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• DRAMA ON THE HIGH SEAS
• SPOTLIGHT ON SINGAPORE

IN OUR CIRCLE
• DON PARRISH, TRAVELLER EXTRAORDINAIRE
• UNBELIEVABLE ROBERT RIPLEY
Dear Fellow Circumnavigators,

When I joined the Club 30 years ago, I had no idea I would be writing to you one day as its 51st President. It is an honor and a privilege to serve you, the Club’s 700-plus members. Thank you for the confidence that you -- and the Nominating Committee -- have shown in me. Receiving the Club’s historic gavel, made from a whale’s tooth presented to the Club in 1910 by William Jennings Bryan (member #8), was quite a thrill.

At the annual meeting I stated that the priorities of the Officers and Board of Governors in the year ahead will be increasing the membership, supporting our Chapters, and strengthening the ties between the Club and the Foundation. In addition, we expect to implement a new, more efficient accounting system, and introduce the option of paying member dues through PayPal. Slowly, the Club is embracing available technologies and moving into the 21st Century.

The Chapters are central to the Club and its mission. In this issue of The Log you will read a little about our Chapter in Singapore, which celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. I encourage any member traveling in Asia to consider a stop in Singapore. The Chapter’s hospitality is legendary, so be sure to let them know you are coming! They will welcome you warmly and entertain you very well.

In September I had the pleasure of meeting UK Chapter President Helen Jenkins while on my first-ever visit to Wales. Our dinner coincided with the NATO Summit in Cardiff, so security was omnipresent. Despite that, we had a very enjoyable evening together at a restaurant in the beautiful Cardiff Bay area.

Next March, the Board of Governors will meet in Naples, Florida. This will provide an excellent opportunity to get to know members of the Naples Chapter, the Club’s largest. We are looking forward to some warm weather and Florida hospitality.

Luck to You!

Ellen
Margaret Ellen Parke

SAVE THE DATE

MAGELLAN AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT

The Circumnavigators Club will honor
Former White House Correspondent of ABC News

Ann Compton

Saturday, April 11, 2015
at The Cosmos Club
Washington, DC
When this issue of The Log was conceived, a South Seas theme was adopted. Then we got the Island-hopping story and found out from author Bill Adams, that Micronesia is actually north of the Equator. So we switched to a Pacific Island theme, before getting the Drama at Sea piece from the Wilsons, and found out they were in the Indian Ocean.

Then came good stories from Africa and Alaska.

So we threw in the towel and just went for the best stories and photos we could get from all over the world.

Back in 1910, Editor Joseph Morrison noted that The Log will come out as often as we get "enough good stuff" to fill it. He also encouraged Circumnavigators to get busy and submit some of that good stuff, instructing members in colorful early 20th Century lingo to "please hump yourself without delay."

The Pacific theme does manage to live on through the beautiful photos submitted by our members and featured in the photo spread.

This issue will feature a profile on one of the Club's most illustrious historic members, Robert "Believe It or Not" Ripley, and one of our most illustrious current members, Don Parrish, who holds the title of, "The Most Traveled Person."

We are also featuring our most-far flung group of Circumnavigators—the Singapore Chapter—which is at least near the Pacific.

And there is plenty of good stuff from our members in All Over the Map, and our Foundation Scholars who have recently returned from their circumnavigations.

Finally, a new feature “Through My Lens” will appear on the back cover, offering travel photo tips from Circum Roger Weatherburn Baker, a professional in the field.

Enjoy, and Luck to You!!

David
First Vice President
Circumnavigators gathered at the Club’s Headquarters, The Yale Club, to hold their annual meeting and luncheon. International President Peter Mosse welcomed members and called the meeting to order with a tap of the historic William Jennings Bryan whale’s tooth gavel. The Nominating Committee Chair Esther Dyer was pleased to announce:

**OFFICERS to serve a two-year term**
President ................................................................. Margaret Ellen Parke
First Vice President .................................................. David A. Mink
Second Vice President .............................................. Joshua Laurito
Secretary ................................................................... Sue Murphy
Treasurer ................................................................. George W. Sanborn

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS to serve a three-year term**
Michael Coccaro – (1st term) – DESERT
William Freyd – (2nd term) – LAS VEGAS
Thomas Maher – (2nd term) – NAPLES
David A. Mink – (2nd term) – NEW YORK METRO
Jim Lungo – (1st term) - NAPLES
Ray Olson – (1st term) – WASHINGTON DC

Howard Matson, Foundation Nominating Committee Chair, announced the **FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS to serve a three-year term**:
Dan Peterson - CHICAGO
Brian V. Evans – Scholar 1974 – WASHINGTON DC
Judith Pojda - Scholar 1986 - WASHINGTON DC
Esther R. Dyer – NEW YORK METRO
David Mink – NEW YORK METRO
A. Park Shaw - DESERT
After the meeting, members and guests enjoyed a delicious lunch while guest speaker and former Foundation Scholar Kip Knudson gave a presentation on how his experience as a grantee traveling around the world led to a life in Alaska. It was a very engaging presentation and was enjoyed by all.
IT SEEMS LIKE ELLEN WAS BORN TO BE A CIRCUMNAVIGATOR. SHE MADE HER FIRST ROUND-THE-WORLD TRIP WHEN SHE WAS ONLY 12. A DAUGHTER OF A NAVAL OFFICER, SHE MOVED A LOT AS A CHILD, AND HER FIRST CIRCUMNAVIGATION BEGAN WHEN HER FATHER WAS NAMED NAVAL ATTACHÉ AT THE U.S. EMBASSY IN SAIGON IN THE EARLY 1960s. SHE SPENT 7TH AND 8TH GRADES IN SAIGON.

Ellen heard about the Club while living in Norway in the early 1980s and was sponsored for membership by Circumnavigator Mark Austad, who just happened to be the U.S. Ambassador.

Moving to Washington, DC in 1984, she was involved in founding the DC Chapter. She sponsored both her father and mother for membership, and her father was a past Chapter President. Both parents have passed away. Ellen worked for the federal government for more than 30 years, about half of the time abroad.

Ellen has served both the DC Chapter and the International Club in numerous committee and officer roles before being elected President this year.
1. Why are you passionate about the Circumnavigators Club?

Our Club motto, “Through Friendship, To Leave This World A Little Better Than We Found It,” is very close to my heart and speaks to the way I try to live my life. I also like to quote Mark Twain, who wrote that “travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness.” Through travel we learn that people across cultures are more alike than they are different.

2. Why do you love living in Washington, DC? Do you have a favorite restaurant? Place to visit?

I love the monuments, parks, free museums, great food, and the excitement that comes from living in the nation’s capital. On the downside, frequent large demonstrations and VIP motorcades can make driving downtown a challenge!

One of my favorite restaurants is Et Voila!, a French/Belgian place in the Palisades neighborhood of Northwest DC. The moules marinieres remind me of the years I lived in Brussels.

3. What is your most favorite “foreign” travel spot?

I will always have a fondness for France, which I first discovered at age 10. I lived with a French family during my junior year in college and returned to Paris for five years in the late 1970s.

The country I seem to return to most often now is South Africa. Last fall I made my fifth trip there in ten years. I have written articles for The Log about my experiences visiting a pre-school for children age 3-6 who live in an informal settlement (tin shacks). The school is supported by my church here in Washington, DC. Over the years we have developed a close partnership with the people -- they’re like family to me now.

4. What do you like to read when you are on the road?

I can’t say I have a favorite travel writer as such, but I tend to read novels that are set abroad. For example, I love the books of Alexander McCall Smith set in Botswana and Scotland. And Daniel Silva’s spy novels are great for passing time on long flights and in airports.

5. What is on your bucket list?

So many places! I’ve never been to Russia, Ireland, or New Zealand, for example. And I want very much to return to Vietnam, where I lived during 7th and 8th grades.

