas wintered-over at Mawson Station with the ANARE Program during 1956–58. Mount Johnston in the Prince Charles Range is named in his honor.

OAE Ernest L. Hedgepeth, LCDR, died on October 2004, in New Zealand. Ernest served in VXE-6 during DF-71.



## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Cecil D. Harper—OAEA Chaplain

**H**URRICANES KATRINA and Rita have come and gone, but their scars remain. Lives were lost, property damaged, homes and neighborhoods destroyed, families separated, and livelihoods taken away possibly



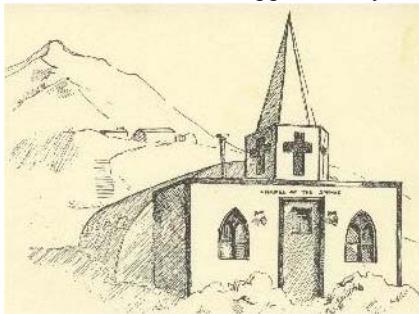
forever. But during the storms and afterward, the strength of good people everywhere and their concern for their fellow man shone through the darkest hours like the rays of the sun breaking through a dark cloud.

In John 15:12 we find these words, "This is my command: you are to love one another as I have loved you."

To be summoned before the boss to present a program is called a command performance. To be summoned to the White House is the equivalent to a command. Military personnel are summoned to serve their country anywhere they may be sent. They dare not disobey.

Christ issued only one command, but within it is the whole redeeming strategy of Christian service. He told us simply to "love one another as He has loved us." This is the heart of Christianity. Someone has defined Christianity as "unlimited love in ordinary relations."

How did He love us? It was a love that transcended race, social position, cleverness, or even our moral standard, or lack of it. It was a love that took everyone in, good and bad alike. There were no distinctions. He gave His life for each of us. Like all genuine love it was encouraging and not critical. He made His appeal always to the best in everybody. That love continues today; the appeal continues to each of us.



The storms have come and gone; yet another may be on its way. And again the American people will respond should such an event occur. Why? Because in the midst of conflict and confusion and danger and even chaos, when we are overwhelmed with a sense of futility and loneliness, God speaks above the noise of strife, "You are to love one another." Easy to obey? No, most difficult. Obeying commands is not easy, but obedience has its reward. The best is yet to come!!

Godspeed.

*Cecil D. Harper*

## OAEA Rhode Island Reunion Hotel Reservations

by Marty Diller

The reservation window is now open for members and guests who plan to attend the 2006 OAEA National Symposium/Reunion in Warwick, RI. The Crowne Plaza Hotel at the Crossings has been contracted for this 3-day event—Thursday, 17 August 2006 through Saturday, 19 August 2006—and the hotel's on-site Meeting and Banquet facilities will be the venue for OAEA meetings and social events.

The Crowne Plaza's nearby property, the Holiday Inn Express Hotel, is also under contract for this event, and complimentary transportation is provided for members and guests staying there.

Come early and stay late! The contracted rate is available to members and guests if they come early or stay beyond the Symposium dates, subject to availability.

Complimentary shuttle van transportation for either hotel is also provided to/from Providence's nearby T.F. Green (PVD) airport, which is served by many major airlines. (Visit: <http://www.pvdairport.com/>)

### To make your 2006 OAEA Symposium/Reunion reservations:

1) The "code" to use when calling to make a reservation is 'OAE'.—It's best to call the Warwick Crowne Plaza directly at (401) 732 6000.

—2nd best is to call the national Crowne Plaza reservations center at (800) 227-6963 (800-2CROWNE), but be sure to say "OAE in Warwick, RI".

**NOTE:** You may reserve either a Crowne Plaza Hotel or Holiday Inn Express guest room at the contracted rate by calling the Crowne Plaza number above.

2) Room deposit: two weeks out (approximately 3 August 2006), your personal credit card will be charged for one night's stay, unless you cancel before then.

### Contracted OAEA room rate:

- Crowne Plaza: \$109.00/night (not including applicable taxes)
- Holiday Inn Express: \$99.00/night (not including applicable taxes)

Watch your mail for the official 2006 OAEA National Symposium/Reunion Registration Packet that is currently under development and will be mailed in the coming weeks.

### Questions?

Contact Marty Diller at [mgdiller@blazenetme.net](mailto:mgdiller@blazenetme.net), or call (207) 729-0197



## OAE Honored for Scholarship Donations

### Retired Navy Chief Continues to Show his Love for Antarctica

**by Art Giberson:** *Pensacola News Journal* Correspondent. Originally published on 18 August 2005 in the *Pensacola News Journal* and republished here with permission from the author.

The Pensacola Bay area is home to numerous unique and colorful individuals. Among them is Billy-Ace Penguin Baker.

A retired Navy chief petty officer, Baker has the distinction of being one of a few Navy personnel to "winter-over" four times at McMurdo Station in Antarctica as part of an Antarctica exploration project called Operation Deep Freeze. His involvement with the Navy Antarctic Program started in 1962.

"I was a radioman, and there was a shortage of communicators volunteering for Deep Freeze, so I was drafted" Baker said. "It turned out to be a thrilling experience, so I volunteered to return for a second wintering over. After that it sort of became a way of life."



**Jim O'Connell**

Billy-Ace, a founding member of the Old Antarctic Explorers Association, was cited recently for his personal contributions to the OAEA scholarship fund and as a representative of the organization's Communicator Group. (See *Explorer's Gazette*, Volume 5, Issue 3, Jul-Sep 2005, page 12)

During the organization's monthly meeting last week, Baker was awarded two Silver Adelle Awards by national secretary/treasurer James O'Connell. The awards, OAEA member Chuck Minerman said, are presented to individuals or groups who have donated \$1000 or more to the OAEA Education and Scholarship Fund.

