



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 8, Issue 3

Old Antarctic Explorers Association, Inc

Jul-Sep 2008



John Goode and a colleague collecting specimens in the Transantarctic Mountains.

A Single Boulder May Prove that Antarctica and North America Were Once Connected

Condensed From an NSF Press Release

A lone granite boulder found against all odds high atop a glacier in Antarctica may provide additional key evidence to support a theory that parts of the southernmost continent once were connected to North America hundreds of millions of years ago.

Writing in the 11 July edition of the journal, *Science*, an international team of U.S. and Australian investigators describe their findings, which were made in the Transantarctic Mountains, and their significance to the problem of piecing together what an ancient super continent,

called Rodinia, looked like. The National Science Foundation (NSF) funded the U.S. investigators.

Previous lines of scientific evidence led researchers to theorize that about 600–800 million years ago a portion of Rodinia broke away from what is now the southwestern United States and eventually drifted southward to become eastern Antarctica and Australia.

The team's find, they argue, provides physical evidence that confirms the so-called southwestern United States and East Antarctica (SWEAT) hypothesis.

[See: A Single Boulder on page 4.](#)

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

John Lamont West—OAEA President

TO ALL OAEs—The recent election of officers brought about several changes in the leadership of the Old Antarctic Explorer's Association. The results of the election are provided on page 14 in this edition. I congratulate those elected to serve the OAEA during their terms of office. I also desire to express my appreciation to all the candidates who demonstrated a willingness to accept leadership responsibility. I would also like to take this opportunity to extend a sincere well-done to the Election Committee Chairman Bob Gaboury and his committee members.



The position of OAEA Secretary is still open. Anyone willing to accept the secretarial responsibilities is requested to submit their name to either me or a member of the OAEA Board of Directors.

My congratulations to the OAEA Scholarship Committee and Chairmen Ed Hamblin for their efforts in announcing two recipients for OAEA scholarships for the 2008–2009 school year. (See page 15 for a report from the Scholarship Committee Chairman)

The OAEA Museum Committee Chairman and his committee have been identified and are now developing the guidelines for accepting the OAEA artifacts and striving to identify a suitable location, or locations, for the display of those artifacts.

The 2008 OAEA Reunion in Pensacola is only a few weeks away. The planning for the 2010 OAEA Reunion in San Antonio is underway. Bids for the location of the 2012 OAEA Reunion will be accepted from the floor at the General Membership meeting during the Pensacola reunion.

This will be my final column in the President's Corner. I thank all those who have offered encouragement, suggestions, and support during my tenure as President, Old Antarctic Explorers Association.

I solicit your recommendations and suggestions concerning those areas you perceive as satisfactory 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 to me at 15838 Beaufort Blvd., Selma, TX 78154–3839.

To all those who have lost a loved one, please accept my heartfelt sympathy and my condolences as you pass

through these tough times. My prayers are with you. To those under the weather, I wish you a speedy recovery.

John Lamont West
President



GROWLERS & BERGY BYTES

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

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

Old Antarctic Explorers Association, Inc.

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10819 Berryhill Road
Pensacola, FL 32506 USA
Phone 850 456 3556

And is published four times annually

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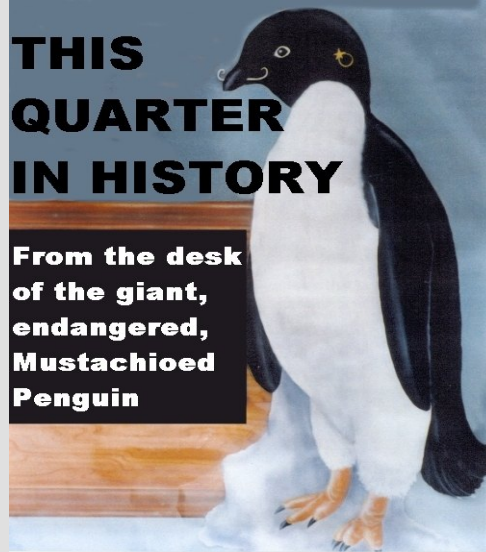
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THIS QUARTER IN HISTORY

From the desk of the giant, endangered, Mustachioed Penguin



July Events

10 Jul 1934 Byrd drinks a glass of grain alcohol hoping for a temporary lift. Instead he was helpless most of the day with severe stomach pains.

23 Jul 1967 The Scott Base Bowling team, The Hackers, win their first game of the season. After 43 games without a win, and during the last game of league play, the Hackers defeated the formidable McMurdo Radio Division Dragon Killers.

August Events

17 Aug 1928 An expedition led by Richard E. Byrd set sail from Hoboken, New Jersey, on its journey to Antarctica.

18 Aug 1838 Six ships of the US Exploring Expedition, led by Lt Charles Wilkes, set sail from Virginia to explore the Pacific. In four years the small fleet would chart 1500 miles of Antarctic coast, as well as 280 Pacific islands, 800 miles of the Oregon coast and the Columbia river.

18 Aug 1965 Byrd Station camp dog Sastrugis, aka "Gus" disappears.

14 Aug 1967 Winter-Over Seabees commence work to re-open Williams Field for August WINFLY.

September Events

28 Sep 1902 Nordenskjold, Sobral, and Jonassen set out to explore Oscar II Coast.

30 Sep 1912 Campbell's party makes a break for Cape Evans.

10 Sep 1957 Hillary leaves Scott Base for a trial run to the Ferrar Glacier.

08 Sep 1965 PM3A scrambled while withdrawing control rods to achieve plant criticality.

12 Sep 1970 Six earthquakes recorded on Deception Island (last one on 19 Sep). No volcanic activity recorded.

A Single Boulder **From page 1**

"This paper says that we have three new lines of evidence that confirm the SWEAT idea," said John Goodge, an NSF-funded researcher with the Department of Geological Sciences at the University of Minnesota-Duluth.

Added Scott Borg, director of the division of Antarctic sciences in NSF's Office of Polar Programs, "this is first-rate work; a fascinating example of scientists at work putting together the pieces of a much larger puzzle. Not only do the authors pull together a diverse array of data to address a long-standing question about the evolution of the Earth's crust during a critical time for biological evolution, but the research shows how the ideas surrounding the

"We were picking up boulders in the moraines that looked interesting," Goodge said. "It was just a hodge-podge of material."

One rock in particular, small enough to heft in one hand, found atop the Nimrod Glacier, was later determined to be a very specific form of granite with a particular type of coarse-grained texture.

Subsequent chemical and isotopic tests conducted in laboratories in the United States, revealed that the boulder had a chemistry "very similar to a unique belt of igneous rocks in North America" that stretches from what is now California eastward through New Mexico to Kansas, Illinois, and eventually through New Brunswick and Newfoundland in Canada.



Transantarctic Mountains

SWEAT hypothesis have developed over time." As a field researcher during the late 1980s and early 1990s, Borg authored papers on the SWEAT hypothesis.

The boulder find was serendipitous when the researchers were picking through rubble carried through the Transantarctic Mountains by ice streams that flow at literally a glacial pace from East Antarctica.

Goodge and his team were searching for rocks that might provide keys to the composition of the underlying continent crust of Antarctica, which in most places is buried under almost two miles of ice.

That belt of rocks is known to have been a part of what is called Laurentia, which was a component of the super continent of Rodinia.

"There is a long, linear belt of these igneous rocks that stretches across Laurentia. But 'bang' it stops, right there at the (western) margin where we knew that something rifted away from what is now the West Coast of the United States," Goodge said.

"It just ends right where that ancient rift margin is," Goodge said. "And these rocks are not found in any other part of the world."

That it should turn up on a glacier high up in the mountains of Antarctica

is strong evidence in support of the SWEAT model that parts of North America continue into part of the frozen continent at the bottom of the Earth.

"There's no other explanation for how it got where we found it," Goodge said. "It was bull-dozed over from that interior region of Antarctica."

The find itself is compelling to geologists, Goodge noted, because little other physical evidences exists to allow them directly to put together the jigsaw puzzle of the long-disappeared Rodinia.

