



# THE ANTARCTICAN SOCIETY

905 NORTH JACKSONVILLE STREET  
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22205

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No. 1

*THE ANTARCTICAN SOCIETY AND THE NRC'S POLAR RESEARCH BOARD*

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Mr. R. Tucker Scully, 1983  
Dr. Richard P. Goldthwait, 1984  
Dr. Mark F. Meier, 1985  
Dr. Claude Lorius, 1986

present

ANTARCTIC OZONE HOLE

by

Dr. James Margitan

Discipline Scientist

Upper Atmosphere Research Program

NASA Headquarters

Washington D.C.

on

*Friday evening, 17 October 1986*

*7:30 PM*

in

Room 451

National Academy of Sciences

21st and Pennsylvania NW

Washington, D.C.

Dr. James Margitan is a chemist with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory who is on a two-year assignment at NASA Headquarters here in Washington. He will speak on the most holy of all Antarctic issues, the so-called ozone hole. NASA scientists have been in the forefront studying the phenomenon, and they addressed the issue in NATURE (28 August 1986). This meeting is at a most opportune time because it is expected that preliminary findings obtained by 13 specialists flown into Antarctica on WINFLY in late August will be available. It's a most timely presentation on a subject of great interest by one of the key men involved in the study. Come one, come all! Bring friends!

Coffee and cookies will be served.

*PLEASE NOTE THE ADDRESS AND THE TIME I*

*Mark your calendar NOW. Co-meeting with The Explorers Club-Washington Croup has been set for Saturday, 15 November 1986. This will be a dinner meeting at the Cosmos Club.*

Order your 1987 Antarctic Calendars. See page 12.

Well, here we go again. It's Ruth's ninth year as La Grande Dame of the Society; it's the eighth year of Bergy Bits. As before, this column will be a potpourri of pieces about Ant-arcticans, some of which may even be truthful, although a good story gets priority over truthfulness. Our main objective is to present human interest articles about Ant-arcticans of all ages. We encourage you to send in your items which will make our job easier and the Newsletter better. Married members should note reduced rates as we go benevolent.

**THE PAUL C. DANIELS MEMORIAL LECTURES.** As you can see from our new stationery, our Society has named our Memorial Lectures after our late, beloved Honorary President, Ambassador Paul C. Daniels. It was unfortunate that we didn't do this when he was still alive - we should have. He epitomized in so many ways what our founding fathers - of which he was one - meant our Society to be, both then and in the future. Although he enjoyed the social camaraderie and the tinkling of raised glasses, he never lost track of what Antarctica should be for people of all nations. His name will always be synonymous with the Antarctic Treaty, and hopefully his name will always be associated with our Society. We know of no better way to see that it is preserved than in having our annual Memorial Lectures given in the name of Paul C. Daniels.

We have heard several times from his widow, Teddy and from his daughter, Jean who "adored [her] father and was immoderately proud of his accomplishments." Upon hearing that the Society had named its annual Memorial Lectures after her Dad, she wrote:

Thank you for splendidly honoring the memory of my father by naming the Society's .annual Memorial Lecture for him. I like to think that my father's high aspirations for Antarctica (and, through its example, for all lands) may continue to be remembered along with his name.

The group of relatives and friends who gathered at the Salisbury, Connecticut Cemetery on June ninth seemed - to share my feeling of returning to God a very precious gift. Dad's mortal remains were lowered gently into the earth, next to the graves pf his other daughter and son, by his grandson, Paul Daniels Portell. We will miss him very much.

My mother has difficulty sometimes adjusting to her loss - of course! But she is doing very well under the circumstances. Your sympathy and your actions at the Society have comforted us both greatly. It is no wonder that my father was so proud of the Ant-arctican Society; you all seem to be such lovely persons.

I think it was most appropriate that a foreign scientist, Professor Claude Lorius of France, the incoming president of that august Antarctic body, SCAR (Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research), should give the first Memorial Lecture after Ambassador Daniels' death. It was a most scholarly presentation on "Polar Ice Cores - A Record of Climatic and Environmental Changes," one that he would have enjoyed. Presenting Dr. Lorius that evening was the person whom Bergy Bits calls with much justification, Gentleman Jim, Dr. James Zumberge, president of the University of Southern California and the. outgoing president of SCAR. One could not have hoped for a better script, two men of distinction honoring another, with a most learned presentation, before a large international gathering of Antarctic decision and policy makers from all the Antarctic Treaty nations, plus some Society members.

