



THE ANTARCTICAN SOCIETY

NOTICE

OF

MEETING

Wednesday evening, January 31, 1979

8 p.m.

Board Room 543, National Science Foundation
18th and G Streets, N.W.

A MOST TIMELY PRESENTATION

ON

SATELLITE OBSERVATIONS OF ANTARCTIC SEA ICE

by

Dr. Jay Zwally

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Maryland
(Formerly of Office of Polar Programs, NSF)

WASHINGTON POST, January 8, 1979 "Formation of Antarctic sea
ice is being watched closely by weather satellites".

COME AND HEAR AND SEE HOW "CLOSELY" CLOSELY CAN BE!



THE ANTARCTICAN SOCIETY

Kenneth J. Bertrand, 1910-1978 - A Profile

Ken and I were colleagues and close friends for more than 40 years. But then, he was always everyone's friend, giving of himself without reservation or thought of personal gain. When I heard Sir Vivian Fuchs comment in a 1964 lecture that despite all the newfangled machinery and equipment the one indispensable ingredient in Antarctic exploration is absolute and transparent integrity, I thought of Ken.

The fact that he captained the Wisconsin cross country team in his student days helps us understand his subsequent career. Cross country is no glamour sport, it's a character builder. Run over stamina-testing courses largely devoid of spectators except at start and finish, each runner has to do his utmost on his own, for the team score is the sum of individual performances. One has to be unusually dedicated to succeed in this sport as Ken did.

After completing residence requirements for the doctorate at Wisconsin he joined me and another geographer at Oklahoma State in 1937, where he finished his dissertation and got his degree from Wisconsin. Characteristically, he volunteered to coach a cross country team for OSU and developed one good enough to take a shot at the national title. He took no pay except satisfaction.

When World War II intervened he volunteered for that, too, but wasn't accepted because of imperfection in his bite. It shouldn't have mattered; he would never have bitten anyone anyway. Consequently when I assembled a BGN (Board on Geographic Names) staff to provide some millions of names posthaste for wartime maps and charts he welcomed the chance to have a part in it and joined me again until the end of the war. In September 1946 he joined the faculty of the Catholic University of America. A devout Catholic, this was not just a job, it was the fulfillment of a dream. He chaired the Geography Department until his retirement in 1975.

In his last half year at BGN he was the staff man for a special committee that had been appointed on 23 July 1943 to tackle the chaotic and ticklish problems of Antarctic names. The committee members were W.L.G. Joerg, Capt. Harold E. Saunders USN, and for a few months Lawrence Martin, all of whom had worked extensively on Antarctic exploration history. CD agreed that Ken would take the Antarctic as his special research field, and the shift from BGN to CU didn't cause him to miss a beat. To have his sources handy he began amassing a private library on the area that grew to more than 500 volumes and includes some rare items secured by having a standing order with a London bookseller.

When BGN received statutory authorization in July 1947, thus becoming legitimate at the age of 57, the special committee became the Advisory Committee on Antarctic Names. In October 1947 Ken was made a member and in 1962 became chairman. When new government regulations in 1973 complicated life for any advisory committee that had even one non-government member, Ken promptly and quietly resigned to simplify the committee's work.

The enormous difficulty of the Committee's task in the beginning has already been related in print. In point here is the fact that the committee for three years actually met two or three half days a week, and for six more years at least one half day a week to go through all available literature, records, notes, photographs, maps, fitting things together piece by piece. Some semblance of order had to be introduced at the start, so Ken and I drafted a statement of policy and procedure guidelines that was refined through discussion in committee meetings with several Antarctic explorers, then accepted, implemented and widely copied by other countries either verbatim or with slight modifications. It helped the committee to be objective in its recommendations and to defuse emotional situations. It also helped initiate a period of wholehearted cooperation with foreign institutions and explorers, a decided turn-around contributing to a climate in which Antarctic treaty negotiations could later take place. Another of Ken's notable early contributions was the compilation of the first reasonably comprehensive catalogue of Antarctic expeditions, identifying dates, leaders, commanders, sponsors, ships and their captains, and areas of operation. This sounds easy but really wasn't.

