



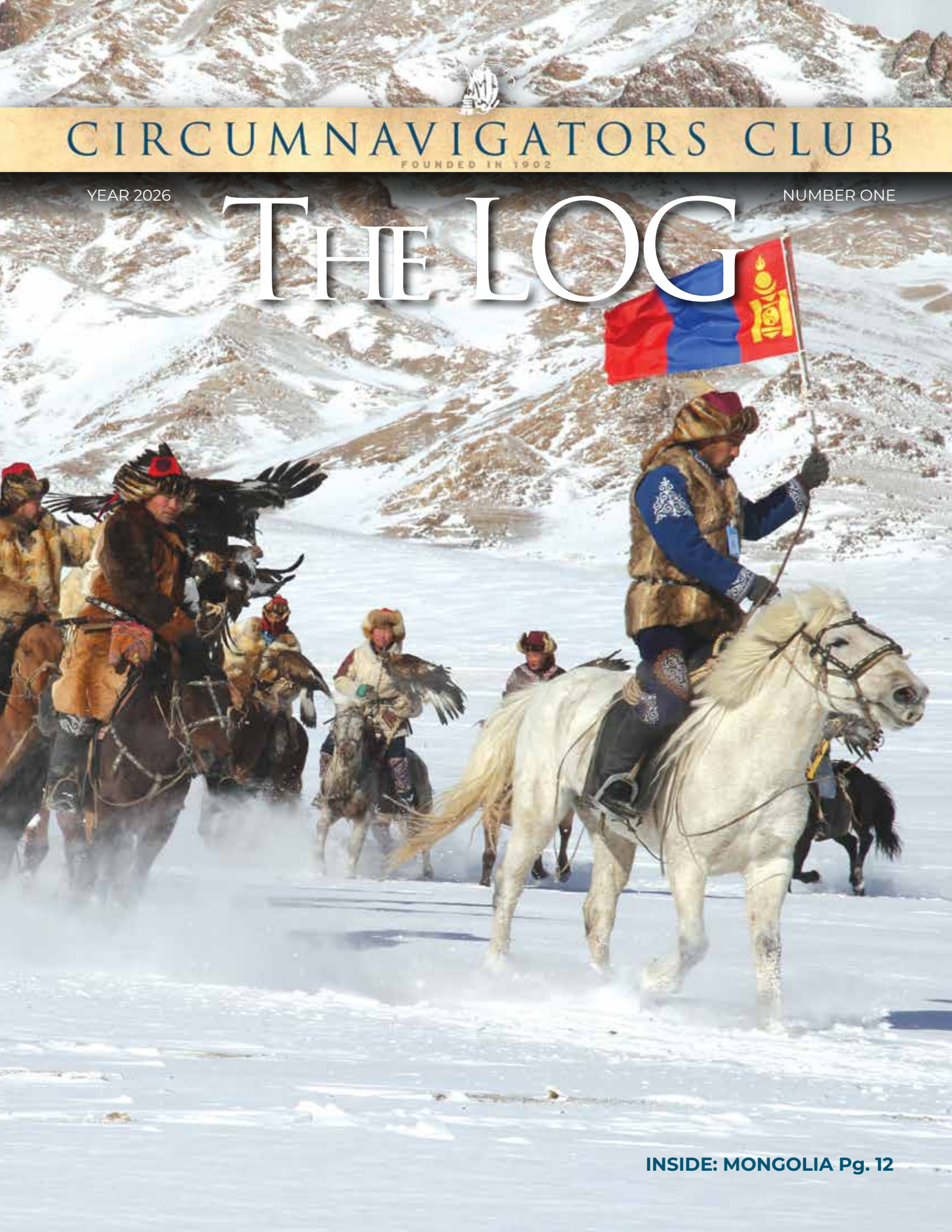
CIRCUMNAVIGATORS CLUB

FOUNDED IN 1902

YEAR 2026

NUMBER ONE

THE LOG



INSIDE: MONGOLIA Pg. 12



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FOUNDED 1902

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The LOG

THIS TIME AROUND

BY TRACY SANCILIO - Executive Director & Editor

The Circumnavigators Club is pleased to announce that Circumnavigator Roger Baker has been named Editorial Director of The LOG, giving him overall responsibility for our venerable publication. Born and educated in Britain and France, Roger began his career as a professional communicator, first working as a reporter with the London *Financial Times*, then joining IBM corporate communications headquarters in London, then Paris and New York. During this time, he launched and edited several publications in Europe and the U.S. receiving multinational recognition, including the prestigious Gold Quill Award from the International Association of Business Communicators and a White House communications award. He is the author of the 2025 wine industry thriller *Noble Rot, a Case of Sour Grapes*.

Thanks go to David Mink, Past President and past Editorial Director. David oversaw the LOG for sixteen years, moving it to the colorful magazine that it is today.



The LOG has a special place in my heart. My late mother, Helen Jost, was Executive Director for decades and served as Editor for the LOG for all those years. The LOG was first published in 1910, making it one of the longest running publications in history. The masthead in 1910 read "The Organ of the Circumnavigators Club. Printed infrequently for the pleasure of Circumnavigators and those who ought to be." As it turns out, it was printed every year since 1910. We have all the copies on file, except, believe it or not, the first issue which somehow disappeared and has never been found.

We look forward to many more years, under the guidance of Roger.

Tracy Sancilio





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DINNER NUMBER

Hallowe'en ☺ Dinner Fifth Annual ☺ Dinner
Floating ☺ Dinner

FRANK A. HANKSVELL
1913

THE LOG

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This side of the C \$1.00 The other side of the C \$1.50



Thanks to

Circumnavigator Cynthia Bassett for the stunning cover and this second choice photo in Mongolia.

CLUB NEWS



Noble Festivities in UK

During the holidays, the UK Chapter of the Circumnavigators Club gathered for its 16th annual House of Lords dinner, once again generously hosted by The Rt Hon. Lord Faulkner of Worcester, a long-standing honorary member of the Club. Held in the Cholmondeley Room, with its adjoining terrace overlooking the Thames, the evening brought together members and guests from around the world, including a large contingent representing U.S. chapters. The event began with a lively reception, followed by a three-course dinner and brief welcoming remarks from Lord Faulkner.

The highlight of the evening was a thought-provoking talk by guest speaker, Richard Crowder, a senior British diplomat and independent historian. Crowder spoke on the theme “The Diplomatic Globe – How Images of our Planet Have Shaped Diplomacy”, sharing a visual journey through iconic images that have influenced global thinking. From Holbein’s *The Ambassadors*, to the Apollo 8 “Earth-rise” photo. The talk was perfectly pitched: insightful, engaging, and brief enough to allow guests plenty of time to reconnect and share their own stories over dessert and coffee.

The next House of Lords event will be held on December 17, 2026.



THE ORDER OF MAGELLAN



Order of Magellan Bestowed

The Circumnavigators' highest honor was awarded to New Zealander Sir Graeme Dingle during the Naples Chapter celebration of its 25th Anniversary. Sir Graeme, an adventurer and philanthropist, joins an impressive list of honorees who have received the Order of Magellan, including the likes of General MacArthur, Senator John Glenn and Astronaut Neil Armstrong.

During the two-day event, Sir Graeme enlightened Circumnavigators about his adventures, especially in mountain climbing.

He is known as the father of outdoor pursuits in New Zealand, having undertaken innumerable adventures around the globe, including hundreds of mountaineering, rock climbing and adventuring firsts. He was named by Wilderness Magazine as one of the greatest New Zealand climbers ever. His Foundation aids the youth of New Zealand.

Many Circumnavigators from chapters across the U.S. enjoyed the event.



ALL OVER THE MAP



▲ **“Exploring” Ed Hotchkiss (NY Metro)** and wife Khadija plunged into new territory with a trip to Mali and Guinea in West Africa. They enjoyed learning about their culture and history.



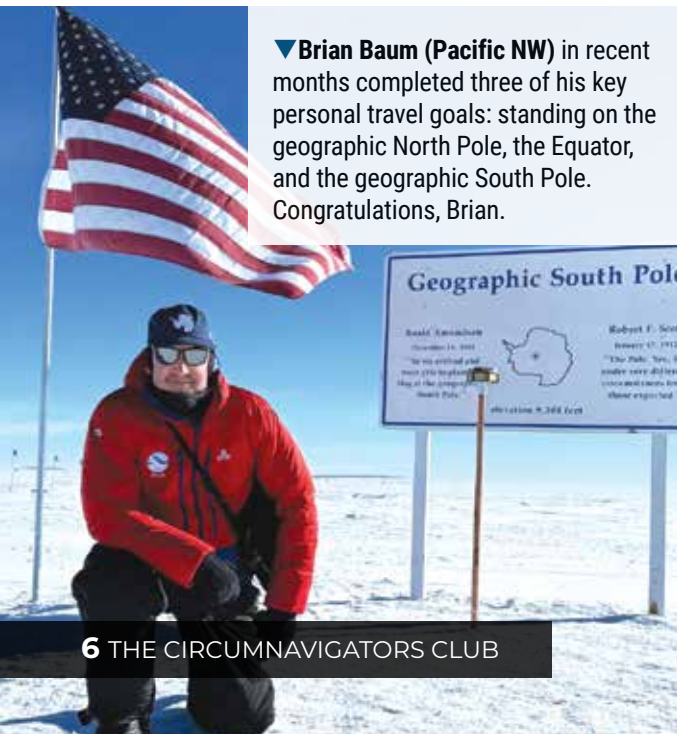
▲ **Circumnavigator Doug McBride (NY Metro)** and family enjoyed a winter break in Dubai and Qatar. The boys loved the camel rides, special food and the architecture.