**SOCIETY OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS.** Your Society is run by four officers and twelve directors, who meet periodically throughout the year to make decisions, favorable or unfavorable, for the Society. This Newsletter is the unofficial voice of the Society, but we try to pass on the Board's feelings, especially if we agree with them. Our incoming president is Robert H.T. Dodson, who many long years ago was a member of the Ronne Antarctic Research Expedition. He is currently with the State Department, and has been an enthusiastic supporter of our lecture series for many years. He is very much interested in our Society, so one can expect that he will be a very active president. Our Vice President is Guy Guthridge, who needs no introduction to any American Antarctic, as he is head of the Public Information Office in the Division of Polar Programs at the National Science Foundation. But we will tell you he is an avid racing yachtsman, almost as good as Ted Turner. Our treasurer, Ruth Siple, was voted in for life or until she quits, whichever comes first. Pete Barretta has been rotated back in as secretary. It's not that anyone can read Pete's scribbblings, as no one can, not even he himself, but he comes to each and every meeting, and you want your officers there. The new Board members are all relatively young Antarcticans who have been to the ice in the past decade: Tony Meunier, Bob Hickerson, and Jorge Carnicero. Meunier will also serve as Sergeant at Arms, Bouncer, and any other position requiring muscle and size. Vernon Cooper of Hazard, Kentucky is our newest Member-at-Large Board member by dint of his writing so many letters to the Nerve Center. Also, he is president of a bank, and it is always nice to have a member on the Board who is independently solvent in case we need a loan.

Other active Board members (terms are for three years) are Chris Joyner, Professor at George Washington University who is interested in the Antarctic Treaty and conservation (as well as being an expert on terrorism); Dick Conger, former chief Navy photographer in the Antarctic on Deep Freeze I, II, III, and IV; Joe Dukert, author of a book on Antarctica and well-known writer on energy issues; Jackie Ronne, widow of Antarctic explorer, Capt. Finn Ronne, and first (along with Jennie Darlington) woman to winter over on the ice; Herb Nickens, recently retired cartographer from the US Geological Survey who spent many years mapping Antarctica; Walt Seelig, another retiree, former Mr. Christchurch while working for NSF; Bob Nichols, retired glaciologist who still feels the most significant work done in Antarctica was accomplished by men hauling sledges; and Charles Swithinbank, a lend-lease glaciologist from the UK who is partly American through marriage and association with American programs. Both Nichols and Swithinbank are Members-At-Large.

A last-minute note from Bob Dodson, dated 9/7/86, from Geneva:

Let me say, right off, how tremendously pleased I am to be named President of the Antarctic Society. It really is an honor, as I'm somewhat different than past presidents, having not been in Antarctica since 1948. You might say I'm an antique, one of the dwindling number who have driven dog-teams, lived on pemmican a la Sig Gutenko, and travelled to the Antarctic without benefit of air transport. I am looking forward tremendously to my new association with all of you. R.D.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES.** We decided that it wasn't fair to ask both husband and wife to pay full memberships when we send them only one Newsletter, so we have come up with a new category, husband-wife duo-membership for \$10. The rationale was to save a few bucks for old-timers - Pete and Edna Barretta, Hal and Margaret Borns, Pete and Betty Burrill, Gene and Reba Campbell, Bert and Mildred Crary, Hugh and Jane DeWitt, Tom and Davida Kellogg, George and Sallie Toney, Mort and Joanne Turner, and Link and Tahoe Washburn. We have been using the extra money to send Newsletters to Scott Polar Research Institute, the Goldthwait Library, National Archives, Jim Barnes, Jim Caffin, Bernie Coyne, Max Hamilton, Lee Kimball, and our Honorary members, as well as to people who write and want to see/hear what we are all about. So if you want to sign

up your husband or your wife, or whatever, you can come aboard at \$10 per twosome, but you will get only one Newsletter.

Bills are being mailed to those members whose dues are due, roughly 45% of our total membership. We greatly appreciate all of you folks who renewed for multiple years, as it makes it a lot easier for the team of Siple and Dalrymple to keep the books. This is a two-person operation, and we do it for our love of Antarctica and Antarcticans. If you want to drop out of the Society, now is the time to do it, as we really aren't looking for 1,000 – we think 500 is just great! However, we would very much appreciate it if droppees would just tell us they are abandoning ship; then we won't bug you with further dues notices or Newsletters. And your name will never be printed as a delinquent!

**MEMBERSHIP.** Back on May 17th, at our joint meeting with the Washington chapter of The Explorers Club, this cameo-complexioned beauty came up to Bergy Bits and said, "I'm Lisa Fetterolf." I recognized the name, as she had just joined the Society, so I replied, "I've been waiting to meet you for a long, long time." You see, Lisa is our 500th member, a number which I had more or less picked several years ago as our membership goal. Since Lisa, we have more new members, so now we total 518, our highest ever. It is interesting to note that our members come from 46 states, plus the District of Columbia, and eleven foreign countries. Here's the breakdown:

Virginia	70	Alaska	8	Mississippi	3	Australia	4
Maryland	62	New Jersey	7	New Mexico	3	England	3
California	49	Illinois	6	Connecticut	2	Canada	2
D.C.	33	New Hampshire	5	Alabama	2	West Germany	2
Colorado	24	Nebraska	5	Indiana	2	Argentina	1
New York	24	Oklahoma	5	South Carolina	2	Austria	1
Massachusetts	20	Rhode Island	5	Utah	2	Belgium	1
Florida	17	Vermont	5	Wyoming	2	Chile	1
Texas	17	Kansas	4	Arkansas	1	Korea	1
Washington	14	Minnesota	4	Delaware	1	New Zealand	1
Ohio	13	Missouri	4	Hawaii	1	USSR	1
Arizona	12	Nevada	4	Montana	1		
Pennsylvania	11	North Carolina	4	South Dakota	1		
Maine	11	Wisconsin	4	Tennessee	1		
Oregon	10	Georgia	3	Louisiana	1		
Michigan	9	Kentucky	3				