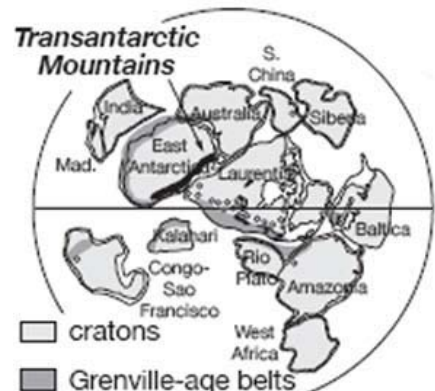
But because the super continent existed at a key time in the development of multi-cellular life on Earth, it also helps provide a geological context in which this massive change took place.

"During the Cambrian explosion about 520 million years ago, we started seeing this huge expansion in the diversity of life forms," Goodge said. "This was also a time when the Earth was undergoing tremendous geologic changes."

He added; "something helped trigger that big radiation in life."

The shifting configuration of the continents, accompanied by collisions between landmasses, erosion, and the influx of chemicals into the seas may well have provided the nutrients to that growing diversity of life forms.

There are ideas developing about these connections between the geotectonic world, on the one hand, and biology on the other. The job of geoscientists in this context is to reconstruct what the world was like at the time.



• ~1.3-1.5 Ga A-type granites

Ancient super continent Rodinia.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Billy-Ace:

Wow! I should have sent you all my material and let you publish. Great job on the *Edisto* Reunion in the Apr-Jun *Gazette*. Thanks. Maybe after sharing this link with other *Edisto* shipmates, we might get some more enrollments in the OAEA.

Glenn Smith
USS *Edisto* Reunion Planner

Billy-Ace:

I could not download The OAEA Florida Certificate for 2008 using the URL in your topica.com notice that the *Gazette* and the Florida Certificate had been posted on the OAEA Web Site. What could have been my problem? See you in November, your friend.

Tom Noel

Editor's Note: The problem was that the URL I provided was incorrect. The certificate can be viewed by clicking on the link on the sidebar on the OAEA Main page. Thanks.

Dear Billy:

While reading your article in the Jan-Mar 2008 *Gazette* about the Cargo Handling Battalion, I was taken aback by the statement "MSC has participated in Operation Deep Freeze every year since McMurdo was established in 1955. After the previous sentences stating that MSC ships supply 100 percent of the fuel and 70 percent of other supplies the reader is led to believe it has always been this way. I remember it differently.

From 1959 to 1962, I served aboard the USS *Arneb* (AKA-56), which supplied the bulk of supplies to McMurdo and Hallett Stations during Deep Freeze V, VI, and VII. All our personnel were US Navy, not civilians, with the Military Sealift Command.

I enjoy your magazine and hope to see you this fall.

SM3 William W. Horn

Editor's Note: I'm glad that you enjoy the Gazette. For your information the use of Roman Numerals to designate the annual support mission to Antarctica ended when the IGY ended, or DF-IV. Your deployments to the ice were DF-60, 61, and 62. I think you took the article out of context. Granted USS cargo ships participated in the resupply of McMurdo for many years, but the story was about the Navy Cargo Handlers and the MSC. Both USNS and USS supply ships participated in DF-I through DF-IV and there were USNS ships in the Task Force during the three seasons that you deployed. FYI Prior to 1970 the MSC was known as the MSTs.

Penguin:

In the last issue of the *Gazette* you mentioned the Punctured Penguin in the 'This Quarter in History' column under 21 May 1967. Didn't you mean the Puckered Penguin or Puckered Pete to be more precise?

Gus Shinn

Editor's Note:

Puckered Pete was the mascot of VX/VXE-6 for many years. While the Punctured Penguin only served briefly as the ASA Det Alfa mascot during the winter of DF-67. The letter from the Det A CO, below is a condensed version of the original that appeared in the 21 May 1967 McMurdo Sometimez



EDITORIAL

The orders we have received came as a shock. They were more than disappointing—they were in direct contradiction to anything we had been led to believe.

I have taken every step I know to take to have these orders changed. Undoubtedly, some will be (some already have been), and with equal surety some won't be.

When the "Punctured Penguin" appeared on the scene, we loved him because he symbolized what we felt had been done to us. I have enjoyed him as much as anyone else. It's been good to vent our disappointment and anger through our cartoon character.

I don't want to have the "Punctured Penguin" as my personal self-image. As a joke it's fine, but when it comes to real life, I will visualize myself as a man dedicated to my country and committed to proper military subordination. I will oppose my superiors for the sake of my men and my mission, but when the final answer comes down the line I will carry it out with all my energy—as a man ought.

I think that, when the chips are down, not one of us wants to be a victim of self-pity. In fact, I don't want anyone's pity. If I must suffer circumstances that seem unfair, then I'm going to do it with my mouth shut and thrive on it.

I'm convinced that the "Punctured Penguin" costume was designed to be hung on the wall—not to be worn.

Billy Ace:

Thank you for the Jan-Mar *Explorer's Gazette*. On page 19, list of new OAE members, my name, Dr. William M. Smith, is not listed. Someone missed it. Would appreciate it if it could be listed.

Bill Smith

Editor's Note: Not only was Bill Smith's name missing, but so was four other names that were on the same New Member report that is sent to me by the OAEA Secretary. Those new members are in the NEW MEMBER column in this issue and are in bold. Thanks.

Billy-Ace:

Enclosed is a little toward the cost of your 4.0 newsletter.

The grave marker picture (Jan-Mar 2008 *Gazette*) from Arlington brought back many unpleasant memories for me, as I was the Senior Chief Storekeeper responsible for preparing the Transportation Control Documents for our Ice Brothers. Seven, in two weeks, was seven too many.

Again, you are to be commended highly for your Newsletter.

Yours in Ice Memories.

Clair "Ed" Cunningham

Editor's Note: Ed's \$50 donation for Gazette expenses is greatly appreciated. The FY2008 money budgeted for printing and mailing four issues of the Gazette was depleted after the third issue. In order to print and mail the Apr-Jun 2008 issue of the Gazette I had to submit a proposal to the OAEA BOD for an emergency budget override of \$700. My proposal was approved, but funding for the FY2009 OAEA Budget is going to be even more austere. Reform in the mailing and printing of the Gazette is anticipated.

Billy-Ace:

Here is that check, we discussed earlier, to help defray the printing and postage for my "snail mail" *Gazette*. Keep up the great work. See you in November.

Gene Van Reeth

Editor's Note: In my discussion with Captain Van Reeth, I reiterated the funding problems with the Gazette and he indicated that no matter what the BOD decides, he prefers to receive his copy of the Gazette by "snail mail."

Billy-Ace:

Hi, from Kentucky! Just wanted to tell you how much I truly enjoy reading the OAEA Newsletter! Keep up the great work.

I won't be able to attend the November reunion. I will try to make the next National OAEA Meeting, as I want to meet everyone. God bless to all!

Charlotte "Ferrara" Dieckhoff

Editor:

With the passing of Sue Bell we lost a good friend. She was truly a "legend in her own time". Even though she never actually made it to McMurdo (she came close once), there is no doubt she was as much a part of Operation Deep Freeze as any of us who were.

Anyone spending any time in the club at Harewood in the 60s knew her; she could have been the inspiration for that old song *If you knew Suzie like I knew Suzie...* She will be missed.

Ken (John) Henry, WO 63 & 67

Editor's Note: Sue Bell was a Regular Member of the OAEA, which means that on her OAEA Membership Application, she indicated that she had been to the ice. I heard that VXE-6 manifested her and that she was briefly at Willy Field and went back to Christchurch on the same day. May she rest in peace.



CDR J. B. Dana and Sue Bell

Hi Billy-Ace,

My web page is finally in place displaying the original NAS Quonset Point wing design from 1941. I added VX-6 to the design to commemorate this special naval squadron that I was privileged to serve in for three years 1958-1961. I am looking forward to November in Pensacola where I can display my 45-year passion of collecting VX-6 memorabilia and making available this collectible wing for all to own.

Those interested in seeing a nice piece of Naval history please view this offering at www.nostalgia studios.com. Thanks again.

Charlie Munch

Oh Great Ali-Ben:

I just read the Apr-Jun Gazette. I can't believe you printed that email I sent you about the resupply ship docked where we used to dump our trash. Geeze. I print every issue. Pam reads them too. School starts on the 25th and I intend to take a copy with me to show my class. Last year I showed the DF-63 "cruise book" to my 5th grade students.

Where did you get the hat (at the bottom of the last page? I want one.

