



# THE ANTARCTICAN SOCIETY

905 NORTH JACKSONVILLE STREET  
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22205

HONORARY PRESIDENT — AMBASSADOR PAUL C. DANIELS

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**Presidents:**

Dr. Carl R. Eklund, 1959-61  
Dr. Paul A. Siple, 1961-2  
Mr. Gordon D. Cartwright, 1962-3  
RADM David M. Tyree (Ret.) 1963-4  
Mr. George R. Toney, 1964-5  
Mr. Morton J. Rubin, 1965-6  
Dr. Albert P. Crary, 1966-8  
Dr. Henry M. Dater, 1968-70  
Mr. George A. Doumani, 1970-1  
Dr. William J. L. Sladen, 1971-3  
Mr. Peter F. Bermel, 1973-5  
Dr. Kenneth J. Bertrand, 1975-7  
Mrs. Paul A. Siple, 1977-8  
Dr. Paul C. Dalrymple, 1978-80  
Dr. Meredith F. Burrill, 1980-82  
Dr. Mort D. Turner, 1982-84  
Dr. Edward P. Todd, 1984-86

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RADM David M. Tyree (Ret.), 1965  
Dr. Roger Tory Peterson, 1966  
Dr. J. Campbell Craddock, 1967  
Mr. James Pranke, 1968  
Dr. Henry M. Dater, 1970  
Sir Peter M. Scott, 1971  
Dr. Frank T. Davies, 1972  
Mr. Scott McVay, 1973  
Mr. Joseph O. Fletcher, 1974  
Mr. Herman R. Friis, 1975  
Dr. Kenneth J. Bertrand, 1976  
Dr. William J. L. Sladen, 1977  
Dr. J. Murray Mitchell, Jr., 1978  
Dr. Laurence McKinley Gould, 1979  
Dr. Charles R. Bentley, 1980  
Dr. Robert L. Nichols, 1981  
Dr. Robert H. Rufford, 1982  
Mr. R. Tucker Scully, 1983  
Dr. Richard P. Goldthwait, 1984

*1986 MEMORIAL LECTURE*

*POLAR ICE CORES - A RECORD OF CLIMATIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES*

by

Dr. Claude Lorius

Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique

Laboratoire de Glaciologie et Geophysique de L'Environnement  
Associe a L'Universite Scientifique et Medicale de Grenoble  
Grenoble, France

on

*Tuesday evening, 24 June 1986*

*8 PM*

at

*Kona Kai Club*

*1551 Shelter Island Drive  
Shelter Island  
San Diego, California*

This meeting is cosponsored by SCAR (Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research of the International Council of Scientific Unions) which will be holding its 19th meeting in San Diego, California, 16-27 June 1986.

On the afternoon of Wednesday, 25 June, 2-10 PM, there will be a SCAR tour of Sea World, reception at Penguin Encounter, and barbecue, which Society members may attend. There is a charge of \$10 for the barbecue, payable on arrival.

*It is an honor to have Dr. Lorius, a very distinguished scientist and an internationally renowned glaciologist, present the Antarctic Society 1986 Memorial Lecture on a timely subject of universal interest. Dr. Lorius has been Vice President of the International Commission for Snow and Ice, International Council of Scientific Unions, and has served on the Joint Scientific Commission for the World Climate Research Program.*

*Dr. Lorius's lecture will include an analysis of the 2,083-meter ice core recently obtained at Vostok Station. The core goes beyond the last inter-glacial, and has yielded a 150,000-year climatic history. It is one of the most significant studies to ever come out of Antarctica.*

This is a milestone for Ruth Siple and Bergy Bits as it marks our 50th Newsletter. We drafted a full page of reflections on the past eight years of literary pursuits, but she wouldn't go along with all of it. Mainly it was about the efforts we put into each issue. It isn't easy when our members have been active in Antarctica from 1928 to date, the old wanting to read about their comrades, the young wanting to know about current activities. You look for common themes of interest, such as Antarctic books; you look for anything on Mt. Erebus, penguins, the BEAR OF OAKLAND; you look for news on Antarctic heroes, be they dead or alive; you look for future trends and predictions. But when you get right down to it, the Newsletter really depends on you people sending us news items, as some of the best are invariably what we get in the mail. Bergy Bits is especially happy with the new cooperation being given by Dr. Peter Wilkniss and his staff at the Division of Polar Programs, in providing us with information on what is going on now in Antarctica. You will see evidence of this cooperation in this Newsletter, and we hope you are as pleased to read new information as we are to bring it to you. If it continues, it could mean that we may actually become a newsletter.