Now those half-persons are not lightweights; they are just nomads who have the wherewithal to live in the south in winter and the good sense to go to New England in the summer. Not long ago we were basically a bunch of Washingtonians, but now only 28% of our Society live within 50 miles of Washington. It is great to have such national representation, but the small number of members in the Washington area – 146 – makes it extremely difficult to get large turnouts.

**TYPICAL IGY ANTARCTICAN SUCCUMBS.** When the IGY came along, a bunch of characters came out of the woods and volunteered to go to Antarctica, a bunch of guys who had been waiting a long time to go to Antarctica. The largest group was from the old Weather Bureau, many of whom had previous Arctic or Alaskan service. One of them was Gene Harter, who went to Little America V and had a ball for himself. Gene was a very likable guy, but is no more, as he dropped dead this summer following a typical Harter adventure, being towed in a tube by a speeding boat. Pulling himself back into the boat, totally exhausted, he reached for a cigarette, lighted it, and that was the end. His wife, Jennie says he died from smoking. She may be right.

Old Gene lived and died with gusto; he knew no other way. He never should have been allowed to go to Antarctica, as once he had severely frozen his feet after a terrible aircraft accident back in December 1947 when an Air Transport Command C-54 went down in the boonies of Labrador, killing 23. Gene walked out to civilization and brought back a rescue team to the other living five. When he took his Antarctic physical, he kept his socks on; otherwise, he would never have made it.

While recuperating in the hospital in Bethesda after that accident, Gene met this young thing from Silver Spring, and told her he'd take her away from terrible Washington if she would only marry him. She agreed without reading the fine print, which said that he planned to take her to Alaska as the other half of a husband-wife Met team. And in very small print there was a clause that he planned to get her pregnant each and every year. But Jennie was happy to get out of town, and now all those kids are her big support and happiness.

Gene chucked the Weather Bureau shortly after the Antarctic, went into business for himself in Fort Wayne, and became very successful. Those of us who knew him at Little America V would not have believed there was a minister in the Harter clan, but there was, and he conducted the funeral service. When Jennie picked music for the funeral, she insisted on including "My Way" because she said this was Gene. To me he epitomized the IGY men who had burning desires to go to Antarctica. Bergy Bits is going to miss the old scoundrel.

**CALL TO QUARTERS FOR ALL DEEP FREEZE IV PERSONNEL.** Mel Havener, 278 Lantana Street, Camarillo, California 93010, is organizing a reunion of all people who were on Deep Freeze IV, 1958-59. No place or time has been selected, so get in touch with Mel now and have an input. Mel was a young enlisted man at the South Pole with Dr. Siple in 1957, and liked it so well that he went back to the Antarctic and wintered over at McMurdo in '59. He attended the Deep Freeze I reunion in Norfolk a year ago August, and had such a good time he thought he would try to pull one off for IV. Ruth and Bergy Bits stopped off to visit several hours with Mel and his family as we drove up the coast of California. His wife, Shirley makes' the best sticky buns ever, so ask for them when you visit. They are great! We made the mistake of not taking some along with us when we left. Incidentally, after Mel finished his Navy career, he decided to go to college, and now has two college degrees. Unusual fellow, real nice guy!

**MORE ANTARCTIC BOOK DEALERS.** In our May 1986 Newsletter we gave addresses for five stateside and five foreign book dealers who routinely sell Antarctic books. Thanks to our good friend, John Millard, here are four more polar book sellers:

Bluntisham Books	Kenneth Hince
Oak House, East Street	823 Glenhuntly Road
Bluntisham, Huntingdon, Cambs., PE17 3LS	Caulfield South, Victoria 3162
United Kingdom	Australia
487-840449 (phone)	

Patrick J. Walcott - Books	Gaston Renard, Fine & Rare Books
60 Sunnybank Road	G.P.O. Box 5235BB
Sutton Coldfields, W. Midlands B73 5RJ	Melbourne, Victoria 3001
United Kingdom	Australia
21-382-6381 (phone)	3-417-1044 (phone)

John writes, "A word of caution regarding Australian books prices, they are astronomical compared with U.S.A. and Britain, surface parcel post rates are high, and it takes 2-3 months, at least to this destination." D.W.H. Walton of Bluntisham Books wrote us, feeling hurt about being left off our May listing. We really don't strive for

perfection in Bergy Bits, we just look for enough words to fill ten pages, but we are sorry that we didn't mention Bluntisham before. They are a legitimate concern which publishes four catalogues a year on polar books, totaling around 1,200 items.