Guhor Wick

Editor's Note: The OAEA Merchandise Chairman purchased a small quantity of ASA and NSFA ball caps to sell at the 2008 OAEA reunion. If there is sufficient interest in these ball caps I'm sure the Merchandise Chairman, Buz Dryfoose, could be persuaded to re-stock the supply after the reunion.

Hi Billy-Ace,

Thanks for the latest great reading. It looks as if the artist's rendering of USS Edisto on page 1 might owe something to my photo of USS Atka at McMurdo on 13 March 1960 (see below).

I note my two entries in 'This Quarter In History'. Fame at last! De-icing fluid was supplied for windshield de-icing on Soviet aircraft. But it was pure ethanol, so the aircrew preferred to fly on instruments and later use the fluid for another purpose.

Charles Swithinbank



Editor's Note: The painting of the USS Edisto on the cover of the Apr-Jun 2008 issue is indeed similar to the photograph of the USS Atka taken by Charles in 1960.

Chief:

I received my OAE newsletter today in Thailand. Only 10 days after it was mailed from Pensacola. Not too shabby. But I'm more than happy if you want to send it out electronically from now on. Thanks.

PH2 Richard L. Horton
VXE-6 1977 to 1980

Editor's Note: Thanks for opting out. Hopefully more Internet-capable members will do the same.

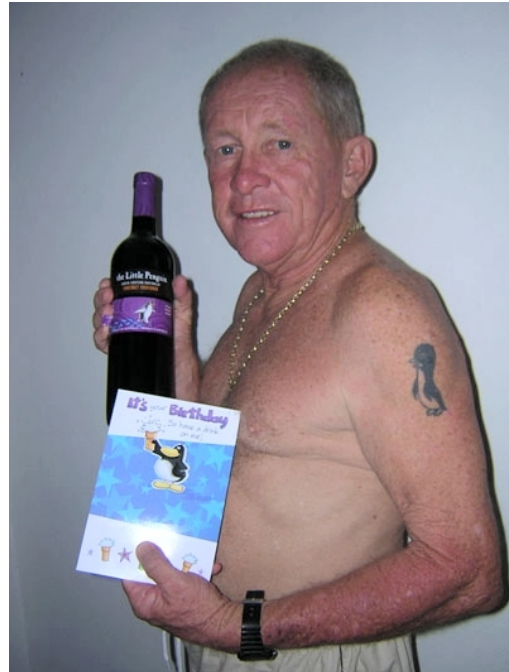
Billy,

I will never forget that New Years Party at the Chiefs Club. (See Letters, page 8, Jan-Mar 2008 issue). Dave Shugart was Father Time. John Rowan the New Year Baby... I was just a celebrant in my hand-made Top Hat.

I remember riding around in the fire truck and the skipper was commenting that we were probably keeping some visiting admiral awake. What a life!

Here is a recent photo of me on my 63rd birthday. Yeah, I know I look different than I did the last time you saw me.

Don Tetley



Editor's Note: Happy birthday Don.

Dear Editor:

Thanks for the notice in the OAE LOCATOR Column (Apr-Jun 2008 Gazette). I was there in DF-IV. Went over shortly after arriving at McMurdo to help Dr Slayton who had wintered over. I visited his hometown several years ago, but he had passed away. I spent time with his son who brought out a lot of his Dad's LA V things and he showed me my address in his Dad's address book. I am sure there must have been photos, but he met us for dinner and only brought a box with a few trinkets and the address book.

Dr. Joel Drabkin can certify to my work as he stayed in McMurdo when I went over to LA-V. He and his wife were at the last two OAEA reunions.

Anyway, I know you will find a way to get this corrected.

Win Hames

Editor's Note: Win is still looking for anyone who can verify that he was at LA V.

New England Chapter Summer Meeting

By Marty Diller,

New England Chapter Secretary-Treasurer

OAEAs New England Chapter (OAEA-NE) returned to historic Sturbridge, Mass., again this year for our summer meeting. Average attendance at summer Chapter meetings since 2004 has been 44 people, and true to form, exactly 44 people, including 35 members, showed up at Rom's Restaurant on 12 July. Rom's again provided great service and food with an all-you-can-eat hot lunch buffet, including dessert and drinks, at a very reasonable price.

Chapter Business

The business meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance—led by Charlie 'CB' Bevilacqua, who keeps the ceremonial US and POW/MIA flags (flown every Christmas Day at South Pole Station) during the austral winter, but dutifully provides them for display at Chapter meetings. Under "Old Business":

- An update on the progress of obtaining OAEA "class rings" was provided by Dave Hazard, who reported that non-gold rings would cost about \$200 each, and a one-time \$500 die charge would need to be factored in. It is hoped that the OAEA National Merchandise Committee will adopt this venture, but to date, only tentative discussions have taken place.
- In the ongoing 2008 Chapter election, nominations of members for the offices of Chapter President, Vice President and Director closed on this date. Outgoing President Dave Hazard assumes the vacant immediate Past President slot. Similarly, VP Fred Santino is not eligible for re-election to the VP post. However,

Director Mike Hall is eligible for another term as Director, or election to the President or VP slots. Election ballots will be sent by mail and voting ends on 23 August. New officers begin their terms in office after the fall Chapter meeting.



Win Hames and Bob Shirk Enjoy the Meeting

Featured Presentation

With no guest speaker on the slate, the afternoon's main entertainment was a 30-minute video produced by Walt Disney in 1960 as part of their 'Peoples and Places' series, titled *Seven Cities of Antarctica*. It was presented while attendees enjoyed their lunch buffet dessert bar, and featured extremely interesting black and white footage of the construction of seven US research stations for the International Geophysical Year 1957-58: Amundsen-Scott, Byrd, Ellsworth, Hallett, Little America V, McMurdo, and



Clockwise around the table starting with John Janke (ballcap): Ron Ochsner, Dick Kopplin (see photo below), and Don Germain and his guest Irene Cowan



RM1 Dick Kopplin, DF-71 Transmitter Site POINC with the assistance of Katsufakis, tune transmitters.

Wilkes (Knox Coast). The video did an excellent job of conveying the serious challenges faced by the military personnel and science teams in building these stations, but was very humorous at times. Other extreme hazards to polar



Win and Janet Hames Raffle Winners

operations—such as crevasses for tractor-train traverses, ice pack hazards to ships, and weather hazards to aircraft—were also addressed in detail. More than once during the show, ex-Seabees in the crowd recognized a coworker or even themselves in the video! Many attendees inquired about obtaining their own copy of this Disney production, and the Chapter intends to contact Disney to see if this title is available today in either video or DVD format.

Fundraising

Limited-edition, color OAEA-logo belt buckles were again the featured fundraising items at the meeting, and OAEA-logo ball caps and polo shirts were also available for sale. The Chapter Board of Directors has voted to donate belt buckle #001 to the 2008 OAEA National Reunion Committee with the intent that it be used to raise funds for the OAEA Scholarship Program. In the last *Gazette*, owners of buckles #002-017 were listed. New owners include:

Marty Diller (018), Buz Dryfoose (019), George Wood (020), Frank Williams (021), Jerry Marty (022), Charlie Swinney (023, 034), George McLaughlin (024), Henry Storm (025), Charlie Thompson (026), Gordon Williams (027), George Parker (028), Al Yoas (029), Bert Chaput (030), Richard Hefley (031), PK Panehal (033), Jim Bain (035-038), Phil Holloway (039), and Herschel Smith (040-042).



Rom's Restaurant day manager with Gary and Karen Newquist

Distribution of the OAEA-logo belt buckles continues on a first-come basis. Remaining belt buckles can be obtained for \$20 plus \$4 shipping and handling. Just go to the 'OAEA-NE Merchandise' link on the OAEA website (www.oaea.net), or contact Dave Hazard directly at: 207-353-9068.

The Chapter still has a quantity of Noel Gillespie's book about VX-/VXE-6, *Courage Sacrifice Devotion*, and is selling copies for \$25.00. A bookplate signed by the author accompanies each book. For the raffle, prizes were either donated by Chapter members or the Chapter.

Raffle winners included: Don Germain (Penguin poster); John Giro (*Flight to South Pole* DVD); Paula Hall (wooden, outdoor penguin welcome sign); Janet Hames (glass penguin paperweight); Hoot Hartman (OAEA-logo Ballcap); John Janke (*Deep Freeze-I* DVD); Bob Epperly (Little Penguin wine, Chardonnay); and Chet Thomas (*New Pole Station Construction* DVD).