Before the treaty talks came into the picture the Department of State set about preparing a white paper that could bring together the bases of territorial claims if any were to be made. As the compendium grew an editor was needed and Ken was chosen. After the treaty the white paper wasn't needed, and since it seemed a shame to waste all that effort Ken was given permission to seek a private publisher. He felt that before publication further effort should be made to locate missing critical information on the period of the sealers and early sightings of the continent. He made numerous visits to likely sources up and down the east coast and traced every lead he could uncover, adding significant new material. He also addressed the problems of illustration and index. The American Geographical Society published the book under the title *Americans in the Antarctic 1775-1948*. It received highly complimentary reviews all over the world. Ken got no money out of the publication, didn't expect or want any.

He continued research and writing to the very end. In the course of his work he became more and more impressed with the American, James Eights, first scientist in the Antarctic, impressed enough to write a nearly completed article about him. On a recent trip to New England he and his wife, Leone, detoured to try to locate Eights' burial place. They looked at every grave marker in three cemeteries, in pouring rain at one of them. Cross country men run in all weathers. Scholars do not fail to run down leads. Ill health never deterred him. Severe colitis for years dictated drastic dietary restrictions until an ileostomy put him back in condition. He made his first visit to Antarctica after that, in 1962. His next visits were as lecturer on two Lindblad cruises, in 1977-78. He returned from the second one ill with what turned out to be cancer. He bounced back from surgery and radiation to resume normal activities, and was optimistic almost to the end on 17 December 1978.

In his retirement year the students at Catholic University dedicated the yearbook to him. The Board of Geographic Names gave him an Outstanding Service Award, the only one it ever bestowed, and presented him with a picture of the Bertrand Ice Piedmont. The Association of American Geographers cited him for meritorious contributions, the Department of the Interior gave him a rare Public Service Award, all of us gave him what he appreciated most - love and friendship. Father Theall of Catholic University said at the funeral that Ken was more than a gentleman and a scholar, he was literally a gentle man. In truth he was, and rich all his life in the ways that really matter. He left those riches to us; we are all richer for having given him our friendship.

Meredith F. Burrill

We are deeply indebted to Pete Burrill for the Memorial Profile for our much loved and respected former president who put up a most courageous fight to the very- end on the 17th of December. Pete was especially close to Ken down through the years, and was the right man to do the profile. The Antarctic Society presented Ken in mid-November with a copy of Eliot Porter's Antarctica, and I'm sure he must have enjoyed looking at the beautiful pictures of Antarctica. Dr. Bertrand was pure grit down the home stretch. He removed a wall in front of his home last summer and graded the lawn to the street --a hard job for a young man, let alone one suffering from cancer. Although hospitalized with internal hemorrhaging in November, he insisted on being allowed to come home so that he could vote in the fall elections. Quite a fellow, Ken Bertrand. The Antarctic Society meant much to him, and this was reflected in the essays on Antarctica which he carefully prepared for our newsletters when he was our President. He was able to come to our October meeting, and this was truly a memorable meeting with Mary Alice McWhinnie. We have asked his widow, Leone, to fill out her husband's term on our Board of Directors. She too is a true Antarctic, and he will live on in the Antarctic Society through her and his many friends. Nearly 20 Antarticans attended his funeral, one which was attended by a multitude of friends from all walks of his life.

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Wasn't Admiral Black just great! Gerry Schatz told Ruth Siple that he was straight out of the 19th century -- a real romanticist. Everyone agreed that he did a great job, and it was a beautiful trip through his many Antarctic expeditions. A real pro with regal-like dignity. And the wonderful home baked cookies and bread were provided throuc the generosity and culinary talents of Ruth.

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Our attendance has been up this year but we can always handle more. Come on out and hear Jay. Bert Crary has heard his presentation and gave him a 4-star rating. Parking is no problem in the evening around NSF. What better way to end the month than to come to the meeting and learn something about a subject which is becoming a red hot item among polar scientists!