Baker said his interest in the history of Antarctica grew during his more than 14 years with the Navy Antarctic Program, and he has been collecting books, films, penguin stamps and other information about the region ever since.

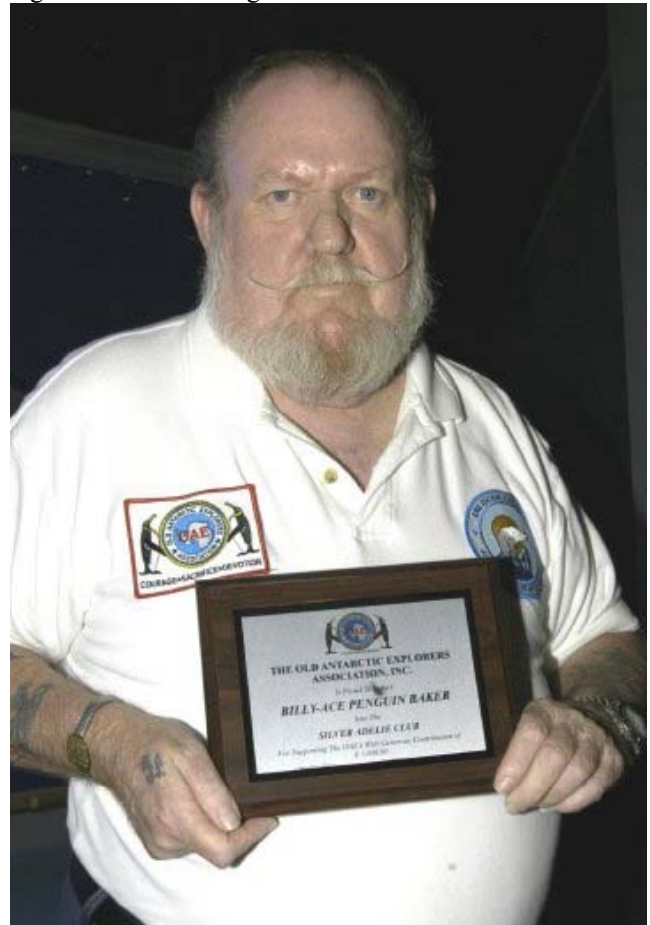
To reflect his deep love of Antarctica and its wildlife, Baker had his name legally changed in 1966 to Billy-Ace Penguin Baker and proclaimed himself "Director of Penguin Affairs."

"The idea behind the name change was intended to show respect for Swiss photographer, Bruno Zehnder, who had changed his name to Penguin," the 68-year-old Pensacolian said. "Bruno was killed while photographing a penguin rookery in Antarctica. This was a man whom I

admired greatly, so as a tribute to him, I had my middle name changed to Penguin."

The Pensacola OAEA Chapter, O'Connell said, is one of the organization's most active chapters, thanks in large part to Baker and the educational foundation he was instrumental in establishing.

"The purpose of the foundation is to educate the public about the history and current Antarctic scientific research, and the role our members played in that research," O'Connell said. "We also grant scholarships to qualified high school and undergraduate students."



**Billy-Ace Penguin Baker was awarded two Old Antarctic Explorers Association Silver Adelle Awards in appreciation of his personal support for the OAEA Scholarship Fund**

### Want to know more?

To find out more about the Old Antarctic Explorers Association scholarship fund go to the OAEA web site and click on the Educational Foundation link on the sidebar on the left side of the main page.

<http://www.oaea.net/OAEAEducational.html>

## Tidewater Group Meeting

By Ed Hamblin

On Saturday, 10 September a few Tidewater area OAEs got together for a couple of hours of socializing. Those who showed up included Charlie Swinney, John Strider, Jake Bengel, Marty Nemcosky, Neil Sugermeyer, Homar Hall, Ed Hamblin, and a new face to our gatherings, Steve Kauffman. As always, a lot of stories were shared.

Steve Kauffman was on the Task Force Commander's staff (1963-1966) as the staff CEC officer, and with his Apple Notebook, shared a number of pictures from that era. He came so well-equipped that he had a slide show presentation for those interested, and also cut CDs right on the spot for those who wanted copies. He also shared stories of those years, including his work during the set up phases of Plateau Station.

*Editor's Note: Mount Kauffman, a prominent mountain in Marie Byrd Land, was named for Steve for his role in supervising the planning and building of Plateau Station.*



Steve Kauffman and Marty Nemcosky

Homar Hall shared the Flag of Heroes he obtained for Patriot's Day (to commemorate 9/11) and it is shown in the group shot below.

The flag has the names of all those who perished that day. If anyone is interested in obtaining one of these, here is the link to the site: <http://www.biellc.org/sendpage.html>.



Standing (L to R): Steve Kauffman, John Strider, Charlie Swinney, and Jake Bengel. Seated (L to R): Neil Sugermeyer, Marty Nemcosky, Homar Hall, and Ed Hamblin (Note: Homar's Tervis Tumbler)

The next Tidewater area OAEA social "outing" is scheduled for Saturday, 3 December at the House of Eggs Restaurant on Military Highway in Norfolk. See you there.