The Society has been in existence for close to thirty years, and in that time we have published a total of 76 newsletters, and have had a total of 125 lectures (including the one Dr. Wilkniss gives on 17 May 1986). Altogether 725 pages have been written. In the 50 newsletters which Ruth and I have put out in the past eight years, there have been 595 pages of some truths, some fiction, some fabrications. This is strictly a labor of love, because one has to be in love with Antarctica to take the time to collect news items and write them up. Ruth wields a cutting censorship which precludes your reading the best stuff, but she has to be appeased; otherwise we'd have to pay to get someone to type these things. Although this is a two-person operation (membership, treasury, newsletters, sales), there isn't that much pride of authorship that we wouldn't turn it all over to anyone who would appear on the horizon and want to devote hours and hours and hours of their time without compensation. We usually hear from people when we pull a real faux pas, and it's good to be corrected. Sometimes it's hard to hear the applause for the boos. But I guess what really helps to keep Ruth and me going are the nice letters we get from such people as Peter Anderson, Anne Benninghoff, Marybelle Bentley, John Cadwalader, Louis DeGoes, Sayed El-Sayed, Mary Goodwin, Larry Gould, Charlie Greene, Henry Harrison, Davida Kellogg, Dotte Larsen, Al Lindsey, Joe Lynch, Ingrid Malva-Gomes, Charlie Murphy, Bob Nichols, Jim Reedy, Bob Rutford, Arville Schaleben, Charlie Swithinkbank, J, Van Bekhoven, and a few others. If there was a reward for doing things for the Society, it came from the mouth of Gentleman Jim Zumberge who made kind and gracious comments at a Washington dinner preceding one of our Memorial Lectures,,

Probably the bottom line is that more people read these newsletters than we think. Our paid membership when we went after delinquents with an ice ax in 1978 was only 150; as we go to press, we are real

close to 500 - 496! We don't really want to get bigger, just better. Our treasury is now very stable, as Ruth provides a home for the Society and a lot of free services which formerly cost us money. This is a milestone Bergy Bits is totally enjoying, even if Ruth is somewhat embarrassed by it all.

**FORMER MESSENGER BOY INCOMING PRESIDENT OF SOCIETY.** The Moulton Meeting of the Antarctic Society also served as our annual business meeting, and we are pleased to announce the election of our new officers and Board of Directors. Our new president is Robert H.T. Dodson of the Bureau for Private Enterprise, Agency for International Development, Department of State, Washington, D.C. Back in 1944, Bob was a 16-year-old messenger boy in the Navy Department, and became enchanted by the lifestyle of a young lieutenant in the Navy whose desk he periodically visited on his rounds. The officer's name was Finn Ronne, and Finn talked to him about Antarctica, evidently giving him a real good snow job. Several years later when Finn was putting together his own expedition to the Antarctic, he contacted Bob who was then a worldly 19-year-old at Harvard. Finn asked him if he knew of a good geologist, and after talking with some of his professors at Harvard, Bob told Finn that there was a man at Tufts College chafing at the bit to go to Antarctica, and so Bob Nichols was fingered. Then Finn told Bob that he had lost the photographer he had lined up; could Bob find a photographer. It turned out that Bob knew just the man Finn was looking for - Bill Latady. He found him at Pinkham Notch, New Hampshire, and in 24 hours Latady was committed to go. Bob, himself, went down as an assistant glaciologist to Bob Nichols; and as chief dog team driver -more than 150 days on the trail; supply officer; and civilian observer for the Office of the Quartermaster General. Bob was a key figure in the midwinter rescue of Harries-Clichy Petersen from a crevasse. So on the 40th anniversary of the Ronne Antarctic Research Expedition, we have one of their members as our new president.