John Millard is a man of many fascinations which he pursues with great vigor and probably much expense. As mentioned in earlier columns, one is finding out who possesses copies of Shackleton's Aurora Australia. John wrote that an original copy was sold at auction in London in April for 6500 pounds, plus a buyer's fee of 10%. Oh la la! There is a Trade Re-print Edition (of A.A.) which may or may not be sold out by now. If interested in one, you should have at your disposal 480 greenbacks, as that is the cost through Bluntisham. There were only 12 unsold copies left in late June, so run, don't walk, to your nearest Western Union office. Fifty-eight copies were published - the same number as the original - and they are numbered. Both the original paper type and the boards have been closely matched in the facsimile. It is printed in black and red on 115gsm handmade, watermarked, acid-free deckle-edged paper. Quarter bound in calf and 3-ply plywood with chamfered edges, blind-tooled with the title and the "Sign of the Penguins". Sheets punched and threaded onto silken ties. Size 210 x 275 mm. Supplied with a 24-page booklet containing a Preface by Lord Shackleton and a detailed account of the history of the book by John Millard. Presented in a specially strengthened, dustproof, cloth-covered library box.

John has been making real progress on his study of "The Worst Journey in the World", and we would like to quote from what he wrote Bergy Bits, but thinketh perhaps we best hold off on that one, because John "hopes to publish the results in the early fall."

**"ANTARCTIC SUMMER" AT SMITHSONIAN.** The Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History currently (until November 15) has an exhibit of watercolors and drawings by Lucia de Leiris, artist-illustrator, who was in Antarctica, November '85 - March '86, working out of Palmer Station when not on board the POLAR DUKE. The exhibit is set up in the Discovery Gallery on the second floor, and is quite interesting. There are over thirty paintings, most of which are quite small, but there are several good-sized scenic ones (Le Maire Channel, Gerlache Straits, Birth of the Sea Ice, Le Maire Channel II). There are two paintings of Chinstrap penguins, and one each of a Gentoo, an Adelie, a Macaroni, a Giant Petrel, and sea life; several of stations on the Peninsula (Palmer, Port Lockroy, and Faraday); one of the Society EXPLORER. De Leiris evidently devised a heated tent with a vinyl window to protect herself and her watercolors, but she must have had problems, as a journal quote with the exhibit said, "Painting on the glacier was a disaster. Starry patterns emerged on the paper as the washes froze in seconds. Another brush stroke would turn it all into colored snowflakes that would coat the end of the brush." One can't go wrong visiting any Smithsonian museum, and if you should not like this exhibit, which we feel is quite good and most worthwhile, you can always go back down to the first floor and go to the Antarctic with Wilkes.

**IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF SIPLE (ALSO CHAPPELL, LEINMILLER, AND BARNHART).** (Submitted by Dr. Edward P. Todd). In 1928 a national competition was held for the purpose of selecting an Eagle Scout to accompany Admiral (then Commander) Byrd on his first expedition to Antarctica. The winner was Paul A. Siple who went on to develop an outstanding career in Antarctic activities and in the Foreign Service. Twenty-nine years later, Eagle Scout Richard L. Chappell won a similar contest and spent the year 1957-58 in the Antarctic. Chappell is now a professor at Hunter College. More recent contests have produced winners Mark Leinmiller and Douglas Barnhart.

Last year negotiations began again between the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) and the Division of Polar Programs of the National Science Foundation which have resulted in an agreement to send an Eagle Scout to Antarctica once every three years. The winner will be selected in a nationwide contest and, besides participating in the United

States Antarctic program for a season, the winner will also play an important role in the national BSA organization for a three-year period after his return.

The affairs of the BSA are the responsibility of a National Council which is a very large group of national and regional Scout officials which meets biennially. The day-to-day operation of the national BSA is the responsibility of a professional staff of several hundred people, headquartered in Irving, Texas and guided by a small executive council on behalf of the National Council. Three of the positions on the executive council are reserved for "youth members" who are generally college age Eagle Scouts selected to represent significant phases of scout life. In line with a decision to place more emphasis in Scouting on academic activities, including science and engineering, the Antarctic Scout is, upon his return, appointed for a three-year term to one of these "youth" positions on the National Executive Council. Mark Leinmiller has completed his term, and his successor, Doug Barnhart, is currently serving. Thus, the Antarctic Scout is integrated into the longer range plans of the BSA by serving as a role model consistent with the desire to strengthen the emphasis on the academic phase of Scouting.

This year's contest produced about 150 semifinalists whose applications were extensively reviewed at national headquarters and, with considerable difficulty, the field was winnowed down to produce a group of four finalists. The finalists, and a group of four judges, were invited to the biennial National Council meeting held in Louisville, Kentucky in late May for the difficult process of selecting the winner. The judges were three former winners, Richard L. Chappell, Mark Leinmiller, and Douglas Barnhart, and Edward P. Todd, a retired former director of the Division of Polar Programs.

