



# THE ANTARCTIC SOCIETY

905 NORTH JACKSONVILLE STREET

ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22205

HONORARY PRESIDENT — MRS. PAUL A. SIPLE

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No. 2

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Dr. Paul A. Siple, 1961-62  
Mr. Gordon D. Cartwright, 1962-63  
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Mr. George R. Toney, 1964-65  
Mr. Morton J. Rubin, 1965-66  
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Dr. Henry M. Dater, 1968-70  
Mr. George A. Doumani, 1970-71  
Dr. William J. L. Sladen, 1971-73  
Mr. Peter F. Bermel, 1973-75  
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Mrs. Paul A. Siple, 1977-78  
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Dr. Henry M. Dater, 1970  
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Mr. Joseph O. Fletcher, 1974  
Mr. Herman R. Friis, 1975  
Dr. Kenneth J. Bertrand, 1976  
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Dr. J. Murray Mitchell, Jr., 1978  
Dr. Laurence McKinley Gould, 1979  
Dr. Charles R. Bentley, 1980  
Dr. Robert L. Nichols, 1981  
Dr. Robert H. Rutherford, 1982  
Mr. R. Tucker Scully, 1983  
Dr. Richard P. Goldthwait, 1984  
Dr. Mark F. Meier, 1985  
Dr. Claude Lorus, 1986  
Dr. Louis J. Lanzerotti, 1987  
Mr. Peter J. Anderson, 1988  
Dr. Ted E. DeLaca, 1989  
Dr. Sayed Z. El-Sayed, 1990  
Dr. Charles W. Swithinbank, 1991  
Dr. Susan Solomon, 1992  
Dr. Michele E. Raney, 1993  
Dr. Doyle A. Harper, 1994  
Dr. Edith L. Taylor, 1995

MR. ANTARCTIC FREQUENT FLYER

40th Anniversary of U.S. - New Zealand Antarctic Marriage

by

Robert M. Thomson, O.B.E.

Order of Sacred Treasure

Queen Jubilee Medalist

British Polar Medalist

U. S. Antarctic Medalist

plus

Three Antarctic features

on

Tuesday evening, November 7, 1995

7:30 PM

National Science Foundation

4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington

Room 390

(Access to room at Security Desk)

Bob Thomson, who directed the New Zealand Antarctic Program for 23 years (1965-1988), is now a member of the Commonwealth of Virginia, living in Moneta.

His Antarctic career is unequalled. He was in charge of the Ionosphere and Auroral Program on Campbell Island, 1958; Scientific Leader at Hallett Station, 1960; Officer-in-Charge, Wilkes Station, 1962; Deputy Leader, Scott Base, 1964. Participated in famed traverse from Wilkes to Vostok in 1962.

While Director of the New Zealand Antarctic Program, he visited Antarctica on 78 official visits, and has made over 100 flights to the continent. The Order of The Sacred Treasure is the highest award Japan bestows on a foreigner.

*Come and hear the man who met his wife  
in an elevator in Honolulu!*

The same old twosome of Siple and Dalrymple are still on the same old street corner with our eighteenth year of putting together these things we call newsletters for lack of another name. Bernard Stonehouse says we are actually taradiddling, and upon looking in the dictionary, he is right.

Ruth has been intimately involved with Antarctica for sixty odd years, and I have a forty-year connection, so you get a strong overdose of historical Antarctica. But we are trying, always have, to use as much current news as we can find. The philosophy of the person who puts the words onto paper is not to let the truth get in the way of a good story, as first and foremost we want something that people will actually read. So whatever you read, remember our credence.

We once had an heir apparent to this potpourri, a delightful, charming person who went off to Scott Polar to pursue her polar interests. She recently completed her studies, but she isn't coming home, as Pam Davis recently got married to a British penguin. Damn, damn, damn! But good luck to you, Pam, and may you continue to enjoy rowing!