▲ **HP and Trini Newquist (NY Metro)** traveled around the world with a memorable visit to Mount Everest.



▲ **Jim Franch, Club Treasurer and President Chicago Chapter,** brought the club flag to Antarctica.



▼ **Brian Baum (Pacific NW)** in recent months completed three of his key personal travel goals: standing on the geographic North Pole, the Equator, and the geographic South Pole. Congratulations, Brian.



▲ **Michael Maloney (NY Metro)** and his travel partner Hallie Ruth visited Malaga, part of Andalusia in southern Spain, and Gibraltar on the Iberian Peninsula.



▲ **Circumnavigators Greg and Kathy Rider and Liz Rider, along with Liz's husband David Schiff** set foot on Antarctica, their seventh continent.



◀ **Circumnavigator Jose Manuel (At Large, Philippines)** dons traditional Mongolian attire at a special feast of lamb at Inner Mongolia's vast grasslands.



▼ **Steven Clift (At Large, Arkansas)** had a chance to pose as a Kazakh eagle hunter on his trip to Mongolia.

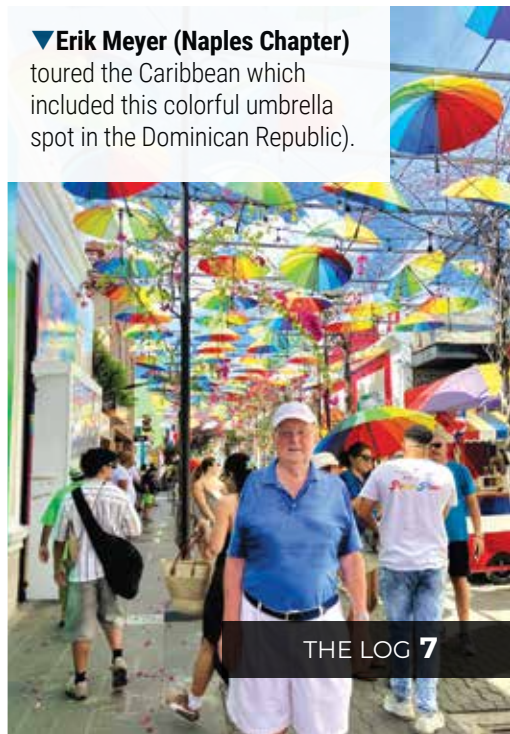


▼ **George and Kathleen Beebe (Pacific SW)** made nine foreign trips in 2025. Here they are with family members in Dubai.

▼ **Richard Yee (NY Metro)** visited Seychelles with his wife Betty. Here they are with Coco de Mer palm double nuts.



▶ **Alison Cornell (Naples Chapter)** traveled to the Jarjarkot district of Nepal where she funds the building of birthing centers. The hilly, hard to reach part of Nepal now has 13 centers, thanks to Alison's efforts.



▼ **Erik Meyer (Naples Chapter)** toured the Caribbean which included this colorful umbrella spot in the Dominican Republic).

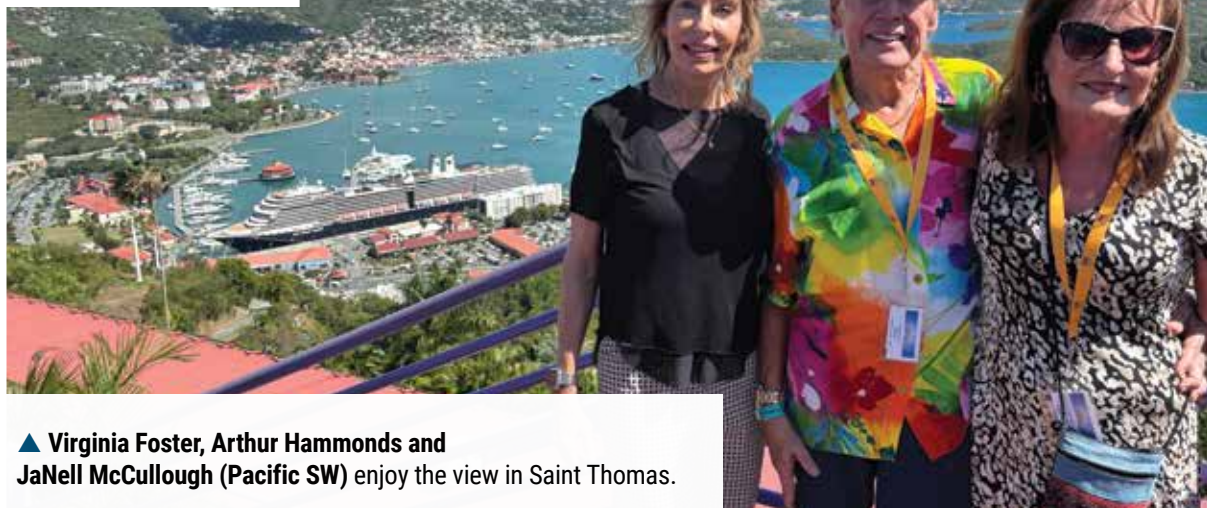
ALL OVER THE MAP



► **Kathy Sinclair (Michigan Chapter)** got this shot in Lincolnshire, England during a tour of Tudor buildings which included a scenic drive through eight villages in the Cotswolds.



▲ **Deborah Allison (At large, Indiana)** took this shot at the Alter Stud Farm in Portugal which was founded in 1748.



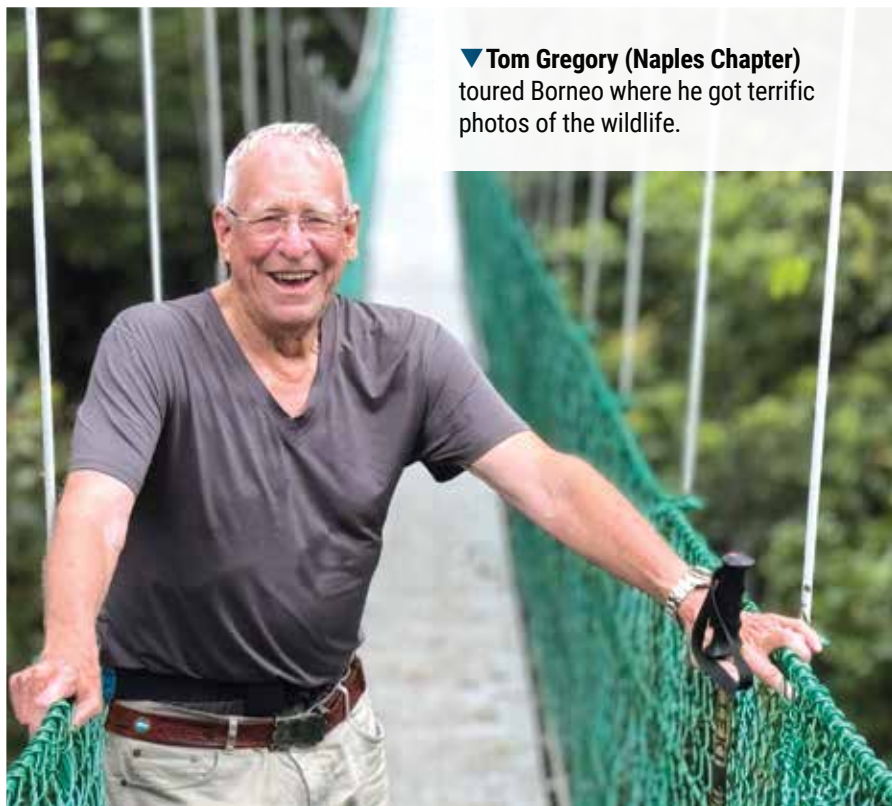
▲ **Virginia Foster, Arthur Hammonds and JaNell McCullough (Pacific SW)** enjoy the view in Saint Thomas.

