



CIRCUMNAVIGATORS CLUB

FOUNDED IN 1902

YEAR 2022

NUMBER TWO

THE LOG

INSIDE:
Crossing Croatia



CIRCUMNAVIGATORS CLUB, INC.

FOUNDED 1902

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The LOG

THIS TIME AROUND

BY DAVID A. MINK - International President & Editorial Director

The Circumnavigators Club has often said it is not a travel club. It is a club of travelers. This issue of The LOG confirms that point with Circumnavigators hitting the road in force, despite the lingering pandemic and world trouble spots.

We have fascinating stories from Norm & Susan Dailey (Washington DC Chapter) and Suzanne Frye (New York Metro) whose adventures are noteworthy. Also a timely report from Mark Pross (Washington DC Chapter) who looks back on a trip to one of the world's most dangerous places.



Please remember that we are a "sharing" club. It is important that we share our stories and travels with the membership. Please send stories and photos directly to headquarters to be posted on the web site or future issues of The LOG.

Luck to you,

David

David A. Mink



Maria and Gunther in Croatia



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Tough climb for Norm & Susan



Ghostly shot in Algeria

Thanks to

**Maria Winkler
(Naples Chapter)** for
this stunning shot of
Dubrovnik, Croatia.



Annual Meeting “Live”

For the first time in three years, The Circumnavigators Club's Annual Meeting was held in person on June 3, 2022 at the Penn Club in New York City. Due to the pandemic, the previous two meetings were held virtually via Zoom technology. It was nice to be together again!

President David A. Mink tapped the historic whale-tooth gavel to open the meeting for the 112th time. The gavel was presented to the Club by renown historical personality William Jennings Bryan in 1910.

In an unprecedented action, all Officers and Governors had their terms extended by two years to continue the flow of activities after the Covid-caused lull. The full list of officers and Governors are shown on the masthead on page 2 of this issue.

During the meeting, it was reported that the Club's membership is stable and both the Club and the Foundation are in good financial shape. Members worldwide are thanked for their efforts on behalf of the Circumnavigators Club.

After the meeting, R. Scott Stephenson, President and CEO of the Museum of the American Revolution, made a



Dr. Stephenson

presentation about the international aspects of the Revolution. Dr. Stephenson encouraged members and guests to visit the museum in Philadelphia for an informative and exciting experience.

Next year's Annual Meeting will be held in New York on May 19, 2023.



Governors and officers. L-R, Jeffery Peterson, Howard Matson, Brad Vogel, David Mink, Dan Peterson, Kristen Koontz



Members Melanie Peterson, Geoff McGrath, Eda Peterson, Marilyn McGrath.



Presidential lineup past & present—Howard Matson, Esther Dyer, David Mink, Bill Holm



New DC Chapter President Jason Chang with David Mink

Helen Jost



BY HOWARD MATSON
PAST PRESIDENT

The entire membership of the Circumnavigators Club was profoundly saddened by the passing of our esteemed Executive Director Emeritus, Helen Jost at the end of May. She was the beloved mother of our current Executive Director, Tracy Sancilio and of Edward Jost.



Tracy and Helen

To understand the valuable role that Helen played for decades, particularly for our new members, I'd like to reminisce about our Club's history.

Back in 1902, two gentlemen were sailing aboard an ocean liner returning to the United States from Australia. While crossing the Indian Ocean, chatting on deck over brandy one evening, they discussed the privilege that came with circumnavigating the globe. They talked about forming an organization for those fortunate few who have accomplished this feat.

When they arrived back in New York City, they and a third friend founded the Circumnavigators Club. In our annals, these men are known as "the three immortals."

Fast forward to the 1940s and 1950s and 1960s. Our club was governed by a President and a Board of Governors. This was the age of "Mad Men" and whoever was the current president would assign to their private secretary the task of running the day-to-day activities of the club.

By 1970, the organization had grown to close to 1000 members with chapters across the country and globe. Clearly the Circumnavigators required a full-time director. And, fortunately for everyone involved, this individual was Helen Jost.

Fortunate is not a worthy adjective to describe Helen's relationship with every member of the Circumnavigators Club. With each of the hundreds members she forged a bond filled with love, warmth and steadfast devotion. And, each year, there were another 100 to 150 new members. Imagine, how blessed each of us would be to count the arrival of another 100 interesting individuals into our lives. I fully believe that this was reciprocal; both the Club and Helen grew from these relationships.

As time progressed, every "catch-all" phrase in our literary repertoire was applied to Helen:

"the glue that holds us together"

"the backbone of our club"

"the one who will know the answer"

I want all of our members to have some idea of the all-encompassing responsibilities which Helen tackled with patience, grace and finesse:

- She liaised and corresponded (both written and verbally) with a worldwide membership; assisting members across the country and around the world.
- She guided the executive board members and navigated Board of Governors meetings.
- She was a planner par excellence, single handedly preparing, staging and directing such events as a 300 guest luncheon at New York City's Essex House honoring Astronaut Neil Armstrong; a 250 guest dinner at The Union League Club where the Club lauded Jacques Cousteau and the following year again for Walter Cronkite. Countless luncheons, cocktail parties and dinners where she was the de facto gracious hostess to among others; author James Michener, CNN founder Ted Turner, Senator John Glenn, Titanic discoverer Bob Ballard. The list of luminaries goes on and on.

And, I must add another facet to her myriad of responsibilities: working with the university grantees of our Club's Foundation. She assisted with the individual chapter's selection committees; and then it was she who steered each grantee as he or she prepared for an around-the-world journey: airline tickets, chapter hosts, immunizations; and then monitoring their travels and safety as they completed their journeys. And, trust me: when a grantee had a problem; no matter how large or how trivial; the person they called for assistance was Helen!

I want to add another personal memory. For many years, Helen had closely worked with hundreds of individuals who have trod every corner of the globe. But, she had never left the borders of the United States or been issued a passport. In 1992, as the Circumnavigators Club prepared to celebrate its 90th anniversary with a club circumnavigation tour, the Board of Governors sponsored Helen to join this historic trip. Helen's first trip abroad was not a weekend in Bermuda or a jaunt across the pond to London but a journey to Japan, Hong Kong, China, Thailand, Singapore, India, Greece and England.

It was the least the Circumnavigators could do to express how much our organization and all of its members were in her debt. We thrived because of her. We could never repay the debt.

I hope she knew how much she was loved by every single member across the world. This author honestly records that each and every President's successes were really her successes. We could not have accomplished all we did without her skills and expertise and her effervescent contagious positive attitude.

I mentioned at the beginning of this brief history the founding presence of the Circumnavigators' "three immortals." Helen was our fourth immortal!



Howard and Helen yesteryear

We loved you, Helen.

A FIRST CLASS COLLECTION

BY KATIE KOONTZ
NEW YORK METRO

In the good old days, taking a Pan Am flight was a special experience, as Circumnavigator Geoff McGrath recalls: Champagne. Caviar. Roast beef cooked to order. "Sleeperette" seats.

Working for Pan Am was also a special experience, and Geoff had the opportunity to do it for 15 years. "No two days were ever the same," he says.

During his time as a Pan Am airport Passenger Service Agent, Geoff crossed paths with numerous stars, from Keith Richards to Liza Minelli to Alex Trebek, just to name a few.

In addition to many years worth of memories, Geoff and his wife, Circumnavigator Marilyn McGrath, have amassed an extensive collection of Pan Am and airline-related memorabilia.

"My collection of Pan Am and other airline memorabilia is pretty eclectic," Geoff says. "I spent more than 45 years accumulating the collection. I learned never to throw anything away!"

The McGrath's collection includes maps, uniform items, boarding passes, posters, menus and more.

A copy of a letter, written by the Pan Am Radio Operator/Technician assigned to Wake Island in the 1930s, highlights the company's historic expansion into the Pacific. It includes a small drawing of the radio shack on Wake Island and its equipment.

Geoff has a first class Pan Am menu, which was signed by former U.K. Prime Minister Sir Harold Wilson on a flight to London. "During the course of our conversation, Sir Harold regaled me with stories of his trips to Africa

in the 1920's," Geoff recalls. "He also said if I needed any assistance while in London, I could find him in the House of Lords."

The collection also includes a large, custom-made route map of the world. It was made for Geoff by a Pan Am 747 captain, who would make one of these custom maps per flight and give it to a child on board. "When I asked him if he would make me one too, he told me it was the only one he made which was not given to a child on a flight," Geoff says.

During Geoff's 15 years with Pan Am, he and Marilyn had the opportunity to travel the world. They remember always being on the go, with an international trip every few months.

"We eventually came to accept these wonderful trips, the people we met, and the places we visited as part of the perks of

being employed by a U.S. flag carrier with an extensive international route network," Geoff says. "It was only after Pan Am went out of business in 1991 that we began to realize how really special our experiences were."



Geoff and Marilyn





ALL OVER THE MAP

Sally and Larry Cole (Palm Beach Chapter)

hiking the Path of the Gods on the Amalfi Coast in Italy.