The finalists were an imposing group of four young men, any one of whom could be expected to serve with distinction if selected. They were Joel S. Davidow, a freshman majoring in geology at Amherst College; Jeffrey S. Janda of Berwyn, Illinois, a high school senior with a strong interest in science and mathematics who had received a strong impetus from his membership in an Explorer Post at the Argonne National Laboratories; Willis M. Potts of Miles City, Montana, a high school senior with a straight A average, a strong interest in science and mathematics who plans to attend college to study petroleum engineering; and Louis P. Sugarman of Southfield, Michigan, a freshman at the University of Michigan majoring in chemistry with a leaning, perhaps, to pre-med.

The selection process must have been hard on the boys since the judges put them through a grueling series of interviews. On Wednesday, following a brief orientation session, the assembled judges interviewed each boy in turn. On Thursday, a series of one-on-one interviews was held until each judge had had a private interview with each boy. On Thursday evening, the judges met together to decide on the winner. This was a most difficult process since any one of the four would have been suitable.

On Friday morning, the Scouts and the judges were invited by the National Eagle Scout Association to attend the Eagle Scout Breakfast. Each Scout was introduced to the assembly of several hundred adult Scouters. They also met several older, rather famous (in Scouting circles) Scouters. Interestingly, one of the Scouters who dropped by our table for a chat was Perry E. Piper of West Liberty, Illinois who, in his youth, had been one of the Eagle Scout semifinalists in the contest won by Paul Siple.

Following the breakfast, the judges took the boys off to a nearby office where they were informed that Louis P. Sugarman had been selected as the winner. [Louis told Bergy Bits he never slept a wink the preceding night!] Louis has passed his physical exam and attended the USARP Orientation session in September, and then on to the Antarctic in early October.

**A DAY AT SEA WORLD.** The day after the June 24th Memorial Lecture, Sea World Invited participants of SCAR XIX to be their guests, and Antarctic Society members in town were graciously included. It turned out to be a most delightful day, and early in the afternoon Ruth and Bergy Bits ran into Myrt Eller, a new member of our Society, who is a volunteer worker at Sea World. This was a stroke of good fortune for us, as she became our personal guide, seeing to it that we got where we should for all the proper shows - and one improper show, where two giant seals (in the midst of their mating season) decided that they could think of something better to do than to complete their act on stage. The maestro had to recruit two younger seals who weren't as concerned with mating as they were with seeing that the "show must go on."

The highlight of Sea World for all Antarcticans has to be their Penguin Encounter. Myrt introduced us to Frank Twohy, the Assistant Curator for Birds, who showed us the working areas of Penguin Encounter. Having seen Frank several times on national television with E.P. and K.O., and having read about him in Currents, it was quite a thrill to meet him. Following a great barbecue in the evening, Frank took several of us in amongst the 400 penguins where he explained the facts of penguin life to us. We even found out how a female Emperor penguin, who hasn't paired up, walks when she is advertising - or at least looking for a swimming partner. Frank has one blue-eyed cormorant who is quite tame; he/she/it allows you to stroke his/her/its back and neck. It is amazing how the six species of penguins in the room segregate according to light, with the gradation going from the Emperors who prefer to do their thing in the dark, to the Kings who seem to prefer the lighter areas. Sea World will open other Penguin Encounters in Florida (Orlando), Ohio (Aurora), and Texas.

It was great seeing so many Society members in San Diego. The one walking around with a cheshire-cat grin, looking like he had swallowed the canary, was old Gil Dewart, who had wintered over with Carl Eklund at Wilkes in '57 and with the Russians at Mirny in '61. However, it wasn't his Antarctic memories which had him smiling, it was this comely lass with the broadest brimmed hat in town whom he had in tow. But he wasn't the oldest, as John Roscoe, who did photogrammetry and photo interpretation on High-jump in '46-'47 and Windmill in '47-'48, was there. Fauno Cordes, Miss Fictional Antarctica, came down from the San Francisco area, and it was nice meeting her. We had never met Big John (Stagnaro) who is justly famous for all his many years of running phone patches for Antarcticans. Big John had his XYL along, and seemed to enjoy an evening away from the rig, meeting such characters as Dick Cameron, and seeing old friends like Rob Flint. Bob Feeney and his wife came down from Davis for the lecture, and Richard Miller, leader of the Ross Sea Ichthyology Project '58-'59, was also there. Our new president, Bob Dodson, veteran of the Ronne Antarctic Research Expedition '47-'48, came from Washington, DC to join in the festivities. We should have more meetings in California. They have fun towns.