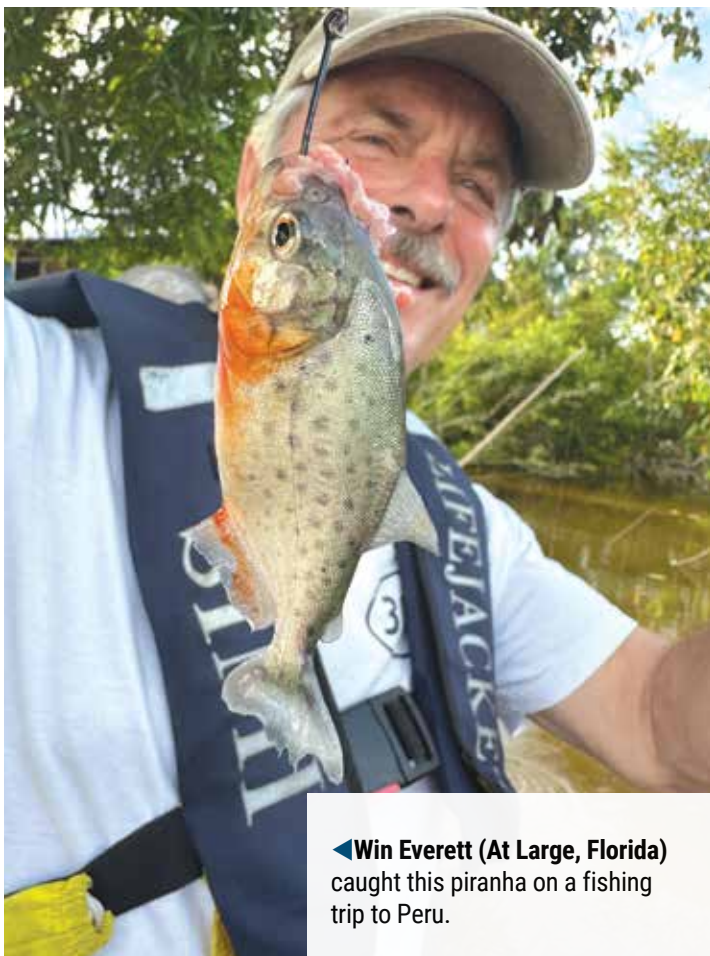
▲ **Marlene Cross (Miami Chapter)** visited the Ilulussat ice ford in Greenland. It is one of the most active glaciers in the world.



► **Marilu Ramirez (NY Metro)** cruised the Caribbean and got this peaceful shot in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

▼ **Tom Gregory (Naples Chapter)** toured Borneo where he got terrific photos of the wildlife.





◀ **Win Everett (At Large, Florida)** caught this piranha on a fishing trip to Peru.



▶ **Past President Esther Dyer (NY Metro)** visited Vietnam and Cambodia.



▲ **John Weed (At Large, Colorado)** and his wife Cynthia toured the Galapagos and Machu Picchu.



▲ **Tom Van Horn (Palm Beach Chapter)** and wife Judy enjoyed the Last Supper in Milan, Italy.



▲ **Suzanne Frye (NY Metro)** is usually far from home, but here she visited Saint Louis and the huge Clydesdales.



◀ **Lisa Morrison (NY Metro)** and husband Michael stepped foot on Antarctica.



▶ **Bojo Macaraig (At Large, Philippines)** visited Yemen, his 100th country. He found Socotra, an island whose landscapes and nature feel completely unreal. He said it was amazing to stand beneath Socotra's Dragon Blood Tree.



▲ **Michael Pully (At Large, California)** and his wife Adrienne trekked 75 miles across Spain and visited Andorra in the Pyrenees where they got this photo of "The Ponderer". The sculpture sits on a cantilevered platform above the town of Canilo.



▲ **Maria and Gunther Winkler (Naples Chapter)** found a cool spot in Saint Ann, Jamaica.



▲ **Past President Howard Matson and new Circumnavigator Amy (NY Metro)** spent two weeks in Italy. Their daughter Leslie will be married in Rome in September.



◀ **Michael Lawler (Pacific SW)** and wife Barbara in Milan for the Olympics.

▼ **Reagan Burkholder (At Large, New Mexico)** and his wife Jennifer visited the Alps and got this shot of the peaks above Hitler's Eagle's Nest.



◀ **Kari Bodnarchuk (At Large)** visited both Antarctica and Greenland and experienced some challenging transportation.



◀ **Michelle Doyle (Naples Chapter)** experienced the views and the food on an extensive trip to Spain.

MONGOLIA

A CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE RE-EMERGING TRADITIONS IN AN EMERGING DEMOCRACY

BY CYNTHIA BASSETT & LISA KAESER

.....

EDITOR'S NOTE CYNTHIA BASSETT (AT LARGE OHIO) AND HER NIECE LISA TRAVEL THE WORLD TOGETHER AND HAVE BEEN FAITHFUL CONTRIBUTORS TO THE LOG. HERE IS THEIR LATEST ADVENTURE.

.....



MONGOLIA IS A HUGE COUNTRY IN EAST ASIA BEST KNOWN FOR ITS GOBI DESERT AND NOMADIC CULTURE. IT'S THE WORLD'S MOST SPARSELY POPULATED SOVEREIGN STATE COVERING MORE THAN 900,000 SQUARE MILES OF MOUNTAINS, ALPINE MEADOWS, FORESTS AND VAST EMPTY PLAINS.

During an extraordinary trip run by Geographic Expeditions (GeoEx), we had a wonderful opportunity to see much of this land, sandwiched between Russia and China, and learn about its history, customs and culture.

In 1921, Mongolian and Russian troops ended Chinese occupation of Mongolia beginning nearly 70 years of oversight by the Communist government. It wasn't until 1990 that Mongolia won total independence and its first democratic election was held. Consequently, the capital of Ulaanbaatar comprises an arresting mix of ancient Buddhist temples, stark Soviet-style buildings, and modern offices, condos, karaoke bars, and fast-food chains.

The newest and most upscale hotel, the Shangri-La, proved to be an excellent base for our explorations, which included an inside look at a Buddhist monastery, the fabulous new Chinggis Kahn Museum, and a hands-on experience making felt from loose wool at Asral, a nonprofit center that helps support single mothers.

A trip to the theater introduced us to several of Mongolia's unique cultural traditions, such as the highly specialized throat singing and a two-stringed instrument called a horsehead fiddle that produces a sound somewhere between a fine violin and an animal wailing in the woods.



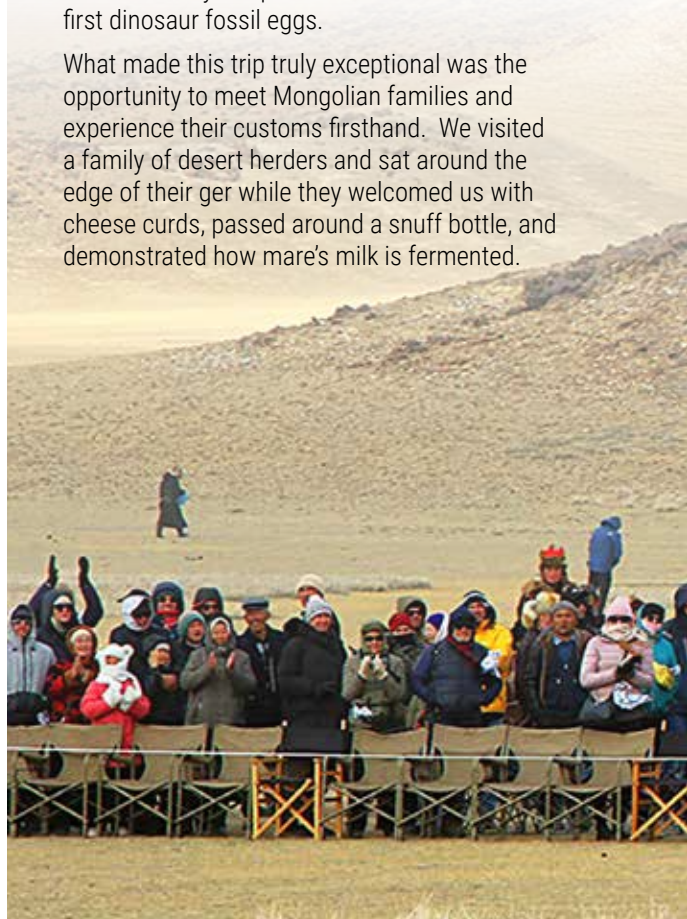
MONGOLIA



INTO THE GOBI

En route to the Gobi Desert in southern Mongolia, our knowledgeable and patient guide Mungii, told us that “If you don’t visit the dunes while in Mongolia, it would be like visiting Paris without seeing the Eiffel Tower.” We were happy to do so, especially setting out from a luxury ger camp called Three Camel Lodge set several hours into the interior of a seemingly endless desert punctuated only by herds of sheep, goats, and horses. After our first of several camel rides, we climbed through the filtered light of the dunes to be mesmerized by the Flaming Cliffs at sunset, the site where Roy Chapman Andrews discovered the first dinosaur fossil eggs.

What made this trip truly exceptional was the opportunity to meet Mongolian families and experience their customs firsthand. We visited a family of desert herders and sat around the edge of their ger while they welcomed us with cheese curds, passed around a snuff bottle, and demonstrated how mare’s milk is fermented.



THE EAGLE FESTIVAL

But probably the highlight of our trip was a visit to an ethnic Kazakh family in western Mongolia on the eve of the famous Eagle Festival. There, we were startled by the sight of huge, hooded, golden eagles tethered on either side of the front door as we entered the family's home to find a feast laid out for us.