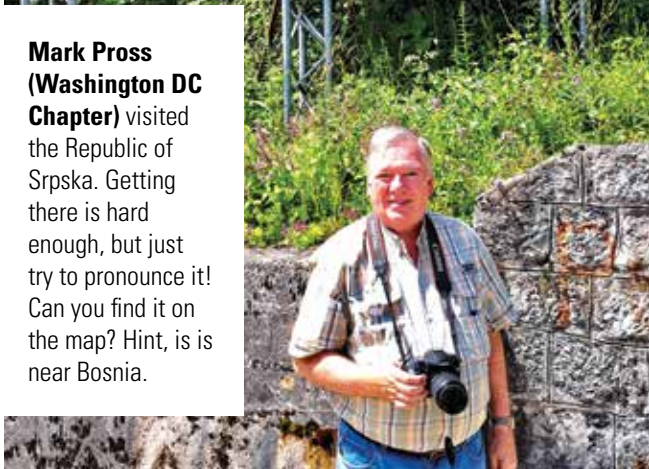
Dan and Melanie Peterson (Chicago Chapter)

visited Omaha Beach in Normandy, France on a trip to Europe. Here, they stand in front of the remains of a German bunker.



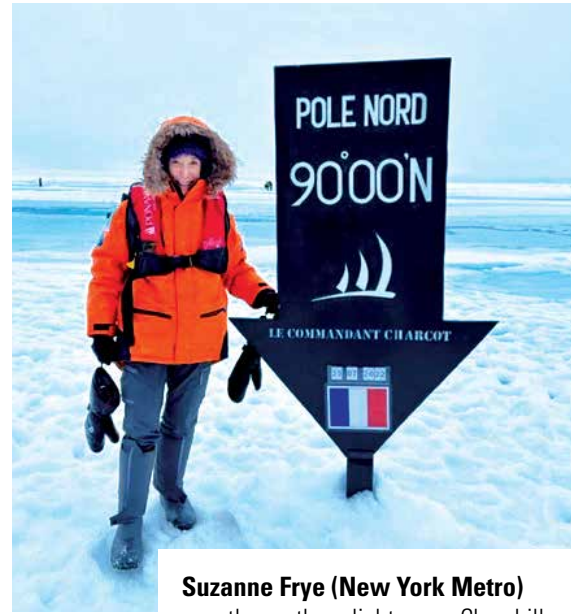
Mark Pross (Washington DC Chapter)

visited the Republic of Srpska. Getting there is hard enough, but just try to pronounce it! Can you find it on the map? Hint, it is near Bosnia.



Melody and Jon Dill (Naples Chapter) heard it is good luck to kiss across the equator line, but it didn't work for Melody on the way to the Galapagos. She spent the night in the hospital with an attack of diverticulitis. She says, "I suppose it was good luck that it happened while we were in Quito and not on the ship in the middle of the Galapagos."

David and Dottie Mink (New York Metro and Naples Chapter) walked on the sea bottom of the Bay of Fundy in New Brunswick, Canada.



Suzanne Frye (New York Metro) saw the northern lights near Churchill, Canada and also reached the North Pole for the first time.

Donna Suddeth (Naples Chapter) enjoyed the pleasantries of Paris.



Paula and Roger Baker (Naples Chapter) enjoyed a tour of Sicily after a visit to Malta. Here they dine at Rocco Forte Villa Ignea in Palermo.



Katie and Kristen Koontz (New York Metro) traveled together for their first trip to Nice and other spots in southern France. They also visited Monte Carlo. In this photo, the daughter-mother team went to the scenic Medieval village of Eze.



Sue Murphy (New York Metro) enjoyed the wining and dining on her scenic tour to Canada. Here she is in New Brunswick.

Ann Swinford (Michigan Chapter) sailed to Alaska on the 80-passenger SS Legacy. In this photo she is in peaceful Patterson Bay in Southeast Alaska.



Ed Galkin (New York Metro) set off on his fourth circumnavigation in his single-engine Cessna for the purpose of raising donations to fight Alzheimer's.



Mary Houston (Chicago Chapter) visited Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia. She reports, "This is a small city filled with arts and culture and one of the most interesting pieces of sculpture I have ever seen. Here I am seated on a 'worker'."

HUMMING ALONG IN COSTA RICA



Circumnavigators Paul and Pat Buescher (Pacific Northwest Chapter) report, "We are traveling again! What better way, at least in Paul's opinion, to go wandering around the world than a birding photography trip. Recently, we joined our friend and favorite bird photographer, Ralph Paonessa, for a trip to the highlands of Costa Rica. We visited three birding-oriented lodges where we were able to see and photograph more hummingbirds than we could count. We also were treated to sightings of Quetzals, Tanagers, Chachalacas, Owls, Montezuma's Oropendola, Orioles, Woodpeckers, and a few snakes, rats, and other native creatures. While the weather was cool, it was great fun to travel again and be out with the birds and bees."



DISPLAY IN THE SKY

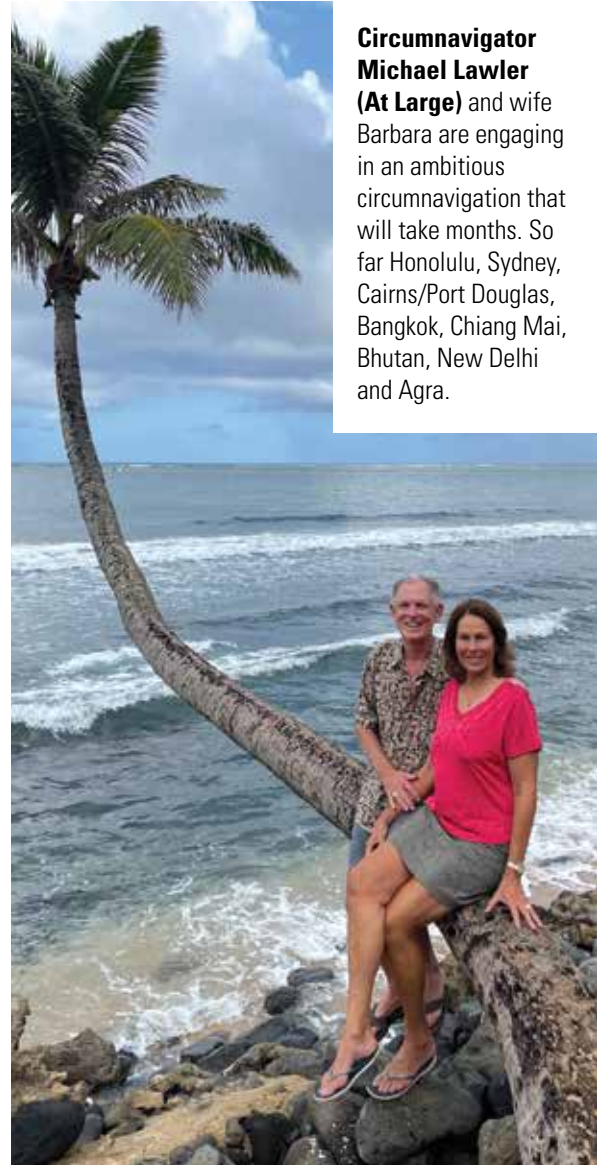
As noted, **Suzanne Frye** keeps on the move with her camera on hand. Her photographs of the Northern Lights near Churchill, Canada, offer an amazing glimpse of the beauty of nature.



Six Circumnavigators joined a small group of friends for a visit to Tuscany, Italy. The trip, including a villa, had been postponed for two years. **Left to right, Jeff Clarke, Dottie Mink, David Mink, Cindy Clarke, Fran Cucchiara, and Vincent Cucchiara (all Naples).**



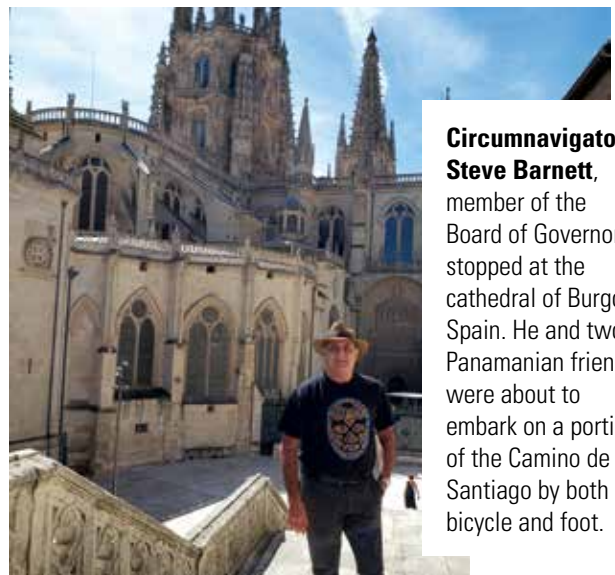
Circumnavigator Steve Fuller (At Large) and wife Henna in Machu Picchu in Peru.



Circumnavigator Michael Lawler (At Large) and wife Barbara are engaging in an ambitious circumnavigation that will take months. So far Honolulu, Sydney, Cairns/Port Douglas, Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Bhutan, New Delhi and Agra.



Circumnavigator Ken Mink (Pacific SW) in the Philippines. Next stop is Lapolapo where Magellan was killed.



Circumnavigator Steve Barnett, member of the Board of Governors, stopped at the cathedral of Burgos, Spain. He and two Panamanian friends were about to embark on a portion of the Camino de Santiago by both bicycle and foot.

HAVE YOU BEEN TO CROATIA?

