



FRENCHMAN'S
CREEK
LIFE

JANUARY 2015

**A Publication about the
Members and Life
at Frenchman's Creek**

Ladies' Eclectic Golf Tournament

Jeri Jacobs

Weather was the evil factor during the Frenchman's Creek's women's golf Eclectic tournament, held on December 7 and December 9, 2014. Rain sprinkled and caused our staff to delay the scheduled play by an hour on Thursday, the second day of the tournament. Format of play included scramble, shamble and best ball of each twosome and handicaps could not exceed 8 strokes between team members. In spite of the weather, the players worked hard and played well. Congratulations to the winners and runners-up of each flight! Well done, ladies!



Flight One

Picture not available

Runner-Up Wendi Adler
and Rima Robinson



Flight 2

Champion
Nancy Berkley and
Marion Newman

Flight 1
Champion
Judith Konigsberg and
Brenda Brown



Flight 3
Champion
Susan Shaw and
Paula Wolfson

Flight 2
Runner-Up
Marjorie Feinstein and
Donna Fried

Flight 4
Champion
Linda Epstein and
Lois Stern



Flight 4
Runner Up
Phyllis Hershman and
Cindi Schwartz

Flight 3
Runner-Up
Linda R. Epstein and Carol Pulver

Up The Creek

MYNA and HANS HOMBURGER are excited about the marriage of their grandson, Samuel to Jade Frampton.



Jade Petra Frampton, the daughter of Barbara A. Frampton of Bal Harbour, Florida and the guitarist Peter Frampton of Nashville, were married Saturday evening to Samuel David Homburger, the son of Louise C. Homburger and Jeffrey E. Homburger of New York. Rabbi David Gelfand officiated at the Harold Pratt House, an event space in New York.

The bride, 31, will continue to use her name professionally. She is the senior fashion market editor at Elle magazine in New York, where she edits collections that are used in the magazine's photo shoots. She graduated from Kent State University.

Her father's albums include "Frampton Comes Alive" and more recently "Hummingbird in a Box." Her mother is a saleswoman at M. Kotler, a real estate brokerage in Surfside, Florida.

The groom, 28, is an advertising account director at The New Yorker magazine. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin. His mother is the beauty advertising director at New Beauty magazine in New York. His father is a day trader in New York who invests and trades in gold and silver.

Interclub match

The Interclub match between Frenchman's Creek Vs Admirals Cove was played on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 and all my kids did great!!!

I want to thank all the children that played, I was so proud of them all. We will be playing interclub matches every month with all the clubs around the area. Parents came and watched and all enjoyed watching their kids do so well!

Pictured left to right are: Lucy Newmyer, Rangely Newmyer, Taylor Nicklaus, Ava Johnson, and Nicole Nicklaus!



Thank you,
Kristen

Two Holes-In-One

Congratulations to the following who scored Holes-In-One.

BURT GREENBERG for his Hole-In-One on January 10, 2015 on number 6 North playing at 164 yards. He used a 5 wood.

ILENE GERBER for her Hole-In-One on January 20, 2015 on number 13 North playing at 87 yards. She used a driver.



Up The Creek

JUDY RUBIN and HOWIE WINER are thrilled to welcome a new granddaughter, Maisy Reese Kitchen. Maisy was born, December 6th at Ireland Army Hospital, Ft. Knox, Kentucky and weighed in at 7.0lbs. She joins her “big” sister, Poppy (2 years) and her two brothers, Henry (10 years) and William (8 years). Maisy’s parents, Major Jim and Captain Alana Rubin-Kitchen are active duty military, JAG Corps attorneys. Currently, they are stationed at Ft. Knox. Maisy is truly another pot of gold for us!



EMILY and HOWARD BROMBERG proudly announce the birth of Ari Bruce Kreiger on December 30, 2014. His parents are Laura and David Kreiger of Parkland, Florida. Ari’s big brother, Jonah Eli, is thrilled!

Congratulations to **MILLIE and SOL SELKO** who celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary this month.

