



THE ANTARCTICAN SOCIETY

7338 Wayfarer Drive Fairfax
Station, Virginia 22039

HONORARY PRESIDENT - MRS. PAUL A. SIPLE

Vol. 01-02

June

No. 4

Presidents

Dr. Carl R. Eklund 1959-61
Dr. Paul A. Siple 1961-62
Mr. Gordon D. Cartwright 1962-63
RADM David M. Tyree (Ret.) 1963-64
Mr. George R. Toney 1964-65
Mr. Morton J. Rubin 1965-66
Dr. Albert P. Crary 1966-68
Dr. Henry M. Dater 1968-70
Mr. George A. Doumani 1970-71
Dr. William J. L. Sladen 1971-73
Mr. Peter F. Bermel 1973-75
Dr. Kenneth J. Bertrand 1975-77
Mrs. Paul A. Siple 1977-78
Dr. Paul C. Dalrymple 1978-80
Dr. Meredith F. Burrill 1980-82
Dr. Mort D. Turner 1982-84
Dr. Edward P. Todd 1984-86
Mr. Robert H. T. Dodson 1986-88
Dr. Robert H. Rutford 1988-90
Mr. Guy G. Guthridge 1990-92
Dr. Polly A. Penhale 1992-94
Mr. Tony K. Meunier 1994-96
Mr. Ron Naveen 1996-98
Dr. Paul C. Dalrymple 1998-00
Ms. Kristin Larson 2000-02

Honorary Members

Ambassador Paul C. Daniels
Dr. Laurence McKinley Gould
Count Emilio Pucci
Sir Charles S. Wright
Mr. Hugh Blackwell Evans
Dr. Henry M. Dater
Mr. August Howard
Mr. Amory H. "Bud" Waite, Jr.
Dr. Charles W. Swithinbank
Dr. Paul C. Dalrymple

BRASH ICE

You will note that the official address of the Society remains as printed on our cover sheet of the newsletter, that of our Honorary President, Ruth J. Siple (7338 Wayfarer Drive, Fairfax Station, Virginia 22039). But the address on our envelopes has been changed to this redoubt on mid-coastal Maine where the newsletters are put together and mailed, where we keep track of the membership and treasury. Incidentally those of you who are delinquent on your dues will get your "last notice" included with this newsletter.

We are unhappy to report that Norman Vaughan is having some physical troubles, and has been hospitalized for the last several weeks in Anchorage, evidently some complications after he had another pacemaker put in. Now for the good news, he seems to be recovering and his son reports that the old twinkle has come back to his eyes. We did not realize it until Jeff Rubin brought it to our attention, there is another 97-year-old American Antarctic, Olin Stancliff of BAE II, in Erie, PA. Norman, Olin, and Guy Hutcheson in Texas are the only three living Byrd men. It is rather hard to run down the people who are alive from the Antarctic Service Expedition, 1939-41, but Bob Dodson found one, Bob Palmer, of East Base. We have a good handle on who is alive from the Ronne Antarctic Service Expedition, as Bob keeps close track of his fellow men and fellow women. Nine of the original twenty-three w/o personnel are definitely alive, with one person unaccounted for.

So as the numbers decrease, some of us move up the ladder and become older in spite of ourselves. Toward that end, those of us who w/o at the South Pole during its first two winters, during the International Geophysical Year, had our first combined Navy-civilian All-Hands reunion this past April. This is written up in detail on another page, but I must tell you that I did not fare too well. Walking into this conference room where we were supposed to convene, all I saw was a bunch of real old men, one of whom was totally unrecognizable to me. I actually felt pretty good with myself until this completely honest guy walks up to me, looks me square in the eyes, and said, "You know, you have changed more than anyone else." So reunions can also have a down side!!

Remember the last newsletter was written to be enjoyed, and we strive to make certain that the truth does not get in the way of a good story. You, Ron Taylor, had better start reading the newsletters, as twice you have written us this spring bringing our attention to two new books, both of which had already been reviewed in our newsletters.