**ANTARCTIC CALENDARS.** The 1996 Hedgehog House Antarctic calendars are in hand, waiting for you folks to snap them up for your inlaws and outlaws for Christmas. Although we have been selling 200 each year, this year we ordered only 150 to facilitate an earlier sale, closing up our shop, hopefully, by Thanksgiving. A.s we go to press, we have only 100 left!

The calendars feature, primarily, the artistry on film of Colin Monteath, and we challenge any of you to find anything better. If you'd order directly from Hedgeho; you would be charged \$17, but we put them in your mailbox for a mere \$11. Our markup is pennies, so you are getting a real bargain. And trust us, the calendars are GREAT again this year. Order NOW, as when we sell out, that's it!

**MEMBERSHIP.** Our Society numbers 570 active members, which is down about twenty from what we totalled a year ago, down about thirty-five from our all-time peak. Our Washington area membership runs about a quarter of our total membership. Basically our group remains one of people who have worked in Antarctica, and includes members from all major U.S. Antarctic expeditions. In recent years, new members often show a strong interest in the preservation of the pristine environment. But don't we all, I trust.

Membership dues' notices are practically "in the mail." If you do not get one, you do not owe. Dues remain the same. Single - \$10; Husband/Wife - \$12; Foreign (outside U.S.) - \$15. Those of you renewing, please, if you can, do so for multiple years, as this Society is a one-person operation, and it helps Ruth if you do.

*Joint Dinner Meeting with The Explorers Club-Washington Group and Society of Woman Geographers at the Cosmos Club, 2 December 1995, will feature Dr. William Cassidy, University of Pittsburgh, speaking on "The Frozen Meteorites of Antarctica." More to follow in next Newsletter, but mark your calendar NOW if you want to hear about a meteorite with a terrestrial age of 2.3 million years (not Cassidy)!*

**GOVERNMENT WIDE POLICY REVIEW OF THE U.S. PRESENCE IN THE ANTARCTIC** (Senate Appropriations Committee Report 104-140). U.S. Antarctic Program: Presidential Memorandum 6646, issued in 1982, calls on NSF to be the lead agency for the U.S. Antarctic Program. That policy directive calls for this Nation to maintain a year-round active presence on the continent and to maintain three stations: McMurdo, Palmer and South Pole. The cost to maintain a U.S. presence in Antarctica is expensive due to the remote location and severe weather conditions. The NSF required \$166,770,000 in logistics and operations support in fiscal year 1995 to support \$29,060,000 in scientific research activities.

The Committee is very concerned about the ability for NSF to continue to fund a U.S. permanent presence on the continent given severe budget constraints. This situation is exacerbated by the need for NSF to upgrade or replace its aging facilities such as \$200,000,000 estimated to replace the deteriorating South Pole station. The Committee questions whether the 1982 policy to maintain a presence in the Antarctic is still valid.

As a result, the Committee directs the National Science and Technology Council to undertake a Government-wide policy review of the U.S. presence in the Antarctic. The review should examine the validity of the policy contained in Memorandum 6646, namely, the need for a year-round presence, the need for three stations, and the roles of the NSF, Department of Defense, and other Government agencies. The review should examine the policy in the context of the value of the science performed in Antarctica and other U.S. interests. Finally, the review should address the affordability of continued U.S. presence in Antarctica in light of the severe budget environment and examine options for reducing annual logistical and operational budget needs. At a minimum, budget-saving options should include greater international cooperation, less than a year-round human presence, and closing one or more of the stations. The results of the review should be submitted to the [Senate Appropriations] Committee by March 31, 1996.

Background information (American Institute of Physics Bulletin of Science Policy News, Number 131, September 19, 1995):

The National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) responsible for the March 31, 1996 report is a cabinet-level council established by President Clinton in November 1993. Its purpose is, according to the White House, to "coordinate science, space, and technology policies throughout the federal government." NSTC is chaired by the President, and includes the Vice President, Assistant to the President for Science and Technology, and the secretaries of Commerce, Defense, Energy, HHS, State, Interior, Agriculture, Labor, Transportation, and Education, as well as the heads of NASA, NSF, EPA, NIH, OMB, CIA and various other White House councils and offices.

