The Antarctican Society

"By and For All Antarcticans"

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BRASH ICE. Well we are finally off and running after having taken a hiatus over the summer. Although in reality, we have kept the home fire burning by periodically submitting news items to our website, which we hope you surf from time to time. There have been several prominent Antarcticans who have cashed in their chips since last spring. We have more or less established a policy whereby we will only write up one loss per Newsletter, putting the other notices/obituaries onto the website. For this issue, we have chosen the reserved and revered John Twiss, a most eminent marine-mammal man as our Obituarian of the Summer. John was a loyal supporter of our Newsletter, and once off-the-record offered to pay out of his own pocket, the binding of all of our Newsletters. It wasn't possible then because of its narrow margins, but it was a most kind offer from a very sensitive man who we deeply appreciated.

Jackie Ronne died shortly after our early summer Newsletter. I don't know of any Antarctic death, with the possible exception of Larry Gould, which received more national coverage than Jackie's death. Being one of the first two women to ever winter over in Antarctica made her very good copy. We immediately put Karen's obituary on her mother onto our web-site. Also on the web-site you will have found the touching eulogy that Ann Hawthorne presented at Jackie's service in Bethesda. Jackie joined our society under somewhat trying conditions. It was back in the days when you could get away with writing almost anything. I received a call from Jackie, and she said "I understand that you wrote an article in the Antarctican Society Newsletter about men and the Antarctic." I replied that I had, that's its title was "The End of a Great Era." She then asked if she could see it. I gulped once, twice, maybe three times before I said "Yes, you can see it, but please remember there was a companion article right next to it by Mildred Crary who wrote "It's About Time." So I sent off the issue, and heard nothing for several weeks. Then another call from Jackie and she asked "Could I please see other copies of your Newsletters?" I knew right then and there that I was in a heap of deep trouble, as I had not been too kind to her husband Finn, but I had no choice, so sent her a batch of them.

Another interlude before Jackie called again. She said." I see the handwriting on the wall, I am not going to join your Society." I was ready for that and replied "The incoming president of our Society is going to be Pete Burrill, a good friend of yours and Finn. If you join our Society, I promise never again to write anything nasty about Finn." And so she and Karen joined our Society and I think we lived peacefully ever after. I also served a function for her at our gatherings when people like John Behrendt and Nolan Aughenbaugh were in town, and she wanted to know who was who!

Dr. Jerri Nielsen Fitzgerald, medical doctor at the South Pole, who as a cancer victim had to be air evacuated to the States in early October of 1999, died early this summer in Massachusetts at age 57. Five years ago she came down with another round of cancer, which spread to her brain. C'est fini.

The Board on Geographic Names confirmed the naming of Gibbs Point on Horseshoe Island, Marguerite Bay after George Washington Gibbs, Jr. mess attendant 1st Class on the U.S.S. BEAR on the Antarctic Service Expedition (1939-41). To the best of our knowledge, he is the earliest American of African descent to have had a feature named for him in Antarctica.

Now, how about living people, people who are now important to our Society. There are two who deserve special mention, our webmaster, Tom Henderson, and our Incoming President, Charles "Chips" Lagerbom. Both are not only National League fans, but both are St. Louis Cardinals loyalists. In each Newsletter, Tom has been and will be writing on what's new on our website, and in this issue he will be telling you what great things have developed over the summer. Chips introduces himself in his column, even though many of you have already met him through his free scanning services. These are two of the nicest guys who you would ever care to meet. Support them whenever they need your help.

CALENDARS. If you want the New Zealand-produced Hedgehog calendar on Antarctica for 2010, please order now. We have a limited number left, and if there is anything we hate it's getting orders from you people in December for one of these calendars. If you order by mid-November, closing date, we will guarantee your calendar(s) by mid-December. The calendar for next year is superb, best one in the last several years. Order NOW. Price is the same - $15.00 USD.