We met five of the eagle hunters who were competing in the two-day festival, each gorgeously dressed in hand-embroidered shirts and pants topped with fox fur vests, hats and coats. After slipping on thick leather gloves, we were thrilled to hold one of their magnificent birds ourselves.

The colorful festival, attended by huge crowds and a carnival atmosphere, included one particularly impressive event during which eagles were timed as they swiftly soared down from behind a mountain to the sound of their owner's call. Other events included a tug-of-war, horseback archery, and a game similar to jacks except using sheep and goat ankle bones.

WILD HORSES

Our journey ended with a day trip to Hustain National Park north of Ulaanbaatar, the only place in the world where the *tahki*, known in the west as Przewalski's Horses, live in the wild. These beautiful, cappuccino-colored horses have never been domesticated and were close to extinction until they were rescued by a worldwide breeding program and are now protected.

We were a small group of impressive and compassionate women who feel fortunate to have enjoyed such extraordinary experiences with a fantastic guide providing insights into a remote land of ancient lifestyles, customs and traditions so rare in our modern world.



REMEMBERING IWO JIMA

THE TRIP OF MY LIFETIME

BY LAUREL GLASSMAN
WASHINGTON DC CHAPTER

LAST SPRING, I HAD THE HONOR TO JOIN AN 80TH REUNION OF HONOR CEREMONY COMMEMORATING THE HISTORIC BATTLE OF IWO JIMA THAT TOOK PLACE ON THE NORTH MARIANA ISLANDS IN THE NORTHERN PACIFIC IN MARCH 1945. IT WAS THE MOST SPIRITUALLY MOVING TRIP OF MY LIFE.



Organized by Military Historical Tours (MHT) of Virginia, the two-week trip took a group of us not only to Iwo Jima but to two other strategically important battle sites on the nearby islands of Saipan and Tinian.

My journey began with a flight from Honolulu to Guam, during which I met seven veterans, ranging from age 99 to 104, who were returning to Iwo Jima for the first time since the battle. One of them showed me a captured Japanese flag he hoped to present to the grandson of the commander of the Japanese forces General Tadamichi Kuribayashi.

From our base in Guam, the beautiful Dusit Beach Resort, we set out to explore all the principal battle sites, the excellent War in the Pacific Museum, and a variety of other poignant war memorials, including the especially moving War Dogs Cemetery.

We also attended a magnificent banquet during which senior U.S. military leaders and expert historians gave us particularly enlightening accounts of the famous battle, accompanied by superb photographs and maps, before all the veterans present were called center-stage to be honored.



This image of U.S. Marines hoisting a flag atop Mount Suribachi, Iwo Jima, was captured by Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal. One of the most reproduced war images in history, it won him the 1945 Pulitzer Prize for Photography.

Fully briefed by such a comprehensive overview, the following morning we were excited to take a brief flight out for our first sight of Iwo Jima. On arrival, we were greeted by an honor guard and United Airlines thoughtfully presented each of us with a gift box containing a glass vial with which to collect volcanic ash from the island's landing beaches.

We immediately set out from the airport for Mount Suribachi where the fiercest fighting of the battle took place. It was here that the Reunion of Honor was to be held attended by many VIPs, survivors, and family and friends of those who died. Several gave moving speeches, including the Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba and U.S. Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth who spoke about the sacrifices made and the depth of the relationship between the U.S. and Japan today.

After the ceremony, while guests mingled and sat in the incredibly high, mid-day heat and humidity for formal photographs, U.S. veteran Charles Cram was indeed able to present his captured Japanese flag to the grandson of General Kuribayashi.

SAIPAN

Following a day on Guam for R&R, our group left for the neighbor island of Saipan where we saw the remains of many Japanese tanks, supply buildings, pill boxes, and the scene of several more battle sites. We also visited the excellent American Memorial Park of the Northern Marianas, which has a particularly sobering outdoor memorial commemorating the American dead, where four of our group whose relatives fought and died on Saipan, laid a wreath.

We were then driven to Banzai Cliffs, a spectacular coastline marked by a long line of individual monuments commemorating the thousands of civilians who committed suicide here by jumping off the cliffs into the water far below.

Next, we were taken to a beautiful view of a giant offshore coral mound known as Bird Island, then to visit Kalabera Cave, an underground chamber which was formerly a prehistoric burial site attributed to the ancient indigenous people of this archipelago.



REMEMBERING IWO JIMA

TINIAN

Tinian island also has monumental historic significance for here is the site of Runway Able from which two B-29s took off in August 1945 to drop atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, resulting in Japan's unconditional surrender. We visited the runway and the Assembly Area where the two bombs 'Little Boy' and 'Fat Man' received final assembly after a two-week journey from Los Alamos.

A 15-minute drive from there is a large, paved apron studded with two, ten-foot-deep concrete-lined pits. The B-29s were rolled over these pits, their undercarriage bay doors opened, and the bombs hoisted on board. Seeing all this and imagining the World War II scenes unfolding there back then was deeply impactful.

After lunch, we drove along the lovely coastline of the Carolinas Limestone Forest Trail to Suicide Cliffs, another sobering site marked by memorials where numerous civilians jumped to their deaths. Caves where others chose to hide to avoid capture are clearly visible in the mountains behind.

From there we drove to Targa Bay to hear the legend of an indigenous warrior named King Targa who is said to have been baptized at this site once marked by the islands' first Christian cross. Today, a modern 20-foot-high statue of the warrior stands in front of a collection of massive stone pillars, known as the House of Targa.

After a swim off Targa Beach, we were driven back to Tinian airport and our return flight to Saipan where we were to visit more troop landing sites, a Japanese General's sprawling headquarters bunker, an unimaginably terrible jail where at least two U.S. captured pilots died, and a hilltop jungle where we were led on a treasure hunt for wartime relics.





After lunch, we visited Kilili Beach to see the wrecks of two Sherman tanks partially submerged not far offshore. A few of us preferred to stay behind to watch wood carving demonstrations by a fantastically tattooed Chamorro artist working on a large outrigger canoe and another creating a Kava bowl out of mahogany.

Later that afternoon, we attended a lovely ceremony where the island's Mayor presented members of our group whose relatives had fought on Saipan with a stunning commemorative jersey and beautiful medals, on red, white and blue ribbons.

We spent our final evening enjoying a wonderful fiesta during which our resort staff and their children delightfully entertained us with ethnic dances. Their island music and dance performed on the beach just as the sun was setting could not have been a more perfect conclusion to what was undoubtedly one of the most unforgettable trips of my lifetime.