OUR FOUNDING FATHER. As many of you know, the spiritual founding father of this Society was a good old boy by the name of Carl R. Eklund, who parlayed his relationship with the South Polar skua, the Eagle of the Antarctic, into a Ph.D. degree (1959) at the University of Maryland. He was also the Scientific Leader at Wilkes Station in the Banana Belt of Antarctica in 1957. Of all the U.S. scientific stations in the IGY, this was the one with the greatest camaraderie. In spite of having two Jesuit priest scientists w/o, it was one hell of a nice place to be and there was universal respect and appreciation for all. Anyone who knew Carl is convinced that a lot of the credit was a result of his presence.

They had a lot of fun at Wilkes Station. Carl was married to as much a fun-loving person as he was. Her name was Harriet, and she, too, was universally loved. On May 18, 1957, she sent Carl a poem by ham radio which read "*Hail to the husband who loves his wife and stays at home instead of on the ice, Hail to the wife who his money will squander if to the South Pole the old man must wander.*" There was more than a little bit of truth in the poem, as when he got home he found the bank account needed a transfusion, so he had to go onto the lecture circuit.

Carl started this Society as a gold-old-boys drinking club. George Llano wrote that when they first started getting together, they used his membership card at the Cosmos Club in Wash., D.C. for their gatherings. George said the bills were so high that they had to change the venue to the basement of the Eklund's home. Carl had an elephant's foot, and that became the treasury which kept the drinks flowing. I just wish that I had been in Washington at that time, as this Society had a lot of fun, Eklund-style, in its youth.

Wherever Carl was, fun wasn't very far off. Prior to the IGY, all hands met at Davisville, R.I. for an indoctrination and outfitting of clothes. There was one watering place in nearby Kingston, and nearly all hands adjourned there for informal talks (hic) after dinner. As we were quartered on a military base, we needed an I.D. to get in and out. Carl had left his back in his room, and borrowed that of Sir Hubert Wilkins, who returned to his room. As we left Carl exclaimed "Sir Hubert will make out tonight!"

Unfortunately Carl died a much too early death. He had given a lecture in the City of Brotherly Love, returned to his hotel room, and died during the night (4 November 1962, at age 53). He, like the Architect of the Antarctic Treaty, Ambassador Paul C. Daniels, and the Deputy Chief Scientist for the Antarctic Treaty during the IGY, Bert Crary, knew how to get the most out of an evening on the town. Larry Gould wasn't far behind, either!"

NOT ANOTHER HUGE ICEBERG!!!

(NSF Fact Sheet, May 2002.) Two new and very large icebergs broke away from the Ross Ice Shelf in early May in a natural

'calving' process that returned the edge of the shelf to its pre-exploration position of the early 1900s, researchers say. The icebergs were designated C-18 and C-19 by the Suitland, Maryland-based National Ice Center (NIC), a joint operation of the U.S. Navy, NOAA, and the U.S. Coast Guard. Using data collected from the Defense Meteorological Satellite Program, NIC said that C-19, the larger of the two icebergs, is 199 km (108 naut. mi.) long by 30.5 km (17 n.m.) wide. C-18 is roughly 75.9 km (41 n.m.) long by 7.4 km (4 n.m.) wide.

Unlike B-15, which calved from a different location on the Ross shelf, C-19 broke away relatively close to Ross Island, home of McMurdo Station. B-15A and C-19 are now floating at right angles to each other, adjacent to Ross Island.

Researchers at the University of Wisconsin and meteorologists at McMurdo almost simultaneously noticed the break in the Ross shelf where C-19 calved. Linda Keller of the University's Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences noticed the crack while posting daily images on their web site. Both the forecasters and the University subsequently notified the NIC. Douglas MacAyeal, an NSF-funded researcher at the University of Chicago, who placed automated weather stations and tracking devices on B-15 A, an enormous fragment of the larger iceberg, said that the satellite and other technologies are allowing science for the first time in history to observe the calving of large icebergs like C-19 and B-15. The process, he noted, is part of a natural cycle in which ice shelves grow and then calve icebergs over geological time scales.

Researchers also noted that the developments on the Ross shelf are markedly different from the process underlying the widely publicized collapse of the Larsen B Ice Shelf much farther north, on the eastern (Weddell-Sea) side of the Antarctic Peninsula earlier this year. While still not fully understood in terms of glaciological history, scientists believe that the Larsen B collapse is tied to a documented temperature increase on the Antarctic Peninsula. NIC reported that another huge iceberg (D-17), roughly 55.5 km (30 n.m.) long by 11.1 km (6 n.m.) wide, calved in the Weddell Sea on May 17.