RHODA and ALAN EDELMAN are thrilled to be triple blessed. On January 15, 2015 they celebrated their 60th Wedding anniversary. On December 13, 2014, Alan celebrated his young 85th birthday and on December 27, 2014, Rhoda celebrated her young 80th birthday. They celebrated in Jamaica with all thirteen members of their family. To many more.

THE HOMEFRONT

The Homefront column is designed to inform our members where in the community our new residents are living and other residences they may have. It also keeps up with our present members who have stayed in the community but moved to new dwellings.

Of course we always wish our members who are moving out of the community good luck wherever their travels take them and our new members and established members good luck in their new address.

DEBORAH and JIM WESTLAKE have purchased Elfriede and Frank Stronach’s home on Rhone Circle. They also reside in Ontario, Canada. The Stronachs have moved out of the community.

“It’s a Wonderful Life”

By Marleen Hacker

This is a new column about our member’s past activities each month, whether it be sports, the arts, a hobby, or a gala. This is about **you** and about our wonderful life living in Frenchman’s Creek. We want you to share your experiences with quotes and photos, so be prepared to smile for the camera. Here are a couple of high- lights from the month of December.

Drinking apple martinis at volunteer work

Who thought volunteer work could be so much fun? Just ask our members Joan Gelch, Iris Capobbianco and Linda Rosenson, who are seen sipping apple martini's, while mailing invitations to The 24th Annual Tradition of Choice Luncheon sponsored by Planned Parenthood. It will be held at the Cohen Pavilion Kravis Center. Iris, who is co -chair says “this will be a great afternoon as Olympia Dukakis will be our guest speaker, so please look for your invitation and save the date.”



Laurie and Jonathan Nelson’s grandchildren Asher 5, and Jordon 4, visiting from Greenwich, Connecticut- “I like to see my grandma, grandpa, their dog Sadie, and my cousin Jonah. I like to come here and go to the beach and pool and eat ice cream”.



Carol Smith’s granddaughter Nora 6, visiting from NY, says, “ I like the weather, beach & pool. My grandma is special and just bought me this new pretty outfit from the tennis shop.”



Gail and Colin Halpern’s granddaughters Samantha 5, and Morgan 4, used to live in London but currently live in Orlando, Florida. “We like to play tennis, go to the beach, take swim lessons with Chris and have lunch at the pool.” Pictured are the Halpern’s having lunch with their granddaughters.



"It's a Wonderful Life" continued

Iris and Peter Arest's granddaughter Maddie 3, visiting from Westchester, also had fun with her grandma and made a bracelet together. Pictured is Iris Arest and granddaughter Maddie and Jana Spiess and granddaughter Piper.

Jana and David Spiess' granddaughter Piper 5, visiting from New York City had fun with her nana and grandpa and played golf and tennis and had fun swimming in the big pool.



Marleen and Stu Hacker's granddaughters', Samantha 9 and Sophia 7, visiting from Connecticut said, "We like to see our grandma and grandpa and play with their new puppy. We like the pool and all the food and especially the ice cream. We had fun playing pickle ball too and can't wait to come back".

Pictured: Stu Hacker playing pickle ball with granddaughter's Samantha and Sophia while grandma Marleen takes photo.



Sandy and Ralph Myrow's granddaughter Evelyn 5, "likes to spend time with grandma and had fun making a bracelet with her".

The Community mourns the loss of our following members: May their memory continue to shine in the hearts of their loved ones.

ALLAN GOLDBERG who lived at 2403 Marseilles Drive and was a resident since 1997. Our heartfelt sympathies to his beloved wife, Terry; beloved brother, Larry; beloved sister, Joyce Fromson and their families.

BURTON RUBY who lived at 13530 Verde Drive and was a resident since 1989. Our heartfelt sympathies to his beloved wife, June and his beloved sister, Harriett Gross and their families.

HARRY KUDMAN who lived at 13709 Rivoli Drive and was a resident since 1987. Our heartfelt sympathies to his beloved wife, Cyvia and their family.

"Cyvia Kudman and her family thank their friends and neighbors for their remarkable love and support."