## OAEA Donor Penguin Awards

Submitted by Jim O'Connell

**S**INCE THE AWARD LEVELS WERE last updated (Jul-Sep 2005 *Gazette*) six individuals have joined the Blue Adelle Club. Three of the six individuals advanced to the Bronze Adelle Club with their initial donation. 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

\*DeLeon, Emilio  
 Dostal, W (Dusty) A.  
 DuBeau, Earl  
 Eubanks, Paul  
 Hall, Richard M.  
 \*Henley, Elizabeth  
 Henley, Joseph  
 Hilt, John W.  
 \*Hutchinson-Sabbatini, Kristan  
 Morris, Marion  
 Moulder, Evelyn  
 Munson, Evelyn  
 OAEA Gulf Coast Group  
 \*O'Neal, Jerry  
 Owler, Robert  
 \*Spaulding, Richard  
 VX/VXE-6 Para-Rescue Team  
 Werner, Alexander  
 Wick Jr. Howard J.  
 \*Whitehead, Eugene

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

**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](mailto:upizauf@aol.com) for publication in the Gazette

**All Seabee Reunion:** Gulfport, MS 29 September–1 October 2005. Contact George Clifton, 626 280 9495, [mccb@earthlink.net](mailto:mccb@earthlink.net). (cancelled due to Hurricane Katrina)

**Byrd Polar Research Center Colloquy:** Columbus, OH, 26–28 October 2005. Contact Lynn Everett, 614 292 9909 or [everett.2@osu.edu](mailto:everett.2@osu.edu).

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

**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](mailto:riggerray@juno.com).

**Icebreaker Muster (USCG & USN):** Laughlin, NV, 30 April through 5 May 2006. Contact Louie LeRiccia, email: [icebreakermuster@cox.net](mailto:icebreakermuster@cox.net) or the web site at <http://www.icebreakermuster.com>.

**OAEA 3<sup>rd</sup> Symposium/Reunion:** Warwick, RI, 17–19 August 2006. See details on page 9 of this issue.

### Recently Held Reunions

**USS Pine Island (AV-12):** Charleston, SC, 6–8 October 2005. The USS Pine Island served during Highjump.

**USS Wilhoite (DE-397):** Boise, ID, 6–10 October 2005. The USS Wilhoite served during DF-61.

**NMCB-1:** Virginia Beach, VA, 7–9 October 2005. MCB-1 served during DF-II and 62.

**USS Wyandot (AKA-92):** San Antonio, TX, 17–21 September 2005. USS Wyandot served during Deep Freeze I through IV, and DF-64 through DF-72.



### NEW OAEA MEMBERS

The below listed personnel have joined the OAEA since the Jul-Sep 2005 issue of the Gazette

\*Denotes Associate member

Baker, Tracey, Civ	Life*	Daughter-in-law
Barnard, Richard, RM3	Life	ASA WO DF-62
Benlein, Franklin, EOH3	Life	WO Wilkes Sta DF-III
Brier, Allen Capt USN	Life	USCGC Eastwind DF-60
Brush, Gene, EN2, Civ	Life	DF-64, 65, 67, 69, 71
Cady, Donald F., Civ	Life	USARP/H&N DF-70
Cofer-Shabica, Stephen	Life	Civ 69/71
Combs, Darrell RM2	Annual	NSFA DF-75 & 76
DeLeon, Emilio A. EOC	Life	ASA SS DF-IV, 60 & 61
		WO Byrd DF-63
Doherty, William F. SN	Life	USS Pine Island
Duncan, Philip D. AGCS	Life	TF43 1956–59
Garrish, Samuel D.	Life	WO Byrd DF-66
Halsey, Sterline R.	Life*	
Harris, James F., HMCM	Annual	ASA SS 1967-70
Henley, Elizabeth, Civ	Life*	Wife of Joe
Howze, Charles, HM1	Annual	DF-82
Hutchison, Kristan Civ	Life	Antarctic Sun 01-05
Jamroga, John LCDR	Life	NSFA DF-68 & 69
Johnson, Jimmie, SSGT	Annual	USAF, CBU-201 1969
Jones, Robert, QMCS	Life	USS Arneb 1958–61
Konrad, Robert, NC1	Life*	Son-in-law of Billy-Ace
Lawson, H. Scott, Civ	Annual	84/85
LeRoi, Donald J.	Life	DF-83 & 84 NSF DF-05
Lishness, Al, AT1/C	Life	VX-6 DF-I thru 62
Lodge, Joan-Marie	Life*	
MacDowell, Doug AGC	Annual	VX-6 1958–62
McMahon, John, CE1	Life	NSFA WO DF73 & 77
Milardo, Sebastiano	Life	DF-I USS Eastwind
Monette, Robert, ADRC	Annual	VX-6 64-67
Munch, Charles, AN	Life	VX-6 1958-61
Olsson, George. MSCM	Life	CS1 ASA WO DF-70
O'Neal Jerry, AGC	Life	ASA SS 63–72 WO 65
Overlook, Lucille A., Civ	Life	Cruise 1999-2000
Rogers, Albert, ATC	Life	VXE-6 83-86
Simons, Bill SKCS	Life	DF-74 WO South Pole
Sloss, William C, SK2	Life	USS Atka DF 1956-57
Sneddon, "Red" ETC	Commem	WO Byrd DF-67



"Nobody lives at the South Pole, 'cause it's too cold . . . and besides, they'd fall off!"

## OAEA LOCATOR

- Does anyone remember the Kiwi couple or the two Sailors in the photo below? If you have any information contact Michael Milliron, Jr at [okana@cox.net](mailto:okana@cox.net) or 409 N 32nd Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85051.