6. What is your vision for the Club?

I see the Club continuing to grow, perhaps even adding a Chapter in Australia. Membership will always be a top priority for the Club.
The sun had been up for an hour, and I was tired. Six hours into a watch that had started at 3:00 a.m., I was sitting in the cockpit of our forty-two foot sailboat, Ceol Mor. Heather, my wife, and our two sons, Cal and William, ages 12 and 10, were sleeping soundly below. Hurricane Sandy was about to hit the Atlantic Seaboard, and I was worried about family and friends back home. We were in the Indian Ocean – seven hundred and fifty miles west of Australia and two hundred miles south of Java – but my thoughts were two oceans away.

Things changed quickly. If you have ever watched the film Lawrence of Arabia, there is an epic scene where Bedouin tribesmen attack Aqaba. The sound made by the attacking tribesmen was exactly what I was hearing. It was terrifying.

I looked up and saw black diesel smoke and a wooden launch closing quickly. The boat appeared to be heading right for Ceol Mor’s transom and wasn’t far away. It was crammed with men, and they were all screaming and gesticulating. I put the wheel hard to port just as they were about to hit us, and the wooden boat slid by, missing us by less than five feet. As I struggled to keep control of our own boat – we were under full sail and going dead downwind – screaming men attempted to board Ceol Mor. Some jumped into the ocean and began to swim towards us. Others tried to jump directly from the wooden boat onto our deck.

To say that I was concerned would not do justice to the situation! If ever there were a ‘come to Jesus’ moment, this was it. This was real danger, my family was in peril, and I thought: “We are in really serious trouble.” I am, quite obviously, a deep thinker.

My first obvious concern was ‘Who are these men and what do they want?’ We had begun our attempt to circumnavigate nearly three years to the day before this crisis, and the Indian Ocean and the threat of pirates were never far from our thoughts. So here we were, in the part of the world that gave us the most concern, and our worst nightmare suddenly looked like reality.
Fortunately, no one succeeded in getting onto our boat. However, there were now seven men in the water, and their lives were in danger. I yelled instructions for the boat to keep away from us, and watched as it started to make efforts to rescue its own people. I was not prepared to take anyone on board our vessel until I had a good sense of their intentions, but we also couldn’t just leave people in the water.

At this point, I began to sense that we were dealing with panicked refugees, and not pirates. But given that this was a first for Ceol Mor and its crew, I really did not know what would or could happen. As a lawyer, my natural inclination was to assess all of the things that could go wrong, and the balance sheet was not particularly attractive.

After getting everyone up – not hard given my shouting, the cries of the people trying to board us, and our abrupt course corrections – I put Cal, our twelve year-old, on the helm, and I made initial efforts to talk to the other boat. These efforts were largely unsuccessful because we had no common language. I next made a call on our Iridium satellite phone to Australian Customs (fortunately, I had the relevant number at hand). However, it was early in the morning and an answering machine gave me an emergency number. I soon found myself talking to an incredibly helpful military official in Canberra. It was odd to be talking to the duty officer in a military situation room three thousand miles away when I was under siege in the Indian Ocean. Still, it was a relief to have a friendly – and competent – voice on the line!

From this point, a great deal happened. However, to make a very long story a little shorter, the official in Canberra immediately dispatched an Australian warship and a P3 Orion airplane. After getting off the Iridium phone, I allowed the wooden launch to approach to about twenty feet – not that I had much choice – and began a rudimentary dialog with one man on board. . . made complicated by his inability to speak much English, the din of dozens of others yelling, a wind that was piping up, and a sea state that had us both rolling around. I was particularly concerned that the two vessels would collide and we would all end up in the water. Fortunately, Cal was a rock on the wheel and kept a perfectly steady course.

The warship soon arrived and we were requested to stand off for a brief period. Once it became clear that there wasn’t much else for us to do, we were given clearance to continue on towards Christmas Island, an Australian protectorate in the Indian Ocean.

Days later, after we had managed to reach Christmas Island, we learned the rest of the story from Australian officials. There were 150 refugees on the boat that had nearly rammed us. They were from Iran and Iraq, their fuel was gone, and they were sinking. In their desperation, they had decided that their last hope was to get to our boat and take control. Fortunately for all of us, things did not escalate, and the prompt Australian response defused a very tense situation.
HOW BEST TO SEE ISLANDS OF THE PACIFIC? ONE WAY IS TO PICK A GOOD TARGET – TAHITI, TONGA, TUVALU, WHEREVER – AND SETTLE DOWN TO SWIM, SNORKEL, SCUBA, SURF, OR SIT IN THE SAND. TO SEE SEVERAL ISLANDS, WITH ENOUGH TIME AND MONEY, YOU CAN ALWAYS CRUISE, PERHAPS IN LUXURY, FROM ISLAND TO ISLAND.

For my first Pacific foray beyond Hawaii, I wanted to explore various islands, but minus the cruise. So I used another tactic: island hopping by airplane. That, I found, can be tricky, sometimes requiring long flights via Auckland or amateur airlines with dicey planes and bad schedules.

However, an ideal choice for me was the classic old Continental and now United route that everyone calls the “Island Hopper.” Every couple of days (east-west then west-east) this series of stops ties together the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, and Guam, with an extension to Palau. Perfect.

This route conveniently offered the island variety I wanted, allowing me to see the highlights of several countries in the geocultural region known as Micronesia. Most of Micronesia is north of the equator and thus it is not part of the “South Pacific” or Polynesia.

KOROR, PALAU. My first destination was pretty Palau with its stunning snorkeling and world famous diving spots. Snorkeling alone – no scuba gear required – revealed sparkling schools of multicolored tropical fish. But for me, nothing beat the unique, surreal experience of Palau’s incredible Jellyfish Lake. Other islands also have clear water and colorful tropical fish, but nowhere else on earth can you find a lake filled with golden, stingless jellyfish!

Jellyfish are always fantastic creatures, but to be surrounded safely by thousands was incredible. They pulsed around at different speeds, from fast babies less than an inch wide to leisurely adults up to foot wide, creating gentle, peaceful, hypnotic rhythms. You feel like you are floating somewhere else in the solar system. The allotted 45 minutes, while good to limit human intrusion, went by much too fast.

GUAM. Next in the far western Pacific was this remarkable U.S. territory, a little Hawaii right in Japan and China’s backyard. Its prosperity and all its Americana (even if filled with Japanese tourists) seemed odd way out here but surprisingly interesting.
Ever since the U.S. won Guam from Spain in 1898, this island has been a key U.S. military bastion. With large Navy and Air Force bases, the U.S. military presence is obviously big and yet not as overpowering as I expected. For WWII buffs, Guam offers a treasure trove of museums and historical sights. In the crucial second Battle of Guam, weeks of brutal fighting finally ousted the Japanese from their 1941-44 occupation. Memorials salute the many brave who died.

PONPEI, FSM. Confusingly, this country named the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) is in the center of the region called Micronesia. The federation has four major islands, each with its own traditions, language, and appeals; English is the common language. Yap and Chuuk (Truk) are renowned for some of the world’s best diving sites.

Instead, I decided to go to Pohnpei, a somewhat less touristy island, to see the legendary lost city of Nan Madol, considered, next to Easter Island, the main megalithic archeological site in Oceania. Von Daniken said its construction required outerspace aliens and some locals attribute it to magic.

Unreconstructed Nan Madol, I found, was not exactly ready for visitors. Even with the best preservation efforts, it will never be a Machu Picchu, Easter Island, or Angkor Wat. But the humble ruins of Nan Madol were interesting, nonetheless.

After a rough road to an unmarked spot that I managed to find in my rental car, I walked a kilometer through the jungle on a rocky trail and rickety foot bridges. Then, wading through knee-deep water via slippery rocks, I got to the site. With no other traveler around, it gave the frisson of a discovery, even if I was not actually making an archeological breakthrough.

MARJURO, MARSHALL ISLANDS. The Republic of the Marshall Islands spreads across about thirty atolls, many islets, and a few tiny islands. Most barely rise above sea level. Even at its highest point, Marjuro Atoll, home of the capital, is no more than ten feet (3m) above sea level.

For me, Majuro was a place to unwind and relax at the end of a four-month, around-the-world trip. I skipped the deep-sea fishing and was content to simply walk around and explore this strange, skinny atoll that is about 30 miles long and often no more than two hundred yards wide.