Marty Krall's Speaker Series

I want to thank everyone for the extraordinary turnout Monday, December 15, 2014 to hear John Bolton. We had well over 350 attendees, and I have received numerous favorable comments. High turnouts are critical to the success of the program. It is much easier for me to book future programs, if I can assure speakers that the audience will be large. In this regard, I welcome suggestions from Members as to friends, acquaintances, etc., whom they believe the Community would be interested in hearing speak. The combined resources of the Members are obviously far greater than mine alone.

Marty Krall

AMBASSADOR JOHN BOLTON

Review by Bobbe Wiener

Ambassador John Bolton spoke at Frenchman's Creek on Monday, December 15, 2014 commencing, Marty Krall's educational series lectures. More than 350 people attended- an extraordinary turnout. Mr. Bolton appeared under the auspices of American Friends of Magen David Adom- the red cross of Israel literally the blood supply of the state of Israel.

Mr. Bolton served as Permanent Representative to the United Nations 2005-2006. He received his BA and JD degree from Yale and Yale Law School respectively. He spoke on the threats the United States now faces, fundamentally speaking of America's proper role in the world and its unwillingness to address this issue; the absence of a strong United States interference in the world and the loss of the meaning of the words in The Marine Hymn- "from the halls of Montezuma to the shores of Tripoli." (If you do not know the meaning of these words, I suggest you look it up). He spoke about the radical ideology manifested by instability based on military force; terrorism; proliferation of nuclear weapons and Iran/North Korea building nuclear infrastructure. What role should US play- we cannot turn inward or we will pay the price economically and physically. America's plan in the world has to be defined.

Whether you agree with Mr. Bolton or not, he presented some thought provoking statements.

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Marleen and Stuart Hacker

Ladies' Day Results

December 2, 2014 Better Ball

18 Holes

Flight 1

1st Brenda Brown - Cheryl Turchin
Gaby Brinkwirth - Carol Finkelman

Flight 2

1st Syd Shaw - Ellen Schein
Sheila Babich

Flight 3

1st Ruth Levine - Judy Weiss
Susan Ludwig - Lou Ann Brothman

2nd Marian Wiseman - Mimi Bergel
Phyllis Hershman - Nancy Klotz

"9" is Enough

1st Joan Isaacson - Joan Rand
Freddy Schefren

2nd Norma Sirott - Roberta Selzer
Naomi Kessler - Nancy Cohen

December 16, 2014

18 Holes

Flight 1

1st Wendi Adler - Linda Sandler
Judy Konigsberg - Ann Cohen
2nd Sandi Lamm - Lisa Becker
Barbara Sheldon - Nancy Bernstein

Flight 2

1st Roz Budkofsky - Dottie Kovel
Ronni Grebow - Evelyn Gutkin
2nd Norma Lippman - Terri Sackett
Jeri Jacobs - Syd Shaw
3rd Andie Koplik - Kathy Azeez
Judy Goldsmith

Flight 3

1st Ellen Lattman - Carol Smith
Carol Pulver - Susan Guthman
2nd Gaby Brinkwirth - Joan Mopper
Betsy Bernstein - Joan Schwartzman

Flight 4

1st Cindy Schwartz - Toni Smith
Norma Glazer - Catherine Pollack
2nd Lois Stern - Mimi Bergel
Naomi Freedman
3rd Anne Stanfield - Annette Schilling
Eleanor Newman - Dee Topol

"9" is Enough

Flight 1

1st Dolores Cowen - Gloria Sack
Clarissa Singer - Harilyn Zimmerman
2nd Edythe Brand - Marilyn Epton
Naomi Kessler - Joan Isaacson
2nd Norma Sirott - Carol Wilsker
Lois Sontag - Barbara Hanig

Flight 2

1st Joy Hecht - Nan Reiner
Sandi Shulman
2nd Bonnie Feinberg - Joan Rand
Robin Goodfriend

