



# THE ANTARCTIC SOCIETY

905 NORTH JACKSONVILLE STREET  
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22205

HONORARY PRESIDENT — AMBASSADOR PAUL C. DANIELS

Vol. 85-86

September

No. 1

**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, 1965-66  
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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Dr. Laurence McKinley Gould  
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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

## TWO FALL SPECTACULARS!

The Antarctic Society and the National Academy of Sciences'  
Polar Research Board are most happy to co-sponsor  
the Society's 21st Annual Memorial Lecture

NOT QUITE ALL YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT ICE,  
CO<sub>2</sub>, GREENHOUSE AND SEA LEVEL

by

Dr. Mark F. Meier  
Incoming Director

Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR)  
Boulder, Colorado

and

Professor of Geological Sciences  
University of Colorado

on

*Thursday evening, October 10, 1985*

*8 PM*

The National Academy of Sciences  
2101 Constitution Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C.

*Preceded by*

*Cocktails in the Great Hall at 5:30*

*and*

*Dinner in The Refectory at 6: SO*

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## Fall Picnic

HEAR YE! HEAR YE! OUR ALMOST-ANNUAL, ALMOST-MIDWINTER PICNIC WILL BE HELD AT BILL SLADEN'S HORSEHEAD SANCTUARY IN GRASONVILLE, MARYLAND ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, from 12 noon to 5 PM. DETAILS ON THIS OYSTER AND CHICKEN GALA ARE ON page 3.

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS ASAP FOR THE DINNER - AND THE PICNIC!!! (See last page)

If you haven't received a Newsletter since March, it's because there hasn't been any. Retirement has somehow resulted in much less free time. Following a nose operation, I found out from my brother, a dentist, that I needed extensive reconstruction (gum surgery, root canals, bridges, partial), so he has been holding me hostage in Maine while all this goes on. I interrupted that major project to drive back to Washington in mid-September to get this Newsletter in the mail prior to the Memorial Lecture AND the Almost-Annual, Almost-Midwinter picnic. Then I will drive on back to the dentist chair, a round trip of 1400 miles! We are putting this together in a hurry, and, per usual, Bergy Bits comes with no truth assurances, nor does the Antarctic Society endorse any of its contents. We trust there may be an item of interest to every member, as we do try to find stories of general interest as well as periodic items from different Antarctic eras.

**MEMBERSHIP - ALMOST 500 IN VIEW.** Our Society has 483 active members as we start the 1985-86 season. Last year we picked up 42 new members, four died, and 22 were dropped (for nonpayment of dues). So we could possibly hit 500 by next June. This isn't so bad considering that seven years ago we had only 150 paid-up members. The Society becomes more and more a national organization in contrast to its former position as basically a Washington area group. Dues will remain the same - seven dollars locally, six dollars out-of-town. We hope to get the bills out in the very near future, and if you don't get one, you are paid up. Forty-six percent of our members are paid up this coming year, and that's just great for Treasurer Siple. And those of you getting bills, won't you please consider sending in your check for multiple years which helps our bookkeeping tremendously? Remember, this is a small-time operation by Ruth and myself, Paul Dalrymple, and even though it's a labor of love, we do like to do other things, too. So those who get bills, please pay early, and pay for several years, and we might possibly, though unlikely, say something good about you in the future.

**BON VIVANT MEMORIAL LECTURER.** Mark Meier overcame his midwestern upbringing in Iowa City to become a Man of Many Glaciers, and has never seen a glacier which he didn't love, be it in the Pacific Northwest, Alaska, Greenland, Alps, or Antarctica. His field work produced the first structural map of a glacier (Dinwoody Glacier, 1950); the first determination of strain-rate tensor field on a glacier, and an early attempt to compare flow law data from surface and subsurface deformation data (Saskatchewan Glacier, 1954); the first detailed work on deformation and temperature fields around forming crevasses (Greenland, 1955); and all kinds of other good, imaginative, provocative research since those early days. He has done pretty well for a corn-fed kid, being an Institute Scholar at Cal Tech, 1952-53, and Fulbright Scholar at the University of Innsbruck in Austria, 1955-56, where his appreciation for the good life must have been nurtured/refined by the late Herfried Hoinkes; and receiving the Sigma Xi Award for Exceptional Research by a Graduate Student at Cal Tech, 1957, the Distinguished Service Award (Gold Medal) from the Department of Interior, 1968, three medals from the USSR, and the Seligman Crystal from the International Glaciological Society in 1985. Currently Mark is Project Chief, Glaciology in the Water Resources Division, Geological Survey, in Tacoma, Washington, but in November he will become Director of the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR), and Professor of Geological Sciences, University of Colorado, Boulder.

He has many loves, such as sailing, good music, fine wine, gourmet food, and art. He has been accused of coining "Gesundheitstrasse" to describe every aspect of the constitution, structure, and other features of a longitudinal septum that ran the whole length of a lower glacier (on the Blue Glacier). He vehemently denies coining the phrase, but this column never lets the truth get in the way of a good story, so we present it as gospel. Mark is a delightful character and an excellent speaker, so this erudite scientist, who has long been concerned with sea level changes around the world, will no doubt give a most memorable lecture for our 1985 Memorial Lecture. The National Academy of Sciences' Polar Research Board will be in session here in Washington, and we are looking forward to all of their members being at the lecture. Be sure to mark it on your calendar, NOW, and let's pack the place - 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W. - the Citadel of Scientific Knowledge in Washington.