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What's a humanist? I thought at first it had to be someone who was not a supervisor, then I thought that perhaps it had to be someone who was not a husband. Anyway, the National Endowment of the Humanities is looking for someone for either three months, six months, or twelve months to do whatever humanists do and they want them to do it in Antarctica. It wasn't quite clear from their letter what they were looking for, as they mentioned U.S.-Soviet and international law scholars among appropriate kinds. I think it would be just great if they gave the stipend to a rookery of Adelie penguins so that they could fly around the Antarctic and visit the various stations and do unto people what people have been doing unto them in the name of science for all these years. Can't you see Ken Moulton walking around with a transmitter strapped to his chest, a color coded numbered identification collar around his neck, and a brand on his backside! Penguins have a long-standing interest in humans and human behavior, and I think it is about time that we got a birds-eyeview of how humans must appear to the local indigenous population. Although the closing date (January 2, 1979) is past, they may still be looking for their "person". If you are an interested humanist, call Dave Coder or Joe Neville at 202-724-0333. Maximum stipends are \$5,000 for three months, \$10,000 for six months, and \$20,000 for twelve months.

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The National Endowment for the Arts will also be involved in the venture, but we do not have a letter from them. It's a great opportunity for some artist to get an expense paid trip to the ice, plus a wallet full of greenbacks.

MORE BERGY BITS

The WASHINGTON POST does not have any such motto as "All the News that's Fit to Print" they publish anything which anyone on the street walks in and wants to sell to them. They bought an article early in 1979 which pertained to about 6,000 tons of radioactive soil supposedly being on a ship locked in the ice off McMurdo. The long article was full of such gross inaccuracies that it is our understanding that the Navy won't even bother to make comment on it. The editor of the POST has told the Navy that they are extremely embarrassed by the article. There is no ship in the ice with any radioactive material on it, in fact, the ship to get the last 300 cubic feet of soil was still at dockside at Port Hueneme waiting to depart for Antarctica at the time the article was published. The article quoted the Executive Secretary of the Polar Research Board, one of our more handsome overweight members, and the authoress had never even bothered to call this person. I talked to Lt. Commander Alan C. Johannesmeyer, nuclear physicist at Port Hueneme who has been involved with the moving of the material from the site of the nuclear plant at McMurdo, and he assured me that its radioactivity is so low that it does not require any special handling for transportation. It is 50 times below the lowest specific activity figure requiring handling precautions. Alan quieted his mother's fears last year by telling her that he would be subject to greater radiation taking a sun bath in his back yard than he would if he slept on the soil on its way back to the States. Alan is a nephew of our previous president, one Ruth Johannesmeyer Siple. Incidentally, before he got off the line he wanted to say that he did not share the same feelings about the beauty of the Antarctic as those expressed by his Aunt Ruth. He spoke of his great disappointment on coming up from Williams Air Field and expecting to see a beautiful pristine McMurdo! I felt like telling Alan the obvious, that his aunt is one truly beautiful person, one who is ugly blind, who can only see great beauty in all people, in all places, and in all happenings. Incidentally, Alan's father, Chuck (Ruth's brother) is shooting for a pentathlon world record in the North American Masters this year where he will compete in the 60-64 year old bracket. He has been the champion in the 55-59 age group in four of the last five years. He holds the U.S. record for the 60-65 age group, - 2,924 points, and goes for the international record this year. This is something which he got interested in when he took up jogging and aerobic exercising in 1967. He is one of four boys which his good wife, Ev has had to bring up, and this is the first year in decades which the local Catholic church basketball team in San-ford, N.C. has not had this easy-going Protestant as a stalwart to their offense. Ev has had to live with a javelin in the bedroom, the discus in the kitchen, the high jump in the living room, and a jumping pit among the dogwoods. But Chuck never did promise her a rose garden. Chuck is 6'4", and like his sister, Ruth, has legs which go all the way to his armpits. Let's go Chuck, get that world record, and for you Alan, stay cool.

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James Hays, Columbia University, told the AAAS at their annual meeting in Houston earlier this month that the next glaciation of earth will take place by 2979 A.D. and will double the ice cover over both hemispheres in less than 300 years. But before you go to the barn to dust off that beautiful Flexible Flyer you had as a kid, listen to the words of Roger Revelle at the same meeting. He told them that we might see a doubling of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere within the next 75 years which could raise the average temperature of earth 5 to 6 degrees! We're going to have nude bathing at McMurdo, you just wait and see!