BY MARIA AND GUNTHER WINKLER
NAPLES CHAPTER



Sitting on the balcony of our hotel room, we watch with fascination as three private super yachts drop anchor in short succession. On-board personnel swarm out in small speed boats securing the perimeters from potential threats to their distinguished owners.

No, we are not in St. Tropez or another well-known playground of the rich and famous, we are in Dubrovnik, Croatia, the newly discovered travel destination of billionaires, backpackers and everyone in between.

A fascinating place, frozen in time for hundreds of years, the city is abundant with authentic buildings from the medieval ages through the Renaissance. This historical architecture was the main reason the producers of *Game of Thrones* chose this location for many of the series' pivotal episodes. After the HBO drama popularized the city, tourism exploded. But even if you are not interested in *Game of Thrones*, Dubrovnik is guaranteed to fascinate you.

We started our journey in Vienna, Austria, where we rented a car and drove south through Austria and Slovenia. As we entered Croatia, we immediately knew that we were in a different country. Highways, mostly built after the 1990s Balkan Wars, are wider, newer, and less travelled than in central Europe, as local drivers try to avoid the steep tolls. We also learned quickly that police are practically absent and speed limits are nothing more than a suggestion. It didn't take long to become adjusted to this new style of driving.

Our first destination on the northern peninsula of Istria was Opatija.

Before World War I, Opatija was an Austrian seaside resort. It was patronized by the nobility of the Viennese court as well as thought leaders such as Sigmund Freud. The old town looked somewhat like an Austrian city on the Adriatic.

Driving an hour farther southwest to visit Pula, the scenery changed drastically. Pula was a metropolis during ancient Roman times, and we were reminded of its grand history when we visited the large, well-preserved colosseum and the Temple of Jupiter located in the old city center.

Croatia boasts an impressive 1,100 miles of coastline with over 1,200 islands. It can take days to drive along the rugged coast



Maria and Gunther overlook Dubrovnik



Old Town Harbor



Plitvice Park

consisting of narrow and winding roads. Continuing to drive south, we opted for the new, inland highway with the permeable speed limits and in a few hours, we were at the border of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Even though we had no intention to visit this country, the southern part of Croatia, where Dubrovnik is located, is cut off by a narrow stretch of Bosnia-Herzegovina. This geographical disruption didn't exist when the landscape was united under Yugoslavia; however, when Yugoslavia fell in the 1990s, this 12-mile interruption of Croatia became a critical bottleneck for land-based travelers who visit the southern part of Croatia. We were lucky and it only took an hour to cross the two border stations on both sides of the 12-mile stretch. We were told during peak holiday times, the backup can be miles long and take many hours to complete. Fortunately, by the time this article is printed, the Pelješac Bridge, a new, 7,887 foot long span built across the Adriatic Sea will circumvent the border crossings. Traffic will now flow easily between these two parts of Croatia.

Dubrovnik's history starts in the 7th Century, when the city of Epidaurum was destroyed, and its surviving citizens fled a few miles north to establish a new city on a rocky outcropping that provided safety and easy access to the sea. From then on, the city flourished as one of the most important trading hubs in the Adriatic. Sea routes connected traders to all parts of the Mediterranean while land routes led them deep into the Balkans and the steps of Eurasia. Financial success brought about the construction of grand buildings such as palaces, churches, monasteries, and many stately multi-story burgher homes. For protection, the city was surrounded by a ring-wall, up to 80 feet tall and in some places sitting on steep rock outcroppings above the sea. An imposing fortification on the opposite side of a narrow inlet complements this fortification, which deterred many would-be conquerors.

We hired a private tour guide, Marijana, to explore the city. She was well educated, and she spoke perfect English. When it came to talking about the 1990s and the Balkan Wars, her eyes teared as she told us about the siege of Dubrovnik. She was seven years old when Dubrovnik was shelled, and when many of the UNESCO protected buildings were seriously damaged. Witnessing death and destruction became the way of life for the citizens of Dubrovnik for more than seven months.

HAVE YOU BEEN TO CROATIA?

From Dubrovnik we traveled north again and stayed in the harbor town of Split for two days. The highlight of Split was the palace of the Roman emperor Diocletian. In the centuries following the Romans, the old city was successively built in and around the palace grounds. There are still many buildings and artwork left from the original palace to impress aspiring time travelers like us. Today, the narrow alleys of the old city core house many restaurants and bars. Split also attracts a young crowd of European travelers as well as seasoned cruise ship passengers from all over the world.

From Split we drove inland to our final Croatia destination, Plitvice National Park.

We have been to many national parks around the world, but Plitvice is unique. Over a dozen lakes are nestled along a valley glittering with an almost unreal looking clear and turquoise-silvery color. There is no single stream connecting the lakes. Instead, each lake spills over into the next one below via hundreds of waterfalls. We hiked for hours from one lake to the next along well-maintained paths. Most of the time it was like walking along a never-ending curtain of water.

In Plitvice we ended our trip through Croatia and drove back to Austria. After we dropped off the car at the Vienna airport, we knew we would return to this fascinating and multi-faceted country on the Adriatic Sea.



Split Cathedral



Inside the palace



RESOURCES FOR TRAVELERS

Croatia depends on tourism as its major source of income. Most tourists are from Europe with the majority coming from the UK, Germany and Austria. English is spoken in most hotels and Americans are very welcome.

Hotels are very affordable when compared to other major European tourist destinations. During our trip, we tried to stay at the best rated hotels, and all delivered excellent service. In Opatija, we stayed at the Amadria Park Hotel Milenji, in Dubrovnik we stayed at the Grand Villa Argentina, and in Split we stayed at the Cornaro Hotel. The closest hotel to the Plitvice National Park is located directly at the entrance. This is where the road ends and a walkway leads directly from the hotel into the park. The Jezero Plitvice is a solid three-star hotel, but the décor gives away it is a remnant from the communist Yugoslavia.

The food in Croatia is delicious, freshly prepared, but somewhat heartier than in the other Mediterranean countries especially when compared to the Italian cuisine. Meals reminded us of food typically found in countries north of the Alps but with a heavier emphasis on fish, which is not surprising considering the country covers 1,100 miles of coastline.



ON DANGEROUS GROUND

EDITOR'S NOTE: SINCE THE RUSSIAN INVASION OF UKRAINE, THERE HAS BEEN MUCH NEWS ABOUT CHERNOBYL AND OTHER NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS. CIRCUMNAVIGATOR MARK PROSS EXPERIENCED A CLOSE ENCOUNTER BEFORE THE WAR.

BY MARK A. PROSS
WASHINGTON DC CHAPTER

At 1:24 am on April 26, 1986, the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant's Reactor No. 4 in north-central Ukraine exploded after its staff disabled safety systems and performed an ill-advised experiment to check—ironically—the reactor's safety. It turned out to be the world's worst nuclear accident.

I remember that day all too well as I was serving in the European Office of the U.S. General Accounting Office in Frankfurt, West Germany. News accounts said there had been an "accident" at a nuclear power plant in Chernobyl. Details were sketchy for several days because the Soviet Union denied that there was an explosion of one of its nuclear reactors and then said that only four persons had been killed. Over the next several days, the radioactive cloud drifted over central Europe, including my home. Residents were warned: do not walk on the grass, avoid drinking milk and eating lettuce, and do not allow your children to play in the sandbox. The danger lasted about three weeks.

You may have watched the HBO miniseries "Chernobyl" in the spring of 2019. It was hard to watch, especially the effects of acute radiation poisoning when the skin turns black and peels off but, from what I subsequently witnessed, I found that it was historically accurate and very realistic.

Some 33 years after the nuclear accident, in June 2019, I visited the former Soviet

Republics of Belarus and Ukraine and the radiation-and mosquito-infested nuclear disaster site at Chernobyl. I researched the amount of radiation exposure one might receive during a 12-hour visit to Chernobyl. The amount of radiation exposure was about the same amount as a person would absorb flying from Kyiv, Ukraine, to New York.

My full-day tour of Chernobyl began on June 13, 2019, on Maidan Nezalezhnosti (Independence Square), in Kyiv, Ukraine, where I met my tour staff. (To visit Chernobyl, I had to submit a tour application and go with an organized tour and licensed guide; individual visits to Chernobyl are strictly forbidden.) Tour staff carefully checked



everybody's passport and compliance with the dress code: long sleeves, long pants, and closed-toed, sturdy shoes. I signed an acknowledgment statement that I was taking the tour at my own risk, understood fully the rules for traveling in the Exclusion Zone, legal and medical releases exempting the tour company and Government of Ukraine of any and all claims now and in the future, and agreed to the compulsory insurance. The tour guide went over a long list of rules: no eating, drinking, or smoking in the open air; no touching any buildings, trees, and plants; no gathering and eating mushrooms, berries, fruit, and nuts in the forests and gardens of the abandoned settlements; and no sitting on the ground. Do not put on the ground any photography and video equipment, bags, backpacks, or other personal belongings. Do not remove any objects from the Exclusion Zone around Chernobyl because everything was contaminated by radiation.