A great deal of thought and effort went into getting Bob Dodson elected. First, the candidate had to be an old-line New Englander, all other people being rightly considered suspect. Dodson had been kicking around New England for years (Harvard, Dartmouth, Harvard Business School, Exeter, et cetera), but his wife had one flaw -she made the mistake of not going to Mt. Holyoke College, going to Vassar instead. After serious deliberations it was felt that this should not be held against Bob's candidacy. After all, he is a Fellow of the American Geographical Society; former officer and Director of the American Alpine Club; had organized and led the last foreign expedition to the Sikkim Himalaya (fall of 1952); and had climbed extensively in the Alps, Africa, Turkey, and the U.S. His professional career has been in international business, where he has been truly international - Calcutta, Ankara, Geneva, and other way-stations. There are four not-so-young Dodson boys scattered around the world, with one still in college. Bob is an enthusiastic member of our Society, and even attended meetings when he lived in Connecticut.

The incoming Vice President is Guy Guthridge who is known to all Antarcticans. The new secretary is really not new, as we dusted off a former secretary, Pete Barretta, and told him he was it - the penalty for coining to all our meetings. There was no election for treasurer, as our By-Laws were changed several years ago so that Ruth Siple is treasurer unto death or convicted on charges of absconding with Society funds, whichever comes first.

There's a new look on our Board of Directors, with less of the Honorable and Ancients, and more of the nouveau Antarcticans. Tony Meunier, of the USGS at Reston, was put back on, and at six-feet six, 235 pounds, he will also sort of serve as unofficial

sergeant at arms and bouncer. He also has a good record in moving tables and chairs for our meetings. Tony wintered over at the South Pole in 1974, and he also set some sort of an all-time record for cashew nuts consumed on a Cassidy meteorite searching team in summer 1982-83. He has authored/coauthored ten publications on Antarctica. Bob Hickerson, of Towson, Maryland goes onto the Board for the first time. He is another young man who has been in the Antarctic in the modern era, April 1978-January 1981 (airborne science on LC-130R), and is a faithful attendee at our Washington meetings. Jorge Carnicero is the third young Antarctic going onto the Board. He was a communicator in the early 1980's at McMurdo, Scott, Siple, and Byrd Surface Camp. Actually the reason Jorge was put on the Board is that there is always a beautiful woman not too far away from him, enhancing the whole environment. Our new At-Large member is C. Vernon Cooper of Hazard, Kentucky about whom we wrote in our last issue. People who write letters to the Nerve Center (OOPS! We omitted his name on page 2 ... sorry, Vernon.) can expect sooner or later to be asked to serve, as correspondence is considered tantamount to volunteering. Vernon wasn't asked if he'd like to serve, he was just told - something which he said seems to happen to him all the time. But he's a doer, an idea man, and will be a good one. To replace the late Bud Waite as an At-Large member, Bob Nichols was voted in, because in every group there should be an old, intrepid explorer who will keep everyone else honest. It was a good election, even if it was a railroad job.

**ANTARCTIC BOOK DEALERS.** In a recent issue we mentioned that Bob Peterson and Colin Bull had gotten into polar book sales, and we thought that perhaps we should list addresses and telephone numbers of polar book dealers. A Society member who probably has the best private polar library but wishes to remain anonymous for fear of hurting someone's feelings, sent us input material for this paragraph, with two pieces of general advice to share with us. First, if serious about getting into book collecting, we should acquire and study the "bible" - ABC For Book Collectors by John Carter, published by Alfred A. Knopf, now in its 5th edition.. Second, beware of "any fancy color-illustrated literature/history catalogues of collectors/sellers of fine editions and manuscripts, though they might offer a Flora Antarctica (Ross and Hooker, 1830's) because of the superb illustrations." Now for the book dealers, by country:

#### UNITED STATES

David Belknap - Books P.O. Box 1382, GMF Boston, Mass. 02205 (617) 269-5061	Blue Dragon Bookshop (Bob Peterson) P.O. Box 216 Ashland, Oregon 97520 (503) 482-2142	Colin Bull, Polar Books P.O. Box 4497 Rolling Bay, Wash. 98061 (206) 842-9660
High Latitude (Bob Finch) P.O. Box 11254 Bainbridge Island, Wash. 98110 (206) 842-0202	West Side Book Shop (Jay Platt) 113 West Liberty Street Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103 (313) 995-1891	

#### OVERSEAS

Francis Edwards The Pavement, Hay-on-Wye Hereford, England (0497) 820148	Explorer Books Fallow Chase, Durfold Wood, Plaistow West Sussex RH14 OPL England	XIV The Green Calne, Wiltshire SN11 8DQ England (0249) 816793
Messrs. Berkelouw P.O. Box 352 Bowral, NSW 2576 Australia	Francois et Rodolphe Chamonal 40 Rue Le Peletier 75009 Paris France (878.14.41)	