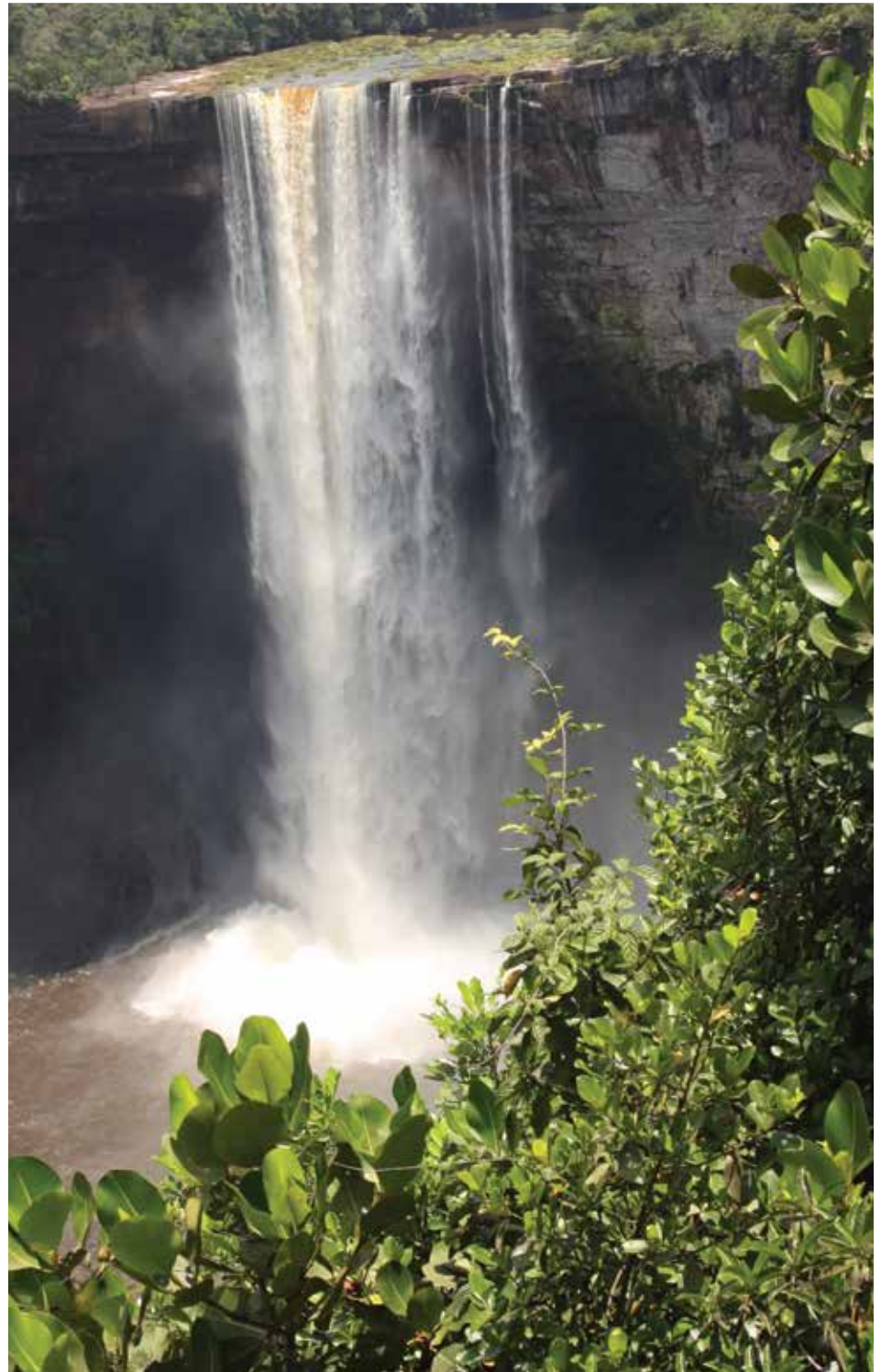
OUT OF THE JUNGLES OF SURINAME

BY MARK PROSS
WASHINGTON DC CHAPTER

IN APRIL, CIRCUMNAVIGATOR MARK PROSS SET OFF ON A 16-DAY EXPEDITION THROUGH THE RAINFORESTS AND JUNGLES OF SOUTH AMERICA ON A TOUR OF GUYANA, FRENCH GUIANA AND SURINAME (FORMERLY DUTCH GUIANA). HIS OBJECTIVE WAS TO COMPLETE HIS TRAVEL TO ALL 13 COUNTRIES OF SOUTH AMERICA AND WHILE DOING SO TAKE IN THE TALLEST SINGLE-DROP WATERFALL IN THE WORLD, TOUR A SPACE CENTER, VISIT THE NOTORIOUS DEVIL'S ISLAND, AND STAY IN THE REMOTE LODGES AND JUNGLE VILLAGES OF THE MAROON IN SURINAME. HE EXPECTED THE TRIP TO BE CHALLENGING, BUT HE HADN'T PLANNED ON ENDING IT IN A WHEELCHAIR. HERE'S HIS REPORT.



WITH A BROKEN HIP AND A SHATTERED PELVIS, BUT WITHOUT CHIKUNGUNYA





I began my journey in Suriname, traveling alone by minibus from the capital of Paramaribo to the village of Atjoni, a small port literally at the end of the road on the banks of the Suriname River. It serves as a gateway for eco-tourism and cultural visits to the Maroon villages and forest lodges along the Upper Suriname River. The Maroons are descendants of African slaves who escaped slavery in the Americas and created independent societies in difficult-to-reach regions such as forests and mountains.

As I climbed into a dugout canoe to begin my journey upriver to the Knini Paati lodge, I was looking forward to jungle treks in search of jaguars, giant anteaters, tapirs, and caimans while sighting brilliant species of tropical birds.

But no sooner had I arrived at my accommodation when disaster struck. I slipped taking a shower, falling heavily on my left side and cracking my head on the wet tiles so badly I blacked out. When I came around, my head was bleeding generously, my left elbow had an egg-size contusion, and my left hip was so painful I could barely walk. I got dressed awkwardly and staggered to the door for help.



OUT OF THE JUNGLES OF SURINAME

A Dutch couple in the cabin next door who had heard my fall, were outside when I emerged. They helped me hobble to the main lodge where staff called a bush shaman from a nearby village. He massaged my injuries using a concoction of coconut oil and jungle plants, which helped ease the pain.

A lodge staffer used a machete to fashion a walking stick from a stout jungle vine and improvised a makeshift wheelbarrow. They hauled me down to the river and lifted me into a dugout for the ride back to Atjoni. There, two locals carried me to the minibus for the four-hour ride back to the capital where my travel agent took over. I was soon in the hands of an orthopedic surgeon who pronounced no bones fractured.



OUT OF THE JUNGLES OF SURINAME

I spent 11 days convalescing in my hotel before I was able to begin my 17-hour journey home. My injuries healed naturally but I would need four months for a full recovery. Eventually, I graduated from a wheelchair to a cane to walking unaided. By mid-May, I was able to walk during a Circumnavigators Club visit to the White House.

It had been tough trip, but it could have been worse. I was thankful that I didn't get malaria, yellow fever, or chikungunya disease. And I hadn't tumbled into the river off my precarious perch in my dugout ambulance to be consumed by hungry caimans or voracious piranhas.





CRUISING ANTARCTICA:

ICEBERGS AND WILDLIFE AT THE EDGE OF THE WORLD

BY MELANIE CABOT
PALM BEACH CHAPTER





My fascination with Antarctica began with a story of survival. I was mesmerized by British explorer Ernest Shackleton and his legendary expedition, a tale of endurance, courage, and survival in one of the harshest places on Earth. Against overwhelming odds, he brought every man home alive, earning his place as one of history's greatest explorers. Never did I imagine I would go there myself!

My partner, Circumnavigator Irwin Kudman, and I began our journey in the far less hostile comforts of Buenos Aires, exploring this vibrant city for a couple of days before boarding a chartered flight to Ushuaia, the gateway to Antarctica, known as the end of the world. Here, we were to board an Atlas Ocean Voyages yacht, the World Voyager, for a 16-day cruise. But before boarding, Atlas had arranged a pre-cruise visit to Tierra Del Fuego National Park, the magnificent wilderness that sprawls across Patagonia.

We chose Atlas Ocean Voyages for our Antarctic adventure because their smaller, reinforced ships, specifically designed for polar exploration, visit destinations that are inaccessible for larger vessels. Expedition cruises typically carry fewer than 200 passengers, accompanied by expert guides, naturalists, historians, or scientists.

FALKLANDS

After a day at sea crossing the South Atlantic Ocean, our first port was the Falkland Islands. We explored the charming capital Port Stanley, which impressed us with its historical significance and natural beauty. Over the next few days, we visited several smaller, less inhabited islands with a profusion of wildlife where penguins rule. We were stunned by the sight of thousands of them waddling about in a shifting mosaic of black and white turmoil.

SOUTH GEORGIA

Next, we landed at Grytviken, South Georgia, once a hub for Norwegian whalers. Those days are long gone but rusting remnants of the industry still cling to the shoreline. A small Norwegian Lutheran church, built in 1913, still hosts occasional services, and a hillside cemetery holds 64 graves—including that of Sir Ernest Shackleton. Today, only a handful of scientists live here, maintaining the British Antarctic Survey station.

But the real stars are the King and Macaroni penguins who waddle and tumble across the shores while fur seals lounge lazily on the rocks, and Antarctic terns and huge albatrosses wheel overhead.

CRUISING ANTARCTICA

AT SEA

Once closer to the Antarctic Circle, cruising felt like drifting across another planet. The ship slid through steel-blue water while massive icebergs shaped by decades of wind and sea floated past in an eerie silence.

The silence is so big it feels almost sacred, punctured only by the occasional crack of the ice and the steady hum of the ship. It's surreal and peaceful all at once, profound and humbling.

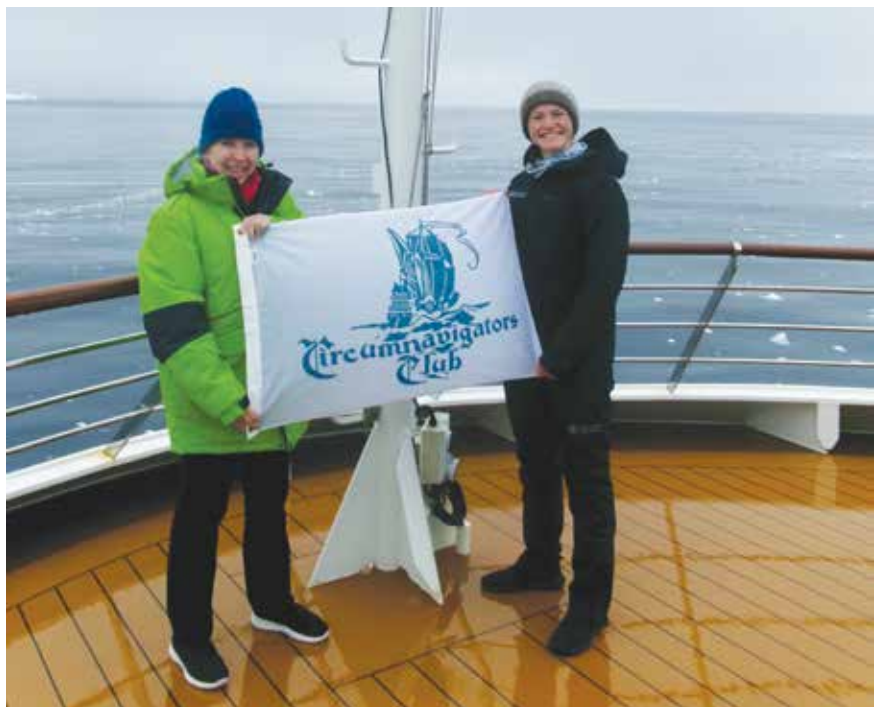
We hopped into small Zodiac boats and zipped nearer to the icebergs where we watched the playful penguins having the time of their lives, sliding down the ice, splashing into the sea, swimming, spinning and diving in and out of the water with unbridled joy. It was impossible not to laugh and cheer at these little creatures who turned a chilly, drizzly day into pure delight.