Although the fate of C-19 is unknown, Charles Stearns, Emeritus Professor of Meteorology at the University of Wisconsin, said the calving brings the Ross Ice Shelf to rough!; the size it was in 1911, when members of British explorer R.F. Scott's party first mapped it. Stearns also noted that while the calving of C-19 was fairly rapid, the fissure from which the iceberg broke away from the shelf has been known to scientists since the 1980s.

TRANS-GLOBE BALLOONING IV ANTARCTICA.

(NSF Fact Sheet, May 2002.)

The National Science Foundation, through its Office of Polar Programs, supports long-duration balloon (LDB) flights in Antarctica to conduct astrophysical experiments. Circling the continent on unique stratospheric winds at altitudes of roughly 37 km (22.9 mi) for periods of up to 31 days, experiments operate in an area that is almost free of atmospheric interference. For some experiments, this provides scientists with conditions equivalent to flight aboard a satellite or the space shuttle, at much lower cost.

Two unique geophysical conditions above Antarctica make LDB flights that circumnavigate the continent possible during the austral summer: (1) **A nearly circular pattern of gentle east-to-west winds** establishes itself in the Antarctic stratosphere lasting for a few weeks. The circulation is generated by a long-lived high-pressure area caused by the constant solar heating of the stratosphere. This allows the launching and recovery of a balloon from roughly the same geographic location and permits a flight path that is almost entirely over land. (2) **Because the sun never sets during the austral summer**, the balloon is illuminated continuously, both directly and by reflection from the underlying clouds or snow. As a result, the balloon maintains a constant temperature and is able to maintain a stable altitude. In other areas of the world, the daily heating and cooling cycles change the volume of gas in the balloon, causing it to rise and fall and expend ballast, severely limiting flight times. As an international zone under the Antarctic Treaty, balloons can be launched, flown and recovered anywhere on the continent without diplomatic complications experienced in other areas of the globe.

Since 1988, NSF and NASA have developed techniques for flying and recovering large balloon payloads - in the range of two tons - at altitudes of roughly 37 km (22.9 mi) for extended periods. Over the past decade there have been LDB flights in most Antarctic research seasons — roughly mid-December through mid-January - frequently with two balloons being flown during the season. During the 2001-02 Antarctic research season, the balloon-borne Trans-Iron Galactic Element Recorder (TIGER) experiment, designed to search for the origin of cosmic rays, achieved a flight duration record over Antarctica. Launched at 0630 EST on Dec. 20, 2001, the balloon traveled approximately 1,400 km (869 mi) before landing, 31 days, 20 hours later, at 0303 EST, Jan. 21, 458 km (284 mi) from McMurdo.

The Antarctic research season spans the period from October through February. However, regional weather does not normally stabilize until early December. Because recovery aircraft are more in demand near the end of the season, the Antarctic balloon launch window lasts only about six weeks. By early February, icebreakers have created a channel through the sea ice that rings the continent

to allow a supply ship to bring in heavy equipment for the next season. This cargo often includes truckloads of helium for the following year's balloon flights.

WHALING IS NOT DEAD YET. (Ray Arnaudo) The recent International Whaling Commission meeting in Shimonoseki, Japan (May 13-17), produced no change on whaling in Antarctica. There was some progress on developing a new Revised Management Scheme, but commercial whaling is still prohibited. Although the Scientific Committee doesn't support the Japanese effort to take whales "for scientific purposes," the Japanese intend to harvest another 400 minke whales in Antarctic waters next year. The major news of the meeting was the Japanese-led effort to block the setting of a subsistence harvest level for bowheads for U.S. Alaskan natives. The U.S. came up one vote shy of the required three-fourths majority needed.

ANTARCTIC TREATY NEWS. (Ray Arnaudo) India has finally ratified Annex 5 of the Environmental Protocol to the Antarctic Treaty (Protected Areas) and this brings the Annex into force, effective May 24. This Annex was concluded after the negotiation of the Protocol and its original four annexes. As a result, it required a separate ratification notification by Parties to the Treaty. The Protocol itself entered into force in 1998.