TWO YEARS IN REVIEW Last summer's election in Port Clyde brings a new president for the Society, so Art Ford heads off into the sunset of retirement. Impressive Society accomplishments of the past two years have included: (1) Bringing together many of the remaining youngsters, now residing in aged bodies, from the IGY years and soon after for two memorable reunions at the lobster-haven of Port Clyde, Maine; for which gratitude goes to hosts Paul Dalrymple and Gracie Machemer; (2) The production of an incredible documentary set of DVDs preserving some Antarctic history from the memories of the reunion attendees, for which thanks go to moviemaker Dr. Ed Williams; (3) The development of one of Antarctica's best websites, www.antarctican.org, containing the unique "Time-Trek" and five decades of Newsletters and much, much more, for which special thanks go to webmaster Tom Henderson and Amos Alubala; (4) The start of an immense project to preserve Antarctic history for the new digital world, now in old kodachrome slides and other imagery of aging Antarcticans, with thanks to scanningmaster Charles "Icechips" Lagerbom; and (5) The production of another two years' issues of our Newsletter, with "Brash Ice," and the continuation of the Society's financial solvency, with special gratitude to Treasurer Paul Dalrymple. Great accolades go also to super-typist Jo Lindsay for putting up with Newsletter authors, as well as to her husband, musician Steve, for entertainment at our Gatherings. Our Society thanks them all and many

others for contributing talents and support for our Society, and welcomes Charles Lagerbom, another Mainer, to take over the stirring of the lobster pot.

NEW SOCIETY PRESIDENT (By Charles H. Lagerbom) Hello. My name is Charles H. Lagerbom and I am honored to be your next President of the Antarctican Society. I realize I have big shoes to fill from my predecessors and will work hard to keep the Antarctican Society an important and viable organization. I believe in its motto "By and For All Antarcticans." As overseer of the slide-scanning project, I am very interested in preserving the history of our memberships' involvement with the Antarctic. To that end, I would like to focus on getting everyone to dig out their albums, films, photos, journals, slides, and memorabilia of their time in Antarctica. Go back through them, share them with family or friends again, label and date things that are not readily identified, write down or record the stories they might bring to mind, perhaps consider getting your images and journals and slides digitized onto a more modern format. Maybe even consider writing a book or article about your time there. Please take the time NOW to preserve your connection with Antarctica, not just for you or the society but for future generations as well.

And now some background about me…I grew up in the wheat fields of central Kansas and received a BA in History from Kansas State University. From there, I migrated to New England and received an MA in History and Archaeology from the University of Maine at Orono. My MA thesis was on an American Revolutionary War Trading Post that we excavated along the banks of the Penobscot River here in Maine. While finishing my MA, I signed on as a field assistant to a University of Maine Quaternary Institute glacial geology research team under the direction of Dr. George H. Denton and Dr. David R. Marchant and spent two field seasons in the Dry Valleys of Antarctica. Upon my return, I wrote and published a biography of Henry "Birdie" Bowers who died alongside Captain Robert F. Scott coming back from the South Pole in 1912. Then having the great opportunity to meet many polar personalities, I soon became involved with the American Polar Society as its membership chairman, at which I still serve. In 2006, I compiled an index of the issues from the first volume of the APS' journal **The Polar Times**. I was also fortunate to guest lecture aboard a cruise ship to the Antarctic Peninsula. I served as Historian for the Antarctican Society and became its Secretary a few years back. Maybe my most important contribution has been manning the barbecue grill at the last three Antarctican Society gatherings at Port Clyde, Maine! Having a passion for all things polar (and a very understanding wife named Jennifer), I have amassed a polar book collection that is nearing 2000 titles. And in 2008, I began a PhD program in History at the University of Maine where my dissertation research will focus on tracing the economic, historic and scientific connections between Maine and the polar regions. I teach history and coach the golf team at Belfast Area High School on the coast in Maine and have two school-age children named Charlie and Audrey.

SLIDE-SCANNING UPDATE (By Charles H. Lagerbom) The Antarctican Society's slide scanning project is in full swing and I am heartened by the wonderful response from the many of you who have taken the time to dig out and organize your many images of Antarctica. I have been working with both large and small collections. Thousands of slides have been scanned and preserved into the new digital format. These images might otherwise have been lost or forgotten in some attic or basement. The slides have also been cataloged to allow easy search through different categories. As a result, the society thus far has amassed quite an archive of historical images and data about the history and science of Antarctica. Many Antarcticans have also shared their journals, notes and other information to augment their

image collections. The society's webmaster Tom Henderson has begun to make some of these images available on the website, so please check them out. With news that Kodak will no longer manufacture Kodachrome slide film, the end of an era is definitely at hand. So please consider making use of the slide scanning service.