Overall, my first attempt at Pacific island hopping went quite smoothly. I’d booked modest hotels that proved to be clean and adequate. Avoiding hours frying myself on beaches, I was able to see a fascinating range of places. The highlight, however, is not difficult to pick: floating in Palau’s Jellyfish Lake, an otherworldly experience unlike any other.

Author:

Following his four months of travels across Africa and Micronesia, Bill Adams visited North Korea in August. He posts highlight photos and short commentary at billtrip.blogspot.com. When not traveling at every opportunity (summers, sabbaticals, spring breaks, and winter breaks), Bill teaches graduate classes at George Washington University as professor of public policy and public administration.
WHAT DOES IT FEEL LIKE TO SEE MORE OF THE WORLD THAN ANY PERSON IN HUMAN HISTORY?

“Having seen so much of our planet, I probably have a feeling similar to astronauts who have seen the Earth from space: There is a certain wonder that is very hard to communicate.”

While Donald Parrish may not be able to fully communicate the sheer magnitude and grandeur of his record-breaking travels, any fragment that he does speak about is deeply fascinating. In his 70 years, Don has managed to travel to every country in the world. He has visited 839 of the 875 sites listed on the Most Traveled People’s list, putting him in first place on this preeminent travel ranking.

But as truly astounding as Don’s travel records and statistics are, his personal philosophies, humility, and outlook are even more impressive. When you speak with Don, it’s not the rankings or the mileage that animate him the most. Rather, Don’s most valued stories and experiences are those when he connected with others, bridged cultural divides, and saw glimpses of shared humanity.

For example, when Don was on a train in the Siberia region of Russia (where he’s seen all of the country’s 83 political subdivisions) in 2009, he met a man roughly his own age who had never before met an American. They held a simple yet powerful conversation via a Russian translator, but Don says it was the “wordless exchange” that had the most profound affect on him.

“It’s not the words that were expressed; It’s the emotional bonding that you occasionally get when you travel... I travel for that.”

In fact, Don won’t speak about his prolific travel records unless he’s directly asked. While other extreme travelers or wealthy tourists will insulate themselves with a large entourage, Don travels with humility and an emphasis on exchange. He’s a veritable information sponge that finds something to learn everywhere and from everyone. He recognizes his privilege and is able to appreciate all the people he meets, be it in New York or Namibia.

“I am amazed how many smart people there are in the world,” said Don. “The only difference many times are the circumstances we were born in.”

Don took his first trip outside the U.S. during college in 1965 when he spent a summer working as an unskilled laborer in a Hanau, Germany metal factory. He spoke nothing but German and debated politics with his Communist penpal during this highly formative experience.

“I grew up. I learned what it took to live successfully as a foreigner.”

His long career working in International Switching development for AT&T Bell Labs facilitated an immense amount of international business travel. But it wasn’t until about 2006 that Don realized he had a shot at ascending the rankings of the most traveled people and began a concentrated travel push. He now travels for roughly six months per year and has spent about 10 years of his adult life outside of America. His 13 passports are a saga.

“The shift that happens is when you say to yourself: Why not just visit everything? Forget this ‘good and bad’ [places] or ‘recommended and not-recommended’ -- let’s just go off and see
all of it... I’ve spent the effort to discover something of interest in just about every place I have visited.”

Don demonstrates a genuine fascination for trends from millennia ago and the ultra-modern alike. He recently was enthralled with his visit to America’s “newest” UNESCO World Heritage Site, Poverty Point in Louisiana, a collection of earthworks and mounds built by cultures as early as 1700 BCE. Moments later, Don will excitedly pontificate on the mobile phone revolution -- which he calls “the biggest revolution in the world” -- or the rise of a new basketball obsession in the Caucasus.

And even in this age where we can see the most remote places on Earth via the Internet, Don cherishes “the power of seeing things first hand.”

“You start accumulating just unbelievable data points, little bits of things that you’re not going to read in publications. The more places you see, the more connections you can figure out and your knowledge becomes more systematic.”

Don happily acknowledges that his travel record won’t stand forever. But nothing can usurp the intrinsic value of his thousands of shared moments with people on every corner of the Earth.

“The feeling of being the most traveled person in human history or being the 5th or 10th most traveled person in human history is the same. So when other travelers displace me, it will not alter my feelings for the breathtaking experiences of my incredible travels.”
As a Canadian who has spent most of his holiday time heading "South" for vacations and travel, a trip North has always been on my radar. Alaska and the Yukon have been destinations for adventurers since the days of the Klondike Gold rush and popularized in the literary works of Jack London (Call of the Wild) and Robert Service (The Cremation of Sam McGee). I had high expectations for my trip and was not disappointed.

This was an 11-day road trip of around 5000 km. 2000 km by ferry and 3000 by road. A hearty constitution for endurance driving may be needed as I averaged around eight hours of driving per day while on the road and needed to be prepared to drive in trying conditions. Although the roads were good, weather conditions could easily make driving conditions challenging. You must be well prepared for breakdowns and the unexpected. Services and assistance can be sporadic due to the isolation of the area. Depending on where you are, you often may not see another car on the road for a couple of hours! A sturdy vehicle with a range of at least 650 km is recommended. Four-wheel drive is an excellent option. Your Corvette will not make it!

My trip started in my hometown of Prince Rupert, B.C., just south of the Alaska Panhandle. There I boarded the Alaska ferry "Matanuska" and headed North with stops in Ketchikan, AK and Juneau, AK. The road trip started in Haines, AK and heading North, passing by Tatshenshini-Alsek Park, Kluane National Park, and Wrangell/St. Elias National Park ending up in Beaver Creek, YT. From there I headed into Alaska and to the "Top of the World Highway" and back into the Yukon and Dawson City, YT. I continued on to the Arctic Circle and the NWT border via the "Dempster Highway" and passing through the spectacular "Tombstone Territorial Park". I returned to Dawson City, YT the next day to soak up the Klondike atmosphere, then headed to Whitehorse, YT, then to Skagway, AK and the Alaska ferry "Taku" back South to Prince Rupert, BC. Phewww!!!
Here are a few highlights of my trip in order:

• Inside Passage up the Alaska Panhandle. Awesome.
• “Catching a Can” in Ketchikan, AK... I had the bartender toss me a tin of juice!! “Very Original!” she said.
• Going to the “Red Dog Saloon” in Juneau, AK for a ceremonial beer (or 2!)
• Tatshenshini-Alsek Park - Beautiful
• Kluane National Park - Spectacular
• Driving into Alaska at the Yukon border. Always fun entering another country!
• Driving into the Yukon at the Alaska border. Spoke with the Canadian Border Guard. As he is quite isolated, he seemed let down that I had no declarations and passed quickly through. In retrospect, I should have stopped for a cup of tea and a game of cribbage with him!
• Hob-Nobbing with the locals in Dawson City, YT. I was honoured when they bought me a few rounds!
• Dempster Highway... going North and South
• Tombstone Territorial Park - Amazing!
• Gwazhal Kak (Ogilvie Ridge) Lookout Point. I swear you could see for 30 miles in either direction.
• Arctic Circle and NWT signpost. I had enjoyable interaction with the local Inuit there. We’re still buddies!
• Spotting a huge bear roadside between the NWT and the A.C. signpost... then getting a flat tire about 50 yards away!
• Lack of Northern Lights as I discovered there is no on/off switch for them!
• Wild weather while heading South on the Dempster Highway.
• Getting back on pavement after “Doing the Dempster”!
• Exploring Whitehorse, YT.
• Interacting with a pack of genuine “Canadian Eskimo Sled Dogs” with friends Don and Kelly near Whitehorse, YT.
• Incredible scenery between Whitehorse, YT - Skagway, AK
• The 3 lbs. of King Crab I had in Skagway, AK... the best ever! Then quaffing back a ceremonial beer (or two) at the “Red Onion Saloon”.
• The feeling of not having to drive any more when getting on the Alaska ferry “Taku” in Skagway, AK.
• The peace and serenity you feel by being in the North.

My trip to Alaska and the Yukon was as epic as any I have been on. The only way to see this area is by driving it. It is a ROAD TRIP! The accommodations were rustic yet comfortable. Camping is optional but not necessary. Five star addicts need not apply! However, you don’t need to be a Mountain Man to survive this journey! The towns ooze the history of the Gold rush Era. It is nicely preserved and is part of the legacy of the North. The friendly locals are obviously proud of this heritage.