**PRE-MEMORIAL LECTURE BLAST.** In the best of Mark Meier's lifestyle, there will be drinking and eating preceding his Memorial Lecture. It will all start at 5:30 PM with cocktails in the Great Hall, followed by dinner at 6:30 in The Refectory downstairs. The Academy has a peculiar ground rule which prevents selling booze by the drink, although there is nothing wrong with having liquid refreshments available as part of the dinner cost. The dinner will be buffet style, and will consist of breast of chicken, salmon mousse, pasta, fresh vegetables and cheeses, salad, and chocolate mousse. The total cost will be \$23 per person, regardless of how much or how little one may drink. Previous meals in The Refectory have been just excellent, and it has always been an enjoyable evening. This is our biggest blast of the year, and we want a really good representation. Since we are required to have an early head count (by October 3rd), please let the Nerve Center know ASAP if you are coming for dinner. If we don't hear from you, we may send Tony Meunier over to your house to do a little arm twisting, and we know you wouldn't want Tony showing up on your doorstep. So act NOW!

**MIDWINTER PICNIC A TRIFLE LATE - OCTOBER 12, 1985.** We firmly believe" in variety being the spice of life, and to jazz up our lives a bit, we have something new and novel for your consideration - a midwinter picnic in the good old fall at a wildfowl sanctuary an hour's drive from Washington. Our own Bill Sladen is director of Horsehead Sanctuary and he will be there in person to give us a guided tour. Last spring a Society task force of Ed Todd, Dotte Larsen, Pete Barretta, Ruth Siple, and Bergy Bits went out to look over the Sanctuary and to see the many birds, and had a delightful time. There are some 310 acres of wetlands, with six distinct marshland habitats, and one can expect to see lots of wood ducks and black ducks flying from pond to pond, migrating ducks, herons and shorebirds from the blinds, new ducks and swans in their captive collection, and, as an aside, white-tailed deer. Over 67 species of water birds frequent the surrounding area. The Sanctuary is on the Smithsonian's list of critical areas to be protected because of its special ecological and educational value.

If you like sitting in a chair, you jolly well had better bring your own folding lawn chair, as no one else is going to bring one for you, and the afternoon could get long. Also bring your own liquid libations to go with a catered oyster and chicken feast. For \$10 one will get oysters (raw and steamed), barbecued chicken, au gratin potatoes, potato salad, cole slaw, green beans, baked beans, possibly corn on the cob, rolls, cakes, and coffee. How can you beat that when whistling swan, tundra swan, and snow geese are providing music to eat by! Kids should love it, but we hope they are trained to respect wildlife and the environment. Police your litter, and let's leave the place as nice as when we arrived. It's a privilege to be invited there, and we surely don't want to abuse it.

**ANTARCTIC CALENDARS.** I don't know why we get involved in the sale of Antarctic calendars, but perhaps it's tied in to the fact that we aren't very smart. There

are so many nice calendars now, that we wonder if ours will sell. We're going to push the Harry Keys' New Zealand Antarctic Calendars, but are also going to sell the USARP calendars. Bergy Bits feels that the New Zealand calendars are an order of magnitude better than the USARP calendars, but then there are those who prefer the USARP calendar. The New Zealand calendar seems to have better pictures, better reproduction, less ink, and, foremost, are here in plenty of time for mailing out before Christmas. But we understand that the USARP pictures this year are much better, and presumably the calendar will again feature a chronology of Antarctic events throughout the year. We will be selling them both at the same price, \$6, including mailing. If you pick them up at the Nerve Center, only \$5. If you want to go higher class, The Antarctica Project, 1845 Calvert St. N.W., Washington, DC 20009, will have their Antarctic calendar available in November. Jim Barnes anticipates that it will cost "about \$12.50." Their 1984 calendar was just great. Then there is the commercial penguin calendar from Sausalito, California which one can find in any reputable bookstore which carries calendars. However, why don't you buy from us so we won't get stuck with a bunch of leftover calendars? PLEASE!

**MCMURDO SOUND AREA MAPS FOR SALE.** At long last, Dee Molenaar's Oblique Pictorial Map of the McMurdo Sound Area has arrived. Those of you who ordered them last year should have received your copies by now. It's rather hard to anticipate its popularity, so we ordered only 200. It is 24" x 38" (overall), and the back side is covered with a potpourri of facts and information about Antarctica under the title of "Summary Guide to Antarctica and the McMurdo Sound Area." If you have an inquisitive mother-in-law you can't stand, you could give her one of these maps and hopefully avoid having to answer a lot of foolish questions about Antarctica. There are some errors on the map, but only a Ruth Siple would find most of them. On the whole it is something novel and interesting, and should be a popular item in McMurdo. The initial response we received from those who ordered early is that they are very happy with them. Your Society will be selling them for \$7.50 by mail, fifty cents cheaper if you pick them up at the Nerve Center. This is more than we originally anticipated, but production costs ran much higher than Dee anticipated. Once we sell out our supply, we won't reorder, so if you want one, come in NOW with your order!