Meeting Schedule

The next OAEA-NE Chapter meeting is scheduled for 1:00pm on Saturday, 20 September 2008. Various members are searching for a site in New Hampshire, where the Chapter hasn't held a meeting since March 2004 when the spring meeting was held at the RedHook Ale Brewery in Portsmouth.

New England Chapter Election Results

Congratulations to the newest Chapter Officers:

- **President:** Fred Santino (2-year term) VX-6 DF 65-66
- **Vice President:** Mike Hall (2-year term); VXE-6 DF 70-73.
- **Director:** Nick Pellegrino (4-year term); VXE-6 DF 71-72.
- Outgoing President Dave Hazard assumes the vacant **Immediate Past President** position on the Chapter Board of Directors.

My Journey with Admiral Byrd

By Herschel Smith
 Edited by Tracy Boothman

Editor's Note: With the exception of some changes made to comply with the editorial style of the Explorer's Gazette the text of this article is published as it was submitted by the Author. Unless otherwise noted all illustrations were supplied by the Gazette editorial staff from archived files.

When I was on the farm in Indiana, I never thought for a moment I would be a part of something that would be written in the history of our country, but I was. It started when I enlisted in the Navy when I was seventeen. I had dreamed about joining the Navy and in November 1945, I fulfilled that dream. I took my boot camp training at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station. After boot camp, my orders were to go by troop train to Newport, Rhode Island. Arriving at the Newport Naval Training Station, I was assigned to new construction, which meant I was to be assigned to a new ship. My orders were to report to B division (Engineering) for the new aircraft carrier, USS *Philippine Sea* (CV-47).



Herschel at the 2006 OEAA Reunion



USS Philippine Sea

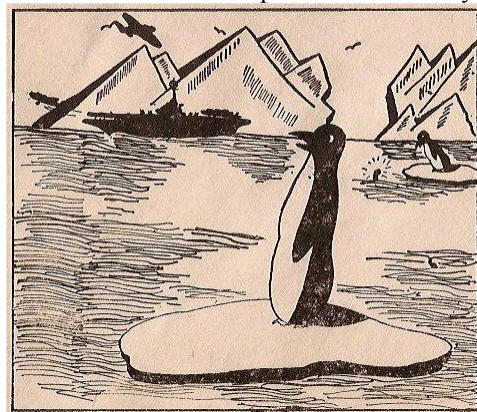
This required new training of course, and the USS *Philippine Sea* Detail was what it was called. My Detail left Newport by troop train in May of 1946 for Boston, Massachusetts. We arrived at the South Boston Navy Yard and went aboard our new home. It was commissioned on 11 May 1946. As soon as our ammunition and supplies were

aboard, and our air group was put to sea, we headed for the Caribbean and the U.S. Naval base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

It was a "shakedown cruise", intended to put the ship through its paces and get all the bugs out. It also gave us a chance to train our gun crews, and our pilots in carrier landings. We were ordered back to Boston Navy Yard in November to make ready for "Admiral Byrd's expedition to the South Pole." The Navy called it Operation Highjump, code name for Task Force 68.



Our part in this operation was to ferry six R4D transport planes within five hundred miles of Little America-III, Admiral Byrd's most recent research station on Antarctica's Ross Ice Shelf. Admiral Byrd wanted these planes for aerial mapping of all the unexplored areas of Antarctica. We also had a number of PBM *Mariner* flying boats with our task force, which would also be used for aerial mapping. Once "ashore" on the ice shelf, the R4Ds were to fly off a landing strip made of steel pierced-plank matting laid over the top of the snow by a crew of 350 naval construction workers (Seabees). We took with us about one hundred tons of supplies and equipment that were needed in Little America. We also were acting as mailmen, taking letters, and packages to the men and the ships that were already there.



Cartoon courtesy of Dave Larson
 Penguin Bewildered by Human Antics

As Officer in Charge, Task Force 68, Admiral Byrd would make the *Philippine Sea* his flagship for the journey south to Antarctica. The task force was made up of many different types of aircraft and ships, including a submarine, the USS *Sennett*, which at one point got stuck in the ice and had to be towed free by the Coast Guard icebreaker *Northwind*. The task force also included the destroyers USS

Brownson and *USS Henderson*. There were twelve ships in all and this mission to Antarctica would be a roundtrip of nineteen thousand miles. On 27 December 1946, we left South Boston Navy Yard and headed south for Norfolk, Virginia.

In Norfolk, we loaded the six R4D transports onto our flight deck and piped aboard Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd and his staff. We also brought aboard a helicopter for iceberg lookout duty and two Stinson Sentinel planes. On 2 January 1947, we shoved off for the first leg of our journey, arriving in Cristobel, Canal Zone on 7 January. There, we got the ship ready to go through the canal, a day's work. On 8 January at 0628 hours, we were underway to transit the canal. We arrived at Balboa, Canal Zone (Pacific side) at 1832 hours.

On 10 January, we left Canal Zone and headed for Antarctic waters. On 12 January, we crossed the Equator, hoisted the Jolly Rogers, and commenced Neptune Rex ceremonies, for all those *Pollywogs* who had not yet crossed the equator. This included me. Afterwards, they called us *Shellbacks*.

On 22 January, we lost our helicopter. On the 23rd, we sighted our first iceberg and we crossed the Antarctic Circle on 24 January. We then commenced unloading supplies, mail and equipment off shore near the new base camp, Little America-IV, which was established by landing parties from the cutter *Northwind* during the previous week. Ice conditions kept the *Philippine Sea* from approaching the ice shelf, so the supplies were offloaded onto smaller ships in the task force and shuttled to the ice shelf. By 26 January, we had stopped offloading, and the destroyer *USS Brownson* came alongside with five survivors from one of the PBM *Mariner* flying boats that had crashed.



Antarctic May Day. Search Aircraft at George I Crash Site

On 28 January, the *Brownson* shoved off for ice patrol. On the 29th at 2015 hours, we started building up speed for launching aircraft. At 2215 hours the first R4D took off, with Admiral Byrd aboard. It was the Antarctic summer, supporting all but two to four hours of darkness each day, so the Admiral decided to take off at 10:15pm when it was still broad daylight. At 2234 hours, the second plane took off,

and then on the 30th we launched the other four planes. All six takeoffs were JATO-assisted, which means that they used rockets to assist them in getting airborne.



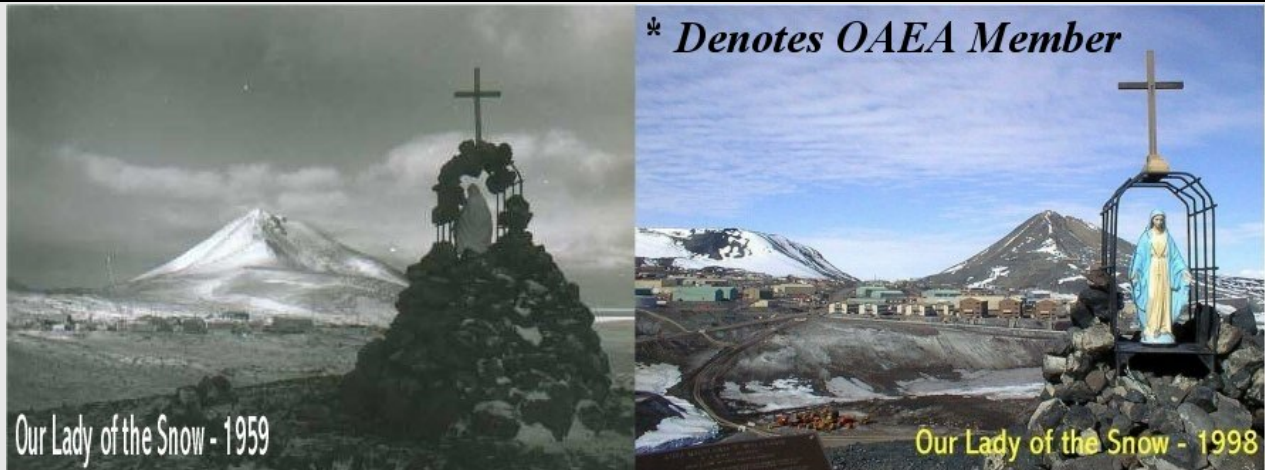
R4D Launched From USS Philippine Sea

With the unloading of equipment, supplies and aircraft complete, we turned around and headed home. We received word that all the planes had landed safely. The trip back was routine and we put in "smokers" (boxing matches) and did a lot of sunbathing, then more training. We moored in Cristobal, C.Z. on 18 February.