WEBSITE UPDATE (Tom Henderson)
By the time you read this, the new version of Time Trek should be online. I know, I know …. I said it would be up shortly after the last newsletter. The bane of software development has always been uncovering "bugs" in final testing. We found a significant one in Time Trek and it has taken a lot of time to resolve this pest. As I stated earlier, this version is important because it supports multiple browsers – including MacIntosh's Safari – rather than just Microsoft Internet Explorer. It does require the download of Google Earth's API plugin, but that is a simple process. Instructions on how to do this will be found on the Time Trek page of the website.

Google released the newest version of Google Earth on September 9. Further, the Google Earth API plugin is built right into it for Microsoft IE browser users so when you download it, you automatically are set up for Time Trek. If you are a Mac user you have a separate download of the API plugin on the Google website. This is good news because the new version is 25% faster than the previous one and has some new features as well. Again, all of this is covered on the Time Trek page of our website.

The website survey was completed by 29 members. That is not a large number, but the responses were sufficient for me to better understand what you like and don't like about the website. It has given me some good input for future development. You may read the details of the responses on the website under What's New. Here is a brief summary:

Profile of Respondents

- 83% of respondents are over age 50
- 48% visited Antarctica as scientists, 31% as civilian or military support, 31% as tourists
- 46% visit the website monthly, 46% less than that
- 68% visit to learn what is happening in Antarctica
- 66% find the What's New and Pack Ice pages to be the most useful
- Of the 13 respondents who said they use Time Trek, 12 use the Google Earth version and 9 use the Static Map version
- 75% of Time Trek users find the Features and Stations information to be the most useful

Comments

Respondents submitted 21 separate comments. Here are the common criticisms noted:

- Clearly, there were a number of Apple MacIntosh users in this group. Six of the comments addressed the lack of Apple browser (Safari) compatibility, especially for Time Trek.
- Four respondents mentioned insufficient content in Time Trek

There were also several very positive comments about the website, as well as some specific technical suggestions. You can see all of the results and comments by reading the summary on the What's New page of the website.

This survey has clarified some of the directions to prioritize in the ongoing development of the website:

- More than two-thirds of the respondents visit to see what is happening in Antarctica. The newsletter has been the main means of conveying this information to members in the past, and it will continue to do so. However, since it is typically several months between

issues, the website could provide some up-to-date information in the interim. A common way that other websites do this is through what is called "RSS feeds." These are somewhat like links, but they are more powerful in that they summarize key information from other websites when those websites are updated. I also plan to add more websites to the Site Links list. This has been on the "to do" list for some time, but now it will be raised to a higher priority.

- The lack of MacIntosh Safari compatibility will be addressed in Time Trek by the new Google Earth version. Further, other parts of the website will be reviewed to be sure that the functions are Mac-friendly.
- The technical suggestions will be implemented quickly if they can be. Others, such as search capability for the entire website, will take a little more time but will be raised in priority.
- I will make every effort to add content on a regular basis. There is certainly more than enough material to use right now. In particular, my goal is to add at least 30 images every month to Time Trek, along with the events that correspond to those images.

The website survey provided a lot of valuable input. However, please don't wait until the next survey to offer your comments. I am always eager to hear from you about your likes and dislikes. It is, after all, your website!

NEW DIRECTOR AT BYRD POLAR RESEARCH CENTER. Dr. Ellen Mosley-Thompson has been named the new Director of Byrd Polar Research Center at The Ohio State University, Columbus. Ellen and her husband, Lonnie, both Senior Scientists at BPRC, have spent some 25 years studying ice cores from around the world, and are world's experts on dust in the cores. Sources of the dust can be determined to evaluate climatic conditions at the time that the dust (in snowfall) was deposited. Ellen's research focus is paleoclimatic reconstruction from the chemical and physical properties preserved in ice cores. She has conducted ice-core drilling programs in Antarctica (8 expeditions) and in Greenland (6 expeditions), concentrating on the polar regions' ice, as well as their interpretation, reconstructing conditions recorded by the ice. Her husband, Lonnie, concentrates on field operations on high-altitude tropical glaciers. As a team, they have authored more than 150 peer-reviewed papers using materials preserved in ice cores from Antarctica to Greenland, and also have been awarded, jointly or individually, about 10 distinguished international awards as recognition of their contributions to Earth's environmental histories as recorded in ice. More than 20 of their papers have been cited more than 20 times. Together, they have led 58 field programs (2008). Ellen received her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Geography from The Ohio State University, and is a Professor in the Department of Geography at OSU since 1995. Mosley-Thompson Cirques are named for Ellen.
John Splettstoesser