Ladies' Day Results

January 6, 2015 De JaVu

18 Holes

Flight 1

1st Jenifer Weintraub – Susan Furst
Brenda Brown – Andrea Finkel

Flight 2

1st Suzanne Moskow – Kathy Azeez
Cheryl Turchin – Shelley Parker

2nd Helene Shuter – Terri Sackett
Elaine Parks – Rhoda Edelman

Flight 3

1st Sheila Babich – Gilda Glasser
Marian Wiseman

2nd Ellen Schein – Ann Stanfield – Linda R Epstein

Flight 4

1st Ruth Levine – Mimi Bergel – Melanie Lipson

2nd Judy Rubin – Susan Ludwig
Dee Topol – Lyla Zucker

9 is Enough

Flight 1

1st Edna Brown – Norma Sirott
Ilene Gerber – Theresa Capazzi

2nd Elaine Shindler – Joan Isaacson – Carol Corwin

2nd Joan Barovick – Nanette Tauscher
Marilyn Epton – Marilyn Moser

Flight 2

1st Maddy Siegel – Clarissa Singer
Joan Rand – Susan Paul

2nd Judy Chesler – Bonnie Feinberg
Anita Smith – Sandi Shulman

January 13, 2015 The Blind 9

18 Holes

Flight 1

1st Jenifer Weintraub – Jane Feinstein
Bette Goldberg – Roz Budkofsky

Flight 2

1st Judy Goldsmith – Evelyn Gutkin
Syd Shaw – Alice Bael

Flight 3

1st Joan Simmons – Marjorie Yashar
Betsy Bernstein – Marian Wiseman

Flight 4

1st Myna Homburger – Lois Stern
Mimi Bergel – Dee Topol

2nd Joan Schwartzman – Judy Rubin
Toni Smith – Ellen Pollack

9 is Enough

Flight 1

1st Debbie Hornstein – Edythe Brand
Joan Barovick

Flight 2

1st Maddy Siegel – Marilyn Moser
Rosa Meyers – Nanette Tauscher

2nd Judy Chesler – Clarissa Singer – Nan Reiner

Up The Creek

SUSAN and SAM BERNSTEIN rightfully, are “supremely” proud parents of their son, Richard who recently was sworn in as a Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court- the highest court of the state. Richard, legally blind has taken a physical disability and made it into an asset.

Justice Richard Bernstein

Justice Richard Bernstein joined the Michigan Supreme Court in January 2015, becoming the first blind State Supreme Court Justice in America. Richard is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Michigan and earned his law degree from the Northwestern University School of Law. Prior to his election to the Court, Justice Bernstein was elected by voters statewide to fulfill an eight-year term on the Board of Governors at Wayne State University, serving as Chair for two years in 2009 and 2010. He also has served as an adjunct professor in the political science department at the University of Michigan.

Justice Richard Bernstein



Throughout his career, Justice Bernstein has been known as a tireless advocate for disability rights as an attorney leading the public service division for The Sam Bernstein Law Firm in Farmington Hills.

Committed to taking action to help clients who needed him, Justice Bernstein's cases often set national standards protecting the rights and safety of people with and without disabilities. Honors Justice Bernstein has received include: "Michiganian of the Year" by the Detroit News, one of Crain's Detroit Business' "40 Under 40," and recognition by CNN as a leader in keeping government honest. He was the recipient of the 2008 John W. Cumiskey Pro Bono Award from the State Bar of Michigan in recognition of his leadership as an advocate and activist.

Michigan Lawyers Weekly named Justice Bernstein a 2009 Leader in the Law, and the University of Michigan presented him with the James T. Neubacher Award in 2011 for his unwavering commitment to equal rights and opportunities for people with disabilities. Among a number of awards he received that year, Justice Bernstein was inducted into the National Jewish Sports Hall of Fame. In his spare time, Richard is an avid runner and has completed 18 marathons.

Ladies' Member-Member 2015

Jeri Jacobs

If it's the beginning of January, then it's Ladies Member/Member golf tournament time. With a large number of women participating, the Member/Member tournament began on Tuesday, January 6, 2015 on a lovely, sunshiny morning on the north course. Teams of two were paired to play match-play format, with the winners going on to play in the semi-finals and then on to the final rounds.