- Kathryn Hurley is looking for John Howard Sachs who served with Deep Freeze from 1969–71. Kathryn can be contacted at [kahurley@bse.co.nz](mailto:kahurley@bse.co.nz) or Unit 3, 1 Show Place, Addington, Christchurch, New Zealand.
- Gary, Ed, Fred, and Daren are looking for NSF and Holmes and Narver personnel who wintered-over at any of the US Antarctic Stations and the RV *Hero* during 1977 for a possible reunion. They can be contacted at [kcmoo@aol.com](mailto:kcmoo@aol.com).
- Mark Webster is looking for members of the DF-80 McMurdo winter-over crew. Especially OIC Andy Suter and Bob Mulkem who operated the COSRAY site. Email Mark at: [execchef602@aol.com](mailto:execchef602@aol.com).
- EO3 Tom Maxwell who was on the advance party to the South Pole during DF-73 with MCB-71 would like to contact anyone who was in the Dome construction crew. Email Tom at: [tmaxw23456@aol.com](mailto:tmaxw23456@aol.com).
- Dave Dubois is looking for ACC Edward K. Johnston. Ed wintered-over during DF-73 as an AC1. He was last seen at NAS Lemoore, CA in the mid 1980's. Email Dave at: [ddubois8@maine.rr.com](mailto:ddubois8@maine.rr.com).
- Jerry Schleining has volunteered to assume leadership of the Northwest OAEA Group. Anyone living in Oregon, Washington, or Idaho who is interested should contact Jerry at: [csmgjs@verizon.net](mailto:csmgjs@verizon.net), or 503 661 2986.

- **Last call for Geographic Names of the Antarctic Certificates.** There is still nine 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](mailto: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 reunion information in this issue (page 9). The New England Chapter met on 1 October, with 45 attending, but did not submit a press release on time for publication. The New England chapter meets quarterly. For additional information contact Marty Diller at [mgdiller@blazenetme.net](mailto:mgdiller@blazenetme.net) or 207 729 0197.

**Gulf Coast Group**—See articles in this issue (pages 7, 14, and 17) concerning recent activities in the Gulf Coast Group. For further information contact Les Liptak at 850 492 1666 or [lcliptak@hightec.com](mailto:lcliptak@hightec.com) or Billy-Ace Baker at 850 456 3556 or [upizauf@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:ehamblin@cox.net) or 757 405 3362 for more information.

**Midwest Group**—Plans to formalize this group as an OAEA chapter have been held in abeyance due to lack of interest. It is anticipated that the interim officers elected at the Spring Fling in April (*See Explorer's Gazette*, Volume 5, Issue 3) will remain in effect until further notice. For further information Ed Waite can be contacted at 937 233 0613 or [ebw@thewaitegroup.com](mailto:ebw@thewaitegroup.com).



## Gulf Coast Group Happenings

by Billy-Ace Baker

**P**ENSACOLA, 12 AUGUST—As is the custom of the Gulf Coast Group, we skipped the month of July and did not schedule a meeting. In any event, Hurricane Dennis visited us on 10 July. Any meeting in early July probably would have been cancelled. For our 12 August meeting we had 29 members and guests. Dick Spaulding, who lives in Spring Hill, Florida, made an unexpected appearance. Dick is a retired Master Chief Parachute Rigger who spent about 10 years in the Squadron (VX/VXE-6).



Two special, but not totally unexpected, guests were Kent Daniel and his son Adam. Kent is the nephew of AMH1 William Chastain who was one of the five OAEs who were killed in the crash of the P2V Neptune BUNO 140439 on 9 November 1961 at Wilkes Station. See related story on page 16.



**Dick Spaulding**

The video *Welcome to McMurdo* was not shown due to equipment malfunction. The video will be re-scheduled. There being no other entertainment scheduled, everyone watched the proprietor of Kooter's try to fix the malfunction while they exchanged ice stories. Following the aborted video, OAEA National Secretary Jim O'Connell presented two Silver Adelie awards to Billy-Ace Baker. Art Giberson, retired *Gosport* editor and free-lance photojournalist, was on hand to interview Billy-Ace for the *Pensacola News Journal*. A republication of Art's article is on page 10.

Member Pam Landy conducted the 50/50 raffle ticket sales. A total of \$81, that included a \$5 donation from Billy Blackwelder, was collected. Pam asked one of the Kooter waitresses to select one of the tickets and the drawing was won by Billy-Ace who donated his share to the kitty.

During the 50/50 ticket sales, polo shirts and nametags were distributed to members who had ordered the shirts that were embroidered with the Gulf Coast Group logo. Anyone who has not ordered a shirt is encouraged to do so. The price of the shirt also pays for having the nametags manufactured and 10 % of the sales are donated to the OAEA fund.

There being no further business, Les Liptak made several announcements and informed the group that the date for the September meeting would be announced at a later date.

*Editor's Note: Due to a critical gasoline shortage in the Pensacola area following Hurricane Katrina the September Gulf Coast Group meeting was cancelled.*

## Oxnard Symposium/Reunion Cruise Book

**B**y now most OAEA members should be aware that the Oxnard Photo Memory Book has been published. However, there has been a lot of confusion both on the part of the publisher and the reunion attendees. If you received a postcard like the one below and you have not received a copy of the book you should contact Dunning. If you received neither postcard nor book and you think you paid for a book, you should also contact Dunning.

We have a few copies left!

Reunion Photo Memory Book

This will be your last chance to order photos!  
 Return proofs within five days!

Your reunion souvenir memory book is complete and ready to ship. This is your last chance to order. **FIRST COME BASIS.** While supplies last.

Mail payment with this card. Order now \$30.