CANCER, AN INSURMOUNTABLE CREVASSE.

Fifty-five years ago Pete Peterson thought that his number had been called, as he was over a hundred feet down, wedged in a crevasse, almost ten miles from camp. This was on the Ronne Antarctic Research Expedition in July 1947. Pete and Bob Dodson had been up on the plateau when they got caught in a blizzard. Afterwards Bob wrote "I believe Pete was the most courageous person I ever met. During several days and nights of extreme blizzard conditions immediately preceding the crevasse incident, Pete was a bastion of strength and courage: winds gusted over 100 mph, finally taking our tent." Pete died in some place called San Francisco, but he chose to be buried in Peru, a country he loved. His wife, Zoila, is a Peruvian. And now there are nine known survivors from that expedition.

SOUTH POLE IGY REUNION. The International Geophysical Year was from 1 July 1957 to 31 December 1958, although there was a follow-up to that called the International Geophysical Cooperation, 1 January to 31 December 1959 (IGC - 59). Regardless of when, the people who first wintered over at the South Pole in 1957 gathered with those who

(Continued from Pg. 3)

followed them in 1958, for the First All-Hands IGY South Pole Reunion in late April at a resort called Forest Hills in Dahlonega, Georgia. Sandcrabs and Swabees united as one. A total of thirty-six people wintered over at the Pole during the IGY, but seven of them have passed along, including both station scientific leaders and Navy leaders. Eighteen showed up for the reunion, with twelve bringing wives or in one case a significant other. Four additional people had made reservations, but had to withdraw the last second because of such nuisances as a heart attack. For an event some forty-seven years later, it was well attended.

What happens to a group of twenty-nine survivors? - about twenty-nine different things. One, Mario Giovinetto, is still doing what he did at the South Pole, analyzing snow and ice data. Whether he will ever get it done is very doubtful, but he is having a hell of a good time getting paid for it by NASA. Arlo Landolt has been a college professor at Louisiana State for more than forty years. He loves his work, which frequently takes him into the Andes of Peru and Chile, and, if he ever does retire, it will only be a paper retirement as he rolls onward. Charlie Greene found the perfect solution for a happy career, forming his own company, GREENRIDGE, working for himself, supervising himself and others, and going to the Arctic each and every summer studying the noises of whales. A fourth still punching the clock is Bob Benson, former aurora specialist, who now is very, very happy at NASA analyzing data from a new satellite. He has no intentions of ever retiring, and is happy as a clam at high tide.

But there is also a down side among the noted thirty-six. Two had run-ins with the law, but both have paid their debts to society. Two have Parkinsons, namely Kirby Hanson and Jim Burnham. Both have had it for close to twenty years, and both have fought it gallantly. They each showed up with their better halves. There is an interesting story connected with Kirby. Once he was a taxi driver, and while at the airport to pick up a customer, he used to visit the US Weather Bureau airport office to kill some time. But he got interested in weather and meteorology, and that was a springboard for him going to the ice where his determination and dedication impressed the Bureau so much that they sent him off to college after the IGY, where he picked up his bachelors, masters, and PhD degrees in meteorology at the University of Wisconsin. Later he was placed in charge of the Clean Air Facility stations, and in that capacity, had a chance to revisit the South Pole, one of the stations in his network.

Several of the people at the reunion, besides Kirby, have been back to the Antarctic. Jim Burnham came back for a second year at the South Pole, as did Ed Flowers. Mario was on the first US oversnow traverse from McMurdo to the South Pole. Floyd Johnson went back to Antarctica for one year with the Argentines at old Ellsworth Station, but when ice conditions locked him in from relief, he had

to stay another year! But in Floyd's case, it was hard to tell whether the additional year adversely affected him, as he always was a character, not your normal human being. Mel Havener came back for a second year at McMurdo, and I, Paul Dalrymple, was a guest on a VIP flight to the South Pole thirty years after the IGY. Tom Osborne came back to the Pole, and also w/o a third year at Byrd.

The one common thread that we all seemed to have, as each told his own post-IGY resume, was travel. One unusual one, although he wasn't at the reunion, was John Guerrero's job as a war-time correspondent for a European news agency, which got him wounded in combat!! No one was masquerading as an explorer with a beard, as each was sure of his credentials and did not have to impress anyone. Some of us had expanded waistlines, and bore little or no resemblance to the person with our names under our pictures in the Deep Freeze yearbooks.