There really is no place like Alaska and the Yukon. It features unique fascinating landscapes, wildlife, history, and miles and miles of unbelievable vistas where there is a new surprise around every turn in the road. Getting to a destination like the Arctic Circle was a milestone, but the real adventure was the experience of traveling those roads there and back. Words alone aren’t enough to describe the landscapes and photos do not do it justice. You have to see it for yourself. A road trip for the hearty will be richly rewarded! I highly recommend this trip to my fellow travelers!!

For more info I suggest www.travelyukon.com and www.dot.state.ak.us/amhs or feel free to contact me via e-mail.
Believe it or not, just about every Circumnavigator has heard of Robert Ripley, who created the wildly popular concept of bringing oddities to the public’s attention. But many Club members might not know that Ripley was a very active and enthusiastic Circumnavigator.

To Club members, he called himself “Circumrip”. For 25 years, from 1924 until his early demise in 1949, he served on committees, contributed to *The Log*, gave lectures and was art director of *The Log*.

A man of wonder and wit, he must have been a lot of fun to be around.

In 1941, he gave a memorable presentation to Circumnavigators on the subject of liars, which, according to *The Log*, brought roars of laughter from the audience. He recounted the greatest liar of all time, a Chinese gentleman named “Hui” (hence, the phrase a “bunch of Hooey”).

Circumrip claims to have visited 200 countries, which may be subject to the “Believe it or Not!” classification. His favorite country was China where “one may find places of peace to refresh the spirit.” We wonder how he would have liked 21st Century Beijing!

He pulled off the most elaborate hoax in Club history during a function at the Waldorf Astoria in 1948. It was known that Madame Chiang Kai-shek was on a mission to America. Ripley told the group that he was going to present them to a very distinguished lady visiting from China. So when Ripley opened a door to revel a stunning Chinese woman, the audience gasped. Was it Madame Chiang? Of course. It must be.

But it wasn’t. The guest was noted lecturer and actress Li Ling Ai, the first Chinese woman to fly across the Pacific. It was noted that a synonym for Circumnavigating might be “run-around.”

LeRoy Robert Ripley was born in 1890 in California and became a cartoonist. His brainstorm idea of Ripley’s Believe It or Not made him one of the most famous and admired people in America. A 1936 newspaper poll showed him to be more popular than President Roosevelt and Charles Lindbergh. He earned more than $500,000 a year at the height of the Depression.

Ripley died of a heart attack in 1949 at the early age of 58. His legacy continues today in the “Believe It or Not!” venues throughout the country, and in the hearts of the Circumnavigators.

 Luck to you, Circumrip!

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**Believe it or not, Circumnavigators created the National Anthem**

Sure, we all know that Francis Scott Key penned the Star Spangled Banner poem, 200 years ago in Baltimore. It was a popular song, put to the tune of a crude English drinking song.

But it was Circumnavigator **Robert Ripley** who pointed out in his cartoon that the song had never been officially adopted as the National Anthem. The cry was taken up by his friend and fellow Circumnavigator **John Phillip Sousa**, the famous band leader, leading to a 1931 petition of Congress that made the anthem official. Ironically, the bill was signed by President **Herbert Hoover**, who became a member of the Club after his presidency.
Fifty years ago, on March 12, 1964, the Board of Governors approved the petition to establish a Chapter in Singapore, the first outside the U.S. That makes Singapore one of the Club's oldest Chapters, so it gives me great pleasure to celebrate this event and to recognize the Chapter’s success over the years.

From the beginning, the Chapter has had a reputation for warm hospitality. Countless Circumnavigators and Foundation Scholars have been hosted and entertained by the Chapter. In March of 1967, 30 members of the Michigan Chapter traveled to Singapore and were guests at a joint dinner at the Intercontinental Hotel. In 1992 and 2002, the Club’s 90th and Centennial Anniversary years, respectively, the Club sponsored round-the-world trips. Both groups were enthusiastically received and warmly welcomed by the Singapore Chapter. In fact, some Club members still talk about the wonderful hospitality they received!

The link between the Singapore Chapter and the Foundation is especially strong -- and has been for over a quarter-century. To quote from the Summer 1987 issue of The Log, “From the inception of this program, the support and the hospitality of the Singapore Chapter members have been outstanding. They have opened their homes to these visiting students, entertained them, and provided introductions to local leaders in the various fields represented in their studies.”

Singapore, known as “The Lion City,” has a population of 5.4 million. An independent city-state since 1965, it has become a major commercial hub as one of the five largest financial centers and busiest ports in the world. This rapid development has gained Singapore the recognition as one of the “Four Asian Tigers,” together with Hong Kong, South Korea, and Taiwan. There are four official languages -- English, Malay, Mandarin Chinese, and Tamil. Dining has been said to be the national pastime, so any visitor is assured some excellent meals.

Today, the Chapter has 45 members, all of them prominent members of Singapore society. They meet for lunch on the second Tuesday of each month, except for June (or July) when they have a mid-year dinner, and January, when they hold their annual general meeting at a dinner. These events are open to any visiting Club member. All that is needed is for the member to contact the Chapter through International Headquarters. The Chapter will make any arrangements to host their guests.
VISIONS

C. Roger Baker--Fiji Beach

C. David Mink--Catalina Harbor
From Our Members

- C. Bernard Lucas--French Polynesia
- C. Mark Hauptman
  Blue Beach - Oahu, Hawaii
- C. Mark Hauptman
  Sunset Harbor - Oahu, Hawaii
- C. Michael Hoey--Papua New Guinea natives
- C. Michael Hoey--Papua New Guinea market.
- C. Roger Baker
  Milford Sound, New Zealand
CHICAGO

In August, the Chicago Chapter gathered for their annual fundraiser luncheon for the Foundation Travel-Study Program, at the home of members Melanie & Dan Peterson.

MIAMI

Miami Chapter enjoyed a wonderful luncheon at the Towers of Key Biscayne restaurant where Luisa Yu, a new Miami member and her traveling companion Fran Winfrey gave an interesting talk on their adventurous week of camping in the Gobi desert, Mongolia.

PALM BEACH

Palm Beach Chapter enjoying a mid-summer gathering on board “White Star.”

NAPLES

Naples Chapter enjoys Texas Barbeque at the Home of Bobbi Cervelli!

CHICAGO

Michigan Chapter hosts event at Fox Run where Michigan Chapter members Lee & Floy Barthel welcomed Michigan and Chicago Chapter members to their home for a Summer Safari event.

MICHIGAN

Chicago Chapter President, Dan Peterson speaks to the group.

Robert Spehar, Michigan Chapter’s most traveled member, tells of his most recent travels.

NAPLES

C. Lauren Essex, Ward Powers, Jim and C. Marge Weaver, Barb Easton
PACIFIC-NORTHWEST

Pacific-Northwest Chapter gathered for a dinner meeting where C. Martha Sampson spoke about her recent cruise of French Polynesia with her son, Jonathan. They boarded the luxurious cruise vessel, the MS Paul Gauguin, at Papeete for a week-long tour of the Society Islands.

PACIFIC-SOUTHWEST

Pacific-Southwest Chapter welcomes members and guests to their Chapter meeting and dinner at the La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club.

WASHINGTON DC

Washington DC Chapter honors Harmonie Khobange, Georgetown University Foundation Scholar, at a luncheon held at the Rosslyn Holiday Inn in Arlington, VA.

UNITED KINGDOM

UK Chapter enjoys lunch at the Oriental Club in London.