REUNION SERVICES  
**PO BOX 759**  
**THEODORE, AL**  
**36590-0759**  
**ORDER OVER**  
**PHONE [HAVE**  
**CREDIT CARD**  
**READY]**  
**251-653-7486**

In addition to the address and phone number on the card Dunning may also be contacted at the following email address: [info@dunningcompany.com](mailto:info@dunningcompany.com).

Several Oxnard attendees believed that the cruise book was pre-paid as part of the reunion registration package. However the only way that the book could have been prepaid was by sitting for a photo taken by the Dunning contractor at the reunion and paying for a book at that time.

Many Oxnard attendees did not "sit" for official photos. In order to provide photos of these people, efforts were made to find their photos among those on the one-time cameras left on the tables at the banquet. In addition to the one-time cameras, contractor photographers circulating through the crowd took candid photos; a number of the missing attendees were identified in these photographs. Once the photos were selected and as many missing personnel as possible had been identified, all the photos were sent to Dunning. Even then Dunning did not use all the photos that were sent and they did not give us as many pages as they did for the Pensacola cruise book. As a result not everyone who attended is in the Oxnard book.

The bottom line is that when you attend an OAEA event you should make every effort to sit for any official photo shoot. It will not cost you anything and even if you do not want to purchase a cruise book the other attendees who do purchase a book will have a photographic record of your having been there. Please be considerate of your fellow OAEs.

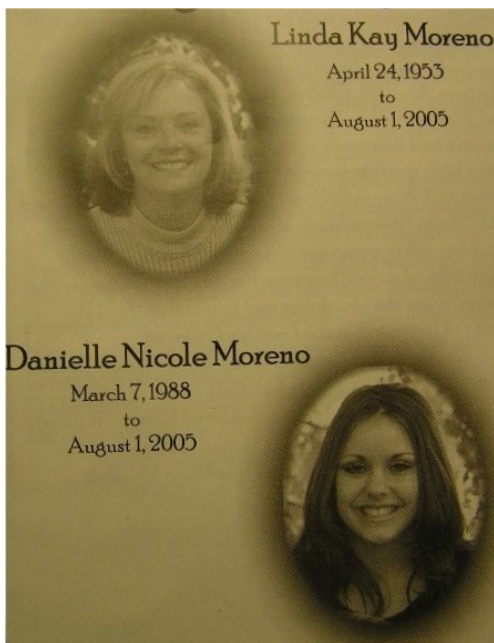


## Celebration of Life for Linda and Danielle Moreno



*by Billy-Ace Penguin Baker*

**O**N 1 AUGUST 2005, WHILE HE WAS AT WORK, SOMEONE broke into the home of OAEA member Lorenzo Moreno in Kennewick, Washington and murdered his wife Linda (53) and daughter Danielle (17).



Lorenzo, who served in VXE-6 from 1971–1973, arrived home to a neighborhood swarming with police and media. After identifying Lorenzo, the police immediately took him into custody. After giving his statement and accounting for his whereabouts he was released. Lorenzo and his sister-in-law subsequently broke down and ended up in a hospital emergency room where they spent most of the evening.

The suspect, who was apprehended on 5 August in Vancouver, Washington fatally shot himself. Two people who were travelling with the suspect have been implicated in the double murder.

OAEA members Phil Bradford from Oroville, California and Karl Sackman from Rathdrum Idaho, traveled from their respective homes to attend the 8 August memorial services and to offer moral support to the family.

A memorial fund has been created to preserve the memories of Linda and Danielle. Any money donated to the fund will go to the following organizations:

- The Tri-City Pregnancy Center
- Family Violence Intervention Program

Linda volunteered many hours at the Pregnancy Center and the Moreno family was enrolled in the intervention program before the tragedy.

More information about the memorial fund may be obtained by contacting the First Baptist Church of Kennewick, 3700 W. 27th Kennewick, Washington 99337, phone: (509) 586-6101.

## Nephew of OAEA Memorial Member Visits Uncles Grave

by Billy-Ace Baker

In addition to attending the Gulf Coast Group OAEA meeting on 12 August (see page 14), Kent Daniel and his son Adam spent the weekend in Pensacola before returning to their home in Gretna, Louisiana where Kent is a school principal. On Saturday, Les Liptak, a volunteer at the Naval Aviation Museum, gave Kent and Adam the grand tour of the Naval Aviation Museum. During the three-hour museum tour Les was able to get a golf-cart and the keys to the flight line and let them climb into a P2V similar to one that Chastain died in. According to Les being able to go inside the P2V answered a lot of questions for Kent who had never been able to understand why some crewmembers survived and others didn't. After the museum tour, they visited Barrancas National Cemetery where William Chastain is buried.



*William Chastain's Grave, Barrancas National Cemetery, Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida*

During Hurricane Katrina, the Kent family evacuated to Texas and stayed with relatives until they were permitted to return to their home in Gretna. Upon returning home they were very grateful and relieved to see that their home had suffered minimal damage from the destructive hurricane. However, Kent's school suffered major damage and many of his students and their families are now homeless. Kent, had planned a return trip to Pensacola in the near future on a field trip with some of his students, or the entire student body, is now holding those plans in abeyance. The Gulf Coast OAEA Group wishes the best for Kent, his family, and his school. We hope to see him back in Pensacola in the not too distant future.