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There was another airplane crash in the Antarctic when a Russian IL-14 turbo-prop lost its port engine on take-off from Molodezhnaya on the 4th of January. Three people were killed in the crash. The United States dispatched a C-130 from McMurdo which went to the South Pole, refueled, and went on to Molodezhnaya to pick up five others who had been injured in the crash. They were evacuated to Dunedin, N.Z. where one of the survivors was reported to be in serious condition.

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A U.S. helicopter crashed at Darwin Glacier station on the 8th of January. One scientist and two crew members were injured, none seriously - just broken bones. The helicopter is a total loss.

MORE BERGY BITS

The drilling programs at J-9 on the Ross Ice Shelf have had very successful seasons. The Americanized Russian, Igor Zotikov, was able to obtain a complete core through the ice, one of 420 meters. There is an outside possibility that Igor might be back in the States in time to go to the upcoming meeting. If we could only get Christine Russell, science writer for the WASHINGTON STAR, to the meeting, we would be assured of Igor as he is her biggest admirer. Americans who have met Igor have their own Igor stories. When I first met him, I told him that my ex-wife had remarked that I was a good guy before I went to the Antarctic, and Igor replied that his wife had told him the very same thing! Ah, those wives!! Igor is going to the Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL) for five months. I did not realize that the Corps of Engineers was ready for Igor. I know their commanding officer, Al Devereaux, and I think Igor will be good for him! -- Browning has had good luck in their drilling programs, and have made two bore holes. Peter Webb, University of Northern Illinois, has retrieved a 125 cm core from the sediments on the ocean floor beneath the ice and water. They have captured over 4,000 anthropods.

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Our last Newsletter mentioned that Steve Ackley of CRREL was going to the Antarctic to deploy some data buoys in the Weddell Sea. Steve is back home, the buoys (six in number) have been deployed and they have just begun transmitting meteorological-oceanographical data to NASA. Eight more buoys will be set out by the POLAR STAR when it gets into the area later this season. Steve said that they had just a delightful thirteen consecutive hour flight all the way across West Antarctica, over the Weddell Sea and then on into the South Pole - with one hour of fuel left in the tanks. They arrived at the Pole totally "pooped" and after quick refueling, both gas and coffee, they continued on down to McMurdo Sound. He said that the seventeen hours' flight with one stop may have constituted a record distance-time for a single scientific mission.

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There were some political type problems between the Chileans and the Argentines which affected the waters where the HERO could and could not go. It resulted in the HERO having to go all the way to Montevideo, with its summer work being several weeks behind schedule. The National Geographic Society was going on the HERO to do a study on Mary Alice McWhinnie and her research. Unfortunately the NGS coverage had to be scrubbed. I think the Antarctic Society should make Mary Alice its Pin-Up Girl of the 1970's. She is fantastic.

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There is good news to report. The new Siple Station is running ahead of schedule, and everything looks good for the station being occupied this year.

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We understand that the flights of the Royal Australian Air Force from Christchurch to McMurdo were the first such flights ever for the Aussies. Wonder how many kegs of beer the blokes had aboard?

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Dwayne Anderson is leaving the Division of Polar Programs at the National Science Foundation at the end of this month. This former polar scientist from CRREL at Hanover who has been Chief Scientist in DPP for several years is leaving to become Dean of Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics at the State University of New York at Buffalo. We have all heard that old acorn about Deans ending up losing their faculties, but we wish him well, even though he never became a member of our august organization when he was in DPP!

MORE BERGY BITS

Another person going somewhere is Guy Guthridge. He and his tennis playing bride are going to the Bahamas to do a little scuba diving, some sunfish sailing, and an occasional set of tennis. We are deeply indebted to Guy for much of the material in Bergy Bits. He gives us the facts, and then we misuse them. Guy is a real co-operative fellow, and we would be lost without his support.