The FY 1996 NSF U.S. Polar Programs budget request, which includes research and logistical support at both poles, is \$234.88 million. The request states: "The Foundation is charged with supporting national policy goals in Antarctica: to maintain the Antarctic Treaty, ensure that the continent continues to be used only for peaceful purposes, foster cooperative research contributing the solution of regional and worldwide problems, and protect the environment."

There are three major facilities in Antarctica: McMurdo Station with a summer population of 1,200, the South Pole Station with a summer population of 125, and the Palmer Station with a summer population of 42. A variety of military and leased aircraft, research vessels, and icebreakers are used to maintain the stations, with operations support provided by a civilian contractor.

The budget request states that an estimated 1,396 people are involved in both Arctic and Antarctic Polar Programs Activities in the current budget year. In describing

the U.S. Antarctic Research Program, the request notes: "The U.S. Antarctic Research Program (USARP) budget for FY 1996 totals \$31.54 million, an increase of \$2.48 million. The program supports over 120 research projects in Antarctica each year. This research, best or uniquely carried out in Antarctica, provides the principal expression of U.S. presence in Antarctica. Investigations focus on the earth, the ice, surrounding oceans, the atmosphere and terrestrial and marine biota. The cold, dry atmosphere at the South Pole Station is ideal for several kinds of astronomical and astrophysical investigations. Because conduct of research in Antarctica is expensive, significant attention is devoted to the preparation for projects deployed there. Data analysis and modeling is supported as well."

The House Appropriations Committee report did not discuss this program. Unless the conference report specifically overrides this Senate report language, which is unlikely, it will stand as a component of the final legislative package.

**A NEW SHIP ON THE HORIZON, THE L. M. GOULD.** The POLAR DUKE's Antarctic career is ending much before her time, but a newer and better ship, the L. M. GOULD will replace her in a couple of years - delivery on or about 1 June 1997. The original ten-year contract for the POLAR DUKE has already been exceeded, and Congress has mandated that a U.S. yard-built ship flying the U.S. flag must be used. The POLAR DUKE is a Norwegian flagship built in Nova Scotia, so doesn't meet the requirements.

Although the POLAR DUKE was originally made for oil exploration, she became available when there was no longer any work for her in Canadian waters. She came on-line Antarctically in 1984 and has served admirably ever since. So much so that the National Science Foundation wanted a "DUKE-like ship at a DUKE-like price." If the DUKE was so great, why didn't they convert her into an American flagship? Quite simple - it seems the cost of converting her would have exceeded the cost of leasing a new ship. Plus the fact that with the required Coast Guard inspection of U.S. flagships, there would have had to be expensive changes made, such as removing the asbestos. So financially it was not feasible.

There were three competitors in the bidding to build the new ship, one with an oceanographic capability, a definite improvement over the DUKE. And there was a clear winner, both price-wise and technically, the people who built the NATHANIEL B. PALMER, Edison Chouest Offshore of Louisiana. So the Cajun Antarctic Fleet will be increased by one unit each!

Most Americans are obsessed with statistics, although O. J.'s jury certainly didn't allow figures to get into their brains or heads. However, some of you may be interested in a comparison of the new ship to the DUKE, and here's a fact sheet out of the hands of Al Sutherland.

	L. M. GOULD	DUKE
CLASS	ABS-A1	BALTIC SEALER
DIMENSIONS		
Length	230 ft.	219 ft.
Breadth	46 ft.	43 ft.
Draft	18 ft.	19 ft.
Gr. Tons	1599 tons	1594 tons
HORSE POWER	4200 BHP	4500 BHP
PROPELLER	2-VAR Pitch Kort Nozzle	1-VAR Pitch Kort Nozzle
ACCOMMODATIONS	44	41