## New Zealand Antarctic Veterans Association Medallie Update

The information in this update has been extracted from Sitreps submitted by Mike "Subs" Subritzky, National President of the New Zealand Antarctic Veterans Association (NZAVA). Antarctic service recognition was last reported in Volume 3, Issue 2, Spring 2003. — Editor

In January 2005, Mike advised that the submission to recognize service in Antarctica by New Zealand OAEs has been endorsed by the Royal New Zealand Returned Services Association (RNZRSA) Medallie Committee, and gone forward with the Committee's recommendation to the Government.



In early May Mike further advised that the New Zealand Military have distanced itself from any Antarctic award, and that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has picked up the matter for resolution.

It should be noted that New Zealand Army personnel who serve with the United States Antarctic Program are awarded the Antarctic Service Medal. In the past the NZ Defense Force has steadfastly maintained that service in Antarctica did not meet the criteria for recognition by the award of a medal. In addition the New Zealand Government would not recognize that service in Antarctica on the grounds that such service has (already) been recognized by another government (the USA).

Taking a new tact, the NZAVA looked at the criteria for the relatively new New Zealand Special Service Medal. Basically the criteria states that the medal will recognize service to NZ in very difficult, adverse, extreme, or hazardous circumstances. The NZAVA decided that service in Antarctica fulfilled those criteria. At that point the NZAVA approached the RNZRSA for support and the request was accepted.

At the RNZRSA national symposium in July, Robin Klitscher, a retired senior Air Force officer and Chairman of the Medallie Committee, spoke on three distinct and long-standing medallie grievances, which included Antarctic Service recognition. The Medallie Committee is in full support of a medal to recognize service south of 60° South. Such recognition to be for all Kiwis who served the NZ Government in Antarctica and not just service personnel.

In closing, it appears that within the next year the announcement of the awarding of the New Zealand Special Service Medal with the "Antarctic Ribbon" will be made.

*Editor's Note: Membership in the NZAVA is open to all Kiwi's who served the New Zealand Government south of 60° South. Associate membership is open to all Americans who served the US Government during Operations Highjump and Deep Freeze. Contact Mike Subritzky at [kusza@xtra.co.nz](mailto:kusza@xtra.co.nz) for more information.*



## USCGC *Eastwind* Association

*Submitted by LeRoy Grant*

The USCGC *Eastwind* (WAGB 279) participated in DF-I (1955-56) and then was absent from the southern hemisphere for a few years. Returning in DF-60 the Coast Guard icebreaker made eight more Deep Freeze deployments ending with DF-67. —Editor

The sixth reunion of the *Eastwind* association was held at the Best Western, Merry Manor Inn in South Portland, Maine, Friday, 10 through Sunday 12 June 2005. All of the *Eastwind* reunions have been great, but this was the best ever. A total of 184 *Eastwind* shipmates and their guests attended the reunion.



**USCGC *Eastwind* with Mt Erebus in background**

The reunion committee had originally asked for 50 rooms, but we ended up with 99 registered shipmates needing an additional 50 rooms. When the registration cut-off date arrived, we had to turn some shipmates away because the barn was full.

On Friday 146 guests attended the lobster bake and on Saturday 172 showed up for the banquet. The smallest turnout of the 3-day event was the lunch buffet on Sunday with 111 attendees.

Fifty OAEA membership applications and 50 OAEA History Sheets were received from the OAEA Membership Chairman. This gesture from a member of our Sister Service was greatly appreciated. Due to the unexpected interest in our reunion, another 50 applications and history sheets were locally produced and were included in the Shipmate Packets prepared for each attendee. A stack of OAEA membership applications and history sheets were also placed in the Hospitality Suite.

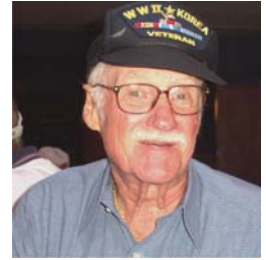
We are already planning for our next reunion. It will be held in Laughlin, Nevada, 1-5 May 2006. This one will be even more ambitious because the *Eastwind* intends on hosting an All Icebreakers Muster. At least 14 icebreakers will be invited. See <http://www.icebreakermuster.com> for more information.

*Editor's Note: Lee is the Treasurer of the Eastwind Association. Since their reunion four Eastwind OAEs have joined the OAEA. We wish them great success in Laughlin.*

## Gulf Coast Group October Meeting

*by Billy-Ace*

Our 7 October Meeting got underway with our coordinator, Les Liptak, announcing that he plans to step down as coordinator and asked for a volunteer to take the helm. Les, and his wife Cindy, are planning to sell their home and moving away from the Gulf Coast in the near future. The only volunteers were those individuals who wanted to nominate their shipmates who were not present at the meeting.



**Charles Mauck, Sr.**

Twenty members and three guests attend the meeting. The guests included Cindy Liptak, Judy Dickson, and Charles Mauck Senior of Niceville. Charlie's Dad is a veteran of WW-II and Korea. OAEA member Bohumil "Bo" Koloc of Jacksonville made a brief appearance, but could not stay. Bo was in town attending the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of NAVCAD Class 34-55. Bo was the VX-6 Helo King during DF-66 and 67.



Lennie Bourgeois, assisted by Charlie Mauck, was the guest speaker. Lennie put on a dog-and-pony show about his deployments to the ice and his favorite aircraft, LC-130 '319.

Before the meeting officially started, Glen Harris seized the 50/50 tickets and started pressuring people to shell out five bucks for six tickets. Glen collected \$90 and during the intermission in Lennie's presentation Glen got one of the Kooter waitresses to draw a ticket. Bill Fazio was the lucky winner taking home \$45 as his share of the proceeds.