A STAR IN OUR MIDST. Susan Solomon is widely recognized as one of the leaders in the field of atmospheric science. Since receiving her PhD degree in chemistry from the University of California at Berkeley in l98l, she has been employed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration as a research scientist. Her scientific papers have provided not only key measurements but also theoretical understanding regarding ozone destruction, especially the role of surface chemistry. In l986 and l987, she served as the Head Project Scientist of the National Ozone Expedition at McMurdo Station, Antarctica and made some of the first measurements there that pointed towards chlorofluorocarbons as the cause of the ozone hole. In l994, an Antarctic glacier

was named in her honor in recognition of that work. In March of 2000, she received the National Medal of Science, the United States' highest scientific honor, for "key insights in explaining the cause of the Antarctic ozone hole." She is the recipient of many other honors and awards, including the highest awards of the American Geophysical Union (the Bowie Medal), the American Meteorological Society (the Rossby Medal), and the Geochemical Society (the Goldschmidt Medal). She is also a recipient of the Commonwealth Prize and the Lemaitre Prize, as well as the ozone award and Vienna Convention Award from the United Nations Environment Programme. In l992, R&D magazine honored her as its "scientist of the year". In 2004 she received the prestigious Blue Planet Prize for "pioneering research identifying the causative mechanisms producing the Antarctic ozone hole." She is a recipient of numerous honorary doctoral degrees from universities in the US and abroad. She is a member of the U. S. National Academy of Sciences, the American Philosophical Society, and is a Foreign Associate of the French Academy of Sciences, the Royal Society, the Royal Society of Chemistry, and the European Academy of Sciences. Her current research includes climate change and ozone depletion. She served as co-chair of the Working Group 1 Fourth Assessment of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC, 2007), providing scientific information to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. IPCC and Albert Gore, Jr. jointly received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007. In 2007 she was honored with the Lowell Thomas Award by The Explorers Club in the category "Exploring Climate Change." She was named one of the year's 100 most influential people in *Time* magazine in 2008. She also received the Grande Medaille of the Academy of Sciences in Paris for her leadership in ozone and climate science in 2008. In 2009 she was awarded the Volvo Environmental Prize, for "outstanding innovations or scientific discoveries which in broad terms fall within the environmental field." The award recognizes and honors Solomon's work in the Antarctic and her leadership during the last IPCC assessment.

As a testament to her credibility in her field, her publications tell a story by themselves. As Guy Guthridge mentions elsewhere in this Newsletter, ozone studies have played a major part in Antarctic research. A survey of the intellectual structure of Antarctic science is illustrated in a publication in the journal *Scientometrics*, v. 77, no. 3, Dec. 2008, in which the authors conducted a 25-year analysis (1980-2004) of the worth of science based on the times that authors of scientific articles are cited. A paper by J.C. Farman *et al*. in *Nature*, 1985, is most often cited because of the first announcement of the ozone 'hole' by Farman (British Antarctic Survey), followed by a paper in 1986 by Susan Solomon *et al*. that ranked 5th. The *Scientometrics* article mentions that publications by Farman and Solomon are co-cited most frequently. That has several meanings, one of which is that Susan convincingly earned all the awards mentioned above. It also means that NSF-Polar Programs got its investment returned as a result of Susan's international acclamation. ***John Splettstoesser***

WHAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT ANTARCTIC SCIENCE (By Guy Guthridge)

In 1980 the National Science Foundation funded a study that found 52 specialties of science in which Antarctic research had a big role. The specialties ranged from atmospheric pollution to zooplankton fecal pellet transport, but the heavy hitters back then were continental movement and magnetospheric ionization. The study was not at all subjective. It counted the number of times scientists, in published research papers, referred to (cited) the papers reporting the research. At the top of the list, with 546 citations, was a 1968 paper by Jim Heirtzler on motions of the ocean floor and continents. The Institute for Scientific