**CHANGING OF THE GUARD.** If the polar community doesn't look exactly like it did a couple of years ago, it's because it isn't. The post-World War II crowd are disappearing over the horizon, and there is also a lot of movement among the younger people. The Peter Wilkniss Division of Polar Programs has experienced many changes, with three of its Program Managers (Mart Turner in Earth Sciences, Dick Cameron in Glaciology, and Ben Fogle in Atmospheric Sciences) leaving. The Manager of the Polar Operations Section, Price Lewis, also retired, and his long-time deputy, Ken Moulton, has his retirement papers filled out for the end of the calendar year. A lot of seniority has gone out the door, and with Moulton's leaving, the Silver Fox of Christchurch and Potomac, Walt Seelig, will become The Grand Old Man of the Antarctic at NSF. No one knows exactly how old Walt is, but with his position he would be foolish to retire as he has the best of both hemispheres, never knowing winter. Fogle has been replaced by John Lynch, while two acting managers, Tony Inderbitzen and Jane Dionne, have moved temporarily into Turner's and Cameron's positions, respectively. Ron La Count has replaced Price Lewis. Meanwhile, down the street at the corner of 21st and Pennsylvania, we find that Tim Hushen is no longer in residence as Staff Director of the Polar Research Board, National Academy of Sciences. His main purpose in life is now serving the whims of the U.S. Arctic Research Commission in Los Angeles, although we understand that his umbilical cord to the Polar Research Board will not be totally severed. Currently Shere Abbott is acting like Tim Hushen, although much more prettily. Charlie Bentley's tour of duty as Chairman of the Polar Research Board has expired, and he has been replaced

by Gunter Weller of the University of Alaska, who once served as a program manager in the Office of Polar Programs at NSF. And there's a new kid in town, Jerry Brown, who is filling a newly-created position as Head of Arctic Research and Policy Staff in the Division of Polar Programs. Jerry is a workaholic, human dynamo of fifty years who doesn't have a single grey hair in his full head of hair.

We wish all of those who have left the very best, and particularly want to thank Mort Turner, Dick Cameron, Tim Hushen and Ken Moulton for the many fine years of service which they have given to this Society. And for those moving in, we wish you happiness in your new positions and hope that you will join our Society, if you are not already members (Brown and Inderbitzen have been members for several years) . A new broom can sweep clean, and it must be refreshing to Peter Wilkniss to have so many of the old hands retiring so that he can put some people of his own choosing into key slots - like a new head coach of a football team bringing in his own staff! It just does not happen that way in the government, but it has almost happened that way in DPP. Good luck, all!

**BIG BERT IS BACK.** The Antarctic community was aghast to hear that Bert Crary had fallen upon ill health this year, but as we are preparing to go to print, it appears that he is soon going to be released by the Good Samaritan Hospital in Baltimore to the tender, loving care of Mildred at their home. Bert, Mr. Antarctica IGY, the very first scientist to have worked at both the North Pole and the South Pole, started to feel ill shortly after he spoke to our Society in late November 1984. He has had a real rough ordeal, and the old warhorse had some days in early July when they didn't know for sure if he was going to make it, but he came back. Bert has more lives than that proverbial cat, and if he were meant to die early in life the Grim Reaper would have taken him when he was cast into the Ross Sea while making a hydrological station on the barrier when it calved and tossed him into Kainan Bay back in 1958.

Bert had subacute bacterial endocarditis (SEE). Doctors and tests failed to diagnose it for more than four months, by which time he was being checked out at the George Washington University Hospital. They gave him antibiotics and in two and a half weeks sent him home, with Mildred and a night nurse continuing the IV antibiotics. The SBE destroyed his aortic valve and did further damage inside his heart. He wound up in the Washington Hospital Center, having emergency surgery to replace the valve and clean up two cavities surrounding that valve. Apparently he had a stroke at the time. He was in the intensive care unit for two weeks and in the hospital for another five and a half weeks, beginning in late July/early August to talk and receive therapy.

On August 15th Bert was transferred to the rehabilitation unit run by Johns Hopkins in the Good Samaritan Hospital in Baltimore. He suffered another minor stroke on the 19th, but since then has made steady gains. He lost forty pounds, but has already put ten of those back on. They gave him an overnight pass on September 7th so he was able to go home and have a glass of champagne. But he said it didn't taste all that great, so you can see Bert hasn't fully recovered. He walked by himself on the 8th, and with continued improvement hopes to come home (8301 Beech Tree Road, Bethesda, Maryland 20817) from the hospital about the time most of you will be getting this Newsletter. I presume that it won't be long before he'll be back on his home computer continuing to write the history of the IGY.

Bert is a most unusual man, and dearly loved by all who served with him in the field and by those who worked for him back here in the States. Somehow or other he is both a Man's Man and a Lady Charmer; he's a rough diamond as well as a polished jewel. He would be equally at home talking to the President or to a local union of garbage collectors. I was privileged to spend a year with him at Little America V in 1957, and it was just great. I was sorry to see Bert get married as we used to have some good nights on the town, but Mildred was probably the best thing that ever happened to Bert. If it were not for her, he wouldn't be alive today. I'm sure happy he's making such a good recovery, and it will be good to drink beer with him once again.

**OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY ACQUIRES BYRD PAPERS.** Peter Anderson ascended directly into Heaven without dying on September 6th when Ohio State University formally took physical possession of approximately two-thirds of the papers of the late Admiral Richard E. Byrd. The Boston's State Street Bank and Trust Bank, executors of the Byrd estate, solicited proposals from universities concerning their interests in purchasing the Byrd papers, and The Ohio State University won. The material was appraised at \$155,000, and that's what Ohio State paid for between 500 and 600 boxes of material, which will fill more than 35 file cabinets. David Elliot, Director of The Ohio State University's Institute of Polar Studies, in a "Dear Colleague letter" of 30 July 1985, wrote, "The matter of fund raising in order to establish the Byrd Polar Research Center is under discussion within the University and has to be tied in with a major fund-raising campaign that was announced earlier this year." The Byrd Foundation is also establishing a Fellowship Program at Ohio State University, one in the name of Marie and Richard Byrd, which will be for advanced graduate students, presumably polar-type doctoral candidates. The material is currently in temporary storage in the University library, and it will be several years before everything is catalogued and filed, at which time it will be opened for researchers to study.

This is sort of the culmination of a dream for Peter, as he has been actively pursuing these papers since 1973. He is as happy now as a pig in a yard full of mud. Peter would very much like to have a definitive study out on the late Admiral in 1988, which will be the 100th anniversary of his birth, although Peter doesn't think this is very realistic because of the short time and all the researching yet to be done. He had an interesting comment on the Admiral, calling him "Grandfather of Us All", and saying that if it were not for his interests in Antarctic exploration and discovery, it all would not have gotten off the ground so early or so successfully.

Peter talked about some of the things in the Byrd holdings, including a one. and a half page letter from James Clark Ross to a member of the Byrd family. When I talked to Peter on September 11th he was looking over material from Byrd's 1925 Desk Diary which has many interesting comments on his polar activities. There is a running log of Byrd's TransAtlantic flight. I asked about correspondence, and Peter said there was "a tremendous amount," which is certainly exciting to those of us who like to read other people's mail! There are letters from many former presidents, and one from the late Captain Finn Ronne in 1955 soliciting Byrd's support to stay in polar research; Byrd's personal photo album from the 1st Byrd Antarctic Expedition; a volume of articles about Byrd and the Antarctic which was evidently bound by the New York Times; many scrap books of press clippings; radio logs; ships' logs; personnel files on members of the expedition (including their signed contracts, salaries paid, source of said funds, et cetera); and boxes of letters requesting philatelic mailings. The holdings are "very heavy on photography," with some 16" x 20" prints which Peter surmises may have been hung on the walls at Little America I. There are also picture postcards with Antarctic scenes. And, as the saying goes, this is only the tip of the iceberg. But isn't it exciting, something like getting hold of the Mother Lode! Bergy Bits is happy for Peter Anderson and Ohio State, and I think it is all just great news.

**SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY.** Operation Deep Freeze I and the original South Pole personnel traveled to Norfolk, Virginia in early August where they held a three-day 30th reunion in a highly emotional atmosphere at the Quality Inn, Lake Wright. Dave Canham, former lineman at the University of Michigan (in the halcyon days of Tommy Harmon and Forrest Evasheski), who was the senior Naval officer wintering over in 1955-56, masterminded the Gathering of the Clan. I'm sure 1955-56 was the last super-great year for the Navy in Antarctica, as civilian scientists started coming during the IGY, and never again was it the same for the military. There was a lot of pride among those men, and their esprit de corps still runs high. All together, including wives and children, 115 people gathered, 56 of whom were Navy personnel from McMurdo. To begin the full day of planned activities on August 2nd, Father John Condit, the Catholic chaplain

at McMurdo, renowned for his pugilistic accomplishments, and Dave conducted a memorial service for those departed. Then a greeting from Rear Admiral John Paul Jones, current head of the Navy Seabees, and one from the residents of McMurdo, were read. An interesting presentation on the current status of our Antarctic bases was given by Commander Robert Harler, Operations Officer, COMNAVSUPP Force Antarctica. In the evening everyone gathered for the banquet. Entertainment was provided by John Condit and his accordion, after which Dave was presented a captain's chair by those attending the reunion, and presumably he will be able to use it shortly as he is contemplating retirement. Many of the Navy personnel attending were also involved in the construction of the South Pole station.

The South Pole reunion was unique in that it found both Sand Crabs and Navy personnel coming together as one; it was in this same spirit that the late Paul Siple and the late Jack Tuck led the camp through its first year. It is my strong personal opinion that this group never got its due recognition, and that Siple suffered from being a close associate of the late Admiral Byrd. Not being notified at the South Pole of the dedication of their station at McMurdo only resulted in their strong in-camp unification. South Pole reunion attendees were Bob and Marilyn Benson and son, Greg, Cliff and Jean Dickey, Ed Flowers, Herb Hansen and his fiancée, Dorie Marshall, Mel Havener, Floyd Johnson, Mac and Marie McPherson, Tom Osborne, Moose Remington, Ruth Siple, Peg Tuck and son, Jonathan, and Ken Waldron.

Dave Canham says they are going to go for it all again in another five years, meeting in San Diego. There evidently was a reunion of VX-6 personnel of McMurdo in Oxnard, California from June 7-9, but Dave feels that he had the real doers at Norfolk. It looks like 30 years is the period of time it takes to whip out all the bad memories, as they all seemed to have had a great time!