**HOWARD MASON, BAE I RADIO OPERATOR, DOING WELL.** On our trip to the west coast this summer, Ruth and Bergy Bits dropped by to see Howard and Genevieve Mason. Howard, one of the radio operators on the 1928-30 Byrd Antarctic Expedition, showed us some old glass slides from that expedition, using a projector made in the mid-1920's which looked like a cannon for harpooning whales. Howard was one of the fortunates on that expedition - he was paid handsomely, \$100 per month by the New York Times. When he came back he walked around San Francisco with his fortune, looking for a safe bank in which to deposit it. He picked the one with the most elegant pillars, figuring that must be the best bank, but it folded within the week. So beware of banks with great pillars! Howard is a very interesting fellow. He went north twice with George H. Wilkins, later to become Sir Hubert. Having been a coworker with Sir Hubert, it was interesting to meet a person who had been north with him before he became famous. Howard built his own home in Seattle, and he and his wife of long-standing make a delightful couple. It seems strange that he didn't know there was a mountain named



after him at 84°43'S, 169°48'W. Bergy Bits hopes to get a picture of it for Howard, as he's such a nice guy. Evidently many members of the early expeditions never knew they had geographic features named after them. It's great fun visiting with these older explorers; their enthusiasm for the Antarctic has only been enhanced by the years.

**THE HERO LIVES ON.** Our April 1986 Newsletter told you about the proposed Antarctic Exploratorium in Reedsport, Oregon. The centerpiece for whatever may follow is the HERO which is tied up in Reedsport. One crewman from its Antarctic days survives -and he's the captain, a fellow by the name of Jay Morrison. The HERO is open to the public for a very nominal fee, and occasionally they fire her up and off she goes. One such day was this past July 4th, when it lead a flotilla of pleasure craft upstream under the Umpqua Bridge being honored for surviving 50 years. As Ruth and Bergy Bits were to be on the west coast, they had asked us to come along for the ride. The night before the 4th, a sudden storm hit the central Oregon coast, and the intrepid HERO was blown onto a sandbar. So they had to get her off the bar in the morning, then dock her in order to pick up a hundred or more patrons of the International Oceanographic HERO Foundation. This turned out to be quite an ordeal with a neophyte crew, taking well over an hour. Then they went downstream to meet the pleasure craft, and lo and behold, ran aground again on another sandbar. Everyone had to go stand on the bow. It worked, but by that time there was no flotilla in sight! So the HERO went full throttle ahead for Reedsport, and made a spectacular arrival at the bridge at high noon, whistles blaring, balloons flying, just like in the script! Meanwhile, back on the east coast, an Arctic ship, Admiral MacMillan's BOWDOIN, followed the Coast Guard Cutter EAGLE into New York harbor in their Tall Ships extravaganza. Both the HERO and the BOWDOIN sponsors need monies, so if you want to help keep a couple of good old polar ships active, contributions would be welcomed.

**ANTARCTIC SNOW CRUISER.** Two of our members, J. Stephen Dibbern and Dean Freitag, have recently collaborated on a 34-page report on Dr. Poulter's Antarctic Snow Cruiser, which was taken on the U.S. Antarctic Service Expedition 1939-41. The bottom line appears to be that the vehicle was three to five times too heavy for its tires to support itself on snow surfaces. It says that "the snow cruiser remains a monument to a bold attempt to push at the frontiers of both exploration and mobility which failed in a spectacular fashion." There was nothing wrong with Poulter's idea of having a mobile, self-sufficient exploration unit. Sixteen requirements' were set forth, some of which were really far-reaching - cruising distance from four to six thousand miles, negotiating open crevasses up to fifteen feet wide, a cruising speed between five and ten miles per hour. The documentation of the Snow cruiser's overland trip from Chicago to Boston, then its offloading at Little America III make excellent reading. In fact, the whole article is very interesting. It is not a negative, debilitating story, but an upbeat one emphasizing the contributions made to polar mobility research. One thing Bergy Bits never realized was that all of the Little America stations are now gone. This fellow Dibbern has also published a letter report on Vehicular Transport at McMurdo Station Antarctica. Wonder what Scott or Shackleton would say if they could see this report? No Siberian ponies, no dog teams!! Did you ever wonder just where Scott and his diehards in the tent are today - perhaps still on the Barrier.

**LCDR DAVID ELI BUNGER, WHERE ART THOU?** The Australians want to talk to you about Bunger Oasis, but no one knows where you are, so please surface. Aussie Bob Tingey, science coordinator, ANARE Bunger Hills party 1986, writes that last year they "commenced a three-year cycle of summer field observations in the Bunger Hills region and a small field base camp was established in the SW corner of the Bunger Hills. The base camp was named Edgeworth David in honour of the eminent Australian geologist who accompanied Shackleton's 1907-1909 British Antarctic Expedition. The 22-strong field

party - 21 men, 1 woman - frequently discussed Bunger and his landing, one reason being the fact that the marine inlets remained icebound well past the date of Hunger's original landing. Although we encountered some fairly windy weather which resulted in some boisterous flying conditions, we had a very productive field season from mid-January to early March. The Bunger Hills party developed a considerable respect for the people who went before us, and we are keen to find out more about and make contact with David E. Bunger and his crew." Bunger was flying an old Martin Mariner seaplane off the tender CURRITUCK at the time he discovered Bunger Hills on 11 February 1947. If Gus Shinn or John Roscoe doesn't know where Bunger is, he is probably pretty well buried.