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We are gratified at the many early returns on the 1978-79 membership drive. Several have been a little bit miffed at my heavy handedness in trying to collect past dues, but I never promised finesse when I said that I would be a candidate for president. I have written personal letters trying to soothe some of the ruffled feathers, and hope to come out of all this with only a few black and blue spots. One thing which has confused members is that our membership is not on a calendar year, that it is similar to an academic year. We start in the fall and conclude with our Mid-Winter Day summer picnic somewhere around June 21st. There have been some late billings in the past, and this has led to the confusion. But we aren't going to be hard-nosed and zap memberships from people who have been in good standing over years and have missed a year or two recently. I have been trying to get those good people who have not paid for many years to divvy up, and I have treated admirals, doctors, lawyers, scientists, tourists, and friends alike. The returns have been gratifying, and we had over 125 paid up by the first week in January. Also many have taken advantage of the current three dollar rate to sign up for the long run. One man, a former president of this Society, sent in fifty dollars for his and his wife's memberships. Ron McGregor of ONR took the bit in his mouth and sent in dues for eight years! Captain Edwin MacDonald is in good standing for five years, and one of our new members, Ed Roos a former member of the Byrd Antarctic Expedition, 1928-30 and 1933-35, signed up for three years.

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One of the things which we are trying to do is to get some essay type articles for your edification and enjoyment. One of my ex-roommates at Little America V decided on his way to getting his doctorate in meteorology that he really wanted to be a man of the cloth. He is now a minister in upstate Minnesota where he ice fishes, drinks a moderate amount of beer, and is a national leader in ecumenical work between the Lutherans and Jews. He is a delightful man (just became a member) and I think he might have some interesting comments on the humans, near-humans, and would-like-to-be humans who end up in Antarctica. I asked the lovely Marybelle Bentley if she would write a treatise on what it is like to be a typical, average, mundane, girl-next-door type Antarctic wife who is left behind in cold Wisconsin each winter while her husband does God knows what to all that ice in Antarctica. But she wrote back she wouldn't touch that subject with a ten foot pole, not knowing what in the world I might do with it. She knows me! She wrote, "Numbing as it is, I will take my secrets to the grave". Good on her. But I am sure I will hear in due course from dear Margaret in New Zealand and she will have a message for all us men. I am hoping to get an article from Dick Chappell to put in the Newsletter announcing the meeting with Scout Mark Leinmiller. Mark has evidently had a good summer in Antarctica, having spent the working portion with George Denton's group from the University of Maine. He is now visiting the various U.S. bases and should be home sometime around the first of February. He sent Ruth a cachet from the South Pole on New Year's Day, which included a nice note closing with "Love ya, Mark". You've got to watch those Explorer scouts all the time. Can't trust them.

MORE BERGY BITS

One of our newest members is Kennard Bubier, who was an aircraft mechanic with Commander Byrd on the First Byrd Antarctic Expedition. He was a sergeant in the Marine Corps at the time, and he came out a light colonel. This success story is nothing compared to the great tribute that Byrd paid him in LITTLE AMERICA. He said that Ken was the diplomat of the camp, that his ambition was to make things run smoothly, that he backed up orders with an aggressiveness which was so slickly applied that it seemed gentle. He must have been a great man to winter over with, and we are indeed happy to count Ken as one of our fledglings.

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Another one of our new members, Fred Milan, professor of Human Ecology in the Institute of Arctic Biology at the University of Alaska was in town for a recent meeting of Man and the Biosphere. Fred, alias Mukluk, is head of Section 6B which pertains to people of the high latitudes. Old Fred was over in Novosibirsk for ten days, and afterwards the Russians took him as their guest to Lake Baikal. He has a damnable looking beard, so they were probably glad to send him back to Alaska. While attending meetings at Akademgorodok, a Russian approached him and asked him if he were Dr. Milan. It seemed the Russian wanted to congratulate him on his pioneering research in cold weather physiology at Little America V back in 1957.

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Another of our new members comes from the entertainment field, Jim Zumberge of Dallas. He free lanced with his show, and was voted the hit of the summer tourist season on the Ross Ice Shelf in 1958. His hit in the Rec Hall at Little America was a rendition of a little known song - probably composed by Jim - which had to do with Lydia Pinkham's pills. After a year of keeping a stiff upper lip as the *x!"#'* boy scout tried to play the Wurliztr, Zumberge was as welcome at the keyboard as a fresh warm breeze from the north! Some may know Jim as a geologist, some as a job-hopping administrator, but believe me, it is as an entertainer that his light really shineth before men, pardon me, people!