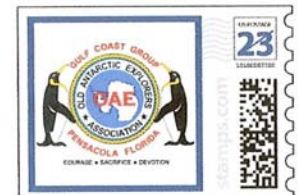
There being no further business, the meeting was only adjourned after Lennie finished his presentation. The date for the next meeting will be announced later.

## Custom Postage Stamps

*by Billy-Ace Penguin*

In late April the Gulf Coast OAEA Group attempted to acquire a Photo Stamp from the companies that were licensed by the USPS to produce these postage labels. The group desired these stamps to affix to the postcards that are sent to members to announce the group meetings. However, both firms rejected our design on the grounds that it constituted an advertisement and was not authorized under the terms of the license.

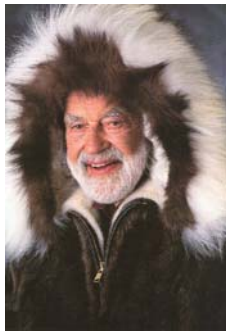
The rejected stamp design (shown here) is similar to one that was produced by Walt Walter for the OAEA Oxnard reunion in January of this year. However, the USPS later changed the rules for the production of such stamps.





## Vaughan 2005 Expedition to Antarctica Put on Hold

Back in March there was a press release about OAEA member Norman Vaughan's plans to climb Mount Vaughan on his 100th birthday. At that time, Norman was bedridden with a full time caretaker looking after him. Nevertheless he was still determined to celebrate his birthday climbing the 10,300-foot mountain that is named in his honor.



**Norman Vaughan 2001**

Norman who was born on 19 December 1905 climbed his mountain once already in 1994 just three days short of his 89th birthday. Now his dream of a second climb of the Antarctic mountain will have to wait. According to the latest media hype, the expedition has been put on hold due to financial problems. However, a close friend of Norman's claims that the trip has been scrapped because of Norman's failing health. Norman has had triple bypass surgery since his 1994 climb

Norman was a dog driver on the first Admiral Byrd Antarctica Expedition in 1928 and has since led a life of adventure. In 1989 Norman participated in the search for the lost P-38 squadron that disappeared in Greenland during WW-II. The first salvage attempt was unsuccessful, but the crew returned in 1992 and recovered one of the P-38s from a depth of over 250 feet. The aircraft was renamed Glacier Girl and has since been fully restored. Norman also entered the 1249-mile Iditarod dog race 13 times. He holds the personal record of completing the race four times out of his 13 attempts. He also holds the distinction of being the oldest and slowest dog musher in Alaska.

Since Norman won't be going to Antarctica this year, he and his wife Carolyn will spend his 100th birthday in Telluride, Colorado. A trip to the North Pole is in the works for April of 2006 with Norman driving a dog team the final few miles. If you doubt his stamina for making such a trip Norman will quote his often-repeated motto: "Dream big and dare to fail."

*Editor's Note: Norman is the last surviving member of the first Byrd Antarctic Expedition. I'm sure that everyone will join me in wishing him a happy 100th birthday with many more to come. Hang in there Norman.*



## OAEs-and-FNGs OneList

*by Billy-Ace Penguin Baker*

The OAEs-and-FNGs email list, AKA the OneList, was started on 03 July 1999. The list was created from a long email header that was created by Paul Panehal for the exchange of messages between a group of OAEs who were mostly VX/E-6 veterans. I thought the list was bulky and unwieldy and relying on my radioman mentality I created a collective address that is still active.

The list was originally hosted by the OneList thus the name, but in a short time after being created it was sold to eGroups and eGroups in turn sold out to Yahoo and Yahoo has been the group host since then.

No one is allowed to become a member of the OneList unless I approve their subscription request. One of the first things I do is determine if the potential subscriber is a member of the OAEA. If they are not then the next step is to ask for their mailing address so I can send them an OAEA information package. After that I approve their subscription request to join the OneList.

The theme of the OneList is *Antarctic Sea Stories and Fairy Tales*. However, after telling and retelling, discussing and cussing all phases of Operations Highjump and Deep Freeze the subject threads have digressed to other subjects—even religion and politics on occasion. The most recent ice thread has been a discussion on the location of the current Annual Sea Ice Runway as opposed to its location in previous seasons.

The OAEA was created as a spin-off from the OneList and the OneList subscribers even voted on the name that was chosen for the OAEA. Granted that was a no-brainer and didn't take much imagination. The date, 30 November 1999, OneList subscribers voted on the name has been recorded as the official birthday of the OAEA.

When the OAEA was formalized, the original OneList subscribers were inducted into the OAEA as charter members. However, when the Steering Committee imposed dues for membership, some of the OneList subscriber did not renew their membership and their names were dropped from the OAEA roster after a period of time.

### Some facts and figure about the OneList:

- The list was originally composed of 99 subscribers. There are currently 315 members.
- 39 messages were posted during July 1999.
- By the end of 1999 the average posting was 1000 messages per month. The highest number of messages posted in one month is 2500.
- Total number of messages posted: 105,450.
- Message archives are available back through September 2002. The web site also has directories for large text files and graphics.
- Two OAEA officers and three OAEA BOD members are OneList subscribers.

The web site for the OAEs-and-FNGs is located at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/OAEs-and-FNGs/>

## Fish poachers' patrol may stay in Antarctic

*Compiled and edited from various sources*

A Royal New Zealand Air Force (RNZAF) team could be stationed at Scott Base each austral summer, as New Zealand gets tough on fish poachers plundering Antarctic waters.