What happened at the reunion besides a lot of beer drinking? Mainly story telling, and probably the best session was when each one was asked to tell the weirdest or funniest happening that they could recall. Bob Benson brought along an excellent video of movies he had shot at the South Pole in 1957, never before shown outside of his personal family. Although not there, Dee Baulch's video, which he shot the second year, was also shown and that is a good one, too. We were honored and blessed by the presence of Jerry Marty of NSF, who for the past twelve years has had the responsibility of managing the South Pole Station. He came out of his own pocket to tell us all about the magnificent new South Pole station being built by you tax payers for possible dedication in the year 2006. We also had some culture, as Alan Campbell, most distinguished Antarctic artist, who lives in Athens, Georgia, brought over seven or eight Antarctic oils, seven or eight Antarctic watercolors, and gave a presentation on his three trips to the Antarctic. Someone brought along a trunkful of Antarctic books, including all the Deep Freeze yearbooks for 1957 and 1958, all the pertinent books published on Antarctica during the IGY, the best of the coffee-table books, and a half-dozen of the more recent prominent books on Antarctica.

Several things became very evident as the people who w/o at the South Pole in 1957 revealed these priceless memories. One was the strong conviction that they all felt that they had very strong camp leadership in Paul Siple, and that this resulted in a happy baptismal year at the South Pole, so much so that many of them chose to w/o again. Another feeling gleaned was that Siple had a very young and inexperienced cadre of people at his station. Two, Ken Waldron and Mel Havener, walked

(Continued from Pg. 4)

out of the corn fields of Iowa, less than forty miles apart, and were chosen for the Antarctic when they were only twenty years of age, and a third, Herb Hansen, came out of the same general area. Two future PhDs came out of the group, the aforementioned Landolt and Benson. When the Annals of the South Pole are written, it will have to be said that the first year of human habitation at the South Pole was very successful, in spite of the harsh feelings between the admiral and the station scientific leader. Another first that occurred at the South Pole in its first-ever w/o year - Cliff Dickey made USN Chief Petty Officer while there, the first CPO made while sitting on a spinning/rotating pole.

The second year of occupation at the South Pole bore little resemblance to the first year. The strong leadership provided by Siple was no longer there, and the year was more one of individualistic accomplishments. Where the 1957 crew planted the seed, the 1958 crew came along to reap the profits, being there when Sir Edmund Hillary met Dr. Bunny Fuchs on Bunny's crossing of the continent, the first time ever, thus fulfilling Shackleton's objective of 1915-16. There were some strongly dedicated people who used that year, 1958, as a springboard to go on with their education. Five Ph.D. degrees resulted - Greene, Hanson, Giovinetto, Dawson, and Dalrymple. The house doctor and Navy leader, Vernon Houk, went on to have a most distinguished professional career with the famed Center for Disease Control in Atlanta. Three Navy men made Chief Petty Officer — Lou deWit, Gerry Dubois, and Stan Greenwood.

The whole reunion was put together by Ed White, who picked a great place, and a good time of the year. But, unfortunately, Ed suffered a cut eye about a month before the reunion and was damaged goods. His wife Marge drove him to the reunion, but his pain forced them to leave before the end of a great reunion. Most folks were clamoring for a repeat, but perhaps we should rest on our laurels. *(We talked to Ed White on the evening of 30 May, and he appears to be making a slow but complete recovery from his health problems. He expects to be able to drive to their summer home in Roanoke in about ten days.)*

FIRST LEADER AT THE SOUTH POLE. It is fitting in this issue of the Newsletter that we honor Paul Siple, inasmuch as we could sense that he was at the recent South Pole reunion, although not visible in the photos. A short biography of Paul is excerpted here from an account by Bob Benson, £05 (AGU), 2 August 1994. He began his polar career by being a Boy Scout, in fact, at 19, an Eagle Scout. As a result of a highly publicized contest from among thousands of scout applicants to participate in the first Byrd Antarctic Expedition (1928-30), he was selected not only because of his 60 merit badges, his stature (6'1" and 167 pounds), but possibly because

the search committee saw in Paul Siple the characteristics of a hard-worker, leadership, and a future scientist. The expedition was the first of 4 winters and 10 summers that Siple would spend in Antarctica. On Byrd's first expedition, Paul performed a wide variety of tasks in addition to serving as taxidermist - many specimens were brought back to the American Museum of Natural History. He returned to Allegheny College, Meadville, PA, where he completed his B.S. degree in 1932, gave many lectures, wrote a book (for a symbolic royalty of \$1 in compensation), and afterward accompanied Byrd on the second expedition, 1933-35. Siple was chief biologist, and led a 3-month dog-sledging party into unexplored regions.