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One of our youngest members is Pete Demas out there in Studio City, California - that is, when he's at home. He was an aviation mechanic with Commander Byrd on his first two Antarctic expeditions, as well as being with the Commander in the Arctic in 1926. He has lived in and about planes all of his life, putting in 30 years with Lockheed between 1940 and 1970. He represented them on PAA's first round-the-world flight, June 17-30, 1947. He assisted in flight tests of the P2V ski airplane which led to Cdr. Jack Coley's first landing of the craft at the South Pole, was a consultant on the ski design of the C-130s, and was a flight test engineer of C-130 prototypes. He surfaced here in Washington last summer at the news conference announcing the selection of Mark Leinmiller as the 3rd Antarctic Eagle Scout. Recently he participated in a documentary film, The Arctic Adventure, which was presented at the Ontario Science Center on November 13, 1978. Wonder what this graduate of McKinley High here in Washington is going to do for an encore in 1979? This fellow actually soloed in an airplane (Curtis Jenny) back in 1925 when he was still in high school.

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There is great enthusiasm mustering from afar about Larry Gould being our Memorial Lecturer, tentatively scheduled for Thursday evening, April 19th. It will coincide with the semi-annual meeting of the Polar Research Board in Washington. Larry evidently still has some sex appeal. Bill Field writes that "it takes dynamite to move

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me these days", but swiftly added that Mary started packing their bags when she heard that Larry would hopefully be our speaker. Bill is one of the nicest guys to ever carry an ice axe. It is hard to figure how a guy with an eternal love affair for glaciers can find peace and happiness in the concrete jungle of the Big Apple.

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Bob Nichols sent a nice letter from Harwich Port. He is a member of the "Ends of the Earth". They have a New York City chapter, as well as a London chapter. Bob wrote that the most wonderful banquet which he ever attended was the annual meeting in London. This confirms comments that I had heard previously from the old sage of Fuchs British Transantarctic Expedition, one Ralph Lenton. Bob raised the question as to whether the Antarctic Society would be interested in having a joint meeting with the Antarctic Society. Sounds great, but where do we get the money - the daily double or the state lottery? Individuals interested in knowing about the Antarctic Society should contact Dr. Raymond Adie, Department of Geology, Birmingham University, Birmingham, England. Keep those suspenders up tight, Bob, as I think some of the female Antarcticans are still tracking you.

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Speaking of women in Antarctica, Mildred Crary's article received fine reviews from you folks, and the plaudits were justly deserved. Rear Admiral David Welch wrote a very nice long letter and said that he wanted to go on record at this time as saying that the Navy welcomed the women, that the six ladies who were the first to visit the South Pole did NOT hitch a ride but were invited. Evidently they linked arms with the Admiral and all seven jumped from the back ramp of the C-130. If it had been the North Pole, would it have been Seven Up? Mildred is going to do further research on women of Antarctica, and she has been given a copy of the Admiral's letter. The Admiral pointed out that Lois Jones and her crew worked in one of the dry valleys and that the valley will forever more be known as "The Valley of the Dolls".

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Anna Minevich keeps creeping into print here in Bergy Bits, but if you knew Anna you would not begrudge her the ink. Besides, she wrote that I was a great writer, and I like people who have the audacity to tell a lie. Anna sent me some lovely polar stamps, including a 4 kopec stamp of a beautiful emperor penguin with a chick, a 3 kopec stamp of a snowy petrel, a 10 kopec stamp of an elephant seal, and a 20 kopec stamp of a large walrus. She also included a cachet from North Pole-23 which was cancelled on July 16, 1978, which was the date when the ice island got closest to the Pole (89°55'N).

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George Llano is on the lecture circuit, going to the Antarctic at the end of this month on a German ship, the WORLD DISCOVERER sailing out of Miami. He is going to give three lectures a day. I'm glad I'm not going on that cruise. It's not that I wouldn't enjoy old George, but three times a day would seem like going back to college. Imagine paying out all those thousand dollar bills and not being able to enjoy your cruise because of class work. The WORLD DISCOVERER is sort of a poor man's Lindblad, although you still need a sizable check book. George has a daughter with great big brown teddy bearish eyes who just got her Master's degree from Georgetown. She and the rest of the family have good sense and wanted George to retire to that great state of Maine. But George has his priorities sort of twisted and has bought a place in Naples, Florida. You'll be sorry, George!