	L. M. GOULD	DUKE
LAB SPACES		
Wet Lab	425 Ft2	400 Ft2 (Max)
Hydro Lab	426 Ft2	300 Ft2 (Max)
Dry Lab	356 Ft2	300 Ft2 (Max)
Elect. Lab	420 Ft2	400 Ft2 (Max)
Aquarium	6 Tanks	6 Tanks
CARGO	9 MiIvans	7 MiIvans

Not having any idea how much a ship like the L. M. GOULD would cost, we asked Al for a ballpark price, and he said that it would probably run about \$20 million. That sounds cheap when you realize the Detroit Tigers paid a grossly overweight, underachieving Cecil Fielder over \$9 million to show up at a ballpark some 144 times this year to play a child's game for three hours. And the L. M. GOULD will not strike out with the bases loaded, or send you home heartbroken. The new ship will lease for about \$3,600,000, which is only a couple of hundred grand more than they are paying now for the DUKE.

We do have one complaint, though. Why the L. M. GOULD? Why not the LARRY GOULD, or even the LAURENCE M. GOULD? Larry Gould was one of a kind, one of the most personable engaging, alive persons to ever visit Antarctica, and to reduce him to his first two initials is like castrating the poor guy. If Palmer, who probably never set foot on the continent, merits Nathaniel being put on his ship, doesn't Larry, recipient of some twenty-seven honorary degrees, merit more than two sterile initials in front of his name? We know that fame is fleeting, but guys like Larry Gould, Bert Crary, Paul Siple, Richard Byrd, and a few others should live on. I was surprised, if not shocked, to hear Neal Sullivan say that in spite of going to Antarctica nineteen times, he never had met Larry Gould. I am hereby encouraging anyone who thinks the new ship should be anything but L. M. GOULD to write a letter to us here at 905 N. Jacksonville Street, Arlington, VA 22205-1325, and we will forward it to NSF.

**40TH ANNIVERSARY OF DEEP FREEZE IN NEW ZEALAND.** The city of Christchurch was the site of a gala celebration in late September, early October of 40 years of cooperation between the United States and New Zealand in Antarctic operations, during which the Garden City has served with distinction as the Antarctic Gateway. One wonders if it all could have been accomplished without the full support of the citizenry of New Zealand, who not only know where Antarctica lies, but also are steeped in the history of Antarctica. Certainly the people of the country made stopover visits to their country pure delights, and greatly enhanced the overall enjoyment of going to Antarctica. And for those who seized upon the opportunity to vacation there, what grandeur they had to offer at Mt. Cook, Milford Sound, the Milford Track, the Bay of Islands, and many more special places.

On 29 September, key personnel from both the U.S. and New Zealand spoke on the past, present, and future of Antarctica. The Office of Polar Programs at NSF was represented by its director, Neal Sullivan, and Erik Chiang, Manager of its Polar Operations Section. And Deep Freeze was represented by Dick Bowers who headed up the construction party which built the first station at the South Pole. He also was the first one to locate the South Pole with any degree of accuracy. Dick has aged very gracefully, and is in better shape than many current active military officers. Neal Sullivan told this soul that the thing which surprised him most about the ceremonies was the sincere interest the populace had in what was now going on scientifically on the ice. This may have been due in part to the fact that even though he has been active scientifically many, many years, overall Neal is a nouveau Antarctic when

it comes to 40 years! This was brought out in a conversation when he said that he had never had the honor of meeting the late Larry Gould. About 350 showed up for the gala reception/dinner. Essentially this was a military celebration, as scientists never came over the horizon until the following year.

People from Deep Freeze are really bonded together by their past experiences, and they get together on call, at least every other year. This past summer they convened in Newport, Rhode Island in late April, and made a pilgrimage to Davisville, which was the center of Antarctic ship operations back in days of yore. A few civilians wandered in to monitor their activities, to make sure they were telling the truth. After forty years, you know, one even begins to believe the wildest stories.