Caption: Chapter President Helen Jenkins, Stanley Martin, C. Lord Inchcape, C. Ann Gloag, Claire Wormald and C. Ges Roulstone
chapter officers

BOSTON
CHAPTER PRESIDENT/FOUNDATION COORDINATOR - ANGELA ADDARIO

CHICAGO
CHAPTER PRESIDENT – DAN PETERSON
VICE PRESIDENT – FOUNDATION: CAROL NARUP
VICE PRESIDENT – MEMBERSHIP: KAREN A. SCHLUETER
VICE PRESIDENT – PROGRAMS: ALICE LENTZEN
PUBLICITY DIRECTOR: DEANNA PADGETT
SECRETARY: PAT SMITH
TREASURER: BARB FRANCH
WEBMASTER: DONALD PARRISH, JR.
FOUNDATION ASSISTANT: SARAH GRABER

DEsert
CHAPTER PRESIDENT/FOUNDATION COORDINATOR – MICHAEL COCCARO

MIAmI
CHAPTER PRESIDENT – PATRICIA LODGE
VICE PRESIDENT – REGINALD HAYDEN

michIGAN
CHAPTER PRESIDENT – KATHY SINCLAIR
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT – JOE OSENTOSKI
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT – JOHN CARROLL
SECRETARY/TREASURER – ROBERTA CLEMAK
FOUNDATION COORDINATOR – JOHN CARROLL

NAples
CHAPTER PRESIDENT – BARBARA ROY
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT – PATRICIA CLASSEN
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT – JOE DONAHUE
SECRETARY – URSULA RATHIE
TREASURER – DAVID MACARTHY

PACIFIC-NORTHWEST
CHAPTER PRESIDENT – CHARLES STOTTS
VICE PRESIDENT – STEVEN SOGG
SECRETARY/TREASURER – MARTHA SAMPSON

PACIFIC-SOUTHWEST
CHAPTER PRESIDENT – VIRGINIA FOSTER
VICE PRESIDENT – ARTHUR HAMMONS
SECRETARY – CRISTULL HASSON
TREASURER – CATHERINE EDGERTON
FOUNDATION COORDINATOR – MARYANN HART

Palm beach
CHAPTER PRESIDENT – JACK VEASY
SECRETARY/TREASURER – CHARLES KLOTSCHE

SINGAPORE
CHAPTER PRESIDENT – YT LOW
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT – GRAHAM BELL
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT – TK QUEK
SECRETARY – TERRY NG
TREASURER – VINCENT CHEN
MEMBERSHIP/ADMISSIONS – RONALD ZUNG
CLUB ACTIVITIES/AUDITOR – CHUNG TING FAI

united KINGdom
CHAPTER PRESIDENT – HELEN JENKINS
HONORARY PATRON – EARL OF INCHCAPE
FOUNDATION COORDINATOR – HELEN JENKINS

washington dC
CHAPTER PRESIDENT – SAMUEL WATSON
VICE PRESIDENT – JENNIFER TEAGUE
SECRETARY – SAMUEL MCALEESE
TREASURER – JENNIFER TEAGUE
FOUNDATION COORDINATOR – JIM WHALEN

Check the Circumnavigators Club website at WWW.CIRCUMNAVIGATORS.ORG For Upcoming Events!
THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE WERE ELECTED TO OUR “GREAT CIRCLE” BY OUR BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Bruce Berry
Bruce lives in Henderson, Nevada with his wife Linda, also a Circumnavigator. The Berries also have residences in Manhattan and Bethel, Connecticut. He enjoys music, art and international gourmet dining, and especially, travel and cultural exchanges.

Christopher Bogaars
Christopher lives in Singapore where he is an executive of the Cessna Aircraft Company. He is a graduate of Trinity College in Dublin where he met his wife Julie. His sponsors in the Singapore Chapter report that he is an “affable” fellow with a zest for life. He enjoys good food, wine and reading.

Peter Jason Bryne
An Australian, PJ is an insurance specialist with an award-winning practice in Brisbane. He made an eight-month circumnavigation in 1998 and now travels internationally on a regular basis. He enjoys “caravaning” with his family and has a passion for fishing. Greetings to Down Under!

Jack Conte
Living in Galloway, Ohio, Jack is an executive in the technology industry. He is involved with a variety of sports and conservation activities, and he enjoys classic cars and winemaking.

Lila Corner
Originally from South Dakota, Lila lives in Naples, FL. She circumnavigated this year, visiting 37 countries or islands on a 113-day journey. She is talented in the field of music.

Joseph Esposito
Serving in three administrations, Joseph has held several positions in the federal government, most recently as Deputy Under Secretary for International Affairs at the Department of Education. He now teaches undergraduate history in the greater Washington, D.C. area. He is also working on a book about President Kennedy’s 1962 dinner for Nobel Prize winners.

James Donley
A native of Ohio, Jim lived for many years in Greenwich, Connecticut before moving to Delray Beach, Florida. His career in communications and international consulting took him to numerous places around the world. He once served as press secretary for the US Department of Treasury and special assistant to Secretaries John Connally and George Shultz.

James Garland
A native of Alexandria, Virginia, Jim still lives there with his wife Carrie and children. He is an entrepreneur, businessman, lecturer and author. In 2010, the Garlands embarked on a round-the-world adventure. Besides travel, Jim loves to surf, golf, cook and read.

Carrie Garland
Like husband Jim, Carrie is also an Alexandrian. She went to the College of William and Mary. In 2010, the Garlands, including their four children, left for a year-long circumnavigation that took them to 30 countries, including South Africa where they helped children and teachers at the Kwasa Centre. Carrie engages in a great deal of charity activities in the Washington, DC area.

Carol Green
A resident of Naples, Florida, Carol also maintains a home in Denver, Colorado. She had a career in journalism and law, with her last post as Senior Vice President of the Denver Post. Carol has given speeches throughout the world on Freedom of the Press in America. She enjoys outdoor and wildlife photography and has photographed at locations around the world. She has embarked on a new career as a literary agent at Simenauer & Green Literary Agency in Naples.
The following people were elected to our “Great Circle” by our Board of Governors.

**Francesca Greenstein**
A graduate of Fairleigh Dickenson University, Fran has a degree in psychology and a minor in Italian, a language she continues to learn in tribute to her heritage. Fran and her husband Henry live in Naples, Florida and they are both active in the Welcome to Florida organization.

**Lauren Kesselman**
Lauren lives in the Palm Beach area, where she works as a real estate broker. She previously lived in New York City and Greenwich, Connecticut. She is an avid traveler and multilingual, having lived in Switzerland and other European countries. She loves opera and the theater and is involved in charitable activities.

**Kenneth Mink**
Ken lives in Poway, California. He has traveled extensively to Asia over the past decades as a buyer for his family importing business. He enjoys golf and practicing his Spanish in California and Mexico.

**Jerome Nelinson**
A New Jerseyite, Jerome now lives in Boynton Beach, Florida. He served in WWII after he joined the Coast Guard at age 17. He has continued to be involved with Navy affairs, and has been given the rank of Honorary Chief Petty Officer in recognition of this service work for the U.S. Navy. Jerome made two circumnavigations in the past two years.

**Lois Saldukas**
A native Chicagoan who later moved to Connecticut, Lois now lives in Naples Florida. She made her round-the-world trip along with Lila Corner. She was previously a member of the Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island Committee.

**Norman Kaplan**
Now living in Naples, Florida, Norman is from Chicago where he owned an auto dealership. He is well traveled and active in various local associations and charities.

**Bruce Kropschot**
Now living in Naples, Florida, Bruce is from Michigan where he graduated from the University of Michigan. He is a CPA with a career in the financial industry. For the past 28 years he has served as a merger and acquisition advisor to companies in the financial services industry. He enjoys sports and travel.

**JC Mountainbear**
JC lives in Chicago where he works as a consultant in the mergers & acquisitions field. He has a master’s degree from the Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University. He is affiliated with a number of organizations, including Cherokee Nation Businesses.

**Bill Roy**
It seems to many Circumnavigators that Bill Roy has been a member forever, but he has now made it official. As the husband of Naples President Barb Roy, Bill’s travels are legendary. He has visited 150 countries and circumnavigated 14 times at last count.

**Gustav Schmidt**
Gustav lives in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, where he works as an attorney. He served as a naval officer on a nuclear-powered submarine that made four missions of vital national security as well as under-ice missions. He enjoys hiking, biking, and collecting frequent flyer points.
THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE WERE ELECTED TO OUR “GREAT CIRCLE” BY OUR BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Manish Sehgal
Manish lives in Washington DC, where he works as an executive in the technology industry. He enjoys starting companies, programming and producing electronic music.