STILL MORE BERGY BITS

Admiral Abbot writes that he is putting together a Dog and Pony Show on the salvage of the crashed C-130s at Dome C in East Antarctica. The title of his presentation is "And Then There Was One". He hopes there will be a sequel to this Dog and Pony Show, with money being made available in another season so they can go back and salvage #321. The Abbots are down in Mobile, Alabama.

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We had a nice "Dear Sir" letter from Mary P. Goodwin out in Los Angeles. Usually a "dear sir" letter is almost as lethal as a "dear John" letter, but this one was a great one. This lady became Antarctic smitten back in 1951 when she audited a course in glaciology at UCLA. She bought a paper back edition of THE WORST JOURNEY IN THE WORLD for 15 cents and this started a 26 year old love affair. From a card file in a blue Edgeworth pipe tobacco tin she has built up what could be the largest private Antarctic Library in this country -- 1500 to 1800 volumes gathered from combing bookstores in London, Paris, Australia, and elsewhere. It is not certain whether her husband still has a room in his own house, but as soon as a child becomes of age, she apparently puts the kid out on the street and makes his room an alcove of her library. Her library is strong in rare books, beginning with Cook. She no doubt knows that Cook once called Antarctica "Dalrymple's Continent". Thanks for all the info, Mary P. We are going to pass it along to the Polar Center at the National Archives. Who was that professor who lighted the flame? Could it have been Bob Sharp? (P.S. The current edition of HARVARD (University) MAGAZINE has an excellent article "Captain James Cook, An Improbable Hero" by J. H. Parry, a former Navy man who is Gardiner Professor of Oceanic History and Affairs at Harvard.)

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We have another member who is an artist, a fellow by the name of Lee Winslow Court who has the good judgment to not only live in Vermont but to spend his summers on beautiful Monhegan Island, Maine, where his son Rusty is a bona fide lobsterman. He went to the Antarctic on a tour ship, and evidently did a lot of canvases. Many of his paintings are in the Polar Center at the National Archives, but he still has some which he is interested in selling. Anyone want to buy a belated Christmas present? Contact Lee in West Townshend, Vermont 05359. Lee was slowed up temporarily by open heart surgery in March 1976, but people from Vermont are hardy old bucks and he cut himself four cords of wood in 1977.

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Pennie Rau of Pennie Rau's Originals in Hollywood (are whatever they are really originals?) went to the ice on the Magga Dan back in 1968. Imagine paying good money to roll all the way to the Antarctic and roll all the way back on an ice breaker! They should have paid her to have gone. Wasn't that the trip where they went aground in McMurdo? Sometimes the Antarctic is just like the infantry during combat!

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We have enough tourist types to start a rookery. Veryl Schult was on the very first tourist "expedition" to the Antarctic. It was with Lindblad in 1966 on the Lapataia. Veryl want to know who the "I" was in the Newsletter. "I" is Paul Dalrymple, and I am your current outspoken, candid president who is trying to get you all to read the newsletters and to support your Antarctic Society. Some of the other tourist members are Constance Swan from the Boston area -- it was great having you down from the Cultural Capital of the Nation for Admiral Black's presentation -- Katherine Petrin of Virginia Beach who used to come regularly to our meetings when she lived in Washington, Ruth Rogers, Miriam Free, and, of course, Sophie Dales.

STILL MORE BERGY BITS

We also have a goodly collection of presumably good inspectors, as Ernest Dukes, Kelsey Goodman, William Kinsey, and Robert Yoder were at one time or another members of the State Department inspection teams that visited Antarctic stations to see that the Antarctic Treaty was being honored.

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I am remiss in not knowing more about a lot of you folks, but I am learning. Joe Dukert, whose name I misspelled, is the author of THIS IS ANTARCTICA, which was published in two editions. He has written about the Antarctic in the WASHINGTON POST, the SMITHSONIAN, and in LAMP. He also produced a documentary movie about Antarctica.