**PERSONNEL CHANGES ON DPP HORIZON.** Dr. Richard B. Williams, Program Manager, Polar Biology and Medicine, is going to retire on 1 December 1986. That will leave Lettau the Younger as the Grand Old Man among program managers in the Division of Polar Programs, although it seems to this one that Bernie just came to NSF! Time flies! Meanwhile, recruitment efforts are going on to fill the program manager shoes in earth sciences and in glaciology, as well as Associate Manager of Polar Operations. It is expected that the glaciology manager will come aboard on 1 June, the earth sciences manager on 1 September; no date has been set for the Polar Ops' position. They have people for all of these positions, and it is just a matter of finalizing the actions. Meanwhile, there have been many applications to fill Williams' job when he leaves. Dr. Wilkniss has a very healthy attitude towards people leaving; even though he hates to lose good people with experience, he realizes that an organization needs to rollover people periodically to bring in new blood with fresh ideas. And he looks upon filling of positions as an opportunity to select people who might have a more global outlook and integrate themselves into the broad missions of NSF.

**DR. WILKNISS AND LADY DI OPEN WORLD FAIR IN VANCOUVER.** One of the central themes of the newly opened World Fair in Vancouver is transportation and communication, and in conjunction with the opening of the Exposition they hosted an International Polar Transportation Conference. Although Lady Di may have made the headlines, it was Dr. Peter Wilkniss of the Division of Polar Programs at the National Science Foundation who was the keynote speaker at the Conference banquet on 7 May 1986, addressing the audience on "Polar Transportation: Bi-Polar Perspectives." Dave Bresnahan of Wilkniss's staff presented a paper on "Aircraft Support of Research in Antarctica"; Capt. Joseph Wubbold of the US Coast Guard spoke on "Icebreaking Operations in McMurdo Sound, Antarctica"; Commander Lawson Brigham of the USCG gave a talk on "Winter Marine Transportation off Alaska"; and Capt. Ewald Brune and Bob Thomson spoke on "The ICEBIRD, a New Generation of Polar Resupply Vessel." Our Newsletter of last November had an article on the ICEBIRD; we had a lecture by Commander Brigham in late November on "Modern Icebreaker Operations"; Capt. Wubbold has volunteered to talk to our Society at some future date; and Dr. Wilkniss will have given his joint Antarctic Society-Explorers Club lecture at the Cosmos Club by the time this is mailed!

There was to have been a presentation by a representative of Salen Lindblad Cruising on "Cruise Ships in Arctic and Antarctic Waters", but the speaker was a no-show, as he was called back to the battlegrounds to confront the problem they are having with people canceling their summer cruise reservations to Europe. In answer to Bergy Bits' question as to what was the single, most significant feature of the symposium, Dave Bresnahan replied that he felt it was the tremendous differences in the driving forces of polar transportation, that everything in the Arctic is tied in with profit incentive, whereas in Antarctica it is primarily concerned with supporting or conducting science. In answer to a follow-up question as to what he had learned about hovercrafts and their possible utilization in Antarctica, Dave said the more he learned about hovercrafts, the more he questioned their utility in the Antarctic. There is evidently a very serious icing problem whenever they are in a water environment. The National Science Foundation is currently in the phase of negotiating a possible lease from Griffin of a hovercraft with high-speed diesels for use in the McMurdo area.

**THERE IS A HOLE IN ANTARCTICA.** There is a hole in Antarctica which is getting progressively bigger, and causing worldwide concern, as it's in the ozone layer. It's not a small hole, it's a gap, a big gap, the size of the United States, extending over most of the continent with maximum decreases inside the polar vortex. It was identified by the British in the mid-1970's, and has been monitored rather closely by Nimbus 7 satellites for the past seven or eight years. It is an austral spring-

time phenomenon, roughly from mid-August to the end of October, with ozone levels dropping sharply in October. Last year the ozone decreased as much as 60 percent in the hole, compared to 45 percent depletion the preceding year. Dr. F. Sherwood Rowland of the University of California at Irvine said that the ozone reduction in Antarctica is "unprecedented anywhere else in the atmosphere ... the questions now are will it spread and how quickly will it spread." In an article by Cass Peterson in the Washington Post for 24 April 1986, she wrote, "Scientists have hypothesized that any decrease in ozone levels would be most pronounced in Antarctica, partly because atmospheric changes tend to be intensified at the Earth's poles and partly because of unique meteorological conditions there. The seasonal depletion that produces the hole occurs at the time of the year when atmospheric conditions over Antarctica create a massive vortex, or whirlwind, that keeps the same mass of air swirling over the ice caps for several months in darkness and bitter cold."