For the Thursday round of match-play, a cold front came in and participants had to play through layers of clothing to move on to the third round of competition. Gusty winds and cool temperatures gave everyone the same disadvantage. Many matches went over the five-hour mark, as competitive spirit lit the way for intense battles among the teams participating.

The following Tuesday, three flights finished their competitions and only Flight Three defending champions had to play on Thursday, January 14, against their final challengers.

Thanks to Rich Lucchini for running the tournament, and to our great golf staff, including our caddies who had their work cut out for themselves. Congratulations to the winners of the four flights of golfers.



Flight One
**Wendi Adler and
Barbara Sheldon**



Flight Two
**Carol Brumberger
And Sandra Myrow**



Flight Three
**Elaine Parks and
Rhoda Edelman**



Flight Four
**Suhn Ahn and
Elinor Zwerling**

RunnersUp:

Flight One: Sandi Lamm and Susan Weingeroff

Flight Two: Phyllis Berger and Dottie Kovel

Flight Three: Marlene Grad and Jeri Jacobs

Flight Four: Sue Sternberg and Phyllis Hershman

9 is Enough: Elaine Shindler and Bente Lyons



Nine is Enough
**Barbara Hanig and
Lois Mills**

Meet Your New Neighbors

By Jeri Jacobs

RONNI and RALPH GREBOW are among the growing number of second generation Frenchman's Creekers, following in the footsteps of Ronni's parents, Nanette and Arthur Tauscher. After renting at PGA for a couple of years, the Grebows bought their Frenchman's Creek home in 2013. When asked why they decided to buy here, Ronni replied, "this is the best place to be." No argument here! Their two children, a son and a daughter, have given them five beautiful granddaughters, and, when the Grebows go north for the summer, all three families reside within ten minutes of each other in New Jersey. Ralph is a national real estate developer. He and Ronni are avid golfers. We welcome them to Frenchman's Creek!

We have started a new column and want to hear from all of you who fit into this wonderful milestone category. It is the :

G-G COLUMN... A column about Great Grandparents!

RUTH and NORMAN STAVISKY are happy to introduce us to their Great Granddaughter. This is Isabelle Berggren who just celebrated her first birthday. She is our daughter, Jayne Berggren's granddaughter. Her parents are Simon Berggren and Camilla Lindbergh. They live far away in Sweden.

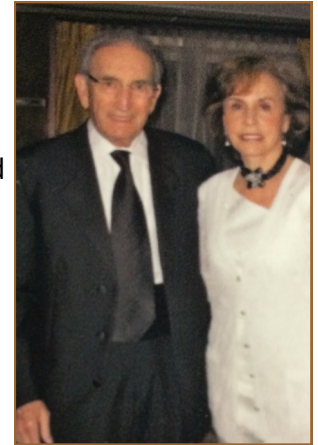


How great is this news! **SUNNY and JULIUS LEHROFF** now have 15 Great Grandchildren. The newest, great grandson, Lewis Lehroff, was born New Year's eve. He lives in Morristown, New Jersey with his two and a half year old big brother, Henry, and their parents, Benjamin and Dr. Stephanie Lehroff.

Meet Your New Neighbors

By Mimi Bergel

We welcome new neighbors, **CAROLYN GOLDMAN POLAKOFF** and **SYDNEY POLAKOFF** another new family from the DC area, who have moved into their home on Verdun Drive. "Up north" they are from Chevy Chase, Maryland. Syd, a CPA, left an accounting firm to own and operate healthcare facilities and services in the mid-Atlantic region and Carolyn was an X-Ray technologist at a Bethesda hospital. Syd and Carolyn, both having lost their spouses were married seven years ago. Carolyn has two sons and two daughters, eight grandsons and one granddaughter. Syd has a son and a daughter and two grandchildren, a boy and a girl. Although the beach club was originally one of the main attractions for them, they are already involved in other activities. They both look forward to enjoying golf and the fitness center and Carolyn to canasta and mah jongg. They've found Frenchman's to be extremely friendly and although they do know several Creekers, they also look forward to making new friendships to add to those they have already made — as do we.