Information, which did the study, found 83 other Antarctic "citation classics" – papers cited more than 50 times between 1961 and 1978. At the Science Foundation we sighed with relief because the study found that while Antarctic research as a whole was cited less than other research in the same fields, Antarctic research that the Foundation had funded was cited more. The 1980 study had examined 2,942 Antarctic papers. A new study, published in 2008, shows that, back then, the party was just getting started. From 1980 to 2004 scientists from 80 countries published 10,942 Antarctic papers. The number per year rose from 165 in 1980 to 552 in 2004. Topping the new list? Of course: a 1985 paper by Jim Farman (British Antarctic Survey) and others in *Nature* about the ozone hole. A 1986 paper in *Nature* about the ozone hole by Susan Solomon and others ranks 5th. Second place in the new list has some poignancy. It's Dave Drewry's 1983 folio depicting the surface of the ice sheet, which took over a decade of flying instrumented LC-130s back and forth over Antarctica. Nowadays Radarsat and Icesat do the same work in weeks. But you don't have to be recent to be noticed. J.W.S. Marr's 1962 classic on the natural history and geography of krill makes 3rd place in the new list. [Marr was one of Shackleton's boy scouts on the *Quest* expedition in 1922.] Heirtzler's 1968 paper didn't make the cut this time. The 2008 citation study (NSF didn't fund it) is, "Intellectual structure of Antarctic science: a 25-years analysis," by Prabir G. Dastidar and S. Ramachandran, in *Scientometrics*, Vol. 77, No. 3 (2008), 389-414.

CREVASSE ROULETTE, The First Trans-Antarctic Crossing, 1957-58. Rosenberg Publishing, Pty, Australia, 2009, ISBN 9781877058660, 192 pp., $50 USD. By Jon Stephenson (Review by Art Ford) A most appropriate title, as you'll see when reading how tortuous routes through crevasse fields and over deadly, thinly snow bridged chasms were crossed by tracked vehicles and dog teams in reaching the polar plateau, and then beyond to the Pole and THE FIRST surface crossing of Antarctica, by the 1955-58 (Commonwealth) Trans-Antarctic Expedition, or TAE. Miraculously, all came through unscathed. Australian Stephenson, the geologist and a dog-team driver of this intrepid group has come up with a book among the BEST of the literature arriving from the aging polar explorers of the 1950s and soon after, a period that includes the 1957-58 IGY, the International Geophysical Year. Though largely coeval, the crossing was not an official part of the British IGY research program.

This was an epic event, and of course the British HAD to do this one, after Shackleton (1908) and Scott (1912) lost the Pole to Amundsen in 1911. Crossings had been attempted before, but Filchner (1912) and Shackleton (1915) were beset before ever reaching shore. Mechanized technology using icebreakers and aircraft support, with aerial photography as well as motorized, tracked vehicles for over-snow travel were required, and those awaited the IGY. Two main bases were built for the TAE: Shackleton Base on the Weddell Sea and Scott Base on the Ross Sea side of the continent. TAE's supply ship, the *MV Theron*, lost critical time trapped in the pack before eventually arriving at Vahsel Bay barely with time to set up the base for the first winter, as described in Anthea Arnold's 2007 book, "Eight Men in a Crate."

Vivian "Bunny" Fuchs, a geologist and later Director of the British Antarctic Survey, led the crossing, while New Zealand beekeeper Edmund Hillary — made "Sir" for his 1953 First on Mount Everest — led the Scott Base party's task to establish supply depots for the crossers coming from the Pole to the Ross Sea. (Fuchs's own knighthood awaited that success.) Stephenson's book provides entertaining personal views and many interesting anecdotes to fill in details to the leaders' official account in their 1958 book "The Crossing of Antarctica." Those leaders, among others, are now gone, and we

are very fortunate to have Stephenson's additional memories, photographs, and notes for the record of this unique adventure.

Hillary's group in his iconic Ferguson tractors established a route with 47 tons of fuel and supplies cached in depots to take Fuchs' TAE from the Pole to the Skelton Glacier, then down to the Ross Ice Shelf and Scott Base, as described in the chapter, "Hillary's dash for the Pole." The Wellington (N.Z.) press seems to have wanted to raise some public interest (and sales?) so somehow obtained private radio communications between the leaders, as explained in the passage entitled "The Cause Célèbre." Hillary had recommended to Fuchs that he split his crossing between two seasons, and on his arrival at the Pole to be flown out and back to England, for completion of the crossing the following summer. Bunny responded strongly that for many reasons the crossing had to be completed, no matter the risks. Those two couldn't have had more opposite personalities: Bunny's suspicious and withdrawn, whereas the beekeeper's ebullient and outgoing. Both are smiling, though as Ed greets Bunny on 19 January 1958 and welcomes him to the Pole, overwatched by U.S. Navy "Operation Deep Freeze" Commander, Admiral Dufek.