Walter Slack
A native of Greenwich, Connecticut, Walter graduated from the University of Arizona and pursued a career as an international insurance broker. This gave him the chance for plenty of foreign travel, including three circumnavigations. He now lives in Bonita Springs, Florida.

Jeffrey Sutton
Jeff lives in South Paris, Maine, and spends the winters in Bonita Springs, Florida. His father Roland is a member of the Naples Chapter. Jeff circumnavigated with his parents last year by private jet.

Heather Wilson
A graduate of Kansas State University, Heather moved to Washington, DC to work on Capitol Hill. She lives in DC with her husband Jim and family. Heather is an avid runner who has run in six marathons. The Wilsons’ circumnavigation adventure is featured in this issue of the Log.

Margaret Wolfe
Margie has traveled extensively ever since her graduation from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. She first worked for the USO in Thailand, a job that gave her the chance to explore Asia. She lives in Pawleys Island, South Carolina with her husband Robert. She is involved with various historical and patriotic activities.

Lawrence Wood
Lawrence lives in Lacey, Washington, near the state capital. With a Ph.D. from the University of Alabama, he works in electronic product development. He is an avid hiker, cyclist and runner, and also specializes in science history.

Jacqueline Simenauer
Jacqueline is an author with an impressive array of published books and articles. She traveled the world with her late husband Peter Simenauer who was with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra for 38 years. Living in Naples, Florida, she is still actively involved in the publishing industry as a literary agent at the Simenauer & Green Literary Agency.

Margit Stoodley
Born and raised in Berlin, Germany, Margit now lives in Naples, Florida. She worked as a flight attendant for Pan Am World Airways in the good old days of luxury travel. She has a second home in San Simons Island, Georgia.

Rudolph Viener
A retired Air Force Colonel, Rudolph lives in Mandeville, Louisiana. His is a member of the Traveler’s Century Club as well as a number of military organizations.

Jim Wilson
A graduate of Yale with a law degree from Columbia, Jim has worked in a variety of legal positions in Washington DC. He took a leave from the profession when the Wilson family decided to go around the world in their 42-foot sloop Ceol Mor. Their close encounter with danger is documented in this issue. Jim is an accomplished bagpiper (perhaps a weapon that would have scared away those interlopers!).

Robert Palmer Wolfe
Robert lives in Pawleys Island with his wife Margie. He is originally from Ohio, where he went to college with Margie at the University of Miami in Oxford. His career has been in the hospitality industry. The Wolfes circumnavigated earlier this year.

SPECIAL OFFER
When both spouses join the Club together, the total initiation fee is $200 ($100 savings). Spouses of existing members who join the Club in 2014 pay an initiation fee of $50. Please contact headquarters at 201-612-9100 if you have questions regarding this offer.
SCHOLARS REFLECT ON THEIR ADVENTURE

Our Foundation scholars tell us what they discovered on their amazing circumnavigations. We asked them about the countries they visited, highlights, favorite places, lowlights/surprises, dining experiences, and, most importantly, about friendship and what they learned about themselves.

• Over my three month trip, I visited Guatemala, Peru, Austria, Rwanda, Uganda, Nepal, and Cambodia.

• It is hard to choose just one highlight, as there were so many. A special memory that stands out is visiting the Pashupatinath Temple in Kathmandu, Nepal during Teej Festival. On this annual holiday, thousands of women dressed in their best red saris travel to the temple to pray and present offerings to Lord Shiva to ensure a healthy year to come.

• I don't have a favorite place, because I loved them all. One place I found particularly fascinating is Rwanda. Considering that the country suffered from a horrific genocide only 20 years ago, Rwanda is now an incredibly clean, organized, and peaceful place.

• To get from southwestern Uganda to Kampala, I had to take the Post Bus. This is generally considered the safest form of public transportation in Uganda, because many other bus companies drive too quickly on poor roads, leading to accidents. Unfortunately, "safe" is synonymous with "horrendously slow." The bus lives up to its name and stops at each town's post office to deliver mail every 15 minutes for the entire 9 hour journey. With no chance to exit the bus the whole day, it felt like the longest trip of my life!

• When I was staying in Lima, Peru, I got to visit one of the restaurants opened by famous Peruvian chef, Gastón Acurio. It was called Panchita, and it served home-style Peruvian comfort food. My favorite was a chicken, rice, and bean dish called tacu tacu. I wasn't a fan of the fried insects served as street food in Phnom Penh, Cambodia!

• Friends? Yes, definitely! Over the course of my trip, I formed relationships with many different people, from all walks of life, including a girl from Wisconsin, now living in Rwanda, with my exact same name (first and last!). People from all over the world took me into their homes, invited me into their families, and introduced me to their cultures. I am incredibly thankful for their generosity and love.

• I learned the importance of listening with an open mind to everyone you encounter. If you explore our world, ready to be awestruck and amazed, you will find a huge, beautiful earth filled with kindness and love.

• Visited Morocco, Nepal, Bangladesh, Thailand, Mexico

• Highlight? I genuinely saw some huge positive aspects of micro-finance, which pulled people away from seemingly hopeless situations all through the concerted efforts of organizations ranging from grass roots to an international level. The research also gave me the chance to visit places and people and be presented with challenges that I would never have encountered otherwise; the sense of doing something different was palpable throughout the trip.

• A favorite place? An incredibly difficult decision! What I found from my travels was that each one had a particular charm about it. Morocco had incredible hospitality. Nepal had beautiful scenery and a great traveling community. Bangladesh was raw and chaotic but the sense of humanity was incredibly strong. Thailand was a charming contradiction between Bangkok's modern and futuristic setting and isolated rural communities barely changed over centuries. Finally, in Mexico I really managed to connect with local young people and this was amazing for an outlook on all the issues in Mexico at the moment.

• Lowlights? Staying in Bangladesh, where other travelers were all but non-existent was hard; especially after being in traveler-filled Nepal. It was a tough culture shock anyway, due to the chaotic and intense nature of Dhaka, but the mayhem and craziness of Dhaka was one of the reasons I loved it as well. Also, my foot surgery in Thailand, three-day delay getting from Bangkok to Mexico City, and being told it "wasn't the airline's problem" all deserve honorable mention.
- Visited Peru (Lima and Cusco), Brazil (Brasilia, Rio de Janeiro and Porto Alegre), Italy (Rome), Tanzania (Dar es Salaam and Iringa), India (New Delhi, Sahajanpur and Agra), Bhutan (Paro, Thimphu and Punakha) and Nepal (Kathmandu Valley).

- It is very difficult for me to choose one highlight after attending multiple FIFA Fan Fests in Brazil during the World Cup, saying 'hello' to the Pope in Vatican City, or meeting some monks in Punakha. Nonetheless, visiting Machu Picchu was a life-long dream that became reality!

- While I really enjoyed my circumnavigation, going to Punakha (Bhutan) was a much-needed haven of peace and tranquility – especially after spending close to two weeks in New Delhi.

- My journey in India definitely was full of good and bad surprises! While I felt a bit vulnerable traveling there because of the intrusive male gazes, I was pleasantly surprised by the kindness of all the people who ensured that my research was a success.

- Notwithstanding my disappointing experience in India, I have to admit that Delhi's chicken marsala was delicious!

- I have stayed in touch with many people I met along the way. From my hosts in Brasilia, Rome, and Thimphu to the backpackers I met in Lima, New Delhi, and Kathmandu, making friends along the way was a constant reminder of how blessed I was to have been chosen as a Foundation Scholar.

- As I am getting ready to graduate next semester, being a Foundation Scholar taught me that working for the empowerment of women in developing countries truly is what I was born to do! I also learned that I am much stronger than I ever imagined, which is key when traveling to unknown territories.

- I visited Japan, Indonesia, Myanmar, Croatia, England and Brazil.

- The highlight of my trip was attending an International Dance Ethnology in Croatia. I interacted with dance research professionals and gained a better understanding of different dances from around the world.

- My favorite place was the island of Kortula in Croatia. From the clear water stone beaches to the tall mountains to the historic Italian architecture, I felt transported. There was an immense amount of tangible and intangible history present. Croatians have great pride in their history and I was fortunate to experience their traditions.