**IS THE ERA OF SCIENTIFIC SUPREMACY ENDING IN ANTARCTICA?** With the recent 40th Anniversary ceremonies in Christchurch, it was sort of reflective time on what had occurred in the past 40 years and whereto in the next forty. Eighty years ago this month Ernest Shackleton gave the order for his men to abandon their sinking ship in the Weddell Sea. Forty years ago we were ready to commence the biggest scientific thrust ever initiated on an unknown continent. The International Geophysical Year put all would-be Antarctic players with the wherewithal and the desires into the starting gate in 1957. And the Antarctic Treaty in 1959 formalized an Antarctic fraternity and resulted in bylaws governing operations in the Antarctic.

But it appears that science may have peaked in Antarctica in terms of number of stations, especially in terms of non-masquerading pure scientific stations. If it were not for flying the flag, how many of the nine nations on King George Island would be in Antarctica? Is there any report anywhere, classified or unclassified, on how many stations have reputable scientific programs? Greenpeace once said, and we can believe them, that after visiting one station, "the most sophisticated scientific instrument seen was a thermometer!"

One of the biggest players since the IGY, the Russians have a cash flow problem which has forced them to retrench and close up some of their operations. And now we ourselves find our Congress asking some hard and fast questions. Is our Antarctic Honeymoon in jeopardy, or is this all just another small hurdle on the road?

Antarctica certainly has an ever changing face, and it's a nonpareil scientific laboratory. The ozone hole and climate change should drive the scientific programs for the next forty years, as taxpayers can understand things which might affect the welfare of their grandchildren. And it's beginning to look like Antarctica may become an international park as well, as tourism is here to stay, and areas which hitherto were sanctum sanctorum for non-scientists, like the bowels of the Dry Valley, will soon be seen by tourists being transported by helicopters. Antarctica is beginning to get real interesting to even laypersons!

**WALTER SULLIVAN HOSPITALIZED.** The one person who has covered Antarctica for the past forty years is Walter Sullivan of the New York Times, and he was supposed to have been one of the key speakers at the 40th Anniversary ceremonies in Christchurch. But on the way to the Forum, he had to bypass Kiwiland, ending up at the Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in Upper Manhattan. They discovered a tumor in Walter's gastro-intestinal system, which was deemed superfluous for his continued good health, so was subsequently removed on September 25th. RJS talked to his wife, Mary on October 8th, and at that time he was still on intravenous and expected to be in the hospital a week to two weeks more. Get-well cards can be sent to 66 Indian Head Road, Riverside, CT 06878-2420.

When he completely recovers, he will probably have to call his travel agent and make reservations for both himself and his wife to go to New Zealand, as Mary was going

with him when he was struck down. In fact, it was going to be her first trip to New Zealand. Walter owes her that trip.

Maybe that tumor was agitated by his newspaper pulling the wrong Gould out of their pictorial archives, and showing Chip Gould alongside Walter's obituary on Larry! One of the two surviving members of that expedition, Norman Vaughan of Alaska, pointed out to us that the expedition carpenter's picture had inadvertently been used.

**P.A.S.S.** (April Lloyd). One morning as I was standing at the door of my third grade classroom, my room mother walked her child, (now fondly referred to by the polecats at the South Pole as "Baby Beaker"), to the door and said, "I think you have P.A.S.S."

Knowing that this woman is a nurse, I looked at her seriously and said, "What's that?" She laughed, as did her daughter and said, "Post Antarctic Stress Syndrome." I joined in the laughter and then sobered ... "Well, I'm getting well then because last week I had Post Antarctic SHOCK Syndrome."

The really frightening thing is how true that was. Finding myself on a plane returning from New Zealand, I could only wonder what one does after fulfilling a life goal and dream to go to Antarctica. For seven years, I had networked and questioned every person who mentioned any connection to Antarctica. At that point, it was a short list, headed by Stephen Dibbern.