The Geophysical Monitoring Climatic Change (GMCC) personnel at the South Pole this year have been periodically sending up ozonesondes. The United States is now preparing to mount a large ozone study program this coming Antarctic spring, sending four teams totaling 12 people, to the continent on Winfly in August. There will be a three-person team from the University of Wyoming under the direction of David Hufmann taking electrochemical ozonesonde observations three times per week. This will result in detailed ozone and temperature vertical profiles from the ground to about 30 km. Three particle-size distribution sondes will measure particles from about 0.15-2 microns. A three-person team from the State University of New York at Stony Brook under the leadership of Bob deZafra will be measuring CLO vertical profiles every twelve hours. If the ozone depletion is chlorine related, CLO abundances obtained near 20 km will be measurable, and will be about 100 times greater than normal. Simultaneous measurements of the ozone column will also be maintained. A four-man team from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory at Pasadena will be taking infrared spectrometer measurements of the complete solar spectrum from 2 to 16 microns. Barney Farman will head up their group. The fourth group, a party of two from NOAA, led by Susan Solomon, will take measurements with the visual spectrometer of the column of NO and O about every five minutes, using scattered sunlight when the solar zenith angle is less than about 95 degrees. The set of experiments which these four groups of people will be undertaking, utilizes some of the most advanced ground-based instrumentation available in atmospheric research.

Ozone in the upper atmosphere screens out more than 99 percent of the sun's ultra-violet radiation. Researchers estimate that losing as little as 2.5 percent of the ozone could harm plants and animals and cause half a million additional cases of human skin cancer each year.

**WHERE HAVE ALL THE KRILL GONE? WHERE, O WHERE, HAVE THEY GONE?** According to the Washington Post, their issue of 11 May 1986, marine biologists at the University of California at Santa Barbara say they are "not nearly as plentiful in the wild as once thought, and the current comparatively low volume of krill fishing may be depleting the population." Researchers Robin Ross and Langdon Quentin have reported on their investigations in the current issue of Bioscience. It seems that their studies show that "their [krill] huge schools are not distributed uniformly and that their reproduction is about half as prolific as once thought. Also, the main fishing season, the Antarctic summer, is also the breeding season. This means krill trawlers have an unusually severe impact on the species' reproductive potential." "Just a few years ago experts forecast that krill could supply up to 150 million tons of high-quality protein per year, more than double the total amount of seafood harvested worldwide. Now, it looks as if the current krill harvest, a modest one million tons a year (mainly by Warsaw Pact countries and Japan) may not be sustainable." The USSR catch has fallen to one-quarter of what it was three years ago.

**POLAR DUKE GETS BETTER.** The POLAR DUKE is scheduled to have an equipment upgrade in June and July, one which will make an already great ship a better one. She will put into a navy/civilian shipyard at Asmar, Chile (the seaport for Concepcion), where she will be in drydock for two weeks, then alongside a pier. The equipment upgrading includes installation of a single-channel seismic system, a precision depth recorder, backup computers, a global positioning system, and the fantail will be fitted with an articulated crane for oceanographic support. The POLAR DUKE schedule is already filling up with proposals which will utilize the newly-installed equipment. The ship has proven to be very economical to operate, on the order of \$12,500 per day. Buzz Betzel says the ship is mechanically perfect, that its 12-man crew is responsive in every way, and that they have been getting good reports from all principal investigators who have been on board. Its power and strength have turned it into a ship for all seasons, having made its first winter cruise to Palmer in August 1985 without any problems. It seems that now it can operate in what was hitherto "winter exclusion periods." Buzz says that it is practically compatible to the Wind class icebreakers, but there's one fly in the ointment - they will have to strengthen the pier at Palmer to handle the ship. Buzz spent five weeks on the POLAR DUKE in the summer of 1985-86 in the Weddell Sea, and spoke glowingly of how easily the ship handles. It sounded as though Betzel would rather be at sea on the POLAR DUKE than sitting on the bridge of NSF at the 18th and G pier.