On 20 February, we got underway to the Panama Canal which we called the transit canal. By 22 February we were underway for Quonset Point, RI and we moored there safely on 27 February 1947. A boy had dreamed about becoming an adventurer, and this was one dream that I never forgot.



From the Herschel Smith Collection
Herschel Smith 1947



IN MEMORY

OAE [Danny E. Haymes](#), 63, died, on 23 August 2008, in South Bend IN. Danny served on the USS *Atka* during DF-64.

OAE COL Charles A. "Chuck" Thomas, USA (Ret), 85, died on 21 August 2008, in Pensacola, FL. Chuck visited Antarctica as a marathon runner. Date and location unknown.

OAE [Merle Howard Goodrich](#), 58, died on 15 August 2008, in Arthur, IL. Merle served on the USCGC *Glacier* during DF-69 and 70.

OAE [John C. "Jack" Wiessler](#), 85, died on 12 August 2008, in Greenwood, IN. Jack visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Pastor Vince Bouselaire, 53, died on 12 August 2008, while on a climbing expedition on the Matterhorn in the Swiss Alps. Vince visited Antarctica as a member of a mountain climbing expedition. Dates unknown.

*OAE ACC [Edward E. Morgan](#), USN (Ret), 82, died on 11 August 2008, in St. Louis, MO. Ed served as the Leading Chief of the Operations Department at McMurdo during DF-IV. Ed was also a member of the Antarctic Deep Freeze Association.

OAE Don "Box" Boxmeyer, 67, died on 9 August 2008, in St. Paul, MN. Don served in Antarctica while in the Navy during the 1960s. Date(s) and unit unknown.

*OAE Susan Therault, aka Sue Bell, 62, died on 5 August 2008, in Christchurch, New Zealand. Sue visited Antarctica in the 70s as a guest of VXE-6. She was also a member of the OAEA-GCG Chapter.

OAE [James Douglas Geniesse](#), 84, died on 5 August 2008, in Everett, WA. James visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE ACCM James Pruett III, USN (Ret), 67, died on 4 August 2008, in Pace, FL. James served in ASA at McMurdo.

OAE Rolf Bae, 33, died on 2 August 2008, while on a climbing expedition on K2 in the Himalayas. Rolf crossed Antarctica by ski during the 2000–01 summer season in what was at that time the world's longest ski journey, 3800 km long and took 105 days to complete.

OAE Walter LeRoy Milne, 82, died on 1 August 2008, in Santa Rosa, CA. Walter was a Radiation Safety Officer and inspected the NNPU at McMurdo.

OAE [George P. Kern Jr.](#), 69, died on 28 July 2008, in Brentwood, PA. George served on a USN icebreaker as a Gunners Mate. Date(s) and unit unknown.

OAE [Thomas Edwin Taylor](#), 84, died on 17 July 2008, in Las Vegas, NV. Thomas served in Antarctica with the USGS during DF-61 and 63. Taylor Nunatak is named in his honor.

*OAE ASC Allen Paul Richardson, USN (Ret), 74, died on 9 July 2008, in Longview, WA. Allen served in VXE-6 from 1970–1973.

*OAE LCDR Dean D. Abbott, USN (Ret), 86, died on 29 June, in Harrisville, RI. Dean served in VX-6 during DF-61 and 62 as an LC-130 pilot.

OAE [Verna C. Resch](#), 95, died on 25 July 2008, in Topton, WV. Verna visited Antarctica while in her 70s aboard an Australian Navy ship to an Australian research station where she lived in a tent.

OAE LCDR George William. Carter, USN (Ret), 83, died on 24 July 2008, in Fishersville, VA. George was in VX-6 and served as the Williams File Maintenance Control Office during DF-66. Carter Island was named in his honor.

OAE Bob Walton, 86, died on 18 July 2008, in Wellington, NZ. Bob served as a NZ police commissioner on the Air New Zealand Mt Erebus disaster victim identification team in 1979.

OAE Walter "Buck" Campbell Sellers, 70, died on 5 July 2008, in Edmonds, WA. Buck served in Antarctica while in the Navy. Date(s) and unit served with unknown.

OAE Ronald Everett Hillis, 61, died on 3 July 2008, in Glendale, AZ. Ronald served in Antarctica with the Seabees. Date(s) and unit served with unknown.

OAE John Lindsay, 67, died in June 2008, in Houston, TX. John was a geologist in the USARP during DF-67 and he returned to Antarctica in 1972 with NASA to study landforms in connection with the Viking Mars landing.

OAE Albert "Alby" Burton, died on 7 June 2008, in New Zealand. Alby served in Antarctica during the 1976-77 season as a member of the NZ Hut Caretaker program. He was a member of the NZ Antarctic Society.

OAE Jack Sampson, 97, died on 16 May 2008, Santa Cruz, CA. Jack visited Antarctica as a tourist when he was 95.

OAE [Gustavo Hudson Cardemil](#), 80, died on 21 April 2008, in Manta, Ecuador. Gustavo served in Antarctica on a Chilean Navy icebreaker. Date(s) unknown.

OAE [Brooks Conrad](#), 88, died on 3 March 2008, in Winter Haven, FL. Brooks made four trips to Antarctica. He was a member of the Antarctic Society.

OAE [Wallace Beene](#), 83, died on 27 February 2008, in Tucson, AZ. Wallace visited Antarctica as a photo-journalist on the MV *Lindblad Explorer* in 1979.

OAE [Robert "Bob" Hinshaw](#), 76, died on 19 February 2008, in San Diego, CA. Bob visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE [Douglas Gregg Frier](#), 56, died on 22 January 2008, in Destin, FL. Douglas visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE [Sarah Seltzer Frisch](#), 92, died on 13 January 2008, in Elgin, IL. Sarah visited Antarctica on a working trip.

OAE [Irving Black](#), 89, died on 7 December 2007, in Washington Township, NJ. Irving visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE [Dorothy Davenport Hirsch](#), 92, died on 6 December 2007, in Portland, OR. Dorothy visited Antarctica as a tourist. She held the Guinness Book of Records for being the oldest woman to visit the North Pole. She loved Bombay Sapphire gin.

OAE [Robert Victor Murphy](#), 86, died on 3 December 2007, in Palm Springs, CA. Robert visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Shirley F. Mucci, 80, died on 18 June 2007, in Elmhurst, MA. Shirley visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Mary Bird Wheeler, 84, died on 12 June 2007, in Middletown, CN. Mary visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Jean Vollum, 80, died on 6 June 2007, in Portland OR. Jean visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Dr. Russell "Rusty" Brooks Butler/Barber, PhD, 73, died on 4 June 2007, in Gig Harbor, WA. Rusty visited Antarctica as a tourist where he fulfilled his life-long goal to dance with penguins.

OAE Dr. Howard E. Wilson, 77, died on 22 May 2007, in Bellevue, WA. Howard visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Linda Svendsen, 65, died on 23 April 2007, in Concord, CA. Linda visited Antarctica as a nature photographer.

OAE Dr. Norbert Schnelle, 85, died on 5 March 2007, in Port St Lucie, FL. Norbert visited Antarctica on a scientific expedition.

OAE Helen Huntington Ruoff, 86, died on 30 January 2007, in Palm Beach, CA. Helen visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Carol Kilbuck, 87, died on 24 January 2007, in Walnut Creek, CA. Carol visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE E. Norman "Bud" Staub, 90, died on 19 January 2007, in Glenview, IL. Bud visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Ann Zeisler, 68, died on 18 January 2008, in Fairfield, CT, Ann visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE MAJ William Evan Russell II, USA (Ret), 83, died on 6 January 2007, in Round Rock, TX. William visited Antarctica as a tour agent.

*OAE Genie C. Bryant, 82, died on 17 April 2005, in Riverside, CA. Genie was the widow of Herwil Bryant who served on the United States Antarctic Service Expedition (USASE) 1939-1941.



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Denis Casey—OAEA Chaplain

Chaplain Casey didn't submit his column before I had to go to press with this issue, so it's a wrap without his words of faith and wisdom.