In 1939, between expeditions, Siple earned his Ph.D. degree in geography from Clark University. His "Wind-Chill Index" was introduced in his dissertation, in attempts to quantify the relationship between wind speed, air temperature, and cooling effects on the body. He was also an expert in designing cold-weather clothing, which earned him a commission in the Army Quartermaster Corps. When he left active duty at the end of WWII, he had attained the rank of Lt. Colonel, returning to the Army as a civilian scientist. A major challenge arose when Admiral Byrd persuaded Siple to lead the first w/o party of 18 men at the planned South Pole station. Siple and his second-in-command, John ('Jack') Tuck Jr. formed an ideal leadership team. Among all the hardships to be endured at the South Pole especially in winter, it was difficult for any station member to complain about the conditions when Siple - many years their senior—was outperforming them by his industrious attitude of long work hours in the bitter cold.

After returning from Antarctica, Siple resumed his role as special advisor to the Director of the Army Research Office, wrote a book about the first w/o at the South Pole, and accepted a position as the first U.S. scientific attache to Australia and New Zealand. He died in 1968 at 59 after struggling for more than 2 years to keep working despite partial paralysis resulting from a stroke. In addition to the numerous honors and medals he received - including a cover picture on *Time Magazine*, in 1956 — an Antarctic station and other features were named for him. Paul's widow, Ruth, has four gold medals that we know of in a bank safety deposit box representing only part of what Paul's distinguished career as a polar explorer/scientist achieved.

TEA AT PALMER. (Polly Penhale)

NSF brings science into the classroom through its TEA (**Teachers Experiencing Antarctica**) program, which match*

{Continued from Pg. 5}

teachers from local school districts throughout the U.S. and researchers in a partnership on the ice. The goal of including a teacher as part of a research team in Antarctica is to provide a real life experience of how scientists go about their work. The teachers actively participate in the research program and then bring this first-hand experience and knowledge into the classroom via e-mail and a web-based daily journal written by the teacher while on the ice.

Susan Cowles, a teacher at Palmer Station, was the first teacher of adult learners, through her work in a high school completion program in Corvallis, Oregon. Susan's students ranged in age from 16 to 40, and they came from different educational and skill backgrounds. All had their formal education interrupted for one reason or another and have returned to school to complete a high school equivalency program. Working with NSF Representative David Bresnahan and others at Palmer Station, Susan designed math problems for her students. In one example, she had the students calculate how many brownies the cooks had to make in order to feed 100 passengers from a tour ship arriving for a station visit. Another problem related to a calculation of water produced for the station in the reverse osmosis system when the pressure was increased.

In addition to creating math problems, Susan wrote a daily journal describing station life, the people she worked with, the science programs, the wildlife in the area and the visitors to Palmer Station. The Antarctic experience she described provided the students with the ability to improve their reading and computational skills, while learning about a fascinating and important part of the Earth. Adult learners are an important part of the communities. As Susan explains, "they are workers, voters, taxpayers, parents and grandparents." To share in Susan's adventure, a description of her stay at Palmer Station and her daily journal entries can be found at her website at <http://literacynet.org/polar/pop/html/home.html>.