Steve and I met through the father of a child I had in my class seven years ago. Steve volunteered that year to come to my class and share his slides about Antarctica. He has come back every year since. I know over the years he inspired the children to learn about Antarctica, but he infected their teacher each year with a more virulent strain of Antarctica fever (the condition preceding P.A.S.S.). Each year, Steve would bemoan the fact that a Girl Scout had bumped him off the flight that would have taken him to the South Pole. His words would ring in my heart, "It's easier for a teacher to get to the South Pole than a scientist like me!" And last year, Steve called to tell me that the National Science Foundation was taking high school teachers and students to Antarctica on a grant program called Teachers Experiencing Antarctica (TEA). He gave me the name and number of the grant administrator warning me that he had heard it was for high school teachers with previous NSF grant experience.

I called and made an appointment to meet with the grant administrator. The rest, as they say, is history. I was the first elementary school teacher in the TEA program and the first elementary school teacher to go to the South Pole. I was also involved in a PBS program, "Live From Antarctica" and got to talk to my third grade class in the first live television connection from the South Pole!

The TEA program matches teachers and high school seniors with science groups to experience a minimum of two weeks on the ice. The group that I was assigned to was CARA, the Center for Astrophysical Research in Antarctica. CARA conducts astronomy experiments from a remote observatory at Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station. The air above the Antarctic Plateau is the best on earth for the type of astronomical observations they are conducting in the infrared spectrum. A simple one-line answer to the question, "What are they doing?" is: "CARA is trying to discover the origins of the Universe." I like to think of it like the old Shake & Bake commercials where the little girl with the deep southern accent adds, "and I helped!" I learned a great deal about the work CARA and other Antarctic researchers are doing, and I translated their work for students and teachers to bring into their classrooms.

I believe that the future of education lies in connecting schools using the Internet. This project gave me the opportunity to use the World Wide Web (WWW) and telecommunications to connect the science and scientists in Antarctica with students across the

state of Virginia and the nation. The response from schools was phenomenal. Many schools invested in new technology and upgraded connectivity in order to participate in the project.

Using Internet commands, a digital camera and many late night hours, I sent journal writeups that included pictures and sound back to the states for teachers and students to use. Antarctica may be the most remote continent, but with Internet and the WWW students can access it daily and directly and see pictures rather than relying upon verbal descriptions.

While in McMurdo, my class and I also experimented with video teleconferencing using CU See-Me, a computer program that allows real time audio and video connections. Hopefully in the future, many schools will be able to take advantage of this type of connection where students can see and talk directly to scientists in the field. Certainly for Antarctica, this is the only way most of them will ever experience the important science being conducted there.

I must admit that while I was dreaming about going to Antarctica someday, I could never have imagined all of these amazing opportunities. It was Steve who wanted to get to the actual South Pole ... I just wanted a chance on the continent anywhere! And now that I have been, I have an even stronger desire to go back. Antarctic Fever must be like malaria, the symptoms lessen, but it never really leaves the blood!

I no longer suffer daily bouts of Post Antarctic Stress Syndrome although I do long to return to the ice. When people ask how it feels to have attained my goal of going to Antarctica, I smile and remind them that the need to connect science and education still exists, and like my desire to return to Antarctica, it may be stronger now than ever.

**ASHES OF MISTER CIRCUMPOLAR PEOPLE COVER NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND.** There's a small core of Antarcticans who found their way to the ice by serving an apprenticeship on the top of Mt. Washington, New Hampshire, working at the meteorological observatory. The station, for some ungodly reason, likes to boast as having the worst weather on earth, and actually does hold the record for the highest wind speed ever measured. It seems that when Bob Eisner and Fred Milan worked there back in the early 1940s, they skied a lot in Alpine Gardens, and in the process of talking between runs, projected that it all was such a great place that it would be a wonderful final resting site after they served their time as living human beings.

Fred checked out last January, succumbing in Alaska after a long illness, ending a very distinguished career as a circumpolar anthropologist, physiologist, humanist, and plain good old boy. He well may have been the world's leading authority on rectal temperatures of Eskimos, as he certainly made a lot of them uncomfortable. He was the only U.S. physiologist in Antarctica during the IGY, serving in that capacity at Little America V in 1957, and his office in camp was the center of all good and bad polar banter. When he died, his close friend and colleague, and former Mt. Washington companion, Bob Eisner, remembered Fred's wishes of yore to return to the earth which he had enjoyed so much in his twenties.