- Myanmar was a surprising country. I did not have any idea what to expect, but was pleasantly surprised. I fell in love with their history and strong sense of culture. Everyone was extremely welcoming and hospitable.

- One of my favorite dining experiences was at a sushi restaurant in Japan. I went with a Japanese; we sat at the sushi bar and the chef made us individual hand-formed pieces. I had not previously tried sushi with raw fish before, but really enjoyed the raw eel, salmon, squid, tuna and belly of tuna. I did not, however, care for octopus or raw fish eggs. All in all, the experience was truly amazing.

- Throughout my trip I made friends in each country. Thanks to modern technology, we are still in touch, mostly through Facebook. People I met in Myanmar, Croatia, England and Brazil told me they wanted me to come back and stay in their homes. I also made some valuable contacts for the future. I met faculty from a number of schools in Europe where I am interested in continuing my education in a masters program.

- I learned that I can stay calm under pressure. There were times where I encountered potentially bad situations but was able to remain composed. This gave me the confidence to know that I can handle anything life brings my way and that the sky is not the limit but only the beginning.
Including detours and unscheduled stops, I went to Brazil, Argentina, Australia, Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, South Africa, Israel, Spain, and Sweden.

Highlight? I loved going on safari. There’s something humbling and powerful about sitting a few meters away from a pride of lions and it’s a memory I won’t forget.

Favorite place? I loved Cape Town, as it combined everything I love about busy cities with everything I love about the scenic outdoors. It’s easy to spend the day in malls and museums there, but also easy to find great hiking, climbing, and beaches.

I wasn’t a fan of Kuala Lumpur. It was a very new culture and I think I had a hard time connecting to the different style of living.

I had some great dining experiences. In Argentina, I was at a small, very homey hostel with a grill, and along with the other guests, we barbecued steak several times. It’s the best meat in the world and a good cut of beef there is cheaper than chicken. I also decided to splurge on a fancy meal in Spain and I was surprised when the fish I ordered was brought to me whole, with the eyes and teeth still in the head. Once I got past the initial shock, I found that it was delicious. My worst dining experience happened in Malaysia. I ordered a vegan dish that was so bitter and dry that I couldn’t eat it. I was flying out that night and was already in a hurry, so I decided to walk out of the restaurant after only a couple bites. It was my divine sign that it was time to move on to the next destination!

Make friends? I did! I think I’m most likely to stay in touch with people I met in Argentina and Israel who I met through mutual friends, but I also met some incredible travelers in hostels and I’m excited to keep in touch and follow their journeys.

I learned that I love to travel for nature. The hiking and the beaches were things I looked forward to the most. But most importantly, I learned about traveling alone. I wouldn’t have done a solo trip if it weren’t for this opportunity, but I found that every sight I saw was worth seeing, with or without a travel buddy.
Congratulations to long-time member of the Singapore Chapter, S P Tao, who is celebrating his 100th birthday...Los Angeles film producer Neil Mandt has been working on a daring new project. He has teamed up with world-renown daredevil Bello Nock to produce events around the world. The team did events on four continents this year. Get some thrilling insight by checking out www.theultimate.com...DC Chapter member Al Olson celebrated his 90th birthday. Capt. Olson also returned to Annapolis for the 70th reunion of his class at the Naval Academy...Naples’ Tom Maher, member of the Board of Governors, was among 75 WWII veterans who took the Honor Flight from Fort Myers to Washington. They were greeted by thousands of well-wishers and bands, giving their thanks for the veterans’ service...Bill Billings received Rotarian of the Year honors for his leadership role and service contributions. According to the Tidewater Press, one of Bill’s most exciting projects was helping to build a pedestrian bridge in Ethiopia. A member of the DC Chapter, Bill is a proud Rotarian, wearing a Rotarian pin every day and driving with his Rotarian license plate...Josh Datko reports from Colorado that he will have a book published, BeagleBone for Secret Agents, a work of technical non-fiction. Available soon. Past President Peter Mosse and Lord Richard Faulkner of Worcester, who hosts the UK Chapter’s Annual Holiday Party in the House of Lords in London, met up at a dinner in Belfast City Hall, Northern Ireland. Both are lifelong railroad enthusiasts and the dinner, which was hosted by Belfast City Council, was held to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Railway Preservation Society of Ireland. The RPSI exists to promote the railway heritage of Ireland, in both the North and the South, and the dinner was attended by 260 guests. Best wishes and good luck to these Circumnavigators!

**Captions for Photos:**
1. Neil Mandt & daredevil Bello Nock
2. Al Olson and grand-daughter Liz Houston
3. Tom Maher in Washington
4. Bill Billings receives honor

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**CLUB HEADQUARTERS**

**The Yale Club of New York City**

50 Vanderbilt Avenue, New York, New York 10017

The Yale Club is International Headquarters for the Circumnavigators Club allowing members to utilize the facility for private dining, special events, cocktail receptions and meetings. The club offers three restaurants including the elegant Roof Dining Room, the pub-like Grill Room and the Yale-inspired Tap Room. Members will have access to these rooms by checking in at the front desk and letting the staff know you are a Circumnavigator Club member. There are also well-appointed guest rooms available from studios to suites. When booking an overnight stay, guests have full access to the club including all three restaurants, a full-service library, and a fitness facility with a swimming pool, squash courts, cardio equipment and freeweights. Once a reservation is made, a personal credit card is required upon arrival. Reservations for overnight accommodations must be made through the Executive Director – please contact headquarters at 201-612-9100 or email at club@circumnavigators.org. Please do not call the Yale Club directly.

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**CLUB CALLING CARD**

**FREE TO MEMBERS!**

If you would like Club cards, please contact Headquarters at 201-612-9100 or club@circumnavigators.org. The Club Card is to be used to promote the Circumnavigators Club. If you are chatting with a prospective member, give this card to them so they can look at our website and contact Headquarters if they have further questions. Your name, membership number, e-mail address and optional personal phone number will be on the card.

**Where have you been?**

Our members are always on the go. Let us know where you have been or where you are going. Just send a brief line or two to Tracy at headquarters by email club@circumnavigators.org or by regular mail.
Naples member **Marilyn Varcoe** traveled to Bhutan and the Himalayan locales of Nepal and Tibet. **David & Dottie Mink** toured and golfed in Southwest Ireland, which included a stay at the historic Adare Manor. **New Yorker Connie Wingate** continues her globe trotting with a dream trip to India to include visits to Amritsar and Kashmir. Later this year, she will go to Zanzibar to embark on an expedition cruise to Madagascar and Mauritius. **Howard Matson**, along with wife Amy and daughter Leslie, spent two weeks in Switzerland, Germany, Czech Republic and Austria, where they had a close encounter with actor Tom Cruise (see photo). **Michigan Chapter President Kathy Sinclair** and family visited the recently opened exhibit on the discovery of the remains of King Richard III whose body was missing for 500 years. Richard III was “found” under a parking lot in Leicester, England. The parking lot is for the Leicester Grammer School, which was attended by Kathy’s husband, Gavin. After four months of travel through Africa and Micronesia, **Washington Chapter member Bill Adams** visited North Korea in August (see photo of Bill at monument). Canadians **Natasha & Henri Van Bentum** met up with fellow countryman **Mark Hauptman** at the Great Bear Rainforest in northern British Columbia. They took the remarkable scenic route along the the Yellowhead Highway. The Van Bentums are heading off to the South Pacific and Mark recently visited Alaska/Yukon and the Arctic Circle. **Tom & Gloria Maher** took a 13-day transatlantic cruise to England on the Queen Victoria. **Esther Dyer** left from Germany for a cruise on the ship Poesia with stops in Lisbon and Barcelona where she stayed at her favorite apartment in El Born. **Bill & Barb Roy** just keep on goin’ with a long cruise to Europe on the Queen Mary, visiting England, Scotland, Ireland, Guernsey, and then continuing on to the Baltic, with stops in Russia and Scandanavia. **The Roys** also visited Cuba recently with **Rachael Jacks and Paula O’Connor**. **Phyllis Mueller** had a mountaintop horseback ride in New Mexico and also did some riding in the turquoise Caribbean as well as snorkling and eating freshly caught conch. **Larry & Laura McDonald** on a riverboat cruise in Europe. **Tina & Jack Nicholson** visited Cay Levantado, an island off the Dominican Republic. **Cort McKee** took a pleasure trip to France and Spain, and heads off in January for a business trip to Pakistan. **Roger & Paula Baker** took a long cruise to northern Europe, visiting old towns like Riga, Latvia and harbor towns like Stockholm and Copenhagen. **Washingtonian Ray Olson** off on an island-hopping trip to the South Pacific with too many stops to mention. It...
will take 27 flights and 30,000 miles to complete the venture, adding 10 new “places” to his Travel Century Club list... **Bill Ashley** will join Ray for part of the trip... **Pamela & Bubba Collins** in Toledo, Spain, and Serbia... **Walter Slack** off on a long trip to Italy and the Caribbean, among other places. He will visit the smallest country in the world, the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, located in the heart of Rome... New Yorker **Christine Kloner** recorded a bloody Polar Bear feast on Barter Island on the Arctic Circle... **Morrie & Ann Doyle** undertook at 61-day Caravan Adventure from Florida right up to the Arctic Circle and back... **Michael & Sue Hoey** from the United Kingdom have just completed a long circumnavigation that took them to lands as diverse as Alaska and Papua New Guinea... **Dennis & Mary Frederickson** are on a 50-day cruise, starting in Hong Kong, continuing to Saigon, Singapore, Jakarta, Bali, Komoto, Darwin, Cairns, Sydney and many other spots before reaching San Diego... **Helen and Joe Mulligan** visited Mount Rushmore during their trip out West... **Barbara & Marvin Easton** are on a ten-week cruise/roadtrip that will take them to numerous places in Europe, Asia and Africa. They’ll be back to Naples for the New Year. Back in June, they took their son and grandson to China and Hong Kong to show them where they once lived.