ANTARCTIC TARTAN BY CELTICS ORIGINALS. (Charles Lagerbom) (www.celtictartans.com.) This small business in the Isle of Mull, U.K., has come up with an Antarctic tartan, which can be viewed on the above website (click on the link 'Antarctic', and you'll see a genuine British Antarctic scientist wearing the tartan on Bird Island, South Georgia). The design is based on the Antarctic's geography. White represents the ice-covered continent, ice flows, and the edge of the Southern Ocean. Gray represents outcropping rocks, seals and birds. Orange represents lichens, and Emperor and King Penguin plumage. Yellow also represents penguin plumage and the summer midnight sun. Black and white together depict penguins and whales. Pale blue represents crevasses in the ice and shallow blue icy waters on the ice shelves, whilst dark midnight blue represents the deep Southern Ocean and the darkness of the winter. The light square

of white at the edge of the sea (variant 01 sei) represents the light of the Antarctic summer on the continent. This is quartered by threads of pale blue, which represent 0°/360°, 90°, 180°, and 270° lines of longitude. The point where they cross represents the South Pole. Two bands of gray surrounding the white heart depict nunataks, mountain ranges, and exposed coastal rocks. Around the coast Antarctica's life forms are found so the colors that follow in the sett-orange, yellow, black and white—represent the wealth of animal life on land and in the seas. Each sett is separated by a thin band of white that represents the edge of Antarctica. Where these cross, the Southern Cross is depicted. This viewed diagonally also represents the Scottish saltire (a cross design in heraldry), tribute that 2001 is the centenary of Scott's first expedition to the Antarctic in 1901. Products available in the above designs include ties, scarves, squares, sashes, cummerbunds, stoles, travel rugs, and framed tartans.

ANTARCTIC TREASURES. (*Christchurch Citizen*, March 14, 2002, Tim Cronshaw, forwarded by Margaret Lanyon.) Antarctic plunder including two 90-year-old biscuits taken from an historic hut will be returned to the frozen continent thanks to an American with a sense of history. Former Navy man Ed Phelps handed over an 1899 Latin-English book, a 1909 book of short stories, a carved container lid and two extremely hard biscuits to the Antarctic Heritage Trust in Christchurch yesterday. He had lifted them in the 1950s during a visit to Scott's hut at Cape Evans. During a 6-month stint, Phelps spent life aboard a U.S. Navy vessel clearing pack ice and assisting with the evacuation of staff wintering on the continent. The souvenirs had been a reminder of a special time for him. (Just in case there is anyone else out there with similar souvenirs, it's not too late to get them to their proper place.)

EARTH DAY AT PALMER (Polly Penhale) For the third year in a row, Palmer Station personnel conducted an "Earth Day" activity, as part of a worldwide network of organizations interested in promoting a healthy planet. The activity on March 9 was a "clean-up" of bits of debris left behind from the removal of former stations, Old Palmer (U.S.) and Base N (U.K.). Clean-up efforts also included the removal of jetsam found at Norsel Point near station. Seventeen people brought trash barrels, trash bags and magnets to pick up the material. Despite winds at 20 knots and blowing rain, spirits were high and the clean-up turned into a treasure hunt. Shards of dishes, flatware, and small plumbing bits were included in the debris.

OLD ANTARCTIC EXPLORERS ASSOCIATION. Another Antarctic organization has been founded, one which sort of crosses boundaries with the early Deep Freezers. Although we all know that the real old Antarctic explorers have long since departed this world, there are evidently a bunch of icemen who have formed under the umbrella of Old Antarctic Explorers, and they are planning a "First Reunion Symposium" in Pensacola, Florida on November 6, 7, and 8. I don't think it is exactly going to be a "symposium" in the truest sense of the word, but it is going to be the first mass gathering of their membership. They have done some pretty healthy recruiting, so have a relatively large group. With Billy-Ace Baker one of its king pins, you can be sure that the organization will flourish. If you like to tell and hear Antarctic stories, some of which might actually be true, this is probably your club. If you want "their" information on the OAEs, check them out on www.oaea.net, or e-mail penguin64@att.net.

If you want to go to their conclave in Pensacola, you must first become a member. Annual dues are only \$10 per year, but they have a very enticing and unique way of scaling life membership dues. The older you are, the less you pay. It appears if you are older than 100, they might even pay you. If you are 45 or younger, you can buy in for life at \$110. If you say you are 56 to 60, then you're in for \$75.00. By the time you reach 76, a ten spot will do it, and after 80, \$5.00!!! Their address is Old Antarctic Explorers Association, Inc., 4615 Balmoral Drive, Pensacola, FL 32504.