Surveillance of illegal fishing boats in the Southern Ocean and the Ross Sea has been done by long-range *Orion* aircraft flying from Dunedin, NZ since December of 2003. But Antarctica New Zealand operations manager Julian Tangaere told the annual Antarctic conference in Christchurch that an *Orion* crew will fly to the ice runway in McMurdo Sound this season to assess basing themselves there each austral summer.

"They're going to do additional surveillance there to pick up unauthorized fishing," he said.



**P3 Orion**

"They'll use an *Orion* and they want to base it out of McMurdo and not from out of New Zealand, because it gives them a bit longer to patrol." The *Orion* would go to Antarctica in November for a test flight.

Basing the aircraft crew at Scott Base would have some significant implications, said Mr. Tangaere. "It has a crew of 18 and obviously they need somewhere to stay."

The *Orion* could also be used to assist research teams on the ice. "It's also extremely capable in doing search-and-rescue and MEDEVACS," Mr. Tangaere said.

The RNZAF will also assess using a modified Boeing 757 to take people and cargo to and from Antarctica as part of New Zealand's share of the joint logistics pool with the United States and Italian Antarctic programs.

Antarctica New Zealand is facing a shortfall of capacity because the RNZAF's rebuild of its ageing *Hercules* fleet over the next few summers means it can only provide 12 of the 15 flights New Zealand normally contributes.

Mr. Tangaere said the 757 aircraft was faster and could carry more than a *Hercules*. "That's why we're very eager to introduce the 757. It's a very capable aircraft," he said.

The 757 will require several modifications before it can be deployed to the ice, such as the installation of longer-range fuel tanks and a side cargo door. Test flights are

planned for next year and operational missions should begin in 2007.



**Boeing 757**

Toothfish play an important part in the Southern Ocean ecosystem around Antarctica. It grows slowly and to more than six foot long. It can live as long as 50 years and does not breed until it is at least 10 years old. It lives in deep waters (from 300 to 3500 meters down) and is found on seamounts and continental shelves around most sub-Antarctic islands. It is known that it is part of the sperm whale's diet and scientists estimate that it comprises up to 98% of the elephant seal's fish diet.



The rapidly disappearing Patagonian toothfish is worth so much money in the marketplace that the fishing industry calls it "white gold". Toothfish found in Antarctic waters and the southern Indian Ocean can fetch up to \$1,000 each in Japan and the United States and are increasingly sought after by highly organized poachers who ignore international efforts to protect them.

The New Zealand government has been deploying Royal New Zealand Navy vessels to Antarctica for several years in an effort to stop the plunder of one of the last great fishing grounds. This February 1999 photograph shows the New Zealand Anzac class frigate *Te Kaha* on patrol in the Southern Ocean among Antarctic Icebergs while looking for illegal toothfish pirate fishing ships.



**HMNZS Te Kaha**



8 October 2005

I certify that the below report is a true accounting of financial transactions conducted by the Old Antarctic Explorers Association, Inc during FY 2005 (1 Oct 04 to 30 Sep 05) and financial and membership status as of September 30, 2005.

*James H. O'Connell*

James H. O'Connell  
Secretary/Treasurer

<b>FY 2005 ACCOUNTING STATEMENT</b>			
<b>INCOME</b>		<b>EXPENSE</b>	
<b>Chapter Sales</b>	<b>39.98</b>	<b>Administrative Costs</b>	<b>2,329.92</b>
<b>Donations</b>	<b>6,253.56</b>	Duplicating	281.69
General Fund	277.00	Office Supplies	971.50
Newsletters	75.00	Postage	1,063.53
Property	185.56	Shipping Charges	13.20
Scholarship Fund	3,760.00	<b>Advertising</b>	<b>900.14</b>
Undesignated	1,956.00	Merchandise	540.00
<b>Dues Payment</b>	<b>8,833.40</b>	Recruiting Packages	186.61
Annual Membership	1,290.00	Recruiting Postage	173.53
Lifetime Membership	7,530.00	<b>Donor Recognition</b>	<b>168.09</b>
Mailing Surcharge	13.40	<b>Equipment Repair</b>	<b>38.00</b>
<b>Entrance Fees</b>	<b>314.00</b>	<b>Internet Security</b>	<b>47.90</b>
<b>Interest Earned</b>	<b>63.60</b>	<b>License</b>	<b>70.00</b>
<b>Merchandise Sales</b>	<b>419.10</b>	<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>18.51</b>
Sale Proceeds	3036.95	<b>Newsletters</b>	<b>1783.93</b>
Consignment Fees	-608.73	Miscellaneous	14.43
Cost of Goods Sold	-2009.18	Postage	420.82
<b>Sales Commissions</b>	<b>21.32</b>	Printing	1348.68
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>15,944.96</b>	<b>Tax Preparation</b>	<b>75.00</b>
		<b>Webpage Expenses</b>	<b>343.40</b>
		<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>5,774.89</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME - EXPENSES FY 2005</b>		<b>GAIN</b>	<b>LOSS</b>
		<b>10,170.07</b>	
<b>FINANCIAL STATUS OF OLD ANTARCTIC EXPLORERS ASSOCIATION, INC. AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 2005</b>			
Beginning Balance 10/1/04		25,646.52	
FY 2005 transactions		+10,170.07	
Ending Balance 9/30/05		35,816.59	
<b>MEMBERSHIP STATUS OF OLD ANTARCTIC EXPLORERS ASSOCIATION, INC. AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 2005</b>			
Membership as of 30 September 2004 -		822	
Membership as of 30 September 2005 -		1031	
Memorial Members	60		
Commemorative Members	8		
Annual Members	121		
Lifetime Members	756		
Deceased Members	41		
Inactive Members	43		
Membership Change		+209	