The McMurdo band was playing "God Save the Queen" upon arrival at Scott Base. (Band membership required no musical talent, only one to play LOUD.) The whole journey, covering 2,158 miles, took 99 days from Shackleton Base (Fuchs had predicted 100). A chapter "After TAE" tells later fates of expedition members. The final one, "Then and Now," takes on more ethereal topics like "Science and Exploration," "IGY and Its Aftermath." As a lecturer later on tourist ships, Stephenson is a part of both generations. The five appendixes are packed with useful information, ranging from the history of exploring the Weddell Sea and of IGY explorations in that region, to some sea-ice records and even plate tectonics. One diagram nicely compares the hull design of three famous polar ships, in a search to explain why some ships are crushed in the pack and others not.

Diligent searching will come across a few inconsequential typos and such, but overall, the publisher and, especially, the author are to be commended for this fine product. The large page size (28 x 21 cm) allows sufficient space for uncluttered maps and spectacular photographs of polar scenery. The print and illustrations are of exceptional quality, making the reading of the book an enjoyable experience. The book seems well documented and indexed. A glossary explains potentially unfamiliar terms, such as Katabatic and Polynya.

In a monster Soviet helicopter in 1977, as exchange scientist with the 22nd Soviet Antarctic Expedition, I passed Stephenson Bastion en route from Druzhnaya ("Friendly") Base to the Shackleton Range for geological studies, and looking down on the ice-strewn 800-million-year-old bedded structures of the Stephenson Formation I wondered who that guy Stephenson was. Now I know.

JOHN RUSSELL TWISS, JR. (1938 - 2009). John Russell Twiss, Jr., known as Jack to *Old Antarctic Hands,* died on 23 July 2009 in The Plains, Virginia, after a long battle with Parkinson's disease. He is survived by his wife Mary and three children: John, Alison, and Emily.

He was born in New York City, attended the Phillips Exeter Academy, and was a 1961 graduate of Yale University. He began his government career that same year in the National Science Foundation's Office of Antarctic Programs (now the Office of Polar Programs). During the 1964-65 Antarctic field season, Jack was the U.S. Antarctic Research Program's (USARP) representative in Antarctica, the youngest individual to ever serve in that capacity. After a four year hiatus, during which he worked for two scientific laboratories and helped start a scientific equipment company, Jack rejoined the NSF in 1970. For the next

four years he served as the Acting Director and Special Assistant to the Director of the International Decade of Ocean Exploration. Many Society members who worked on the ice and on the *Eltanin* in the 1960s and early 1970s will have memories of Jack's active presence and contributions to U.S. Antarctic and oceanographic research programs.

In 1974, Jack, subsequently known as John, left the Foundation to become the first Executive Director of the newly established Marine Mammal Commission. The Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors on Marine Mammals were established to overview and provide advice to Congress and the responsible regulatory agencies on actions necessary to meet the intent and provisions of the 1972 Marine Mammal Protection Act. Under his direction, the Commission acquired a reputation for providing advice based on sound science, and when appropriate, taking into consideration uncertainty concerning the science and the possible socioeconomic and biological-ecological consequences of alternative management actions. Until his retirement in September 2000, the Commission maintained an active interest and involvement in Antarctic matters, particularly those affecting the conservation of marine mammals and marine ecosystems in the Southern Ocean. As one example, the Commission played a leading role, working with the Department of State, the NSF and the National Marine Fisheries Service, to formulate and implement the "ecosystem approach" to living resource conservation embodied in the 1981 Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources.

In addition to his leadership role in marine mammal and marine ecosystem conservation, John was a proponent of land stewardship through youth education. He served on the Board and in 1986-89 and again in 1997-99 was elected Chairman of the Board of the Student Conservation Association, incorporated in 1964 to give high school and college students first-hand experience working in and promoting stewardship of the country's national parks and refuges. From 1990 to 1994, he served on the Strategic Advisory Council of Yale University's School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. After his retirement from the MMC, he served on the advisory boards of The Ocean Conservancy and the Marine Conservation Biology Institute. His dedication and unique contributions to conservation, science, and public service have been widely recognized.
In 1966, "Mount Twiss" in the Ellsworth Mountains was named in his honor; in 1993 he received the Outstanding Public Service Award from the American Society of Public Administration; in 2000 he received the Founders Award from the Student Conservation Society; and in 2006 he was elected an honorary, emeritus member of the Society for Marine Mammalogy, the only non-scientist ever to be so honored.