VODKA ON ICE; A YEAR WITH THE RUSSIANS IN ANTARCTICA, by Charles Swithinbank. (Review by John Spletstoesser) At last we have the fourth and final(?) volume on the professional career of the author, one of the world's foremost glaciologists. This volume is an account of his wintering period with the Russians at the base Novolazarevskaya in 1963-65, including time at Mirnyy, Vostok, and Molodezhnaya in the summer. Charles was an exchange scientist at the time, no easy feat in gaining that position, but for him it was the chance of a lifetime to live in an area of Antarctica in which he had the opportunity to measure ice movement where no one had done so before, interact with Russians who accepted him as one of their own (eventually), and learn to converse in a language that to him was virtually unknown at the beginning of his assignment. This book is not a scientific account of his time there, but instead is an interesting story about life in a remote part of Antarctica with 13 others from a country with politics that are totally different from much of the world. Charles was very much aware that once the last ship left, he was there for a year and there was no way out if anything went wrong. By the time his year was up, he was fluent in Russian, even presenting a summary of his work in Russian before the Director of the Arctic & Antarctic Institute in St. Petersburg on his return. He also taught classes in English for some of the Russians. The wintering meant personal sacrifice, leaving a

wife, two children, and a third on the way for an extended period of time. It also meant improvising his field work as needs arose, including equipment, supplies, and anything else to perform his research. Numerous color photographs on glossy paper tell much of the story. Food on the ships en route, and at the station, were mostly routine and 'Russian', but even for a young man used to English cooking, was part of the hardship. After his return, loading up on long-awaited meat and protein produced gastrointestinal problems that took some time to overcome. Days of nothing but boiled potatoes, and the ever-present 'compote' (dark 'mystery' broth) at many meals, interrupted by cabbage soup, caviar, 'cardboard fish', and similar delicacies, took a toll on Charles. A parallel experience might be being released from prison following wartime, and finally getting back to a normal diet.

Because of Charles's earlier experience and background, already proving himself as a scientist on the Norwegian-British-Swedish Antarctic Expedition, 1949-52, in Queen Maud Land and with the U.S. Antarctic Program, he fit in well with fellow Russian colleagues who also had considerable polar experience. One of Charles's talents that made him useful was his experience as a 'driver' of tractors to transport equipment between Soviet supply ships and bases—apparently Russians never considered that to be a vital part of their required experience, and Charles was good at it. Charles includes in this book some of the political and ideological differences that produced a few divisions between him and the wintering crew, but they remained minor. As polyarniks are aware, once on the ice, politics and nationalities become insignificant. He took part in Russian holiday celebrations, attended political meetings, all the while gaining a feeling for the lives that his cohorts lived full-time back in their native country. There appeared to be no complainers, however, as the Russians took life as it came without complaint. Many of the friendships gained during his experience lasted throughout later life, as Charles maintained correspondence with several of the men, although what appeared to be guarded messages and letters he received indicated that the overriding policy of government censorship, and his friends' awareness of it, dampened the situation.

This book is required reading for those interested in the life of an experienced polar researcher, as well as the politics and interactions of the experience. It is available from book dealers and the publisher (The Book Guild Ltd, Sussex, U.K.-ISBN 1 85776 646 6, 2002, 165 p.), as well as from Charles directly in Cambridge, U.K. Write to him at 7 Home End, Fulbourn, Cambridge CB1 5BS, U.K., with a check for \$33 (surface mail) or \$37 (air mail), which includes shipping, and receive an autographed copy.



Top photo: 1957 w/o personnel, first group ever to w/o at the South Pole. Back row: Cliff Dickey, electronics; Earl F. Johnson, utilities; Bob Benson, seismology; Floyd Johnson, meteorology; Front row: Mel Havener, mechanic; Herb Hansen, meteorology; 'Moose' Remington, glaciology; Arlo Landolt, aurora; Chet Segers, cook. Sitting in front, Ken Waldron, electrician. (Photo by Jean Dickey.)

Bottom photo: 1958 w/o personnel at the South Pole. Top row: Kirby Hanson, meteorology; Art Jorgensen, meteorology; Paul Dalrymple, micrometeorology; Ed White, utilities; Charles Greene, ionosphere; Mario Giovinetto, glaciology. Front row: John Dawson, aurora; Jim Burnham, seismology. (Photo by 'remote control'.)