**ED HILLARY, COMMISSIONER AND AMBASSADOR.** They have taken a perfectly normal human being, 65 years of age, with great physical drive and determination, stuck a white shirt and necktie on his upper body, and made him into a diplomat. What a sad way to wind down one's interesting career! Ed Hillary is now New Zealand's Commissioner to New Delhi and Dhaka, and Ambassador to Nepal. It must be an awful letdown, but he is not taking it that way at all as he philosophized about it.. "I'm basically a restless person, and I don't feel I've done as much as I could have. I've had my problems and I've had my good days. But knowing I'm a person of modest abilities, my main attribute has been that I tried to make the most of the opportunities that have been around. Life is a constant challenge. If you are physically unable to meet the challenge of younger days, and you are sensible, you set new challenges. And most of my adventures today are in the social and diplomatic field. I think I have been very fortunate. I've had a good life.." He still hopes to spend six weeks a year in the Himalayas and also "spend a great deal of time out of Delhi." This was all in an article by Louis Berney in the Boston Sunday Globe of 14 July 1985.

**FOOTSTEPS OF SCOTT.** In last January's Bergy Bits we mentioned that Robert Swan, then 27, and Roger Mear, then 32, were about to board the SOUTHERN QUEST which was to take them to Cape Evans to winter over prior to hiking in Scott's footsteps to the South Pole this austral summer. Presumably everything is still on "go", although just how they will ever get "home" from the South Pole is still not known. Hopes to have Giles Kershaw fly them out have gone awash because of his plane's previous commitment to the Arctic. They had planned to walk the 1420 kilometers in 75 days, pulling sledges behind them.

**90 DEGREES SOUTH EXPEDITION.** This one may never fly, hopefully, but as Yogi Berra once said, "It is never over til it's over," so we'll have to wait and see. It supposedly was to be a British-Norwegian expedition retracing Amundsen's trek to the

South Pole, even going by dog teams. The leader of the proposed expedition is a comely, young 33-year old Norwegian glaciologist by the name of Monica Kristensen who works for the Meteorological Institute in Oslo. They supposedly put two years into organizing the expedition, but evidently never did any homework on U.S. support of adventurers, which has been negative since our arrival in Antarctica. A couple of times the State Department and the White House have changed positions, but without the highest intervention the U.S. does not equivocate on their stand. Let's hope they can stand firm this time!

**A NEW ERA BEGINS - GIRL SCOUT SELECTED TO GO TO ANTARCTICA.** Commander Richard E. Byrd, before he ever met the late Paul Siple, was most wary, if not reluctant at heart, to have to take a Boy Scout to the Antarctic with him back in 1928. Wonder how he would feel today if he were told that a Girl Scout was going south with him? Everything comes to those who wait patiently, even for Girl Scouts, and this year Robin Moyle of Scarsdale, New York and future Cornell University freshman (or is it freshperson?) will be going to McMurdo Sound to work with biologists in that area, in addition to visiting other U.S. installations in Antarctica. Robin's credentials are most outstanding, and it's no wonder she beat out 65 other applicants chosen by different Girl Scout Councils. In Scouting she has achieved the Silver Award, the Silver Leadership Award, the Gold Leadership Award, and is currently working toward the Gold Award. Her hobbies are painting, drawing, and writing poetry, and she relaxes with movies, horseback riding, swimming, and dancing. She was a track star throughout high school so we imagine that she will be favored in Las Vegas to come in first among all women in the annual 10K race at McMurdo this coming austral summer. She is interested in wildlife and hopes to become a veterinarian, going to Cornell's Agriculture College after she returns from the ice. She's 5'8" of old-fashioned virtues like honesty, respect for others, modesty, politeness, commitment to family and religion," wrote her British Literature Honors teacher. I really didn't know that we bred kids like her any more, and she must be a great joy and satisfaction to her folks, even though she didn't end up being a third-generation Brown University student. She has a clean, wholesome, scrubbed-behind-the-ears look, accented with a china doll complexion. Bergy Bits thinks she is a lot prettier and softer than Scouts Paul Siple, Dick Chappell, Mark Leinmiller, and Doug Barnhart all rolled into one! I have the feeling that they would have seconded the selection of Robin as she appears to be too good to be true. We wish her a great experience, and perhaps we can get her to submit some Antarctic poetry for a future issue of Bergy Bits. An alternate was chosen. She is Karen Prentice of Port Orchard, Washington who has an exceptionally strong background in backpacking and camping.

Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts are here to stay in the Antarctic scene; NSF is even looking for a third responsible, science-oriented youth group to join them in alternate years. Incidentally, Scout Mark Leinmiller, the 50th Anniversary Scout, got married this past spring, and we wish Mark and Pam the very happiest of lives together. Scott Miller, a runnerup to Mark in 1978, will be getting his PhD at Harvard in entomology next spring. Way to go, Scott!