**MURRAY WIENER REAPS.** Murray Wiener, Antarctic protege of the late Admiral Richard E. Byrd, Dr. Paul A. Siple, Bud Waite, and others, enjoyed a good military life as a commissioned officer. He looked forward to retirement, as he liked his golf and his fishing, and was real comfortable with a nice pension. He and his bride Ruth were thinking Mexico, and on their way south to look for a retirement home, they stopped off in Green Valley, Arizona. And one might say they never left Green Valley, as they fell in love with the town, bought a lovely home right on the golf course, and settled down to live happily ever after. But it didn't turn out that way; a new bank hired him, and he soon became its vice-president. Then along came an old friend who told Murray he just had to have him to help sell some luxurious, spectacular condos in Del Rey Colony, Venice, California. Murray said okay, but only for one year, as he's getting on towards seventy and hasn't really retired. It turns out that everything Murray touches, including his wife, turns to gold - she's a golden beauty, still looking very much like the Miss Junior Prom she was at Syracuse University several decades ago. No wonder Murray wakes up every morning with a smile on his face! He has made a fortune this year, has so much money he doesn't know where to bury it, but he does know that he's going back to Green Valley and really hit that golf course. And, if you are looking for a whistler for your next social function, contact Ruth Wiener, as this songbird whistles up a storm at the drop of a note (or a bond). She also can cook. We know, because we were houseguests of the Wieners in late June.

**ICE CHIPS.** Mr. Antarctica, *Larry Gould*, turned ninety this past August. Ordinarily this would have been a gala occasion, but it was tempered by the fact that Larry had to have open heart surgery earlier in the summer. He had sort of an engine overhaul, has a new valve, and is taking therapeutic walks under the control and guidance of their faithful dog, *Gray*..... Meanwhile back here on the east coast, *Big Bert Crary*, First at Both Poles, is making a slow recovery from multiple problems, the latest of which was a bad reaction to the combination of pills he was taking this past spring. But Bert is back walking, and even reports that he tries a bit of jogging on his walks. He goes regularly to a pool where he is put through a series of exercises. Bert is back up to 174 pounds. It's ironic and sad that three of the biggest IGY Antarctic men, Larry, Bert, and *Bunny Fuchs*, should all have major physical problems in the past year..... *Ken Moulton* was enjoying retirement, his Red Sox were walking away with the American League pennant, he was in good health, and his pockets were full of dimes and nickels. Then he was summoned by Dr. Wilkniss to temporarily fill the large shoes that *Walt Seelig* had left behind in Christchurch. At first Ken turned him down, but then he realized that if he went south, he could escape Christmas in the States. That turned the tide, and old Ken will be in Christchurch for three months starting in late October..... *Joe Wubbold*, who must have set some kind of a record for most ballast carried around the waist by a Coast Guard captain, retired from the service this summer and is going to spend the coming year at the Scott Polar Research Institute in Cambridge. We understand he will be concentrating his efforts on Antarctic policies. .... *Linda Young* of Woodland Hills, California, is a writer preparing a series of educational children's stories designed to encourage and increase knowledge and under-

standing of the real world among young people. Her first book will be on Antarctica.... *Scott Miller*, one of the Boy Scout finalists for the 50th anniversary of Siple's selection, is picking up his PhD in entomology at Harvard this month, and has been chosen to be the director of the famed Bishop Museum in Hawaii. He is phenomenal, and as we congratulate him on his many achievements, we wish him and Pam the beat at the Bishop.....Speaking of Scouts, a lesser known Boy Scout is *Art Owen*, one of our newest members, who was on the Ronne Antarctic Research Expedition. Art had a career as a petroleum geologist working for both major and independent oil companies, with both domestic and international assignments. He's an avid mountaineer, and is now starting up a consulting practice ... *Captain Edwin MacDonald* is going to cruise up the Rhine from Holland to Germany in October, although presumably not in an icebreaker. Then the MacDonalds will spend the Christmas holidays in London.... *Al (BAE II) Lindsay* says that Halley's Comet was not a hoax, that he confirmed its presence with six sightings from Florida to Arizona. As one who made repeated fruitless efforts to see it last winter and spring, Bergy Bits questions the authenticity of Lindsay's sightings. One experiences certain hallucinations as one grows older, and Al must have been having one at the north foot of the Santa Catalinas where he reported he "saw it with a clear tail rising in gap on mountain skyline." The Lindseys held an all-hands family Halley Rally in Zapata, Texas, April 5-7, and when there were actual witnesses, it seemed they had difficulty seeing it!.... *J. Murray Mitchell* retired this summer from NOAA after a most illustrious government career. He reports that he seems to be doing fine after going through chemotherapy treatments last year. He has been walking around for the past sixteen years with a secret passion – not a stately blonde or a statuesque redhead, but a fervent desire to study the effects of the moon on our weather. Right now he is in the throes of building his own research laboratory in the back yard, and tells us that "there is gold in them thar hills" – referring to his future research ... *Billy-Ace Baker* wrote that he ran into Gus Shinn in a veterinarian's waiting room in Pensacola. There's a good name out of Antarctic polar aviation, being the pilot of QUE SERA SERA when that plane made the first landing at the South Pole back in 1956. Billy-Ace writes that a couple of former VXE6 pilots are his neighbors – LCDR Ed Feeney and LCDR Billy Blackwelder, both of whom are now retired ...In our January 1985 Newsletter, we mentioned the excellent sound track from the Japanese movie "Antarctica", featuring the creamy music of Vangelis, who produced the memorable score for "Chariots of Fire", It takes time for our Newsletters to get to Massachusetts, so Dr. Joel Mumford, medical officer at Palmer in 1972, discovered this piece of music on his own and is excited about it, writing, "It is just a smash. The record is by Polydor, Ltd. of Japan. I found the music absolutely enchanting ... very evocative of both the beauty and the danger of the ice. Even if the movie is a dog, it would be worth the price of admission just to hear the music." .... There's a new technical director at CRREL (Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory) in Hanover, New Hampshire, and his name is *Ed Link*. Bergy Bits has known Ed for about six years, and he is a real good man. It was a great coup for that laboratory when they enticed him to come north. And he's a good guy, too..... Was *Bill Zinsmeister* born under some lucky star, or is he an indefatigable field worker with great eyesight? His 1982 finding of the jaw of a marsupial on Seymour Island may have been exceeded by his finding this summer of a 75-million-year old fossilized clam that measured more than five feet across on Ellesmere Island. The Toronto Globe and Mail quoted Zinsmeister as saying, "It would most probably have made one hell of a clam chowder. You could have eaten it for days." His cheek-to-cheek picture with the clam appeared in some stateside papers – Bill was the one with the smiling face. He had to "shell out" \$2,000 in air freight cost to bring back what may have been the world's biggest clam. After he gets through examining it, the clam goes back to Canada, to their Geological Survey... A Greenpeace environmental group announced in Auckland on 3 September that they are planning to land a four-man party on Ross Island in either December or January, and that they will remain there until early