John made a difference in the world. He was an outstanding public servant, a generous friend, and a role model for all of us. Friends and colleagues who knew him, and would like to help keep his legacies alive, can make contributions to the Student Conservation Association, or the endowment for the "Twiss Award" established by the Society for Marine Mammalogy following his retirement from the MMC in 2000. Contributions to the SCA should be sent to The Student Conservation Association, Attn. Vicki Cota / JRT, P.O. Box 550, Charlestown, NH, 03603-0550. Contributions to the endowment for the Marine Mammal Society's Twiss Award should be sent to Steven Swartz, Treasurer of the Society for Marine Mammalogy, at 14700 Springfield Road, Darnestown, MD 20874. Contributions to both organizations are tax deductible. ***Bob Hofman***.

WHAT DO THE TOURISM NUMBERS MEAN? ***(By John Splettstoesser, Advisor to IAATO.)*** As planning develops for the coming tourism season in Antarctica, 2009-10, the International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO) is busy

preparing for it, by informing its members of requirements needed for proposed itineraries within the Antarctic Peninsula, the area of most of the tourism cruises, the remainder occurring in the Ross Sea area. Seasonal instructions have already been forwarded to all operators, much of it similar to previous seasons, but with an addition based on a health concern. British Antarctic Survey, which for some years has allowed tour ships operated by IAATO members to visit its stations (Rothera, Signy, Halley), has cancelled all visits by tour ships this coming season as a precaution against swine flu infecting station staff. It is not uncommon for incoming guests/tourists/station staff to visit a station where winterovers have not had any visitors, and the first occurrence often means an introduction of common colds or worse.

Although the numbers of tourists, operators, ships, and yachts have grown over the past decade or more, the sagging economy showed itself in the tourism industry in the 2008-2009 austral summer, the active season spanning October into the following March. The industry is managed by IAATO, an organization founded in 1991 to advocate, promote, and practice safe and environmentally responsible private-sector travel to the Antarctic. From an initial number of seven founding members in 1991, the organization has now grown to 110, consisting of ship owners and charterers, travel agents, ship agents, conservation groups, service companies, and government offices. The 110 members are based in 16 countries plus the Falkland Islands/Islas Malvinas. The IAATO website at www.iaato.org includes tourism numbers, Information Papers presented at Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings, Directory of all the members, Environmental Guidelines, and other information for public referral.

A few brief statements illustrate what the tourism numbers mean, by way of comparing selected seasons of operation, some trends, and the modes of travel of a mainly ship-borne industry.

1999-0 * 17 operators * 21 ships/yachts * 13,687 passenger landings * 936 cruise-only passengers

2008-09 * 44 operators * 51 ships/yachts * 26,933 passenger landings * 10,652 cruise-only passengers

There were 112 different nationalities represented in the tourists for the 2008-09 season, with most from the U.S., U.K., Germany and Australia.

For the 23rd consecutive year, land-based activities such as mountaineering have operated from Patriot Hills, Ellsworth Mountains, managed by Adventure Network International (plus Antarctic Logistics and Expeditions), with nearly 500 people involved in the 2008-09 season (273 clients, the remainder consisting of government visitors and VIPs, guides, staff, and air crew).

Prior to 1999 there were no cruise-only operators, an activity that has increased greatly since then because of the popularity of larger vessels. IAATO Bylaws do not permit landings of passengers from ships with more than 500. Also, the 2008-09 figures are all reduced from the previous season (2007-08) (about 18% for landings), presumably a factor of the economy. When looking at the total number of tourists visiting Antarctica, it should be kept in mind that the 'footprint' (those making landings) is less than the total, thus reducing the overall potential environmental impact on the continent. Tourism has no stations on land, the ship providing the 'hotel', as it were.

For a recent article on tourism, readers can find more at the Society website where an article from September 1, 2009, in the *Providence Journal* (Rhode Island) provides an honest assessment of the industry.