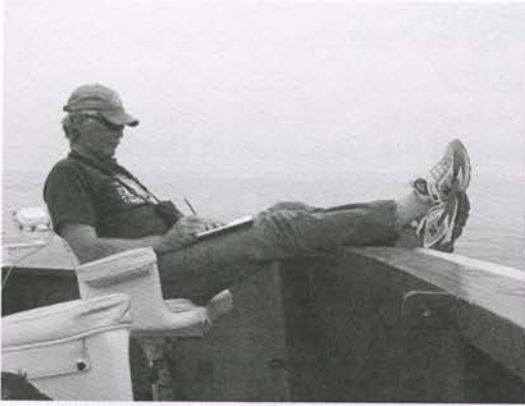


Lifetime Achievement Award



PSG is honoring **Dr. David Ainley** with a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2015. Growing up in the wilds of New England, with plenty of time spent in the mountains of New Mexico, Colorado and California, David was inspired to pursue his BS degree from Dickinson College, Pennsylvania. While still a student there, he published his first paper based on his senior research. His attention to the ocean was tweaked by summers at Kent Island in the Bay of Fundy, as well as the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta and Chesapeake Bay, which led to a Ph.D. at Johns Hopkins University, through which he investigated penguins in Antarctica. He since has made about 35 trips to Antarctica and the Southern Ocean, about a third of those on oceanographic research vessels.

In the meantime, he founded and for 20 years led the marine research program at PRBO, including at-sea and foraging ecology (through NOAA) and the Farallon Island marine bird and mammal component. He co-researched with Larry Spear the ecology of seabirds in the eastern tropical Pacific (as a comparison to the Southern Ocean), piggy-backing on EPOCS cruises, and with Greg Spencer studied the ecology of endangered seabirds in Hawaii. For the past 20 years he's been on the staff of H.T. Harvey & Associates Ecosystem Consultants, working there with the support of Ron Duke and Scott Terrill. Some of the H.T. Harvey projects he's been involved in include the Exxon-Valdez Oil Spill, GLOBEC-California Current and -Southern Ocean, and SF Bay Dredge Materials Disposal efforts.

Currently --- well for the past 18 years --- through the National Science Foundation, he has been researching penguin demography with co-researchers Grant Ballard and Katie Dugger. Concurrently, he has been conducting a study on the effects of cetacean foraging on penguin prey availability at Ross Island in the Ross Sea. Included in the latter is use of an ocean glider and ROVs, with co-researchers Walker Smith and Stacy Kim, to assess effects of penguin foraging on prey availability. For the past 10 years, as an avocation, he's been 'tilting at windmills,' attempting to protect the Ross Sea from humans, most immediately industrial fishing (www.lastocean.org). David's passion led to the founding of FORSE (Friends of the Ross Sea Ecosystem), for which he wrote proposals and lead efforts to designate the Ross Sea as a Marine Protected Area. The Ross Sea constitutes 3.2% of the Southern Ocean and 0.01% of the World Ocean and is the subject of international resolutions from IUCN, WCC, MCBI and Mission Blue, nonetheless its cause is still ongoing in the chaotic geopolitical grab for resources.

David's underlying motivation in how one should conduct science is inspired by Thomas Jefferson, who in charging Meriwether Lewis with surveying the Louisiana Purchase, noted that making observations is important but those not recorded and reported is information lost. He's thus been an author or co-author of 4 books, 12 monographs and at least 230 papers about the ecology of marine upper trophic levels - seabirds, marine mammals, and sharks. He is the first to acknowledge that he could not have done this without the support of family, who graciously allowed him the long periods of absence from the 'normal' world.