**AH, THOSE CHINESE!** The Chinese created quite a bit of a stir last December when they sent 600 men on two ships to King George Island to establish a research station, "The Great Wall." It seems that some of their military personnel weren't checked out on proper Antarctic etiquette, and their behavior was witnessed with great misbelief by some of the other parties on the island - there are six stations on the island which is 70 km long by 25 km wide. Dr. Dietrich, leader of the West German expedition, said that bands of up to 50 Chinese marched about the island bullying many species of seabirds. Glass and metal objects were put in skuas' nests, petrel eggs were painted, and penguins were chased over the edge of cliffs. The Russians

even accused the Chinese of eating penguins. However, Mr. Quo Kun, the Chinese leader, denied that any penguins were killed. According to *Newsweek*, the West Germans have reported the alleged offenses to SCAR.

**THE ANTARCTICA PROJECT.** They have a beautiful 38" x 24" colored poster out on Antarctica which shows its native inhabitants - birds, seals, whales, dolphins, krill, and penguins, as well as sites of special scientific interest. All college professors who claim any Antarctic interest should have one in their office. It's available from The Antarctica Project, 1845 Calvert Street N.W., Washington, DC 20009 for \$10.95 (plus shipping, which varies from \$1.41 in the Washington area to \$2.40). But if you order in lots of ten or more, there is a discount of 20%, plus shipping. It's really nice. As most of you know, they periodically publish "Antarctic Briefings," and in mid-July they put one out on the status of Antarctic Minerals Negotiations. They sell for \$2.50 each, but are worth every cent of that if you want to keep up on what is going on and are not privy to be a participant. The 7th session of the Special Consultative Meeting on Minerals is going to take place in Paris from 23 September to 6 October. The last one was in Rio de Janeiro, 26 February through 12 March 1985. They sure know how to pick meeting sites! But maybe if they went to some place like Grenada, Mississippi or Pawtucket, Rhode Island they might get more accomplished and wouldn't have to hold so darn many meetings. There is also an occasional newspaper published by Friends of the Earth and others at international meetings of environmental importance" which reports on the various Antarctic Treaty Consultative meetings, and has interesting material on Antarctica, which is available through The Antarctica Project.

**CALIFORNIA, MAYBE.** We have fifty odd members out there in California, and it behooves us to throw them bits from time to time so they won't execute a coup and take over the Society. The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) will be holding a large international conference in San Diego next June (16th-27th). With Sea World and the Penguin Encounter being an added incentive, we are thinking of holding a west coast meeting in San Diego during the SCAR meeting. The last time we went west, old Art Ford and John Katsufakis handled all the arranging, but they are a long way from San Diego. But we think it can be done. Anyone any thoughts on the subject?

**NAS POLAR RESEARCH BOARD AND SCAR REPORTS.** Our Memorial Lecturer, Mark Meier, has a new study out on "Glaciers, Ice Sheets, and Sea Level: Effects of a CO<sub>2</sub>-Induced Climatic Change." We haven't seen it yet, but we do know it's on the streets and that Mark will present its highlights on October 10th. Then there is an ICSU/SCAR report, "Man's Impact on the Antarctic Environment," by Benninghoff and Bonner which appears to be an excellent study. It's short enough so that one will want to read it, then afterwards its beautiful, colored cover of an Antarctic Peninsula scene (?) makes it attractive enough to keep in your library. Tim Hushen wants me to be sure that Bergy Bits informs you all that the "Proceedings of the Future of the Antarctic Treaty System," all 275 pages of it, will soon be published. At one time this column attacked holding the meeting on the Beardmore as "the boondoggle to end all boondoggles." It was the site, not the subject matter which we questioned. There is another SCAR report out on "The Conservation Areas in the Antarctic." We haven't seen this one either, because the summer has been spent in dentist chairs. But if you want more information on the availability/cost of these publications, you should contact Shere Abbott, Polar Research Board, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Avenue N.W., Washington, DC 20418.

**RAFTING WITH PEWE" ON THE COLORADO.** You might recall in the last Newsletter that Bergy Bits was celebrating his retirement by going rafting with the exalted polar

glacial geologist, Troy Pewe, he of Pewe Peak and Lake Pewe (he made out pretty well in the Antarctic considering he went down for only one austral summer, 1957-58). Troy rounded up a motley group of relatives, friends, neighbors, and innocents and told them to meet him at the South Rim of the Grand Canyon on a specific date, at a certain time. And you know who the last person was to show? — our dynamic leader! We all had received instructions, and were told to keep our total weight down to 45 pounds. I deliberated at some length on whether I should bring some beer for the eight-day trip, and guiltily brought a six-pack of Bud. But the guilt turned to chagrin when a former graduate student, wise in the ways of Pewe, arrived and unloaded his gear, which included seven cases of beer! The second blow came the first night when we made camp at Lee's Ferry, and all of the veterans started erecting beautiful tents, although tents were not mentioned in Troy's equipment list. Louie DeGoes, former Executive Secretary of the Polar Research Board at the National Academy, brought his wife, Allison, and his daughter, Ginger and her spanking new husband, an ex-major league pitching prospect whose career was terminated when he was involved in a terrible automobile accident. But Louie's life would have been in greater jeopardy the first night on the river if Allison could have found, some weapon to extinguish the old All-American from Colorado Aggie, as she wondered what she had ever done to Louie to merit his taking her along on the trip. Fortunately Louie had an unlimited quantity of Scotch along, so they survived all. Max Britton, the old Arctic man of great renown, was along with his effervescent wife, Vera, who was always seen in her nightgown down by the river's edge brushing her teeth at the first crack of dawn. Max was fantastic at putting up their tent in near-record time; he got the prize for getting his erection up first on each and every night. One of the real highlights of the trip came when two women from Alaska showed up at an evening cocktail hour bikinied in penguin bottoms. The skintight shorts came from an outfit in Rhode Island. We have tried in vain to find out how we could purchase some for the Society, but they never answered. However, if you should ever be in Fairbanks, go to Murphy's Drug Store and ask the owner, Jim Murphy, if you could possibly see his wife's penguin shorts. If she, Sally, should model them, all the better, as she has a beautiful .... well, they just look great on her. Some of the rafters were great folks to raft with, such as a retired Air Force officer, Jim Bales, whom Pewe had suckered into returning to graduate school. Probably the piece de resistance was when one of the boatmen, Ray, mooned us all as he left us onshore (for helicopter pickup) and took off for Lake Mead.