The two-hour bus ride from Kyiv to the border of the Exclusion Zone went by quickly as we watched a safety video about exposure to radiation and an informative British documentary about the Chernobyl accident. We drove some 130 kilometers (about 80 miles) north from Kyiv to the Ukrainian Army's Dytyatky Checkpoint on the border of the 30-kilometer (about 18-mile) Exclusion Zone around Chernobyl—a 4,000 square kilometer



Mark Pross in front of Chernobyl welcome sign

regulations. We got off the bus, lined up at a table under a tent, and were issued a yellow dosimeter—a device used to measure an absorbed dose of ionizing radiation. We were told to always wear it around our necks. It recorded the dose of radiation received. The dosimeters clicked like a Geiger counter when radiation levels reached dangerous levels.

We boarded our bus again and drove some 30 kilometers into the Exclusion Zone. Along the way, we passed by the village of Zalissya with its abandoned houses and barns, but one resident remained: Rozaliya Ivanivna. After the 1986 accident, some residents refused to leave, usually babushkas (grandmothers), because they were too old and had nowhere else to go.

Our next stop was some 270 meters (less than 2/10 of a mile) from Chernobyl's Reactor No 4, where the accident had occurred, and we viewed the new, arched-shaped steel and concrete sarcophagus built to reduce the spread of radioactive contamination, protect the wreckage from weathering, and provide radiological protection for the crews of the undamaged reactors at the site. Clean-up is scheduled for completion by 2065.

Later, we drove within about 50 meters of the sarcophagus itself where we walked around. My dosimeter started clicking faster and faster. I did not linger, just took enough time for some quick pictures.

We visited one of two "hot spots" still in Chernobyl: the Red Forest, which was the first—and worst—spot to be contaminated by the radiation cloud. The radiation contamination had turned once green trees a rust-colored red. I checked my dosimeter and the radiation reading was off the chart.



View of the sarcophagus covering Reactor No. 4

zone around the disabled nuclear power plant. Old Soviet-era tanks and armored personnel carriers guarded the entrance.

Here we received an introductory briefing on the Exclusion Zone administrative division and

Who knows if the dosimeters were calibrated, but it nonetheless gave us some sense of security. What if the dosimeters started clicking quickly? The guide only said, "leave the area immediately."

ON DANGEROUS GROUND



Mark Pross reading his dosimeter at a "hot spot" at the Red Forest



Abandoned shopping cart in Pripjat's supermarket



Polissya Hotel in Pripjat

Pripjat was a model Soviet city built in 1970 to accommodate some 50,000 Chernobyl workers and their families, but today it is a ghost town. Ukrainian officials have suggested that Pripjat will not be inhabitable for another 20,000 years—if ever. I walked down Lenin Street and saw block after block of abandoned eight-story apartment buildings, many of which were overgrown and hidden by trees and vines as nature reclaims the city. Pripjat was eerily quiet. I continued past the Palace of Culture (the main recreational site built for Pripjat's youth), the Polissya Hotel, and the supermarket with empty shelves. Overhead signs were in disarray, and

shopping carts remained abandoned in the aisles where shoppers had left them as they fled Chernobyl. This was the Soviet Union's first true "supermarket."

Then I saw the abandoned amusement park with faded-color bumper cars and the Ferris wheel that was built but never operated for rides; the nuclear accident occurred just five days before it was to open on May 1, 1986—May Day. The bottom of one of the yellow gondolas was the other radiation "hot spot" in Pripjat. My dosimeter went to its maximum reading—122 sieverts—and emitted a shrill, high-pitched warning. (Three sieverts is a normal reading.)



Never used Ferris wheel



Abandoned bumper cars in amusement park



Pripyat Café

A nearby school still has desks in a row, with students' notebooks laying on top after children had hurriedly left them 33 years ago. It was heartbreaking to think of the hundreds of middle-school children who died of thyroid cancer in the two years after the nuclear accident.

I continued through the woods to the Pripyat Café with its floor-to-ceiling windows. Broken glass littered the floor. Colorful stained-glass pictures covered some of the windows. Around back were a couple of drinking water-dispensing machines and the communal glass still waiting for a thirsty customer. Only 1 kopeck in 1986 (worth less than 1¢) for a drink.

The swimming pool complex with its diving platform and gymnasium is completely overgrown and can no longer even be seen



Drinking water dispensing machines

from the road. The structure now is unsafe to go inside. After lunch, we began the trip back to Kyiv.

We got off the bus again at the Dytyatky Checkpoint at the edge of the Exclusion Zone where we one-by-one went through the full-body compulsory radiation control. It was unclear if the radiation scanners were

calibrated and accurate—or even worked at all. It felt like we were just going through the motions to comply with Ukrainian Government safety protocols. Here we returned our dosimeters. A two-hour bus ride and we were back in Kyiv apparently no worse for the wear. Upon their return from Chernobyl, many visitors take a long shower and throw away their clothes and shoes.

A visit to Chernobyl is not your typical summer vacation. Some call it “disaster tourism.” It was a long day, record heat and humidity, and plagued by incessant mosquitos. There is some risk of getting radiation sickness. Much of the tour was depressing, emotionally draining, and heartbreaking thinking about all the children who escaped the nuclear accident but later died of thyroid cancer in subsequent years and of the many first responders and citizens killed in the accident and during its

aftermath. But I'm glad that I went, since the trip gave me closure on what happened in Chernobyl on that day 33 years ago when its radiation cloud passed over my home. I don't think that I'll ever go back to Chernobyl—once was enough.

EPILOGUE

Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 included an attack from Belarus on the nuclear site at Chernobyl followed by a month-long occupation. It threatened to unleash



Old Soviet full-body radiation scan leaving the Exclusion Zone

radiation contamination across the region. Russian soldiers reportedly dug trenches in the Exclusion Zone, and now face permanent lung damage from inhaling radioactive dust. Russian troops also reportedly killed nine Ukrainian technicians and kidnapped five others, stole and destroyed hundreds of computers, vehicles, and radiation dosimeters as well as almost every piece of firefighting equipment. They apparently systematically stole or destroyed more than \$135 million worth of unique, custom-made software to operate Chernobyl's laboratory equipment used to manage and monitor radiation levels. Ukrainian laboratory officials said that the Russians knew they could not use the software, and the most likely explanation was that the larceny and destruction was punitive. Sadly, the nuclear catastrophe has now become a post-apocalyptic tragedy.

AN AMAZING ADVENTURE



Circumnavigators and adventurers Norm and Susan Dailey (Washington DC Chapter) are truly amazing. So, it shouldn't be a surprise that they recently took part in an Amazing Race.

The Daileys' many adventures have been chronicled in issues of The LOG and on Circumbits, but their latest exploit might top them all. Long-time fans of the television reality show, *The Amazing Race*, they relished participating but did not feel they had the credentials to be selected. Then they came across a competition touted as *Amazing Race for Normal People*. Although far from "normal", they decided to participate in the 2019 race. Although they finished near the bottom in that race, they had so much fun they decided to try again this year.

With the moniker Wine Duo, they were one of nine teams to compete. They only knew that the trip would begin in Zurich, Switzerland on June 24 and end somewhere in Europe on July 4. The teams were challenged to guess where they would end each day, with points being awarded for the closest prediction. The Daileys finished as the best guessers overall.

The first race day featured a toboggan run and rope course in Churwalden, Switzerland. They did fairly well on this challenge but then went to Horgan where, according to Norm, "we completely embarrassed ourselves trying to fly drones in a gymnasium." Day 3 originated in Lauterbrunnen, Switzerland, close to where

they boarded a gondola to Murren the starting point for a "Via Ferrata". Participants connect themselves with clips and scale across a mountain 2,000 feet above the valley floor by clipping and reclipping to an iron cable. Once started, there is no turning back. Norm says, "It took us four hours to go 2.3 kilometers but it felt like twelve hours and kilometers. We found out we were too old for this stuff and hurt for a week." They were very satisfied and proud of their accomplishment, but at least Susan vowed "never again."

As they got to the fourth day, it was sheep herding! They were the sheep dogs and had to move six sheep from pen to pen. Norm says they did okay but not as well as others. Then it was on to Gruyères the home of the somewhat disturbing Giger Museum. The museum houses the bizarre works of artist H.R. Giger and has been called "the creepiest spot in Switzerland."

The next day they went to Cailler Chocolate Factory in Broc, Switzerland where the



Sheep herding



Toboggan run

AN AMAZING ADVENTURE

challenge was to recreate a chocolate flower. According to Norm, they crushed the competition, thanks mostly to the skill of Susan. After this successful venture, they flew off to Porto, Portugal, via EasyJet, so you know this was no luxury trip.

On Day 6 in Porto, the challenge was sailboat racing on the Douro River, an activity in which they had no experience. Each team had a captain and fortunately, their captain was very competitive and slightly broke the rules by assisting the rookies, resulting in unexpected points. However, Norm says they bounced on the deck during the tacking which added to the soreness and pain from the mountain. Also, a mild sunburn added to the discomfort.



Day 7 was a good one for Wine Duo. At the Quinta Nova Winery 140 kilometers up river from Porto, they were challenged to blend three wines, create a label and do a marketing presentation. They won for blending and label. Then on to Biarritz, France.



Wine, cake and sailing challenges



Day 8 featured two beach challenges. The first was surfing which Norm says was laughable. The second was building a sandcastle. Once again, Susan's cake decorating skill kicked in and they nailed this challenge. At this point, they were standing in third place.