In an allied sea story, Buzz told of the reaction of the former master of the HERO, Pieter Lenie, when he received the highest award given by the National Science Foundation for his 11 1/2 or 12 years as skipper of the ship. When Dr. Wilkniss read the citation, which was in booklet form, Lenie was visibly affected. After he received the citation, he took the booklet and placed it over his head, saying, "But I have lost my beautiful ship." Old sailors never die, they just lose their HEROs!

**HERO CHAMPION DIES.** John T. Crowell died at his home on Kimball's Island, Isle au Haut, Maine on 25 April. This bi-polar man of the seas was formerly employed by the National Science Foundation as the officer responsible for the conversion and commissioning of the ELTANIN, and for the design, construction, and commissioning of the HERO. He took part in several icebreaker voyages to the Antarctic Peninsula, and was a member of the site selection team for Palmer Station on Anvers Island.

Jack was born in Gloucester, Massachusetts in 1898 and graduated from the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, serving his apprenticeship on the coal-fired barkentine NANTUCKET. He sailed in the full-rigged ship BRYNHILDA, and was second mate on the four-masted schooner BLANCHE PENDLETON. Jack held an unlimited Master Mariner's license for both sail and steam.

He was torpedoed from a cargo ship in World War I off the coast of France, and after the war he served on cargo ships operating to the west coast of South America. His polar career began in 1926 when he became an associate of the late Admiral Donald B. MacMillan. In 1940-41, he was in charge of establishing and maintaining the first base at Frobisher Bay, Baffin Island. In 1942-44, he served on the west and east coasts of Greenland in charge of establishing and supplying bases as part of the Army Air Force arctic air route to Europe. He retired from the Army as Lieutenant Colonel.

In 1951-53, as Officer-in-Charge of the weather station at Thule, Greenland, he had one of his most challenging assignments, taking a young kid from Meredith, New Hampshire, who was still wet behind the ears, and making a polar specialist out of him in one short year. He evidently was successful, as Ken Moulton went on to have a long and distinguished career in Antarctica. Jack was truly an arctic expert, and served as an advisor to the Air Force. He was involved in the pioneering party that installed the DEW line stations in Canada, HIRAN stations in Greenland, emergency air strips in North Greenland, and Fletcher's Ice Island, T-3. He had retired to Kimball's Island

where as a lobsterman he had, in his own words, "... posed no threat to the resource."

**ERNEST A. WOOD SUCCUMBS.** Bob Dodson has told us that Ernest Wood died in Florida last August, although there are no details on his death. He was a member of the Ronne Antarctic Research Expedition, and as a U.S. Weather Bureau employee, when the IGY came along, was involved in the establishment of the U.S. meteorological programs in Antarctica. Bergy Bits believes that a Little America V meteorologist, Ben Remington, married one of Wood's daughters, but no one knows what happened to old Ben. But Ernie is gone.

**AN INTERESTING WIND CHILL EXPERIMENT.** Some researchers at the University of Wisconsin have recently conducted new experiments on wind chill, supposedly duplicating the late Dr. Paul Siple and Charlie Passel's original work on the 1939-41 U.S. Antarctic Service Expedition. The original experiments utilized copper cylinders filled with water and exposed to cold and wind. William Kaufman and Debra Bothe "dressed" their cylinders in fabric similar to that of a lightly insulated windbreaker and wrapped them in wet fabrics to determine the effect of wind on wet clothing. The cylinders were then exposed to temperatures of 40°F and -10°F. They were then exposed to winds of less than 1 mph, 2 mph, and 5 mph. Unclad, the water in the cylinder quickly became as cold as the temperatures to which they were exposed; but clothed, the temperature of the water did not change with wind velocity. The wet, clothed cylinders lost heat quickly in the wind, but when a garment equivalent to a raincoat was put over the wet fabric, the heat loss stopped. It has all been written up and was published in a recent issue of Aviation, Space, and Environmental Medicine. It sounds like an interesting experiment, particularly for Madison, Wisconsin, but Bergy Bits doesn't see any Antarctic spinoffs. First of all, no one walks around Antarctica in wet fabrics; second, those temperatures are very mild, winds very low. Anything above -40°F doesn't count, right?