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Do you know your Board members? George Watson of the Smithsonian is one of them. Dr. Watson was a US observer on the 18th Chilean Antarctic Expedition, 1963-64. He visited the American sector in 1966. He has also authored BIRD ANTARCTIC, SUBANTARCTIC

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We don't have membership cards, Bill Pugh, but we might look into the possibility if we grow and grow and grow. We will probably go in the hole this year, as it takes about a hundred dollars to run off each newsletter. We hope to build our membership up to over 200 (last, 150). We have been mailing newsletters to close to 300, but this is coming to a screeching halt as we are dropping those who have not paid since 19

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Albert Armstrong, an architectural engineer with the Department of Navy, Bureau of Yard and Docks, who was responsible for designing many buildings in the Antarctic, including the design of support facilities for the PM3A nuclear plant at McMurdo, the 10-bed infirmary at McMurdo, and the standby for the 1500 KW generator plant at McMurdo is recuperating from eye surgery. We had a nice letter from his wife Florence, and I am sure that all Antarcticans wish him the best.

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Here and There: Blackie (Little America V, '57) and Kathy Bennett have bought 10 acre of land outside of East Lansing, Michigan and are contemplating building a solar house. Art "Red Jacket" Jorgensen, (South Pole '58) had the thrill of seeing his son Eric's name flashed on the giant electronic Scoreboard at Meadowlands this fall when his team went to the New Jersey championships. Art once masqueraded as a lineman at Roselle High School, but never made a tackle in three years. It wasn't all his fault though, as the guy on his right was named Roosevelt Grier and he always tackled the whole back-field of the opposing team, releasing them one by one until he found the guy with the ball. Eric comes of good athletic lineage - his mother is a mighty fine tennis player

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We have heard from some of our overseas members. Fraser Myers sent us a letter on 31 December from Okinawa - must have been an awfully quiet New Year's Eve. Fraser wrote, "I am much indebted to Dr. Bertrand for getting me into the Society" and ends up with "All the best then from the far Pacific to you there in Washington, D.C.". One of our latest additions is Lt. Commander Paul Jacobs who was O.I.C. at Palmer in 1972. He is building up a collection of polar exploration books, and says he has many of the classics. They should come in handy on Adak in the Aleutians where he is stationed. I thought the war with Japan was over. Have I missed something?

END OF BERGY BITS

The next Newsletter may or may not come with Bergy Bits, as I am tentatively scheduled to be in Geneva for some meetings in mid-February. If there is no Bergy Bits per se, there will be something to read if it materializes. I wanted to profile Big Bert Crary this spring, but when I started to put things together I found out that it did not exactly fit into a profile so much as another format. I have consequently been thinking of entitling it "Tales of a Living Legend" and putting down a potpourri of infamous stories which I have picked up from knowing the Legend for the past two decades. However, upon checking with Bert I have noticed that either my instant memory recall mechanism is either askew or else stories Bert has told me in the past were embellished to fit the drinking occasion. But anyone who ever shared Happy Hour with old Bert knows his past is truly epic and would make great reading.

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The Elsevier Scientific Publishing Company of Amsterdam has announced its intention of publishing a new journal, COLD REGIONS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. The journal will deal with the scientific and technical problems of natural and artificial cold environments. Emphasis will be on the applied sciences. There will be four issues a year, and the price is to be determined. Malcolm Mellor of CRREL will be the editor. They got a good one in Malcolm.

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Have you been following the downers in the down industry? Last year California charged 32 firms with false advertising and unfair business practices in marketing their down products. The fraud division of the D.A.'s office in California tested 27 imported apparel items last April. Only one brand passed! In a sampling of \$13 million worth of down imports tested by the US Customs since last September, 50 percent were found to be mislabeled. Skiers haven't helped the industry, as they are more concerned with the sleek look rather than insulation, and this has led to synthetic filling replacing down. It is becoming increasingly more difficult to recognize quality down fill in jackets as heavier outer shells are becoming more popular, making it difficult to test the underneath fill. The world is just a facade of falsies.

ANTARCTICAN SOCIETY, c/o AINA, 3426 N. Washington Blvd., Arlington, VA 22201
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