Day 9 was not their day. First, they had to find clues in a corn maze. Unfortunately, they couldn't find the final clue. No luck, no points. Next stop was San Sebastian, Spain and a game of Clue with clues scattered throughout the city to be found with QR codes. As Norm recounts, "we work well together at being married, but not in playing strategic games". Several hours into the game they decided to give up and just enjoy the weather and wine. They went from third place to fourth.

Day 10 required the teams to make four pintxos (small snacks), with handicaps such as blindfolds and hands tied. Their creations didn't cut the mustard and they dropped another spot to fifth place. Nonetheless, Norm says, "we had a great time." Congratulations to the Daileys for making the Circumnavigators proud.

Of course, Norm and Susan didn't come straight home. They finished their journey with visits to North Macedonia, Kosovo, Albania, Bulgaria and Kuwait City.



Sand castle winner



**WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE
AN AMAZING RACE FOR
NORMAL PEOPLE?**

**GO TO
WWW.COMPETITOURS.COM
FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

**NORM ALSO SHARES A
FEW PHOTOS EACH DAY
WHEN TRAVELING FOR HIS
MOTHER (PLUS FRIENDS
AND CIRCUMNAVIGATORS)
VIA A FACEBOOK GROUP,
WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE
NORM AND SUSAN, ALL
CIRCUMNAVIGATORS ARE
WELCOME TO JOIN.**

MALTA MUSINGS

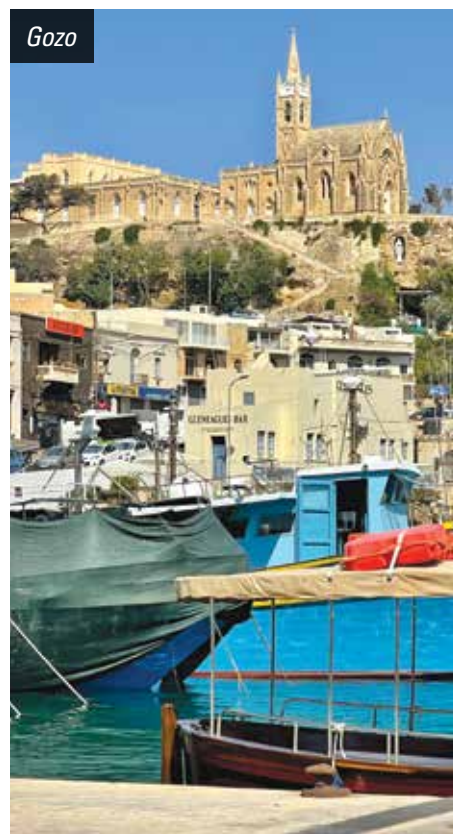
BY MARY KRAMER
MICHIGAN CHAPTER

Malta, a small Mediterranean island group south of Sicily, has been shaped by centuries of rule by powers ranging from the Phoenicians to the Romans, Greeks, Arabs, Normans, French and British, to name a few. And it was the destination-of-choice for a number of Circumnavigators who traveled there this year, some traveling in part because the Travelers Century Club was holding a conference there in May. We caught up with several who shared their experiences and recommendations.

Donna Suddeth (Naples Chapter) was drawn by the mix of ancient buildings, history, the intrigue of the Knights of St. John and the intrigue in the novel, "The Information Officer," by Mark Mills, that's set in Malta. She spent six nights in Malta in May.

Roger Baker, (Naples Chapter) was also drawn by history, especially the Knights of St. John, who built much of the main island, including the Medieval and "newer" 18th century buildings that remain today. A highlight of Roger's July trip was an open-air concert by tenors Joseph Calleja and Plácido Domingo in the courtyard of the fortress of Fort Manoel, built in the 18th century.

Sally Cole (Palm Beach Chapter) was interested in the history, but "what sealed the deal was when I watched Andrea Bocelli sing on the ramparts of Fort St. Angelo, with Valletta in the background."



Saint John's Cathedral



COLLECTIVELY, THEY RECOMMEND THESE “DON'T MISS” SPOTS:

- Ta'Pinu, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Blessed Chapel, built in the 1920s on the site of a local woman's account of sighting of the Virgin Mary. The woman, Carmela Grima, claimed to have heard Mary speak to her, and numerous miracles have been attributed to the Blessed Mother's intercession. "Haunting moment," says Roger. Adds Sally Cole: "In the middle of the countryside of Gozo, we hiked the Stations of the Cross overlooking (the basilica) of Ta'Pinu. "Beautiful hike and spectacular cathedral with mosaics."
- St. John's Cathedral in Valletta.
- The hilltop medieval fortress city of Mdina has a history dating back 4,000 years. The Relais et Chateaux Xara Palace Hotel, is a converted 17th century palace, with a Michelin star rooftop restaurant, De Mondion.
- "The streets in Vittoriosa were beyond charming," says Donna.
- "Blue Grotto is eye-candy for those who like natural beauty" — Sally who also recommends:
 - The Dwejra Inland Sea on Gozo — "authentic fishing shacks inside the lagoon, interesting rock formations outside on the sea."
 - The hilltop towns of Mdina and Rabat. "Gates of Mdina are historical, narrow paths to wander and beautiful St. Paul's Cathedral is there, as are the catacombs of St. Paul."
 - "Drove out to the tiny, quaint beach and restaurant where *By the Sea* was filmed. Awesome place!"
 - "Marsaxlokk is a small, traditional fishing village where we stayed on the main island. We drove out to St. Peter's Pool for a swim but seas were too big. Great hike and small cafe there."

MALTA MUSINGS

TIPS:

- Don't go in July/August. It was hot, too hot for walking, in a country with limited air conditioning. (Roger)
- "Don't bother going to Popeye Village where a movie was filmed with Robin Williams. Tacky and touristy but on a clear-water lagoon." (Sally)



Saint Julian's

Mdina Cathedral

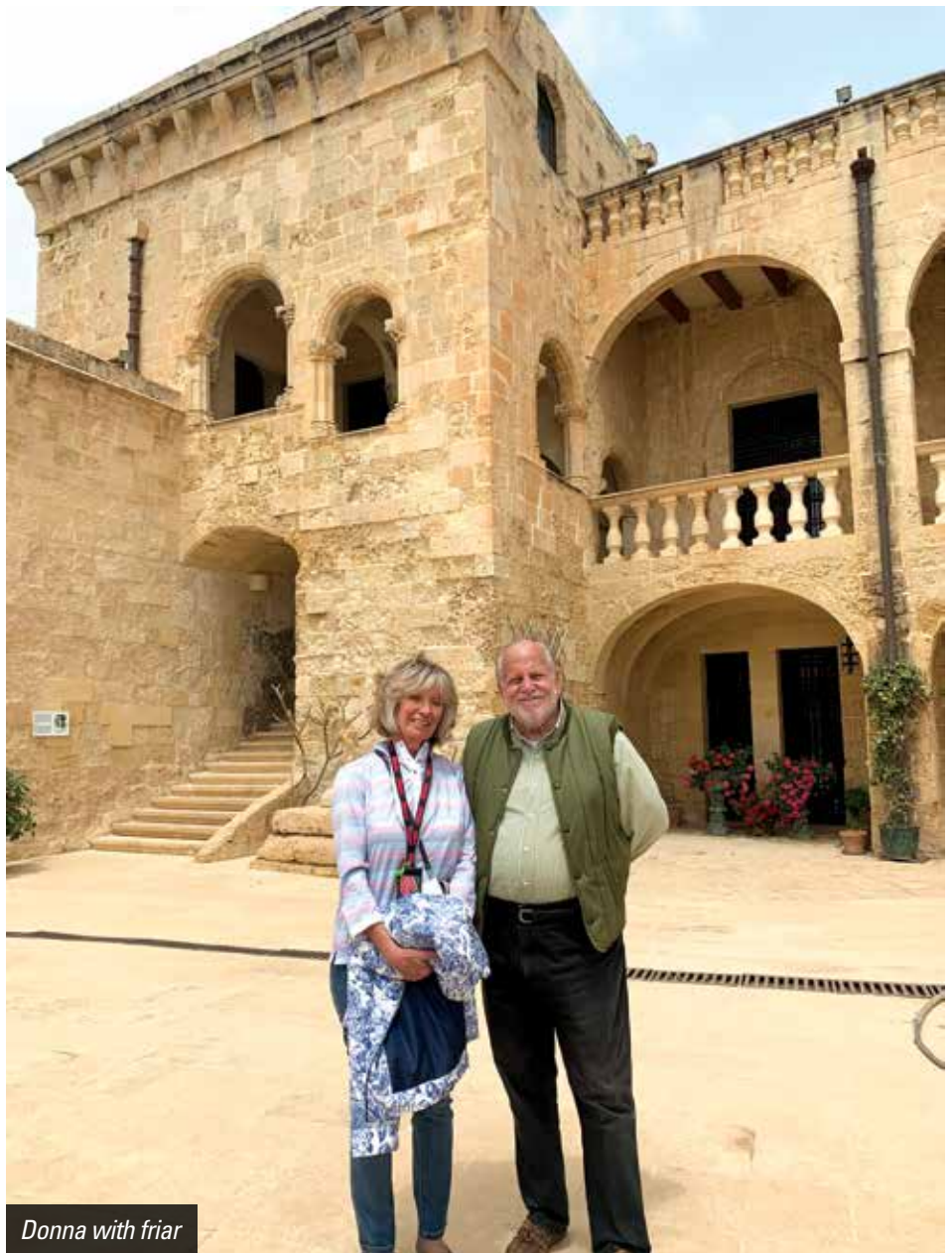


RESTAURANTS:

- U bistrot and Peppinos, on Balluta Bay. (Donna)
- Caviar and Bull, overlooking St. Julian's Bay (Roger)
- Root 81 was a fantastic restaurant in Rabat (Sally)
- Zizka, ION, Noni in Valletta - all Michelin-starred (Sally)

COVID ISSUES:

- **Bill and Pamela Girtman** should get an award for traveling the farthest to be confined to a hotel room with Covid. Pam tested positive the day they arrived in Malta, so they got to know the view from their room at the Malta Marriott Hotel & Spa in St. Julien's Bay very well. The worst part was missing the 12 days they had planned in Israel after Malta.
- Donna's May trip required using Verify forms to upload vaccination records to fly to Paris. On the return, she flew to Paris on Air Malta for an overnight before her flight to the States but had trouble reaching the pharmacy in Paris where she had scheduled a test because of a marathon race that day blocking traffic. "What should have been a very short taxi ride turned into an hour plus ride at a cost of 50 Euros!"