1988 carrying out scientific research on fish population and body heat loss. The purpose behind their madness is to try to meet the requirements of the Antarctic Treaty by establishing a year-round station and carrying out a scientific program, thus giving them a say on the development of the continent.... Want a penguin brooch in oxidized and polished sterling silver, with an eighteen karat gold "bill" and a coral "eye"? It's waiting for you at Tiffany's, and it's only \$200..... The USGS is coming out with a 1:250,000 scale topographic map of Ross Island and Vicinity which is a dandy. Guy Guthridge refers to it as a "helicopter map". It can be bought by stateside residents from the USGS at Denver for \$5 which includes postage. Make check payable to the Department of the Interior and send it to Distribution Branch, USGS, Box 25286, Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225..... The next man at the Division of Polar Programs to retire will be Joe Bennett, Head of their Polar Coordination and Information Section. Joe is going out this fall . . . At the excellent General Session of DPP's 1986 Orientation the astute Phil Kyle, speaking from sixteen years of field experience, said that the quickest way to get a scheduled helicopter to arrive is to start making grilled cheese sandwiches. It has been proven foolproof; the chopper will appear on the horizon immediately. He said the best piece of equipment you can have in the field is a mirror... *Marty Pomerantz* said at the same session that the South Pole is the most "user unfriendly" place in the world. Imagine how good he is going to feel when he doesn't go there any longer. We understand that his retirement becomes effective this winter while he is sitting on, the South Pole.

**1987 ANTARCTIC CALENDARS.** As we have not seen either the USARP or the New Zealand Antarctic calendars for 1987, we are not able to tell you what they look like, although we can probably assume that the USARP calendar will be much the same as previous ones. The New Zealand Antarctic calendar will be somewhat different, as Betty and Colin Monteath have taken over the enterprise from Harry Keys and Karen Williams. They are using a larger format, and presumably bigger pictures are better. Although they have raised their price \$3.20 each, we are upping ours only \$1.50. However, we ordered only 100 - half the number we had last year - so if you want a New Zealand calendar, order early.

For the first time we are selling an Antarctic engagement calendar. This we have seen, and it's a beauty. But bear in mind it is not for hanging, but for your desk. It's 8.5 x 11.5 inches, printed on fine glossy stock with excellent photos by Bruno Zehnder. The prototype of this calendar won several design awards in 1985. This will be an annual calendar, featuring new photography, and a special section on current Antarctic science. We have ordered only 30 of these calendars, so if you want one, order early.

1987 USARP Antarctic Calendar	\$6.00
1987 New Zealand Antarctic Calendar	\$7.50
1987 Antarctic Engagement Calendar	\$9.00

#### **GROUND RULES FOR SOCIETY MEMBERS.**

1. When you move, send us your change of address, as bulk mail is neither forwarded nor returned.
2. When you get your bill, renew immediately for multiple years to help us out on paper work.
3. Send in items of interest and suggestions to the Nerve Center. We need material.
4. If you live in the Washington area, please support our lecture program. It's super!
5. If you have a prospective member, tell him/her that dues are \$7 local (within 50 miles of Washington); \$6 out-of-town; \$10 husband-wife; \$14 foreign. Give them our address.