Rafting with a bunch of geologists is sort of a trying experience. These guys have the biggest imagination of any group of pseudo-scientists I have ever encountered. They can see anything they want to see when it comes to a formation, and they always had an excuse when they couldn't find some fossil — "the water is too high this year; if it had been a normal year, they would have been all over the place." We never saw a trilobite, but we still all survived quite well, none the worse for their nonexistence. The biggest coup on the trip was something passed off as the Great Unconformity. If it wasn't The Great Pewe Hoax, it represented something like 50 million missing years between two formations. I was brought up in the Boston area, and a proper Bostonian defines the Great Unconformity as the left field fence at Fenway Park, the so-called Green Monster. Those who were geologically minded all went up and kissed Pewe's Great Unconformity. I barely survived the trip, not on account of the waterfalls which were a thrill to ride through, but because of all that geology. I finally told Troy, "If I hear the word 'Precambrian' one more time, I'm going to scream." Little did I know that we had run out of the damn stuff, and that the rest of the trip would be totally enjoyable.

Rafting on the Colorado through the Grand Canyon is a great experience, and you might as well go with Troy as anyone. With a little self-discipline, you can tune him out and just sit there and enjoy the great scenery. Some of the side canyons are truly spectacular, with the Havasupai Canyon being tremendously beautiful. Rafting with

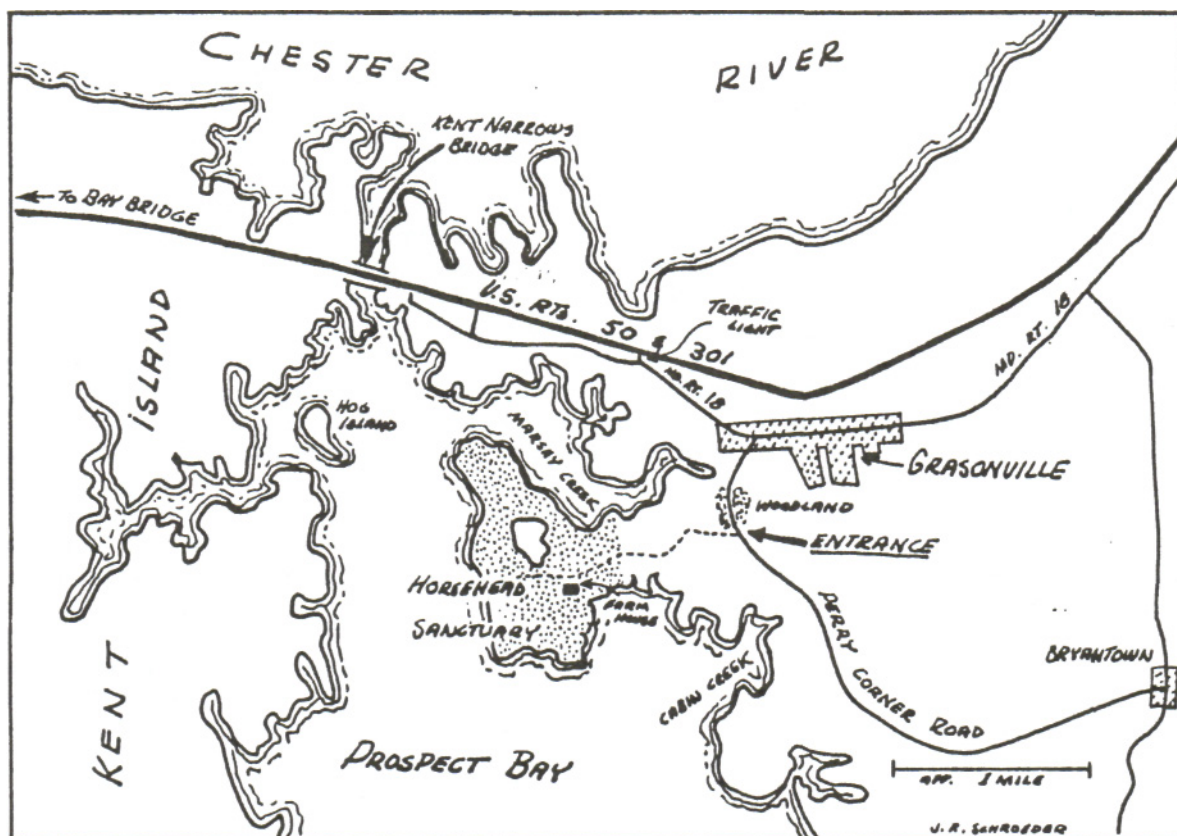
Pewe is about two-fifths vodka, one-fifth geology, one-fifth exploration, and one-fifth rafting. There's something in it for everyone, even an Allison DeGoes!