Donna with friar



Marsaxlokk Harbor

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK—ALGERIA



BY SUZANNE FRYE
NEW YORK METRO

EDITOR'S NOTE: ALGERIA IS NOT A FREQUENT DESTINATION FOR TOURISTS. ITS PAST PROBLEMS WITH INSTABILITY AND WARNINGS OF POSSIBLE TERRORISM IN THE SOUTH HAVE DISCOURAGED MANY VISITORS. SUZANNE FRYE, HOWEVER, DECIDED TO TRAVEL THERE AND REPORTED THAT SHE FELT COMPLETELY SAFE IN THIS ENJOYABLE COUNTRY.

When Putin's invasion of Ukraine cancelled my Spring trip to the North Caucasus Russian states of Chechnya, Dagestan, and North and South Ossetia, beginning in Sochi and ending in Moscow, I needed a new destination. I chose a trip to Algeria with the same company, Spiekermann Tours [www.mideasttrvl.com]. Their tour was eleven days in Algeria, but I added two extra days in Algiers with an excellent private guide recommended by the Algiers Sofitel- Said Chitour, a former journalist. Geographic Expeditions also has a tour to Algeria.



Ghardaia Market in Algiers



Algeria is geographically the largest African country, with a population of 44 million people of Arabic and Berber heritage. Most of the population lives in a slice of the north with the rest of Algeria in the Sahara Desert. The religion is almost totally Muslim, predominantly Sunni. The local women generally wear headscarves, but this is not required. Equality between genders is in the constitution. French is the second language after the national ones of Arabic and the Berber language, but many young people speak English. Algeria is a huge petroleum and natural gas exporter.

After conquering and colonizing Algeria in 1830, the French then made it an actual province of France. There was a brutal fight for independence from France from 1954-62, followed by a fierce civil war throughout the 90s between Islamists and the military



Suzanne at Dinet Museum



Martyrs' Memorial

government. The Islamists were driven out. The present government is essentially run by the military, with no freedom of speech or of the press. Due to wars and intermittent government instability, there has been little foreign tourism in Algeria. Tourism is now increasing but still relatively low.

For travel in Algeria, it is important to bring adequate American dollars. It is impossible to get cash from an ATM with a foreign credit or bank card. Large hotels will accept foreign credit cards, but independent restaurants, even large or upscale ones, are cash only. In

some hotels, cash is needed to buy alcohol, even if the hotel accepts credit cards for rooms and food. The roads throughout the areas we toured were in good shape, and the internet worked well. The major cities have a few very nice hotels and restaurants. In the rest of the country, the hotels are simpler, but still quite acceptable.

Our tour started and ended in Algiers, known as the "white city along the bay." Once known as the Paris of Africa, the city features boulevards and grand French colonial white-washed buildings. Its casbah,

on a hill overlooking the Mediterranean, is a UNESCO World Heritage site, although parts of it are crumbling in disrepair. The large Martyrs' Memorial, commemorating the Algerian War for Independence, towers over the city. We stayed at the Sofitel in Algiers which was very comfortable, with a pleasant staff and outdoor garden breakfast area. Another choice is the El Aurassi Hotel, with Mediterranean views and a rooftop bar. In Algiers, there are wonderful seafood restaurants, some with views of the Mediterranean. The most recommendable is Al Boustan, with its large outdoor terrace overlooking the sea. Although Algeria is a Muslim country, wine is made there. Wine/alcohol is generally served at hotels and major restaurants. Hotels in smaller towns might not have alcohol, but it is acceptable to bring your own from another town.

We visited the very scenic Constantine, the third largest city. Built over hills, valleys, a ravine, and a river, it is known as "the city of bridges." There is a five-star Marriott Hotel there with an excellent restaurant. The town of Bou Saada has the charming Museum of Dinet, with the studio and works of the French artist, Nasreddine Dinet, who became enchanted with North Africa and moved there around 1900.

The two most impressive Roman ruins we visited were in Djemila and Timgad. Djemila, founded in the first century AD, also has a stunning museum with walls of large mosaics.

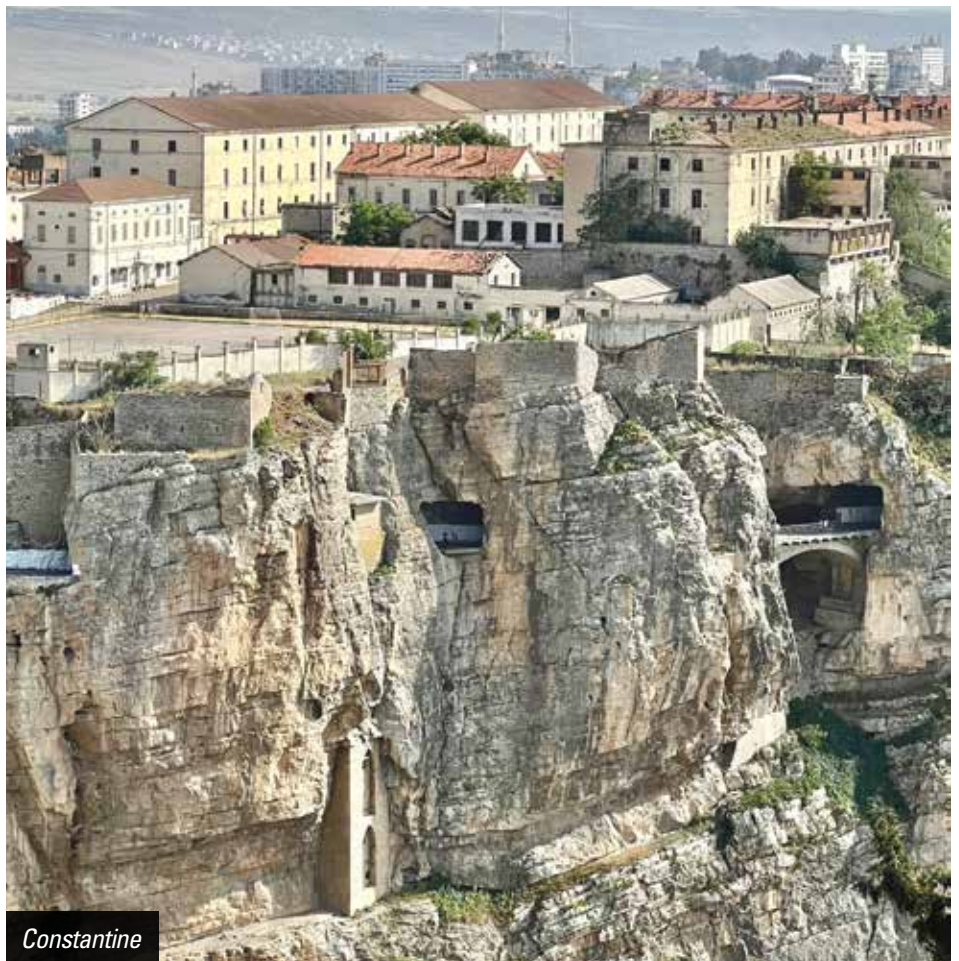


Timgad Roman Ruins

Extensive Timgad was built as a military settlement for 17,000 and with its colonnaded streets and huge Trajan Arch, is considered one of the best preserved Roman ruins in Africa. Unlike ruins in Greece, Italy, or Turkey, our group of 14 travelers pretty much had these places to ourselves, as there still are so few tourists in Algeria.

Farther inland, in the M'zab Valley, we visited Ghardaia, with angular hillside architecture which inspired Corbusier and the Cubists, and small towns nearby where there is a small Ibadi Muslim sect who live a very conservative life. The women dress head to toe wrapped in immaculate white wool cloth, exposing only one eye. It's an eerie sight to see groups of these women in white walking in the streets. Photography is forbidden, but some photos were possible through the bus windows.

After a flight back to Algiers, we visited the very scenic Tipasa, a Phoenician/Byzantine/Roman ruin on hills about an hour west of Algiers, with nearby seafood restaurants



Constantine



along the coast. There is also an interesting museum with mosaics and sculptures.