Since I had saved this space for his column, I couldn't let it go to waste, so I am including a photo of Father Casey from the Deep Freeze 67 cruise book that was taken outside the Chapel of the Snows at McMurdo Station. The dude in the Byrd Cloth jacket is Chaplain Casey and the dude on the marble pedestal is RADM Richard E. Byrd. After all, this wouldn't be the *Explorer's Gazette* without a Chaplain's Corner.



DF-67 Winter-Over Catholic Chaplain
Father Denis Casey

OAEA 2008 ELECTION RESULTS

Compiled by Billy-Ace Baker

The results of the OAEA Election of Officers were disseminated earlier via the bulk email system (topica.com) by the OAEA Secretary/Treasurer, Jim O'Connell, for members who have email access.

The bulk-mail problems that were experienced during the 2006 ballot mailing were not a problem for the 2008 election. The counting of the ballots by the Election Committee, Chaired by Bob Gaboury of Camarillo, CA, went smoothly and the results are as follows:

Editor's note: The winners in each category are in bold text.

PRESIDENT

Donnellon, John—132

Heffel, James—181

Lindberg, Arthur—124

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Donnellon, John—78

Heffel, James—99

Herman, Andrew—114

Lindberg, Arthur—83

Roberts, Eugene—63

DIRECTOR (2)

Donnellon, John—31

Heffel, James—60

Herman, Andrew—46

Landy, James—237

Lindberg, Arthur—60

Roberts, Eugene—50

Rose, Lisle—117

Spaulding, Richard—243

TREASURER

Buehler, Cyril—263

Flint, Robert—174

2008 OAEA Reunion BOD Meeting Agenda

Editor's Note: When the Gazette went to press the agenda for the BOD meetings had not been finalized. The below outline is from a proposed agenda submitted to the BOD by the OAEA Secretary.

First Officer's Meeting

Wednesday 5 November 1300-1600 Boardroom

- 1 - Call to order - John West
- 2 - Roll Call - Jim O'Connell
- 3 - Financial Report - Jim O'Connell
- 4 - By-Laws Committee Report - Billy-Ace Baker
- 5 - Old Business - Carryover items from 2006 RI Reunion
- 6 - New Business - None
- 7 - Adjourn

General Membership Meeting

Thursday 6 November Approximately 1030 Ballroom

- 1 - Call to Order - John West
- 2 - Financial Report by Treasurer - Jim O'Connell
- 3 - Election Report by President - John West
- 4 - Introduction of newly elected officers
- 5 - Turn-over of offices to newly elected officers
- 6 - Open floor to membership - Jim Heffel
- 7 - Location of OAEA Reunion for 2012 - Jim Heffel
- 8 - Presentations by Gulf Coast Group Chapter
- 9 - Adjourn - Jim Heffel

Second Officer's Meeting Friday 7 November 0800

- 1 - Call to Order - Jim Heffel
- 2 - Roll Call - Jim O'Connell
- 3 - Old Business
 - A - Reunion Funding
 - B - Replacement for Secretary - General Discussion
- 4 - New Business
 - A - Merchandise Program Report - Buz Dryfoose
 - B - By-Laws Revision Progress Report - Billy-Ace Baker
 - D - Additional items from General Membership Meeting
- 5 - Adjournment - Jim Heffel

OAEA TIDEWATER GROUP MEETING & NEWS

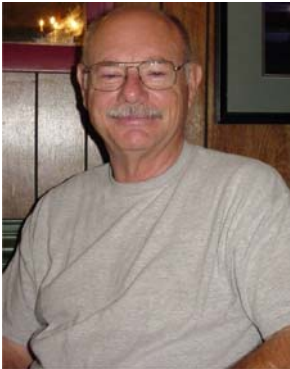
by Ed Hamblin

As the Tidewater area get togethers go, the September one was pretty sparse, even for Tidewater. Only four of the sometimes group were there, Ed Hamblin, Jim Silverstorf, Brad Miller, and Bill Raymus. In one of the small coincidences that make up our lives, three of the four wintered-over together at McMurdo during the DF-74 (1973-74) season. Ed, Bill, and Jim were winter-over station mates; all wintered as first class Petty Officers. Brad came down close behind, as part of the winter-over party for DF-75 (1974-75). When the decision was made to down size the winter-over party, Brad's billet was cut, and he returned to home-port at the end of that summer.



Ed Hamblin DF-74 WO SK

Bill Raymus was the winter-over fire chief. He handled the firehouse and spent a significant amount of time providing station security. Jim Silverstorf was senior winter-over Personnelman. Although he did a great job of taking care of his winter-over shipmates, Jim filled two other very important roles. He ran the liquor locker, making sure the clubs and the people had their liquor rations. He also was one of the volunteer ham radio



Jim Silverstorf DF-74 WO Brad Miller DF-75 SS

operators for KC4USV and spent many of his evenings during that winter trudging to and from the ham shack in the pass to make sure people got their phone patch traffic through, providing comms were "up". Ed Hamblin was a senior Storekeeper during the winter-over, and besides his job, tended bar at the club. When Brad Miller came to the ice, he was there to handle ship's store operations.

The next group get together will be on 6 December at the House Of Eggs Restaurant in Norfolk at 3PM. Any questions, contact Ed by phone at (757) 405-3362, or by email at ehamblin@cox.net.



Bill Raymus DF-74 WO Fire Chief

FROM THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

This year, the scholarship committee was able to award two scholarships. Awardees were Mr. Joshua Mattock, awarded \$1000.00 and Mr. Ian Parmley, awarded \$250.00. Joshua is from New Zealand, and attends Furman University, Greenville, SC. He is working toward a degree in Health and Exercise Science, hoping to get into the field of motor development specialization where he will be able to work with physically disabled children. Mr. Parmley is living in the Pacific Northwest. Presently enrolled at Bellevue Community College in Bellevue, WA, he is on a partial athletic scholarship. He is planning on moving to a 4-year college to complete a degree in Business Administration and Marketing.

The scholarship award process started with the submission of a package from the applicant. The eligibility requirement required sponsorship by a member of the OAEA. Besides an application, there were some additional requirements including transcripts, proof of enrollment in college, SAT/ACT scores, and sponsor's statement. The application form was available through the OAEA *Gazette*. Coordination with the treasurer was accomplished to determine the amount available for awards.

Once the packages were received, they were screened individually by each of the committee members. The scholarship committee consisted of a chairman and two members. Chairman is Ed Hamblin; present members are Billy-Ace Baker from the Board Of Directors, and David Kahlow from the General Membership. After review was complete, recommendations for awards were made and presented to the OAEA President.

Assets for scholarships are from a "pot" of money funded primarily by contributions that are invested in an interest bearing account. The award money comes only from the interest earned on the account. The application for the 2009-2010 school year will be in the spring *Gazette* and the cut off will be approximately 1 July 2009 for submission of complete application packages. The firm dates will be posted when the application is made available.

Specific questions should be directed to the Scholarship Committee Chairman, Ed Hamblin. Ed's e-mail is ehamblin@cox.net; his phone is 757 405-3362.

NEW OAEA MEMBERS

The below listed personnel have joined the OAEA since the Jan-Mar 2008 issue of the *Gazette*.