**CLARIFICATION OF POORLY-WORDED SENTENCE RE/ OHIO STATE AND BYRD PAPERS.** On page 6, we mentioned Ohio State taking possession of two-thirds of the Byrd papers. They will also be obtaining the other third, but couldn't get them into the truck on the 6th of September. So Ohio State is getting ALL available Byrd papers.

**LATE NEWS. GIRL SCOUT ADDENDUM.** Karen Prentice, runner-up Girl Scout, is also going to the Antarctic. Wonder if this means there will be two Boy Scouts next year?

**ICE CHIPS.** Just before going to press we called *Pete Burrill*, our immediate past President, and were aghast to find out that he had had a stroke in July. I knew he should have stayed in Pemaquid all summer! The good news is that he appears to be making a good recovery. It affected his speech and right side, but he is now walking, and will be going back to his alma mater, Bates College, for a meeting the end of this month. Another one of our past presidents, *George Doumani*, Byrd Station '59, got married over my violent objections. He married something very blonde, very beautiful, and much too young for George. If he survives this, he's in better shape than I suspect. They are living in Yemen where he has accepted a new assignment. George, eat your Wheaties and keep the oxygen bottle nearby! .... *WICKIUP*, the former fantastic retreat of the late Admiral Byrd in Sullivan, Maine burned down in July 1984 after a dog supposedly knocked over a lighted kerosene lantern. It was a 12,000 square foot, 2-story log cabin, on a 1315-acre estate which had about 23,750 feet on the southern shore of Big Tunk Lake. A court fight is going on right now as to who actually owns the property . . . Bergy Bits saw *Ron Thoreson* in Montrose, Colorado this summer. Ron once ran the biological laboratory at McMurdo, but is now Head Ranger at Black Canyon National Monument. If you should ever be in Montrose, you might hear Ron and the Park Superintendent playing at the local laundromat. It's not Carnegie Hall or Nashville, but Ron thinks they make an effective combo, and the price is certainly right. When in Montrose, you should go to a popular cafeteria where they have the world's best peanut butter pie. Fantastic! .... The *POLAR DUKE* visited Palmer Station, 29-30 August, and is expected to call again in late September - all part of a trial to determine whether the *POLAR DUKE* could access Palmer during the winter . . . The 9500-ton *VLADIVOSTOK* icebreaker liberated the *MIKHAIL SOMOV* on 3 August 1985 from her beleaguered, ice-locked position in Antarctic waters where she had been trapped with her 53 members since mid-March. They took off immediately for New Zealand for refueling before returning to Vladivostok . . . *Al Fowler* is having a big year; not only did he get his second hole-in-one, but evidently his wife agreed to stick with him a while longer after they recently celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary . . . Fantastic cover on the September-October 1985 issue of *International Wildlife* showing a King penguin and chick, which must be the surliest, burliest, and meanest-looking chick that ever walked. Only a mother could love that fat little monster . . . *Dotte Larsen*, our beloved whale spotteress, is off in Kenya, presumably looking for some whale fossils. She never stays home, which can be both good and bad for The Professor. One of *Dotte's* pictures - one of a polar bear - appears in the 1986 Sierra Club Wildlife calendar. Congratulations! .... *Ruth Siple* tried to subscribe to FEAM so she could get a copy of the second issue, but she was turned down, and received her \$50 back! That man has some real problems..... *Alice Dater* is going on a barge cruise up the Rhine in early October. She's a real swinger, and no grass grows under her feet . . . *David Kellogg* is in a family way. Now the question is whether this one will also be named for some polar explorer . . . With *Ken Moulton* hanging it all up, I wonder if any American will ever eclipse his number of trips to Antarctica. *John Katsufakis* might do it, possibly *George Denton*, but I don't think *Charlie Bentley* will make it. Are there any other heirs-apparents? *Tony Gow*? *Phil Kyle*? *Art Ford*? *Bill Cassidy*?

**DIRECTIONS TO HORSEHEAD SANCTUARY:** From Washington, take Route 50 East; go across the Chesapeake Bay Bridge (Annapolis), continue approximately 5 miles; cross the Kent Narrows Bridge; at first light (Holly's Restaurant on left) turn RIGHT; turn LEFT on Route 18; turn RIGHT on Perry Corner Road (just past fire station); go down Perry Corner Road about one mile; you will see a sign on right for Horsehead Sanctuary, and a small dirt road; drive straight down that road until you come to a complex of old buildings where you can park your car. (See map below)




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#### ORDERING INFORMATION

MEMORIAL LECTURE DINNER, October 10 (including Cocktails)	\$23 per person
MIDWINTER PICNIC AT HORSEHEAD SANCTUARY, October 12	\$10 per person
1986 USARP Calendar (15-month calendar)	\$6 each
1986 New Zealand Antarctic Calendar	\$6 each
Molenaar's McMurdo Sound Area Pictorial Map	\$7.50 each

Please make checks payable to ANTARCTICAN SOCIETY