Most memorable from this trip for me are the city of Algiers with its Mediterranean coastline and restaurants, the Roman ruin of Timgad, and seeing near Ghardaia the women wrapped in white exposing only one eye. An additional place to visit in Algeria, not included in my trip, is Oran, the second largest city, along the Mediterranean west of Algiers.



Woman of Algeria





WELCOME *aboard*s

THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE WERE ELECTED TO OUR "GREAT CIRCLE" BY OUR BOARD OF GOVERNORS

JOY ARMBRUSTER



Joy is a resident of Naples, Florida where she is involved in several local non-profits. She began her

career as an international airline hostess with TWA based in Europe before moving to Manila, Philippines where she lived as an expat. Joy has completed three circumnavigations and joins the Naples Chapter.

DAVID BRICKLEY



A Bronze Star recipient, and resident of Woodbridge, Virginia, David served as a Virginia state legislator for

22 years and held many leadership positions including Director of the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation. He founded the September 11th National Memorial Trail Alliance and joins the Washington D.C. Chapter.

WILLIAM CAVELL



After obtaining a law degree, William began his career as an FBI Special Agent before transitioning to providing legal

services in the financial sector. He completed his first circumnavigation on his 90-day around the world honeymoon, and enjoys biking, tennis, golf, and fly fishing. William joins the Naples Chapter.

WIN EVERETT



A resident of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, Win is a U.S. Navy Captain (ret.) and a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. He is

a former test pilot flying A-7s and F/A-18s off carriers and in developmental status. Win completed his circumnavigation on board the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Stennis and has visited all seven continents.

CAROL GIRARDIN



A graduate of the University of Tennessee, Carol has made her home in Naples where she is treasurer of

the Naples Yacht Club. A former CPA, her interests, besides travel, include running, mahjonn, and family. She has visited 150 countries and averages 4 international trips per year. Carol joins the Naples Chapter.

PETER GIRARDIN



After a 44-year career in public accounting, including managing his firm's office in Naples, Florida, Peter retired

in Naples. He is a member of the Naples Yacht Club. Peter has visited 150 countries, and all seven continents. His interests include gardening, exercise and reading. Peter joins the Naples Chapter.

GEORGE GOOD



George is a former Mobil Oil executive who held expat assignments through Asia (Hong Kong, Malaysia,

Singapore) and the Middle East (Egypt, United Arab Emirates). During his 30-year tenure at Mobil Oil, he completed two circumnavigations and visited 40 countries. He lives in Jacksonville, Florida.

KATHLEEN GUNDERMAN



Kathleen is CEO of her leading national brand-building and reputation management consultancy. She was an early adopter of

social media creating digital strategies for worldwide brands including Twitter. Kathleen is also an award-winning television anchor, reporter and talk show host. She lives in Charlotte and Bonita Springs. She joins the Naples Chapter.

TIMOTHY GUNDERMAN



Timothy was a U.S. Marine tank commander before turning his sights on developing shopping malls and housing

developments. He has also been involved in several projects for the Micah House home for boys in Honduras building a sewage treatment plant for the village and establishing a culinary school. Timothy joins the Naples Chapter.



WELCOME *aboard*s

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JOHN HAIRR



An award-winning writer and historian, John is the author of two dozen historical books centered on the southern

U.S. John's work chronicles natural disasters, the history of exploration and forgotten wildlife. He completed his circumnavigation while on a research trip investigating the spread of indigenous marine technology to the Antarctic.

OLAF HORSTICK



Professor Horstick's career has focused on public health medicine, as a medical doctor, specializing in neglected tropical

diseases. Olaf is a staff member for the World Health Organization and teaches at Heidelberg University. He is fluent in four languages and divides his time between Spain, Germany, and the UK. Olaf joins the UK Chapter.

WILLIAM JOHNSON



Colonel (ret) Johnson spent his 32-year U.S. Army career as a board-certified dentist retiring as the Commander of

the Pentagon Tri-Service Dental Clinic. While stationed in Germany, he was able to travel frequently throughout Europe as part of a NATO Dental Working Group. William now lives in Delray Beach.

BRYAN KOONTZ



A recent Rutgers University graduate, Bryan majored in history and is a member of the Phi Alpha Theta honor

society. Over the summer of 2022, Bryan completed his circumnavigation. In September, Bryan will enter the U.S. Army. He is the 7th member of the Mink-Koontz family to become a club member.

BILL KORSTAD



Bill is a resident of Naples, Florida and spent much of his career in systems development, corporate planning, and launching

and selling three successful IT ventures. He completed his circumnavigation in 2012. Bill founded and currently hosts the Naples Council on World Affairs book club and joins the Naples Chapter.

JUDITH KORSTAD



Judy is an entrepreneur leading a multi-level marketing organization and later running a software consulting firm. After retiring,

she was involved in many humanitarian causes including serving as a USAID volunteer in Romania and sponsoring a family fleeing war-torn Iraq. As a young woman, she was a Miss America runner-up. Judy joins the Naples Chapter.

MARY KRAMER



Mary worked for six daily newspapers and served as editor and group publisher for Crain Communications' business publications

in four states. Mary is a member of the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame, multiple corporate and non-profit boards, and is the first female president of the Detroit Athletic Club. Mary joins the Michigan Chapter.

JOHN MANGEL



A resident of Naples, Florida, John grew up in Chicago and is a graduate of Harvard Business School. He was the third-

generation owner of the Mangel Florist family business incorporated in 1887 with stores in all major Chicago hotels including the Palmer House and Drake. John joins the Naples Chapter.

JANELL McCULLOUGH



Splitting her time between Los Angeles and Maui, Janell worked as a surgical nurse before earning her Ph.D. in clinical

psychology. For 20 years, she ran a successful clinic in Orange County, CA. She enjoys snow skiing, hiking, and will be visiting Bali in September for a yoga retreat. Janell joins the Pacific Southwest Chapter.



WELCOME *aboard*

THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE WERE ELECTED TO OUR "GREAT CIRCLE" BY OUR BOARD OF GOVERNORS

JOÃO PAULO PEIXOTO



President of the Atlantic Business School in Portugal, he was the first Portuguese to visit all 193 U.N.

member states and has completed five circumnavigations. In 2020, João visited all seven continents in seven consecutive days. João is a member of the Travelers Century Club and is ranked 13 on the MostTraveledPeople.com website.

DOROTHY RZESZUTKO



Dottie divides her time between Chicago and Naples and has volunteered and held board positions with several public service

organizations including the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, the Illinois Eye Bank and Infant Welfare. Dottie joins the Naples Chapter.

ROLF SCHEIDEL



A prominent labor relations lawyer (retired) living in Toledo, Ohio, Rolf has volunteered extensively with

Habitat for Humanity working on projects in the U.S. and abroad. In 2021, Rolf achieved his goal of visiting all 193 U.N. member states with his trip to Libya. Rolf is a member of the Travelers Century Club.

ALAN SOPER



Born and raised in Wimbledon, South London, Alan graduated from the University of Exeter with a degree in Mathematics. Following

career paths in both the public and private sectors, he has experienced the Trans-Siberian railway and two circumnavigations. His second circumnavigation involved crossing the Atlantic to Brazil by container ship. He joins the UK Chapter.

JUDY SWANSON



A former resident of Manhattan, Judy's architectural career allowed her to lead projects in Japan, Singapore and South

Korea, as well as in the U.S. She worked for such prestigious firms as I.M. Pei, and Skidmore Owings & Merrill. Judy celebrated her honeymoon with a 90-day circumnavigation. Judy joins the Naples Chapter.

WILLIAM VOLZ



Professor Volz holds master's degrees from the University of Michigan and Harvard, and a law degree from Wayne

State University where he currently teaches. An award-winning author, William's writings have been quoted by the U.S. Supreme Court. Bill splits the year between his homes in Cape Coral, Florida, and Bloomfield, Michigan.

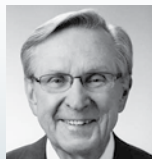
SUZANNA JENNINGS WOLFF



Suzanna received an around the world trip on Pan Am from her sister, a Pan Am stewardess at the time, for a high

school graduation gift. A long-time resident of Jacksonville, Florida, Suzanna has been involved in several community organizations, and she is currently a State of Florida Registrar.

JOHN YASINSKY



With a Ph.D. in Nuclear Science from Carnegie Tech, John began his career at Westinghouse and later became Chairman

and CEO of Gencorp. Soon after joining Westinghouse, John participated in the development of advanced nuclear designs and analysis techniques for the U.S. Navy and was appointed a White House Fellow. John joins the Naples Chapter.





FOUNDATION PRESIDENT'S *LETTER*

Dear fellow Circumnavigators:

This past summer marked the resumption of travel by our Foundation grantees. Three young women – two from Northwestern, including the 2021 grantee whose travel was deferred a year, and one from Georgetown – set their courses in the spring for their around-the-world travel-study adventures after maneuvering through the thicket of widely differing country pandemic restrictions and the changed availability of research resources in the field. As you read this, they have all returned safely but they did face a variety of pitfalls and challenges which will make for good storytelling when they report back to the Chapters and their universities: two were barred entry en-route by the same country (Japan) because of evolving visa requirements; one was denied boarding on a South America – Europe flight after a tight connection because of an overly officious gate agent; and one narrowly escaped serious injury – or worse – when a large tree under which she was seated fell to the ground without warning.