Thanks to Mike Widstrom, Bill Spindler, Jim Bain, The Dutchman, OAEA-NE Chapter, Mort Beebe, Geoffrey Le Martin, Glen Harris, Les Liptak, Mike Hall, Nick Pellegrino, and Michael Davis, for recruiting new members or for providing names and contact info for prospective members. If you know of any OAE, or anyone interested in Antarctica, who is not a member of the OAEA please send their contact info to the OAEA Membership Chairman at upizauf@aol.com, 850 456 3556 or 10819 Berryhill Road Pensacola FL 32506-6201

*Denotes Associate Member

Ames, Jack UT1	Life	Palmer WO DF-73
Benson, Clarence EO1	Life	CHB-1 DF-II & III
Besse, Joe CTC	*Life	GCG Groupie
Brothers, Lloyd AME2	Life	VXE-6 70-72
Brown, David ADR2	Life	VXE-6 70-73
Crowe, Kathlyn CIV	Life	Tour Ship 2007
Davis, Harry RM1	Commem	ASA WO Eights Station DF-63
Eastlick, Art CWO4	Life	ASA Admin 68-71
Evans, Dan SK3	Annual	NSFA 76-78
Fischer, John RM1	Annual	DF-72 WO McMurdo
Genung, Richard AN	Life	VX-6 60-61
Hoffmaster, Brian AMH3	Annual	VXE-6 93-97
Humphrey, Lester SKC	Life	USS <i>Arneb</i> 57-59
Hutchings, Gloria CIV	Annual	USAP 90-07
Jenkins, John RMC	Life	ASA DF-64
Jordan, Ernest RMC	Commem	NSFA SS 67-69
Jordan, Georgianna CIV	Life	Surviving Spouse of RMC Ernie Jordan
Kershaw, Giles CIV	Memorial	USARP, BAS Numerous years
Lamont, Juliet CIV	*Life	Father was as Scott Base 78-79
Leib, David LT	Life	ASA Det C 71-73
Leighton, William EM2	Life	USCGC <i>Burton Island</i> 67-70
Lemaster, Robert LCDR	Life	VXE-6 82-85, 99-91
Lilienthani, Billie AG2	Life	DF-II Wilkes Station
Mackie, Ronald AE1	Life	VX-6 65-67
Manke, Robert, UT2	Annual	Byrd Station DF-60
McClung, Doyle LTJG	Life	VXE-6 72-75
McCormick, Louis BT2	Life	USS <i>Brough</i> DF-III
Mixson, George LT	Life	NSFA 78-80
Raymus, William HT1	Life	NSFA 71-72, 73-74
Redford, Maury AT1	Life	VX-6 DF-I
Smith, William CIV	Life	IGY 58-60
Sponholz, Martin CIV	Life	USARP DF-66 & 68 Plateau & Showa
Stone, Ronald CDR	Life	VX-6 57-59
Taylor, Harry COL	Life	Tourist 3 times
Verhage, Robert LT	Life	ASA DF-67
Wafer, Lionel Dr	Commem	Explorer



REUNION INFORMATION

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

USS Mills (DER-383): Myrtle Beach, SC, 12–15 Oct 2008. POC Ben Laurens, 252 504 3733, nriver@ec.rr.com. USS *Mills* served during DF-67 & 68.

USS Pine Island (AV-12): Atlantic City, NJ, 14–16 Oct 2008. POC Susan Crotzer, 205 621 3106, reztor@bellsouth.net. USS *Pine Island* served during Highjump.

USCGC Southwind (WAGB-280): Charlestown, SC, 16–20 Oct 2008. POC Edward Clancy, 904 242 9070, clancyedward@bellsouth.net. 888 6th St N. Jacksonville Beach FL 32250. USCGC *Southwind* served during DF-68, 69, and 72.

Old Antarctic Explorers Association (OAEA): Pensacola Beach, FL, 5–7 Nov. 2008. POC Les Liptak, lcliptak@cox.net, 850 492 1666, 5220 Choctaw Avenue, Pensacola FL 32507.

Eastwind Association: Williamsburg, VA, 12–14 June 2009. POC LeRoy Grant, PO Box 292, Albany, NH 03818, 603 447 6040, junelee.1@roadrunner.com. USCGC *Eastwind* served during DF-I, 60, through 67.

Det Alfa DF-70 Winter-Over: Savannah, GA, Spring 2009. Dates and details to be published later.

ADFA: Madison, WI, 2–4 June 2009. POC Ed Ehrlich, eehrich@facstaff.wisc.edu, 608 826 0477, 6416 Clovernook Road, Middleton WI 53562-3802. ADFA members participated in all phases of Deep Freeze.

OAE LOCATOR

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

- Graeme Connell is looking for Geoff Gill who was the cook at Scott base during 1968–69 and was in the New Zealand Navy. Graeme is also looking for James Steil who worked at the McMurdo Ships Store during DF-69. Graeme can be contacted at graemeck@telus.net, 2004–98 Avenue SW Calgary Alberta, Canada, phone 403 281 1737.
- Bob Isles is looking for RADM Paul E. Tobin, Jr. RADM Tobin was on the ice around 1979 on official business. Bob can be reached at: isles.b@ihug.co.nz, 6 Thornhill Place, Racecourse Park, Christchurch 8042 New Zealand
- Jill Wood is looking for Priscilla Illingworth who lived in Christchurch and attended Harewood Primary School near the Christchurch Airport in the early 1960's then went to Papanui High School also in Christchurch NZ from 1963–1966. Her father was an American and worked at the Deep Freeze Base, so presumably he will be in his 80's now. They may have returned to USA sometime in the late 60's to early 70's. Jill can be contacted at: jilleze@xtra.co.nz, or 7 Lancewood Grove, Ranui Heights, Porirua 5024, Wellington New Zealand, telephone (04) 2379 162.
- Felicity Aston is looking for an adventurous Kiwi woman to join her team of commonwealth women to ski to the South Pole. Applications can be made online at: <http://www.commonwealthexpedition.com>.
- Georgianna Jordan is looking for anyone who knew her late husband RMC Ernest Noel Jordan. She believes that he wintered-over during DF-69. However, all records available to the editor indicated that Ernest was in summer support. Georgianna can be reach by mail at 3200 Country St., Apt 216B Somerset, MA 02726, or by email via Nick Pellegrino: penguin711@verizon.net.
- Juliet Lamont is making a documentary about her dad's trip to the Ice in DF-79 and is looking to find anyone who may have taken any home movie footage (probably Super 8) around that time period. Any stuff that shows social life/work would be great. Juliet can be contacted at juliet_lamont@hotmail.com, or 86 Roberts Street, Camperdown, Sydney, NSW, 2050 Australia.
- Dave Bernier was in MCB-1 during DF-II and was in the crew that built Ellsworth Station. He is looking for anyone who has any pictures of building the base. Dave can be contacted at bk-ct1@msn.com, or 17200 W. Bell Rd #1250, Surprise, AZ 85374, or by phone at: 623 680 0033.

- Patti-Ann Brown is looking for anyone who knew her Dad, William Otis Brown. Bill was a Cook and was in the squadron. He spent a little time in Antarctica and was based at Harewood in the 50s to 70s. Due to divorce Patti did not get to know her Dad very well and would like to hear from anyone who knew him. Patti can be reached at swobo@paradise.net.nz or 115 Centaurus Road, Huntsbury Christchurch 8022, New Zealand

- Leonard McGregor is looking for SFC Raul A. Hinojosa, USA who wintered over in 1964 and again in 1970 with the Nuclear Power Plant PM-3A at McMurdo. Leonard can be reached at: oe6mac@aol.com, or 2653 Olympic Drive, Oak Harbor, WA 98277, or by phone at: 360 679 8778.

GLOSSARY OF SNOW AND ICE

Compiled and edited by Billy-Ace Baker



Blowing Snow — An ensemble of snow particles raised by the wind to moderate or great heights above the ground. The horizontal visibility at eye-level is usually very poor. German equivalent: *Schneetreiben*.

Firn Line — The line or zone on a glacier that separates bare ice from snow at the end of the ablation season. Spanish equivalent: *Linea de neviza*.

Grease Ice — A later stage of freezing than frazil ice, when the spicules and plates of ice have coagulated to form a thick soupy layer on the surface of the water. Grease ice reflects little light, giving the sea a matte appearance. French equivalent: *Glace pelliculaire*.

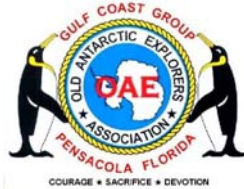
Ice Pellet — A precipitation of small balls or pieces of ice with a diameter of 5 mm or less falling either separately or agglomerated into irregular lumps. Danish equivalent: *Iskorn*.

Ogive — A band or wave on the surface of a valley glacier, stretching from side-to-side and arched in the direction of flow. Spanish equivalent: *Ojiva*.