So Fred's ashes were subdivided, and 25% of old Fred was taken by Bob, Bob's wife, Fred's brother, Bob's brother, Rudy Honkala, and myself up the Lion's Head Trail onto Alpine Garden's where Bob scattered old Fred to the seven winds. Time had not been kind to some of us, and the trail up from Pinkham Notch had evidently undergone some late Pleistocene uplifting, as it was much steeper, longer, and rockier than it ever was in the 1940s. It took over three arduous hours to do what once was only an exhilarating one-hour jaunt. But it was time well spent, as we all took turns telling wonderful stories about old Fred. I recalled talking to Lowell Thomas, banquet speaker at the Boston Museum of Science dinner following the symposium "Man Living In the Arctic," telling me that Fred was "the greatest acrobatic skier alive."



Lt was sort of an Irish wake without the booze. Never have I walked so far for calling hours. The day was perfect, and the coastline of the Atlantic was visible from the summit in early morning, a most rare phenomenon. And even in mid-September, Lt was warm. The wind was light and variable, and when Bob went out on this promontory to scatter old Fred, the wind was swirling in different directions, and Fred sort of drifted around, maybe getting the smell of the land, to see just where he was, and then as if he recognized it, part of him settled down onto Alpine Gardens, but part of him took off to find other horizons. In death, Fred not only recognized home, but he was still exploring! If I'm lucky, maybe some of his ashes will finally settle on my property on the coast of Maine!

To have known Fred personally, was a joy and delight, and those of you who never had the pleasure should read Bob Eisner's obituary in ARCTIC, September 1995. Maybe the ceremonies were a bit unusual, maybe a bit crazy, but very, very meaningful and touching.

**BASELINER FOR POLAR AUDIO (ORAL) HISTORIES DIES.** This column has moaned and groaned for the past ten years about the dearth of oral histories on our polar heroes and scientists. One of the reasons is that we don't really have any great Antarctic historians who are glib behind the mike. Larry Gould would have been sublime, Jim Zumberge would have been entertaining. Of the living, Bob Rutford would no doubt be the best, as he is of the mold of Gould-Zumberge. But how do we get airborne?

In early February, a fantastic polar geographer died - Trevor Lloyd. Never an Antartican that I know of, but his three-part armchair interview of Vilhjalmur Stefansson has to be the greatest interview of a polar expert ever conducted. As I recall, Trevor sat down with Stef a few weeks before his death, and did it all for Canadian television. Trevor knew Stef like he knew the back of his own hand, and the end product was just fantastic.

Once upon a distant past, I attended an International Geographical Congress, the one held in Moscow. Trevor and I were staying in the Rossiya, and I had the pleasure of dining with him each and every morning. I don't remember any papers or anything else at the Congress, but I sure remember my breakfasts with Trevor, he was so great to talk with, listen to. A real nice guy, and one of the truly great polar geographers. Read J. Brian Bird's obit of him in ARCTIC, September 1995.

**CDS RICHARD T. WILLIAMS REMEMBERED BY HIS COLLEAGUES.** SEABEES have always been a bunch of hardworking, competent, over achievers, but they also have big hearts and don't forget their comrades. Charlie Bevilacqua, who was one of Dave Canham's boys at McMurdo in 1956, wanted to be sure that their first casualty at McMurdo, CD3 Richard T. Williams, was duly recognized with a plaque at McMurdo, and spearheaded action to get this accomplished. He was successful in getting approval, and hopes to raise enough money to pay for it! Contributions can be sent to Charles A. Bevilacqua, 81 Peach Orchard Road, Burlington, MA 01803-3230.