DRAKE PASSAGE

Drake Passage lies between South America and Antarctica, the shortest route linking the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, and its notorious. Sudden storms can whip up fierce winds and wild, heaving seas, leading sailors to give it the nickname "the Drake Shake." Luckily for us, our way through was mostly calm and our spirits stayed high. But you could still feel the ocean's wild heartbeat beneath the hull.

CONCLUSION

I was left breathless by Antarctica at first, not so much by its grand panoramic scale, but by the quiet grandeur of the frozen sea. It's a place of immense stillness where time slows and the mind drifts. An enchanting, frozen world with a stillness, scale, and beauty forever etched into an everlasting memory.







WELCOME *aboard*

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

DEBORAH ALLISON



Living in Evansville, Indiana, Deborah is a retired national bank examiner.

She previously lived in London and Saudi Arabia and took the Singapore/TWA Round the world trip in 1984. She is a member of the Travelers Century Club and Friends of the Evansville Police Foundation.

DAVID ALTARAS



David is retired, living in Addison, Texas with his wife, Katherine (also a new member). He

says, "travel has always been in my blood, sustained by a 33-year career in the U.S. Navy." He received many honors including the Meritorious Service Medal. The couple's love of travel includes a 140-day voyage around the world.

KATHERINE ALTARAS



Kathy has numerous academic degrees but says that the most

important part of her education was learning about the world, beginning at age 14 on a banana boat cruise to Ecuador. Now she has visited 100 countries and all the continents. She has wonderful stories of the people and experiences on her travels.

MADGE AMMAN



Madge lives in Clearwater, Florida, with her husband Bert who is a

Circumnavigator Club member. She recently completed her circumnavigation and is pleased to join Bert in membership in the Naples Chapter. She has participated in a long list of civic and cultural organizations.

DIANA BANKS



Living in London, Diana has held senior marketing positions in

the hospitality and travel field, including Raffles, Mandarin and Langham hotel organizations. She joins the UK Chapter.

LUCIA BARNUM



A student at Northwestern University, Lucia is a Circumnavigators Club Foundation

scholar. The travel-study program allowed her to travel around the world and study wild land policy and community response to wildfire disasters. Lucia is studying journalism. She has a home in Berkeley, California and joins the Chicago Chapter.

PETER BERRY



Peter lives in Naples, Florida with his wife Suzanne, who is also a new member. He is

retired after a distinguished career in business consulting. Besides traveling, he participates in several civic and cultural groups in Southwest Florida.

SUZANNE BERRY



Suzanne, like her husband Peter, is involved in local charitable boards. They

are both graduates of Greater Naples Leadership. They have both visited more than 60 countries and join the Naples Chapter.

LAWRENCE (LARRY) BRANTON



Larry lives in San Diego, California, with his wife, Circumnavigator Lynn Payette.

He has a long-time career as an attorney and loves to travel with Lynn. He loves cruises, especially river cruises, and figures he has travelled every navigable river in the U.S. Additionally, he is a Chargers football fan and hasn't missed a home game in 52 years. He joins the Pacific Southwest Chapter.

KEITH CARDOZA



Living in Chicago, Keith specializes in investments. Also, he is CEO of Malta Human Services

Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to assisting the sick and poor. He serves on several other boards including the Smithsonian's Capital Campaign Committee. He joins the Chicago Chapter.

ALLISON CORNELL



Living in Marco Island, Florida, Allison is a highly skilled business leader with connections

to several global organizations. She has a master's degree from Rutgers and maintains a second home in New Jersey. In addition to international travel, she enjoys philanthropy, golfing and training her Champion cocker spaniel. She joins the Naples Chapter.

ANGEL COY



Born in Mexico, Angel settled in the United States in 2009, living in Washington DC with his

husband Kevin and two beautiful huskies. He is a freelance architect who loves painting, gardening, photography and architectural travel.



WELCOME *aboard*

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KEVIN COY



Kevin is a lawyer, practicing in Washington. He volunteers for the charitable group Food & Friends. He has now visited 117 countries. Angel and Kevin join the Washington DC Chapter.

EFREN DIZON



Living in Manila, Philippines, Efren is a lawyer and CPA. An extensive traveler, he had been to 82 Travelers Century Club locations, including all seven of the ancient Wonders of the World. He writes and lectures on taxation.

JENNIFER EASON



Jennifer lives in Naples, Florida, with her husband William, also a new member. Born and raised in Brazil, she lived in Atlanta for 50 years before moving to Florida. She enjoys golfing and painting. Recently she and Bill visited their 107th country - Namibia.

WILLIAM EASON



Bill is retired after a distinguished career in the aviation insurance business. Born and raised in New Jersey, he and Jennifer enjoy Florida golf when they are not traveling the world. They join the Naples Chapter.

JUDITH FALESE



Judith is retired after a long career in the field of non-profits, especially the United Way in the New York area. She now lives in Bonita Springs, Florida with her husband Robert who is also a new member. Judith and Robert have visited more than 100 countries.

ROBERT FALESE



Robert's 40-year career in the banking industry led to his role as President and CEO of Commerce Bank of North America. As graduate of Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia, he served as its chairman of the board. He and Judith join the Naples Chapter.

SANDRA FEREBEE



A native Virginian, Sandra is married to Erik Van Strien, also a new member. Sandra and Erik live in Norfolk, Virginia, with a second home in Amsterdam. They are involved with a number of charitable organizations, working with programs for the homeless and global medical assistance.

JOHN FISHER



A native of Ohio, John now lives in Bonita Springs, Florida, with his wife Sally, also a new member. He is retired after a career in financial services. The Fishers are passionate about helping disadvantaged children, sponsoring children through Compassionate International.

SALLY FISHER



Raised in a small town in Maine, Sally found a dream of traveling the world. She and husband John love worldwide travel and experiencing new cultures. Retired after a career in banking, she participates in numerous committees in ministries and arts. The Fishers join the Naples Chapter.

LAUREL GLASSMAN



Living in Chevy Chase, Maryland, Laurel is a retired attorney. She and her late husband William enjoyed a world of travel, beginning with three months of backpacking in South America. She has visited more than 200 places on the Travelers Century list and stories of her trips have been published. She joins the Washington DC Chapter.

CAROL GROVER



Living in Texas, Carol is married to John Grover, a long-time member and Foundation scholar. She is a first generation American with roots in the UK. Her employment experiences have centered on her expertise and passion to support those with developmental disabilities, learning disabilities and other challenges.

LAWRENCE (LARRY) LEIB



Living in Michigan, Larry is a distinguished lawyer and litigator with a number of notable cases. He is slated to be President and Chairman of Shriners International. Among his many interests, he has worked at the Masters Tournament for 31 years. He joins the Michigan Chapter.



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GRACE LIN



Born in Taiwan, Grace now lives in Escondido, California where she has a land developing

business. She participates in a number of civic and charitable program. Grace joins the Pacific Southwest Chapter.

MICHAEL MANDT



An Emmy Award winner producer, Michael is brother of another distinguished

entertainment developer, Neil Mandt. Living near Los Angeles, Michael's resume is outstanding, especially in the sports field with producing credits for Olympics, Super Bowls, World Series and many more.

It's worth mentioning that he once had cocktails with Fidel Castro.

AMY MATSON



Having recently completed a circumnavigation, Amy has joined her husband, Past President

and historian Howard Matson, as a Circumnavigator. A former "First Lady", she is welcomed as an official member of our historic club. She has attended countless Club events over the past 30 years!

SEAN McDEVITT



Living in Seabrook, Texas, Sean is a seasoned professional in the financial

world, now serving as Chairman and CEO of Kaviva, a digital health platform. He was a Captain in the U.S. Army Rangers, decorated for combat in the Panama invasion. Sean has enjoyed world travel for business and pleasure.

KATHLEEN MCGINN



Kathleen is a retired attorney, living in Austin, Texas. She recounts her many travel

experiences, including robbed by a monkey in Varanasi, stung by a night wasp in the Peruvian Amazon and much more. When not traveling, she enjoys performing arts and dining.

LAWRENCE MYLEWSKI



Lawrence is a successful career consultant with global experience in Africa, Asia,

Europe and the United States. He lives in Washington DC and joins the Chapter there.