BONNIE and **BEN RECHLER**, who are new residents on Rhone Circle, are from Great Neck, New York, where they have lived for 37 years. They have family in Palm Beach, and looked for a home in the area. After their first visit to Frenchman's Creek, they knew it was a fit. With two married sons and their first grandchild due in February, they wanted to be where not only they would be happy, but where the family would want to visit often. Frenchman's was the answer. Bonnie has been a serious tennis player for a long time, and also plays cards and mah jongg. They both look forward to playing golf. Active in several philanthropic endeavors, Ben is on the National Board of Trustees of the Technion in Israel, and Bonnie is on the Governors of the American Jewish Committee. Though Ben is still working full time, and they haven't spent many days here to date, so far they have enjoyed everything they have done and everyone they have met. We welcome them and look forward to having them spend more time at the Creek.



There's no question as to what, or who, brought new Toulouse Drive resident **NANCY KLOTZ** to Frenchman's Creek. She makes the family complete, as she joins sister Carol Finkelman and brother Michael Slosberg in our community. Nancy, the mother of "four outstanding daughters and grandmother of seven special kids," moved here from Westerly, Rhode Island. She owned and operated Sun Up Gallery of Fine American Crafts and Clothing, and loves hiking and sailing. She thanks her siblings for her new life at Frenchman's, where her "mind is now filled with remembering names and faces of new friends she is making. Her desk is covered with bridge manuals and golf news, instead of spread sheets and orders to be placed." With golf, cards, fitness activities and many new friends, she describes her life here as "joyous". We welcome her and hope the joy continues.

The Frenchman's Creek Men's Softball Team

Marleen Hacker

The Frenchman's Creek Men's Softball Team was formed 8 years ago by members, Zoom Fleisher, (Team Zoomsters) and Arthur Lerner (Team Artistes). After Zoom's death, three years ago, Art and the "Lerner Legends" have continued the tradition of playing monthly at Mirasol field. For 2 hours a month our members are living or reliving, as the case may be, a softball fantasy, by hitting, running, catching, sliding, and running to base. They're having a good time playing ball!! They play 6 games a year and they end the season with the big "charity day" game against our staff. This is a great fund raiser with a cook-out and lots of cheering and camaraderie. Art Lerner says, **"We are looking for new blood and perhaps some new members will join us"**.

Pictured left to right are:

Stuart Hacker (Pitcher), Arnold Mazur, Sol Kravecvas, Alex Sobel, Jonathan Nelson, Thomas Aveni, Fred Stern, Mort Kaplan, Art Lerner (Captain), Leonard Weiss, Barry Fenner (Captain), Abe Kamor, Norman Eisdorfer, Joel Leavitt, Jack Lewis, Richard Florin, Burt Kerr (Pitcher), Steve Weinberg



Beach Club Cabaret

By Jeri Jacobs

On January 5, 2015, the Frenchman's Creek Cabaret featured the well known singer/comedian Jimmy Keys. What a treat for us "creekers"! Jimmy is a one-man band, accompanying his songs on his multifaceted keyboard, while making costume changes as he speaks. We were encouraged to yell out "liar," whenever he made outrageous statements (which were made quite a few times!). Although we were a very appreciative audience, Jimmy was quite amused by his own patter and has a way of squawking out his laughs. Because of Jimmy's popularity, a second performance was added to the Beach Club Cabaret on January 19. Hope you did not miss it! Great food, lovely ambiance and wonderful entertainment, all for us at the Beach Club.

Our Precious Pets

Our Precious Pets

Column by Lois Stern
Photography by
Stuart Hacker



In July, I flew to Boston to collect my mini Australian Labradoodle, Rosie. It was a complete surprise to Marty! She is now six months old, and after a three week stint at boot camp, she is a wonderful addition to our family. She has loads of energy, a great personality and is very loving.

DENNY AND MARTY SIEGEL



Amy and Sarah Halpert who? What children? How quickly we forget! Meet now "Thorman" Halpert. The fifth of the Halpert canines over a period of over 40 years, and the third in a line of Field Spaniels.