Gulf Coast Group Chapter Happenings

By Billy-Ace Penguin Baker

26 July 2008—We had a small turnout for a hot Friday meeting without a scheduled guest speaker. 23 members and two first-time attendees turned out. Brian Hoffmaster and William H. Leighton aka Buffalo Bill Leighton were the first-time attendees and both joined the OAEA on the spot. Brian was in VXE-6 from 1993 through 1997. Bill was in the Coast



Billy Blackwelder volunteered to be the MC; he made a few announcements about the 5–7 November OAEA reunion and introduced the new members and asked them to tell a sea-story about themselves. This got everyone started and other members were either goaded by someone else or volunteered their own sea-stories, or ice stories as it were in most cases. Ed Feeney told about some squadron LC-130 incidents that were different than the old Dome Charlie story that he usually tells. Con Jaburg told us about his year at Ellsworth Station and how he learned that Ellsworth Station had recently gone to sea. The Seabees built Ellsworth on the Filchner Ice Shelf in the Weddell Sea during DF-II. After the IGY was over the station was turned over to the Argentina Navy. Gary Skaar goaded Les Darbyshire into telling his ice story about his exploits during DF-62 at Camp Darbyville.



New Member Brian Hoffmaster

Guard and served on the USCGC *Burton Island* from 1967 through 1970. According to his calling-card, Bill is a teller of tall tales, showman, horseman, rifleman, and many other things. Besides serving in the Coast Guard he was also in the Navy and is a retired Deputy Fire Chief.



Joyce Blackwelder listens to Les Darbyshire, seated behind her, while helping Pam Landy Assembly ticket drum (see below)

During the telling of the tales, Pam Landy and Joyce Blackwelder put together the new raffle ticket drum that was purchased for the 50/50 raffle. Now that we are in possession of professional equipment, it is hoped that there will be no more outcries that the raffles are fixed. Once the raffle drum was up and running, Pam sold tickets for the drawing. After all the ice-stories had been told Pam



vigorously turned the handle on the drum to mix up the tickets. Then she invited someone in the gathering to pull one out. Apparently, everyone thought that she was doing just fine, so she was told to do it herself. The ticket she drew was held by Fred Overson; he took home \$41 as his share of the drawing.

The Helo King, AKA Billy Blackwelder, made some raffle ticket penguins to be used at the reunion for holding the tickets for each item that will be raffled, following the reunion banquet. I have asked for one of the penguins to hold my ashes when I am cremated.



I wasn't supposed to mention this, but Ed "Dome Charlie" Feeney lost his car in the museum parking lot. Another reason why even the best of pilots need a navigator. For this reason, we decided to hold the next meeting at the Shrimp Basket where the parking facilities are not so spacious.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned

6 September 2008, Shrimp Basket Restaurant—29 Members and guests turned out for an afternoon of food, drinks, and camaraderie in anticipation that Buffalo Bill Leighton would entertain us with his sharp-shooting skills. Bill showed up as scheduled, but instead of his Wild-West Show regalia, he was accompanied by his wife, Gail. He shared his Antarctic Experience with the group and explained how he became a Buffalo Bill impersonator. He ended his talk with a promise to demonstrate his many skills at a later time.



Colonel Buffalo Bill Leighton listens to a question from John Jaenisch

Before the meeting started the early arrivals consisting of myself, Sean Baker, Glen Harris, and Jim McCreary, engaged in some small talk with our young waitress, 19-year old Britney who wanted to know if we had ever had an encounter with a polar bear. She thought that the Coke commercials with the baby polar bears cavorting with penguins were so cute.



John Jaenisch asks Buffalo Bill a question

Buffalo Bill Leighton won the 50/50 raffle and Gail took home \$45 as his share. Sean Baker accused Glen Harris of not turning the ticket drum vigorously enough because he sold the last six raffle tickets to Buffalo Bill. Apparently, the high-tech ticket drum has not solved the wide spread belief that our raffles are fixed.



Al Rogers won the door prize, which was an eyeless penguin MP3 player.



Glen Harris politely asks Sean Baker to get out of his face

Following a brief discussion about the coming reunion, it was announced that the next meeting would be at the Shrimp Basket on 11 October and that the topic of discussion would be reunion volunteer assignments.

OAEA Donor Awards

Compiled by Billy-Ace Baker

Since the last donor report in the Jan-Mar 2008 issue of the Gazette there have been a few gains in the Little Blue and Bronze Adelie Donor Award levels. There are now 93 Little Blue Penguin, 47 Bronze Adelie, 2 Gold Adelie, 4 Silver Adelie, and 1 Emperor Club Members. Asterisks indicate new donors, or donors who have reached the next level.

LITTLE BLUE PENGUIN

Donations of \$50 (1st 100 only)

2006 OAEA Reunion Committee

Anderson, Stuart & Audrey

Baker, Ashlee F.

Baker, Billy-Ace

Baker, Jamie

Baker, Sean

Baker, Tracey

Biery, Roger W.

Blackwelder, Billy

Blewett, Thomas

Bolt, Ron L.

Boyer, Robert E.

Bracken, Harold

*Brow, Robert

Buehler, Cyril

Cabrera, Quirino

Callender, Gordon W.

Capozzoli, Albert A.

*Cockrill, Millard D.

Communicator Group Fund

Conklin, Harold

Cordes, Fauno

*Cunningham, Clair E.

Damvelt, Karen

Debacker, Ann

DeLeon, Emilio

Dempsey, William B.

Dieckhoff, Charlotte M.

Diller, Marty & Bev

Dostal, W (Dusty) A.

Dryfoose, Buz & Sam

DuBeau, Earl

*Dunn, Thomas

Epperly, Robert M.

Eubanks, Paul

Faulhaber, Robert J.

*Gerrish, Samuel D.

Gillich, Pete D.

Giro, John

Giro, Mary V.

Hall, Richard M.

Halpern, Barry

Hartman, Susan M.

Helfrich, Carl & Barbara

Henley, Elizabeth

Henley, Joseph

Herman, Andrew "Tony"

Higdon, John C.

Hilt, John W.

*Hood, Elaine

Hutchinson-Sabbatini, Kristan

Jernigan, Laura

Klinger, Gerald F.

Konrad, Bradley, N.C.

Konrad, Kerry

Konrad, Robert D.

Konrad, Robert K. A.

Landy, James

Landy Pam

Lightsey, Elvin G.

Lippka, Ray E.

Loftus, Leo G.

Morris, Marion E.

Morton, John E.

Moulder, Evelyn

Munson, Evelyn

Northrup, David A.

OAEA Gulf Coast Group

OEA New England Chapter

O'Neal, Jerry

Owler, Robert

Phillips, Elmer F.

Rubin, Harry

Sheets, Martha

Spindler, Bill

Snow, Laura

Snyder, Mary Margaret

Spaulding, Richard

*Spencer, Erwin J.

Splain, Vincent F.

*Startz, Donna

Taylor, William C.

Toney, Phillip

Tri Star Engineering, Inc

VX/VXE-6 Para-Rescue Team

Werner, Alexander

West, John Lamont

Whitehead, Eugene

Wick Jr. Howard J.

Wilson, Gwendolyn

Wilson, John "Moon"

Yow, Maxine V.

BRONZE ADELIE

Donations of \$100

Baker, Ashlee F.

Baker, Jamie

Baker, Sean

Baker, Tracey

Biery, Roger W.

Bolt, Ron L.

Boyer, Robert E.

Bracken, Harold

Buehler, Cyril

Cabrera, Quirino

Capozzoli, Albert A.

Conklin, Harold

Diller, Marty & Bev

Dostal, W (Dusty) A.

*Dunn, Thomas

Epperly, Robert M.

Giro, John J.

Giro, Mary V.

Hall, Richard M.

Halpern, Barry

Henley, Elizabeth

Henley, Joseph

Higdon, John C.

Jernigan, Laura

Konrad, Bradley, N.C.

Konrad, Kerry

Konrad, Robert D.

Konrad, Robert K. A.

Landy, James

Landy Pam

*Lindberg, Arthur E.

Morton, John E.

Munson, Evelyn

OAEA New England Chapter

O'Neal, Jerry

Owler, Robert

Phillips, Elmer F.

Snow, Laura

Snyder, Mary Margaret

Spaulding, Richard

Spencer, Erwin J.

Splain, Vincent F.

Startz, Donna

Taylor, William C.

Toney, Phillip

Werner, Alexander

Whitehead, Eugene

Yow, Maxine

GOLD ADELIE

Donations of \$500

Cordes, Fauno

Herman, Andrew "Tony"

SILVER ADELIE

Donations of \$1,000

2006 OAEA Reunion Committee

Baker, Billy-Ace

Biery, Roger

VX/VXE-6 Para-Rescue Team

EMPEROR

Donations of \$5,000

Communicator Group Fund