HP NEWQUIST



HP is a writer living in New York City with his wife Trini, also a new member. He has written more

than 30 award-winning books on a wide variety of topics. In addition to his writing, he is founder of The National Guitar Museum.

TRINI NEWQUIST



Trini is the managing director of The Relayer Group, a consulting firm that tracks

the development of artificial intelligence. She has been involved in high technology and communications for the last three decades. She has authored several books, including "Yahooligans" and "The Phoenix Baby Resource Guide." The Newquists join New York Metro.

JOHN (JACK) PILIPONIS



Living in the Chicago area, Jack is a retired attorney. He worked for Northern Trust

where is served as Senior Vice President and Legal Counsel.

When not traveling, he regularly volunteers at Blind Service Association. He joins the Chicago Chapter.

LESLIE POLLACK



A retired city planner and architect, Les lives in Chicago. A passionate traveler, he has taken trips on many different types

of transportation, including skipping his own sailboat "Chuckles". A journalizer, he takes time to jot down his impressions as a way to interpret what he saw, learned and photographed. His book "Follow the Sun! A City Planners Journey Around the World" is built on these observations. He joins the Chicago Chapter.

RUTH RAMSEY



Living in Dallas, Ruth is a passionate traveler who has visited over 50 countries beginning with

her first trip to Central Africa at just six months old. She has explored every continent along side her grandmother, "celebrity" traveler - Eleanor Hamby, one of the Dynamic Duo who went around the world at the age of 80.

CLARK RANDT



A distinguished diplomat, Clark holds the record as the longest serving U.S.

Ambassador to China (2002-2009). He lived in Asia for 40 years and is now retired in Naples, Florida with his wife Sarah, also a new member. Ambassador Randt is fluent in Mandarin Chinese.



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SARAH RANDT



As wife of an ambassador, Sarah had the opportunity to engage in cultural and charitable

activities in China. She helped found the Dandelion Project, a group of young Chinese women who raise funds for various charities in Beijing, in particular the Dandelion School which now has 720 middle school students whose parents are migrant farm workers. The Randts join the Naples Chapter.

SUZANNE SAMBAZIS



Born and raised in Sweden, Suzanne served as a flight attendant for Pan Am

Airlines. Fluent in four languages, she is now retired near San Diego in California where she is involved with civic and charitable programs. She joins the Pacific Southwest Chapter.

SIERRA SCHENK



Living in Texas, Sierra serves in the defense field. Sierra's professional excellence was recognized

when she was nominated as the Department of the Navy's representative for the International Security Cooperation Individual Award, part of the 2023 Defense Acquisition Workforce Awards. She is actively involved in professional organizations such as Women in Aerospace, Women in Defense, and the Women's Foreign Policy Group.

WILLIAM SHAW



A distinguished attorney, Bill has a long list of honors and citations. He has served in the White House

and as Deputy District Attorney, Los Angeles County. Living in California, he is CEO of Roxbury Properties. He has visited 160 countries and circumnavigated a dozen times. He joins the Pacific Southwest Chapter.

BONNIE THOMSON



Bonnie lives in Naples, Florida, with her husband Robert, also a new member.

Bonnie is a Senior Vice President at Fidelity Investments and travels across the globe for her job. She has been to India over 34 times and continues to travel there multiple times each year. She has been at Fidelity for 35 years and is based in their New Hampshire office.

ROBERT THOMSON



Retired software consultant, Bob and his wife Bonnie are passionate travelers. They

have visited all continents and all 50 states and are planning for more travel adventures. The Thomsons have a summer home in New Hampshire. They join the Naples Chapter.

FRANCINE TUIE



A native of Illinois, Francine now lives in Naples, Florida and spends her summers

in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. She and her late husband Gerald lived in Mexico for years and enjoyed traveling the world. Francine has visited 123 countries. She joins the Naples Chapter.

ERIK VAN STRIEN



Born in the Netherlands, Erik worked for international companies in 20 countries. He

eventually moved to Richmond, Virginia, where he met his wife Sandra (Sandee). They have travelled extensively and their credo is "always care for the marginalized and the needy."

SHONA VEASEY



Born and raised in London, England, Shona explored much of Europe at an early age before

moving to the United States. She is now retired in Naples, Florida. She worked for ten years with the March of Dimes fundraising during which she founded its signature event, Commercial Real Estate breakfast. She joins the Naples Chapter.

RICHARD YEE



A native of Philadelphia, Richard is retired from business management. He now lives in

northern New Jersey and continues his passion to travel. Throughout the years, Richard has combined his studies of history with travels to over 100 countries and territories. He enjoys immersing himself in the history, people, cuisine and scenic beauty where he goes. He joins New York Metro.





FOUNDATION PRESIDENT'S *LETTER*

Dear fellow Circumnavigators:

Thanks to the hard work of Foundation Coordinator Brian Evans, we have added four new interviews to the Foundation's video archives – three featuring Foundation Scholars Kip Knudsen, Ramya Sivasubramanian, and Brady Stoffregen, and the fourth our long-time D.C. Chapter Coordinator and Foundation Director, Jim Whalen. We encourage you to have a look by following the links below:

- Brady Stoffregen - 2025 Georgetown University Scholar
https://youtu.be/iNvuSC_cB2Y
- Jim Whalen - Washington, DC Chapter Coordinator
<https://youtu.be/OYnIyBc90t8>
- Kip Knudson - 1987 Georgetown University Scholar
<https://youtu.be/3XILBgTomCU>
- Ramya Sivasubramanian - 2000 Georgetown University Scholar
<https://youtu.be/ehbJuOVh7Kc>

Please help your foundation identify additional universities to join our around-the-world travel-study grant program! If you are affiliated with or have high-level contacts at a four-year university which might meet the criteria for participation in our prestigious grant program, please let me know. Since the Foundation's travel-study fellowships were introduced 55 years ago, 14 universities have joined with us to provide exceptional students the opportunity to pursue academic research of international importance while circumnavigating the globe (you can read about the most recent ones to the right).

Although we have generally teamed up with schools geographically proximate to our chapters, we now have the ability to manage grants at universities meeting our requirements regardless of where they are located. By adding additional educational centers to our core university partners, we hope to enable a broader base of students to compete for grants. We welcome all suggestions but especially want to identify university partners in parts of the country where we haven't made grants in recent years, particularly in the West, South, and Northeast. Additional information is available to those of you interested in assisting in this effort.

Thanks for your help, and

Luck to you!

Greg Rider

CIRCUMNAVIGATORS CLUB FOUNDATION GRANTEES 2026

*We wish them luck
as they begin their adventure.*



PEER KHAN
GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH TOPIC:
*"Silicon Sovereignty:
A Comparative Analysis of How Nations
Are Redefining Economic Security"*



JUNIPER SHELLEY
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH TOPIC:
*"Rewriting Manhood:
Cross-Cultural Approaches to
Male Connection and Growth"*



2025 SCHOLARS REFLECT ON THEIR EXPERIENCE



MAYA KRAIDY
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

This summer was the experience of a lifetime. I crossed the equator countless times, constantly switching between hemispheres, seasons, and time zones, learning to feel at home in places that were once only dots on a map. From navigating unfamiliar public transportation systems to trying new foods and hearing new languages all around me, each day brought something unexpected. Living in each country - even briefly - allowed me to settle into the rhythms of daily life rather than just passing through as a tourist. Along the way, I formed meaningful friendships, grew more independent and adaptable, and gained a deeper confidence in my ability to move through the world with curiosity and openness.

Maya Kraidy took this picture at the Cape of Good Hope in Cape Town, South Africa, which is the most South-Western point of the African continent.

BRADY STOFFREGEN
GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

For me, the Circumnavigator experience was far more than a research project or opportunity to travel. The trip was a transformative journey that reshaped how I understand the meaning of home across the world. Through my project on affordable housing and urban equity, I had the rare opportunity to study how different societies confront questions of dignity and belonging, as well as what cultural and practical realities shape those ideas. This journey was personal. Living and working across multiple continents and with such a diverse range of people gave me a perspective on the world that both shrank and expanded that which I held before. It feels so much more connected, yet so impossibly large at the same time. I am eternally grateful to have had this opportunity, and it continues to inspire me daily in my work and creative pursuits.



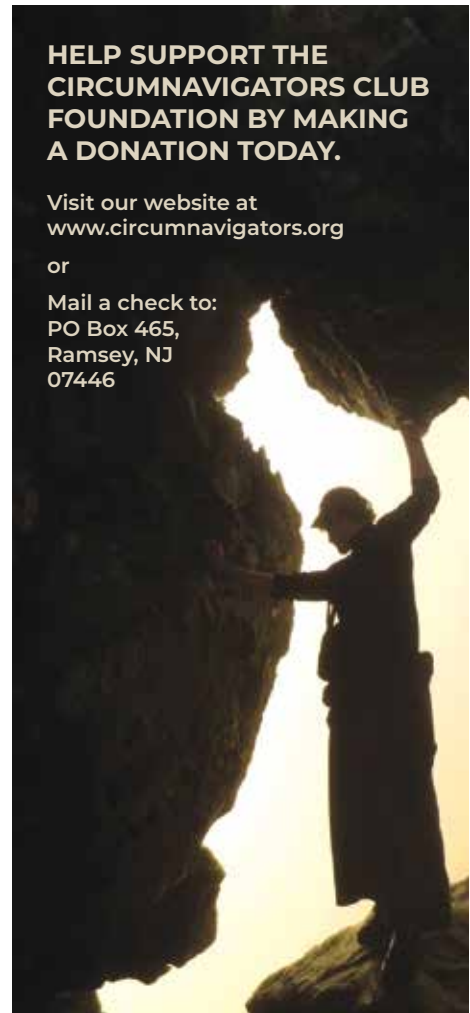
Brady Stoffregen taking a day trip from Santiago into the Andes.