Unlike the rest of his nuclear family, he is sensitive, playful, loving, comic, and very bright! Born in Cleveland, Ohio, seven months ago, he is named after an early family settler to Cleveland, whom we can only hope is looking down with a smile and pleased to see that his surname has been retrieved from the archives and returned to the family vernacular!

BEVERLY AND STUART HALPERT



COCO came into the McKenna family life at age 3 months in Laguna Beach California. He will be 5 Years old on March 1, 2015. He is a SHIH TZU, who is as smart as he is adventurous and loves his new home here at Frenchman's. He doesn't like thunder and lightning storms but I have told him "neither do we." He's making friends quickly and we both enjoy the dog park and our daily walks. We recognized that COCO is a female name given to a male animal but we never wanted to change it, C'est la vie... Happy Holidays to all and may 2015 be a good year for everyone.

TERRY MCKENNA

The Book Nook

In The Kingdom of Ice: The Grand and Terrible Polar Voyage of the USS Jeannette, Hampton Sides

An American publisher, James Bennett, a well-known British cartographer, August Petermann, and George Washington De Long, a Naval officer, all wanted to explore the waterways north and be the first to reach the North Pole. Bennett funded the expedition and hired George Washington De Long to lead it. Petermann was the mastermind behind the effort; however, his charts and maps were flawed and fell short of providing the correct information necessary for success. In addition, his theories about the area to be explored turned out to be balderdash and led to the eventual, more hazardous journey.

This was a time before airplanes and modern technology. There were no telephones or extensive maps with geographic information. There was no GPS. The danger was enormous, but the explorer's curiosity was even greater. Because of the conditions in the Arctic, there was little hope for rescue if things went awry. There were no search planes, no ice breakers to mount a really successful and immediate search and very little inhabited land on which to find safety with shelter and food. All of the dangers that the explorer ship encountered would also be encountered by the rescue ships, so often they were forced to turn back without results. This is the true story of the voyage and tragic ending of the USS Jeannette (formerly "The HMS Pandora"). The captain and crew become stranded when trapped on an ice flow. Their incredible journey, coupled with their amazing courage and fortitude as they crossed the tundra, ferried down canals surrounded by ice, and moved in uncharted territories with inferior maps, is a feat worth noting and learning about.

The first third of the book was filled with details about the backgrounds of the major characters involved in the endeavor. It sometimes got bogged down in the minutiae and became tedious and a bit boring. Moving along, though, once the journey began, it grew fascinating. The men had tremendous determination, strength of character, courage and fortitude just to consider this goal. Their valor and fearlessness when confronted with so little hope for survival and such vast expanses of emptiness and uninhabited wastelands, was astonishing.

Almost every moment written in the journals and logs kept by Lieutenant Commander DeLong was referenced, and the retelling of their expedition reads like a novel, with the tension slowly building, but it never reaches the kind of fever pitch that would make the reader uncomfortable. There are scenes described which are brutally honest and forbidding, as the Captain and crew fought the cruelest of elements in their fight to survive.

As the ice closed around it, the ship was crushed and tossed, causing it to spring leaks and sustain heavy damage. Soon the treacherous environment dealt it a death blow, and it had to be abandoned forcing them to begin their trek across icy, unknown terrain. DeLong and his crew suffered greatly. They did not have adequate medical supplies and were unable to get help from elsewhere. Even with supplies, medical knowledge was in its fledgling stage making recovery from injuries and survival itself, in the worst of climates, largely improbable. There was no way to communicate their plight to anyone in the outside world. They were completely cut off from humanity, tormented by the caprice of weather and their own physical capacity.

The author puts the reader on the ship and ice floe with the men, to be with them as they struggle to survive. The author deserves kudos for the amazing amount of research that went into this well planned and well laid out explanation of the USS Jeannette's birth and ultimate death, concentrating on the period of time from its purchase in 1878, its refitting and its sailing in 1879, to the time of the discovery of the remains of the seamen that never made it back, in 1882, in spite of the multiple search parties sent out to find them. When one thinks of the conditions that they suffered under, one has to wonder that any survived and marvel at their courage, determination and sense of purpose.