**LEOPARD SEAL VETOES FOOTSTEPS OF SCOTT.** The footsteps of Scott were heard by a vigorous leopard seal, and he/she, deciding to see just how a follower would taste, ambushed one of the three Footsteps of Scott men still in Antarctica, returning in early May from a walking trip to Cape Crozier. Supposedly the seal hopped out of a tidal crack or whatever, and bit one of the men on the leg. One version going around says there was a tug-of-war between the other two men and the leopard seal to see who would get the bitten man! His leg was lacerated by the seal's teeth, so they contacted the doctor at McMurdo to find out how to attend to the wounds. Is this the first time in Antarctic history that a leopard seal has bitten a man? Bergy Bits bets the seal was trained by Greenpeace and released there last summer. There's another true anecdote on the Footsteps of Scott Expedition. It seems the leader of that expedition carried along his own good luck charm in the form of a little teddy bear. At a stopover at an American encampment, the teddy bear got lost, and the leader was visibly shaken. Fortunately all was saved when it was discovered that the teddy bear had not vanished; it had just fallen into the head, and was salvageable. Of such incidents are great expeditions made! Incidentally, in our last Newsletter it was erroneously written that the U.S. asked the British pilot not to fly into the South Pole to get the Footsteps of Scott men. They were never told not to fly, nor even requested not to make the flight. Our column quoted from a British newspaper which did not have its fact right. Sorry about that!

**SIR HUBERT REALLY DID FLY OVER THE SOUTH POLE.** Bergy Bits really goofed in the last issue when we said that Sir Hubert Wilkins had never flown over the South Pole. Link Washburn points out in his letter of 9 May to the Nerve Center that Sir Hubert actually

did on 17 October 1957, as Link was with him and has the evidence - a GI plastic spoon on which Sir Hubert inscribed his name and the date commemorating the occasion. This had to have happened before Sir Hubert fell into disfavor with the Navy commander for his ill-fated interview, as thereafter all he could do was bootleg local flights out of McMurdo. Although Sir Hubert never landed at the South Pole, part of him did, because he had given this writer one of his Eskimo parkas to wear at the South Pole - the one which is now in the museum at Christchurch. Link pointed out that "Sir Hubert was a fine companion then, and on every other time we met." True. And he was probably the most humble of all Antarctic explorers.

**A WOMAN BEFORE HER TIME.** Bergy Bits has recently read Self-Portrait of an Artist by Lady Kennet, the widow of the late Captain Robert Falcon Scott. What a most unusual and interesting person, one whose interests were more of the 1980's than of the 1900's. This wasn't any old Victorian wife sitting at home waiting for her man to come back from the ice, but a very active, professional artist/sculptress whose ideals and mores seem to be those shared by today's women. Her book is essentially entries from her diaries and memoirs, and one comes away with the feeling that Roland Huntford pretty well captured the real Kathleen Scott in his book, Scott and Amundsen. One of her entries said, "I used to say I wanted a baby but not a husband, and I've got it, but with a difference." And her entry after the birth of Peter, "I fell for the first time gloriously, passionately, wildly in love with my husband. I did not know I had not been so before, but I knew now." And how serenely she took the news of the death of Scott and his men on the Barrier, "Oh well, never mind! I expected that. Thanks very much. I will go and think about it." And then she proceeded to her regular scheduled Spanish lesson where she "acquitted myself well." Holy mackerel, what a strong woman! She was just as professional as Scott, in reality, probably much more so. Her sculptured busts are all over the U.K.: National Portrait Gallery, Tate Gallery, Westminster Abbey, The National War Museum, St. Dunstan's, and Bristol Cathedral. She has statues in Waterloo Place, Cheltenham, Huntingdon and Welwyn, Dover, and Litchfield; a portrait relief is in the crypt of St. Martin-in-the-Fields. Bergy Bits wonders if there has been any other Antarctic wife whose own career was filled with so much personal success.

She died much too early in life, at the age of 69. She wrote her own epitaph for a tiny gravestone - "Kathleen. No happier woman ever lived." What a fantastic person she must have been. Wow!