Your foundation prides itself on selecting grantees who not only undertake interesting and timely research proposals, but who also are resourceful enough to navigate and surmount the many twists, turns, and obstacles that pop up (as we circumnavigators know so well) in the course of around-the-world travel. But the most important thing we look for in making our grant awards is a passion for learning and broadening horizons. The wonders and joys of travel which our three grantees experienced this summer are well documented in their travel blogs (links to which may be found on the front page of the Club's website), but suffice it to say that their adventures and explorations across the globe left lasting impressions...and in the case of one, a literal lasting impression: she is undoubtedly the first-ever grantee to memorialize her trip with a small tattoo of an airplane encircling the globe!

In these times of rocky financial markets, member donations are more important than ever in making our grants possible, so rather than my thanking you for your support, I thought you'd appreciate what two of this year's grantees have to say:

"I feel so lucky to have had this opportunity and to have been funded by the Circumnavigator Club!" (Emily Hardy)

"...I got emotional reflecting on this trip's impact on my personal and professional life. I am so grateful for this experience...and I can't wait to share my final report!" (Vivica Lewis)

Luck to You!

Greg Rider

SCHOLARS REFLECT ON THEIR ADVENTURES

Our Foundation scholars tell us what they discovered on their amazing circumnavigations.



MACKENZIE GENTZ

2021 GRANTEE, NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH TOPIC:

"Approaches to Teaching English as a Second Language"

TRIP BLOG:

undergradresearch.northwestern.edu/blogs/mackenziegentz



EMILY HARDY

2022 GRANTEE,
GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH TOPIC:

The Role of Non-Superpowers in UN Peacekeeping Initiatives"

TRIP BLOG:

ejfhardy.wixsite.com/website



VIVICA LEWIS

2022 GRANTEE,
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH TOPIC:

"From Birth Control Bans to Contraceptive Care - Comparative Approaches"

TRIP BLOG:

undergradresearch.northwestern.edu/blogs/vivica/



chapter highlights

UNITED KINGDOM

Circumnavigator John Constable hosted a magnificent lunch at the prestigious Savile Club in London. Chapter President Helen Jenkins presented the certificate to new member Alan Soper who had a unique introduction to the Club. Alan heard about the Circumnavigators when Helen appeared on a BBC TV quiz show and mentioned the Club. The rest is history!

Pictured left to right: John Constable, Helen Jenkins, Nick Alexander, new member Alan Soper and Ges Roulstone



MICHIGAN

Michigan Chapter held another segment of its presentations Around the World from A to Z. President Kathy Sinclair reports a fascinating event featuring the letter G with entries from spots such as Giza and the Galapagos. Here Circumnavigator Mo El-Fouly communes with a tortoise in the Galapagos.

PALM BEACH

Palm Beach Chapter held a festive dinner at Ruth's Chris Steak House, West Palm Beach. Shown here are Erick Reickert, his wife Lady Susan Willis, Paul Noble and Chapter President Paulette Cooper Noble



chapter highlights

NEW YORK



New York Metro held a five-course dinner at a Manhattan Italian bistro with 18 participants, where Circumnavigator Marilu Ramirez provided a presentation on her new book "Travels with Marilu, A Spiritual Journey". Besides a brief slide show about the seven continents, the presentation provided wonderful photographs of the world and famous sayings from important people in the past and present, concerning their life experiences.

A wonderful time was had by all.

CHICAGO

The Chicago Chapter gathered at LaVilla Italian restaurant and shared travel stories of Italy. The second generation owner demonstrated how to make tiramisu.



WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Washington DC Chapter met in September for its first in-person meeting since the pandemic lockdown. There were 14 attendees which included several potential members. Emily Hardy, Circumnavigators Club Foundation Scholar, presented her travels and research during her circumnavigation via Canada, Morocco, France, Austria, Singapore, and Thailand.



PACIFIC-SOUTHWEST

The Pacific Southwest Chapter was delighted that Circumnavigator Lynn Payette hosted a fabulous and entertaining luncheon at her elegant home in San Diego. Pictured are Tom Cunningham, Carolyn Parish, Virginia Foster, Arthur Hammons, Kathleen Beebe, George Beebe, Larry Branton (Lynn's husband), Lynn Payette, Cris Fuhrer and Henry Fuhrer.

chapter highlights

NAPLES



The Naples Chapter has held several live events, including this one honoring Chapter officers.



Naples Circumnavigators ladies lunching at the Bayside Grill.



SINGAPORE

President Mr. Ang Hao Yao welcomed members to the Singapore Chapter Mid-Year Dinner this summer. The event was a feast of fellowship, music, great food, and wine. It was the first time for three years the mid-year dinner had been held due to Covid. Members had a wonderful evening.

PACIFIC-NORTHWEST

Chapter President Jim Farrell reported that a meeting was held in Bellevue, Washington to socialize, share travel stories and review the Chapter organization. Caroline Farrell presented a splendid dinner of Roast Beef and Yorkshire Pudding. Guest Bob Amon detailed a recent trip through the Northwest Passage.

Pictured left to right: Jim Farrell, Will Mason, Maria Mason, Charles Stotts, Tess Krasowski, Stefan Krasowski



Goodbye, Queen Elizabeth

BY HELEN JENKINS
PRESIDENT UK CHAPTER



The funeral of our late great, loved, and respected Queen was held in London, September 19. According to newspaper reports, more than half of the world population watched it.

I was honoured to join the crowds with fellow UK Circumnavigator Jane Lewis to see the funeral cortege as it passed by on its way to the final resting place in Windsor.

We had driven into central London the night before and the whole city was paying its respects. Every advertising board was blacked out with just an image of the Queen. Harrods store was in darkness as all the lights had been turned off and black out blinds pulled down on every window.

In the UK and the world, we were lucky to have this amazing woman for 70 years of rule, who took her service and duty to the very end.

I was lucky enough to attend in 2007, with Lynda Constable, wife of Circumnavigator John Constable a reception at St James's Palace in the presence of the Queen. The aura as she passed by was remarkable. Such an honour and privilege.

It is such a sad and unreal time, as the Queen has been around for most of our lives. A life well lived, and certainly leaving it a better place because of her unstinting work and loyal leadership.



Jane and Helen



OVER THE HORIZON

Eric Baker
San Diego, CA
April 9, 2022

Richard Roberts
Ontario, Canada
November 30, 2021

Henri Van Bentum
Victoria, Canada
April, 2, 2022

Rex Ciavola
Boca Raton, FL
June 21, 2021

Robert Spehar
Clinton Twp., MI

Karl Wyss
Naples, FL
January 20, 2022

Helen Jost
Mahwah, NJ
May 27, 2022

Edward Stegemann
Naples, FL
January 13, 2022

Barbara Kropschot
Naples, FL
July 13, 2022



THROUGH MY LENS

TIPS FOR A TRAVELING PHOTOGRAPHER

THE DEVIL IS IN THE DETAILS

BY
CONTRIBUTING
EDITOR

ROGER
WEATHERBURN-BAKER
NAPLES CHAPTER



As we know, this phrase is used sometimes to suggest that someone pay attention to the details because they might miss something or uncover something they could find useful.

As an expression, this is equally true with photography. Most of us have taken hundreds of photos focused on a 'big picture' shot. And there's no doubt we can get some really memorable shots that way. But, just sometimes, focusing on a detail within the shot can yield a surprising image.

Above is an example:

On the top left, is a typical, full-frontal image of St. Paul's Church, Rabat on the island of Malta. On the top right, is the lamppost outside the same church.

What I like about this detail is it shows an unusual type of lamppost, interesting in its own right, but especially because this lamppost evokes much of the island's typically baroque architectural style. More than that, it features the Maltese Cross, emblematic of the Knights of St. John who came to the island in 1530 and left such an indelible mark on many aspects of Maltese life.

To the right:

On the left, is a more typical shot of the interior of Chiesa Matrice in Erice, Sicily. On the right, is a detail of the same church ceiling.

Again, the ceiling is magnificent in its own right, but in detail we can more readily appreciate the intricate craftsmanship of the 14th century stonemasons.

You can crop the larger picture to obtain the second image, or you can take two pictures with the same telephoto lens, one from afar, the other, of course, by zooming in closer.

I was fortunate this summer to have attended a concert featuring two of the world's great tenors, Joseph Calleja and Plácido Domingo.



Below, on the left, the two performers take a bow. On the right I managed to snap this intimate, candid detail of Domingo mentally running through his music backstage moments before going on stage.



Finally, an interesting detail that can be easily overlooked may be right in front of us. Like this display on the counter of an outdoor bar in Siracusa, Sicily, which deftly illustrates summer on the island while at the same time the craftsmanship for which it is famed.



Although, maybe for some, a detailed shot like the one below is more evocative of Sicily and its traditional craftsmanship.





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Ladies Scarf - \$ 25 | Hat (Black or White) - \$20 | Red Tie - \$25 | Club Badge - \$50

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. You no longer have to make reservations through our Executive Director. The Yale Club welcomes you to stop in or call for reservations. 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.