A heavy commemorative bronze tablet, approximately 26" by 30", suitably mounted on a steel or concrete backing, will be placed in front of the shrine honoring Willy at the Williams Air Operating Facility. The target date for it to be in place is January 6, 1996.

**AMERICAN RETURNS RELICS WHICH WALKED OFF TO THE STATES.** An American Antarctic enthusiast, Rob Stephenson, described in a New Hampshire newspaper as an historic preservationist, was the catalyst who engineered the return of liberated souvenir items from Shackleton's Cape Royds camp to the New Zealand Antarctic Heritage Trust. It seems that Rob found out that the widow of an ex-American helicopter pilot,

Conrad S. Larson, had items in her possession that had been picked up in the course of an official visit back in 1955. Conrad, who was working with officials from the British Museum, had apparently been given the items in the course of his work. These included a leather pony halter and chain, glassware (including an unopened glass salt container), a bottle of ginger essence, tins of cocoa, fish, matches, and a sledging fuel can. Plus a book, MAD DUMARESQ, and a sketch map of the original Cape Royds supply arrangements.

It took Rob some time before he could finalize the return of the items to New Zealand, but thanks to the National Science Foundation and its contractor, ASA, it was pulled off. The items have been treated by the Antarctic Heritage Trust personnel for long tenure, and were on display at the Antarctic Festival Day on 1 October, when the 40th Anniversary ceremonies were being conducted. Two other relics, a newspaper and a can of cocoa, were recently returned by another American, Dr. Curtis Lundy. Several years ago when much of the polar memorabilia of the late French polar explorer, Paul-Emile Victor, was being auctioned off, there appeared on the list several items from the historic huts. So it must have been a common policy back then to pick up stray items to show to the little woman back home. This Society applauds the families who have returned items to the Antarctic Heritage Trust, and encourages those among us who may have additional items to follow suit.

Incidentally, those interested in the historic sites of the Ross Sea region, which should include all of us, can now buy either a hard cover or soft cover copy of David Harrowfield's new book, ICY HERITAGE, one hundred pages covering informed commentary and pictures of thirty-four sites. The hard cover sells for NZ\$39.95, the soft cover NZ\$29.95. Then one must add another NZ\$10.00 to cover handling and postage. Order by personal check or through your Mastercard, Visa, or Amex. Address: Antarctic Heritage Trust, P.O. Box 14-091, Christ church,- New Zealand.

**THE JAMES CAIRO SOCIETY** (John Millard). For those who are interested in the life and times of Sir Ernest H. Shackleton, Dulwich College, London, Shackleton's alma mater, founded the James Caird Society in May 1994. It was established to bring to the notice of the general public, world wide, all aspects of the expeditions made by Sir Ernest (1874-1922) to Antarctica and related aspects of Antarctic history.

James Caird was a sponsor and a supporter of the Shackleton expeditions. Also, his name was given to the largest of the three lifeboats on the ENDURANCE, and the boat that Shackleton and five companions made their historic voyage from Elephant Island to South Georgia in 1916. The boat is now the property of Dulwich College, and is now considered to be a national treasure. It can be seen on display at the College.

Memberships in the Society are £.30.00 for 3 years and £.50.00 for 6 years. For information and memberships contact Harding Dunnett, The James Caird Society, Dulwich College, London SE21 7LD, United Kingdom. Make all checks and money orders payable to Dulwich College.

**MORE ON LARRY GOULD.** Carleton College held a Memorial Convocation in honor and celebration of its 4th President on October 13th. There was a mutual love affair between the college and Larry. He once said, "If I had my life to live over again, I could not invest it with greater satisfaction to myself than I have done at Carleton College." And from his commencement address on June 6, 1955, "Now finally I remind you of what I said to you four years ago, that you were forming an association that nothing, nothing, not even death could break, because always you are a part of Carleton College ... I remind you of the ancient legend of Antaeus, and you, like Antaeus, will find your strength renewed and your faith revitalized when you return to this maternal ground." What a guy! It's most appropriate that the ashes of Larry and his beloved Peg are resting side by side at Carleton.