**ANOTHER FAMOUS WIFE.** Bergy Bits likes to write about the late Sir Hubert Wilkins because he once worked with the gentleman back in the 1950's. Here was an explorer who was probably never cut out to be a married man, although he had a lot of gracious charm around women. He got married relatively late in life, being almost 41 at the time. It was one of those convenience marriages, but they did have a couple of things in common - both were Australians, and both loved the theater. She, Suzanne Bennett, once a Ziegfeld girl, was a well-known actress on Broadway when Wilkins met her at a New York City reception following his successful flight from Alaska across the Arctic Basin to Europe. She always maintained her New York City residency, and Sir Hubert's home was anywhere on the globe where there was adventure. Once Lady Suzanne called the office to speak to Sir Hubert. She was told he was not there, and then she asked where he might be. She was told he was in the Sahara Desert, and then she asked how long had he been there. Only then did Lady Suzanne find out that he had been there something like six weeks! It was one of those kinds of marriages, where each respected the other's freedom, and saw to it that they never intruded upon the other one's turf. Sir Hubert spent Christmas 1957 alone in a run-down derelict of a hotel in Framingham, Massachusetts where he lived because "Lady Suzanne sent me a postcard saying she was busy over the holidays and not to bother to come home." The next

Christmas Sir Hubert was in the Antarctic, and he never lived to see another Christmas, dying the night of 30 November 1958 in that delapidated old hotel. Bergy Bits wonders if any of the name Antarticans had such a strange marriage; in real life one was truly made for exploration, the other strictly for Broadway. The late Lowell Thomas wrote an excellent biography on Sir Hubert, which, for all practical purposes, ended with his extensive search of the Arctic for Sigismund Levanevsky in 1937-38. His efforts were in vain, but the Russians still look upon Sir Hubert with the greatest respect for all of his efforts on their behalf. Perhaps this Lenin look-alike is more of a hero there than in his adopted country here in the United States. He achieved many great things - first man to fly in the Antarctic, first under the ice in a submarine, one of the very first aerial combat movie photographers, but he also had sort of a pitiful non-existing home life. But so did she.

**BRITISH PATENT 1,047,735 (NOVEMBER 9, 1966).** This is sort of ancient history, but it's real Bergy Bits-type material. An inventor by the name of A.P. Pedrick came up with a plan that would pump fifty 10-foot iceballs per second from the Antarctic plateau through a 3000-mile pipeline to Australia's "outback". Remotely controlled, vehicles would scoop snow into spheres which would compact into iceballs. The balls would then be channeled into the pipeline where gravity would accelerate them to about 500 miles per hour by the time they reached sea level. This Pedrick fellow said that the speed could be maintained on the level in the undersea pipeline by the accelerating effect stemming from the earth's rotation combined with its increase in radius as the balls roll from a higher to lower latitude. He would accelerate the iceballs by evacuating the pipeline to 5 p.s.i. absolute. The vacuum would be created by exhausters powered by electricity produced on generators turned by windmills floating on rafts in the Antarctic area.

**UNITED STATES RESEARCH IN ANTARCTICA, 2000 A.D. AND BEYOND.** The National Academy of Sciences' Polar Research Board report on the above has been completed in draft form, and is about to go through the formal review procedures prior to publication, probably late in the fall of 1986. It is our understanding that the report is somewhat short on length but very substantive.

**AMBASSADOR PAUL C. DANIELS' WIDOW CONTACTS RUTH SIPLE.** Teddy Daniels, the very affable widow of our former honorary president, called Ruth early in May to say how very much she appreciated the many kindnesses tended her since the Ambassador died, including the letters which some of you have written her. She was touched, too, when she received the small "memorial tree" with leaves of rose quartz (an alternate birth-stone for October) which we sent on behalf of Society members. She said she and her daughter would like to be active members of the Society, which pleases us, as it seems most fitting that we continue to have a couple of Daniels limbs.

**WRAP-UP FOR 1985-86.** That's it, folks, for another year. Our incoming president, Bob Dodson, our greatest asset, Ruth Siple, and Bergy Bits will all be out in San Diego to attend the Memorial Lecture by Claude Lorus, and to see some real live penguins at Sea World. We hope to see many of you there. That will be my 50th consecutive Society lecture! .... We appreciate the inputs given by Peter Wilkniss, Dave Bresnahan, John Lynch, and Bruce Molnia. Thanks loads . . . Let's end the year with a quote from the erudite Charlie (BAE II) Murphy, a very successful man of the pen, writing about a man currently writing an investigative book about BAE I, "They are the night soil on which the gardens of publishers depend." .... See you in San Diego, or back here in September. You all have a great summer. Don't smoke. Drive carefully.