**Tom Ambrose**, of the Palm Beach Chapter, led an expedition to Cuba to document Karst limestone rocks, which exhibit world-class landform towers in Pinar del Rio province, Western Cuba. Tom, an international geologist, lived on the island throughout the Cuban revolution. A 1959 photo shows Tom with Castro Rebels at Presidential Palace, which they had occupied. He describes Cuba as a “time warp” --- most 1950’s attractions still in place, except for the Mafia run casinos. Tom’s full expedition photo report is available on line at: explorers.org/index.php/news/.

In September Tom and his wife Thora commenced a road trip in St. Petersburg, Russia, continuing into Finland, the three Baltic states and ending in Zakopane, Poland (the city bid for the 2006 Winter Olympics) in the Carpathian Mountains. Some 1500 miles were covered by modern intercity buses, some with coffee bars on board. One trip high point was their visit to the Geographic Center of Europe, near Vilnius, Lithuania. Travel can also have its downside--- Thora lost cash and her passport to a pickpocket in Latvia. Fortunately, it happened in the capital Riga, where the US Embassy provided a replacement.
West Africa...Way off the beaten track

Jennifer Teague reported to *The Log* that she was a bit apprehensive about her first business trip to West Africa, seeing that she was visiting two of the poorest countries in the world.

The trip turned out to be an enlightening experience, revealing both the colorful beauty and the gritty poverty of this part of Africa.

Jennifer, from Washington DC, visited Mali and Mauritania, two nations not on the popular tourist routes these days. Her first stop was Mali’s capital, Bamako, estimated as the fastest growing city in Africa with 1.8 million people. The city was not as crowded as expected and her hotel was clean and stylish. But outside her window was a dump filled “with who knows what.” The women were dressed in beautiful bright garb.

She was surprised to see very little Islamic influence in this predominately Muslim country. Alcohol and pork were widely available. She was able to have wine with her meals, but swears off the Mali beer that tasted of formaldehyde.

Her next stop was Nouakchott in Mauritania. “Nouackchott was not pleasant,” she says, “a desolate place on the Atlantic that has a beautiful beach…and lots and lots of garbage everywhere.”

But, she was struck by the industriousness of the population, with people working hard at all sorts of jobs. She also found the city safe and free of crime.

The trip was an eye-opener, and Jennifer was delighted to get home to America.
Row, Row, Row Your Boat

BY C. SUE MURPHY
Program Chair

Since we are a club of circumnavigators, all of us have crossed the Atlantic Ocean. However, never before has anyone done it in a row boat and that is just what Riaan Manser and Vasti Geldenhuys recently did. Starting in Morocco at the end of December, they traveled almost 6,700 miles making stops in the Bahamas and Miami before coming to New York in July. We were happy to be able to host a small dinner party for the pair on July 2nd at the Yale Club. Over dinner we heard some scary stories. Relying on fishing as their only supply of fresh food, they found themselves fighting with sharks over their catch. Since their boat was only 22 feet, the sharks were often about half the size of their boat. On another occasion, a large shipping vessel was headed straight towards them forcing them to don life jackets and row like mad to get out of the way. When their desalination equipment broke, they needed to flag down a passing ship to get some fresh water. However, maneuvering a very small vessel along side a very large one and avoiding the turbulence the large vessel creates was quite a balancing act forcing one of them to keep pushing away from the ship while the other one got the water. Of course, those are just the highlights of a six month trip that meant many days of cold weather, hot weather, rain and searing sun not to mention all that rowing!
The purpose of the Goodwill Connection is to bring together Circumnavigators as they globe-trot. Please consider adding your name to the list of greeters – those who will welcome members to their city. Contact Headquarters, Tracy Sancilio at (201) 612-9100 or e-mail: club@circumnavigators.org to sign up to serve on the Connection.

Should you be planning a trip to a city where there is a member, please contact Tracy with your arrival and departure dates and the hotel where you will be staying. She will be happy to contact the member for you.

AUSTRALIA - Queensland, Brisbane
Greece - Athens, Kifissia
Canada - British Columbia/Vancouver
Nevis (W.I.) - Charlestown
Singapore - Singapore
Thailand - Bangkok
United Kingdom - London

U.S.A.
Arizona - Scottsdale, Sedona
California - La Jolla, San Franciscio
Florida - Palm Beach, Miami, Naples
Illinois - Chicago, Northbrook, Winnetka
Michigan - Detroit
New York - New York
Pennsylvania - Philadelphia
South Carolina - Hilton Head
Washington DC
Washington - Seattle

International President Ellen Parke and UK Chapter President Helen Jenkins enjoyed a lovely dinner together in the Cardiff Bay area with Ellen’s sister and brother-in-law. They met at Helen’s charming home and were introduced to most of her six cats. The city was probably the safest place on earth, with the NATO Summit occurring here. Police and security were everywhere, even in helicopters above and on ships in the harbor. It was a delightful occasion to get acquainted.

C. Kathy Sinclair Pearson, Michigan Chapter President, was hosted through our “Goodwill Connection” in London on August 5th, 2014 by C. Lord Faulkner of Worcester.


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Geraldine "Jerrie" Mock, the first woman pilot to solo circumnavigate, died in September at her home in Florida.

Known as the “flying housewife”, Mock circled the globe 50 years ago with an epic journey that took 29 days in 1964. She flew a single engine Cessna 180, making 21 stopovers and logging 22,860 miles.

Despite her great accomplishment, she received little lasting fame and lived out her life quietly. She was 88 when she died.
THROUGH MY LENS

**Tips from a Travel Photographer**

**SOMETIMES IT’S OK TO SHOOT THEM IN THE BACK**

When taking photographs of people, we’re naturally inclined to photograph from the front, but sometimes shooting from behind can equally well capture an unusual or provocative shot.

Here are three examples: an orthodox Jew in a back alley in Jerusalem, three Australian youths gazing across Melbourne from the top of the Eureka Tower, and two Tibetans passing through an archway into a Buddhist temple compound.

In each of these examples, the shot is taken into the light. This creates black silhouettes of the figures, which defines their clothing, sometimes helping to give us a sense of where we are, and can more dramatically highlight the colorful subject beyond.

Look for shots out of windows, through archways and doorways, or down alleys and passageways, standing in shadow looking toward light.

*Roger Weatherburn Baker*

*Naples Chapter*