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A DONATION TODAY.**

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www.circumnavigators.org

or

Mail a check to:
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Ramsey, NJ
07446



chapter highlights

CHICAGO

The Chicago Chapter enjoyed a wonderful event at the Union League Club where their Tariff expert/member Ngosong Fonkem presented an extremely interesting talk on tariffs.



MIAMI



The Miami Chapter held a meeting at a Uzbek restaurant with a program featuring traveling through Central Asia and the "Stans". Featured in photo are Carolyn Stein, Marlene Cross and Niko and Barbara Spanakos.

PACIFIC-NORTHWEST



The Pacific Northwest Chapter gathered for a meeting last Fall.



MICHIGAN

Michigan Chapter Holiday Party 2025 was held at the Detroit Athletic Club on Sunday, December 7th, hosted by Bill Volz and Mary Kramer.

Left to right: Bill Volz, Floy Barthel, Mary Carroll, John Carroll, Mo El-Fouly, Sandra Schopbach, Kathy Sinclair, President, Lisa Marie Brighton, Carl Clemak, Ann Swinford, Secretary, Lee Barthel and Roberta Clemak, Treasurer. (Missing from photo, Mary Kramer)

NEW YORK METRO

The New York Metro Chapter celebrated the Lunar New Year on March 4th. Members and guests enjoyed a delicious dinner along with fun activities.



PACIFIC-SOUTHWEST

A meeting was held in January at Circumnavigator Grace Lin's ranch in Escondido, California.



chapter highlights

PALM BEACH

The Palm Beach Chapter held a luncheon in February where Chapter President Tom Van Horn and wife Judy and members Tareq Salahi and Lisa Spoden presented on their recent trip to Antarctica.



NAPLES

The Naples Chapter held its monthly meeting on February 15, 2026, at the Naples Sailing and Yacht Club; one hundred members, and guests attended. Member Vinny Cucchiara gave an interesting presentation on his, and his wife's vacation in Tuscany last summer. Sixteen of their friends and neighbors joined them for a stay at an Italian villa in the Chianti Region, while participating in a special cooking, and cultural experience.

Chef Michael accompanied this Tuscan vacation with an authentic Tuscan dinner. It was a most enjoyable treat for all who attended.



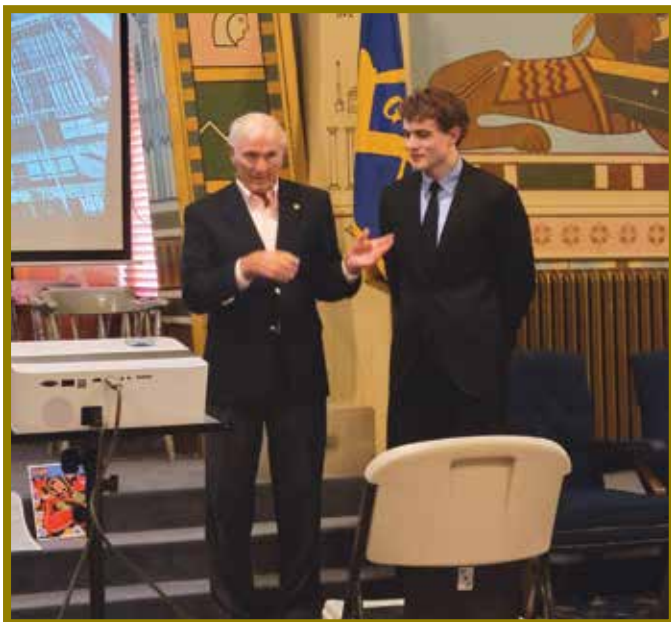
UNITED KINGDOM



The UK Chapter enjoyed a delicious lunch at the Savile Club Mayfair London in October.

L-R Sitting: John Constable, Diana Banks, Jane Lewis, Rob Wilkinson, Helen Jenkins, Lord Peter Inchcape, Lady Susan Willis Reickert, Erick Reickert, Alan Soper and Hywel Peterson

L-R Standing: Iain Grist, Ges Roulstone, Roberta Roulstone, Vin Cox



WASHINGTON DC

The Washington DC Chapter held their Foundation luncheon in October featuring 2025 grantee Brady Stoffregen. Featured in photo are Foundation Coordinator Jim Whalen with Brady Stoffregen.

OVER THE HORIZON

Ashley, Bill S., A4334LM
Washington, DC
November 11, 2025

Johnson, Sidney, J3697
Ponte Vedra, FL
December 2021

Balian, Annette, B5278
Naples, FL
September 28, 2024

Narup, Carol, N3875LM
Evanston, IL
October 6, 2025

Bigelow, Charles, B1926LM
Grosse Pte. Farms, MI

Rogers, James B., R3741LM
Gibraltar, MI

Birnie, Thomas, B4741
New York, NY
March 14, 2024

Todd, Angela, T3982
Surrey, England
January 15, 2026

Bushnell, Joan, B3821
Grosse Pointe, MI
December 4, 2023

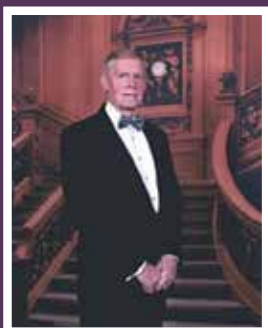
Weaver, Marjorie H., W5049
Naples, FL
February 18, 2026

Carmichael, Stephen, C5386
Rochester, NY
August 25, 2025

Wharton, John, W5315
Potomac, MD
June 11, 2025

Craley, Esther W., C3992SM
Michigan

*A Special Thank You for your
dedication to the Club and Foundation*



BILL ASHLEY was a long-time member of the Washington DC Chapter and supporter of the Circumnavigators Club Foundation. His key interest was travel and he even published a book, "Diary of a Compulsive World Traveler". Bill will be missed and always remembered.



CAROL NARUP was a dedicated long-time member of the Circumnavigators Club serving as Secretary of the Chicago Chapter, as well as International Second Vice President. She also served as Foundation Coordinator for the Chicago Chapter for many years. Carol had a true passion for travel and will be deeply missed and always remembered.

Always Remembered

THE JOY OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Many talented photographers in the Circumnavigators Club submitted photos for our recent Photo Exhibit/Contest. Their efforts raised funds for our Foundation. The photos were judged by three professional photographers. Here are their picks for the best of the best.



ARCHITECTURE



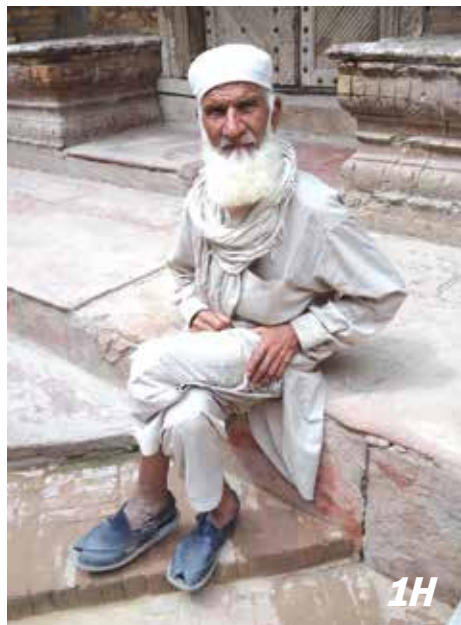
1A. Winner - Ed Hochkiss
Panam Nagar, Bangladesh

2A. Honorable Mention - Alan Weiss
Flying into Dubai

1N. Winner - Mari Mak Tucker
Water Buffalo as Farm Laborer
Taishan China

2N. Honorable Mention - Alan Weiss
Petros the Pelican

HUMAN INTEREST



NATURE



1H. Winner - Bill Ashlley
Kabul Gentleman

2H. Honorable Mention - Ed Hotchkiss
Kumbh Mela, Prayagraj, India



1L. Winner - Ed Hotchkiss
Soumba Waterfall, Guinea

LANDSCAPE



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In tribute to David Mink who served as Editorial Director of the LOG for more than a decade, we are offering his photo of Iguazu Falls as the Last Shot. This photo won first place in Landscape in the Naples Photo contest. Iconic adventurer and writer, the late Albert Podell told David he thought it was one the best photos he ever saw of his favorite venue.

