



Standing: W. B. Buehler, M. R. Rogers, B. S. Sjursen, D. L. Turley, T. M. McNeal, G. E. Johnson, D. P. Vanderwerf, A. M. Gavrishoff, J. E. LaFlamme, L. Weaver, P. M. Young, J. W. Broderick, T. A. Roberts, T. L. Paulman, J. C. Stanbro, J. H. Sproul, S. E. Riell, T. S. Hill, H. E. Simmons, W. G. Opperman, D. W. Burden, J. P. Andreano, S. G. Bicknel, G. A. Capacci, Kneeling: J. G. Skinner, E. E. Canada, L. A. Simpson, J. E. Foley, E. O. Schjolin, K. J. Cunningham, S. J. Ryan, B. L. Zeiner, R. N. Walker, R. L. Wright.

Deck Force

During the 76 - 77 winter south deployment the Deck Force faced numerous adversities, but under the strict but fair guidance of Ens. Capacci, our first lieutenant, much was accomplished. Next on the chain of command comes BMC Skinner, seldom seen or heard, but always present at critical times to take charge. Next in line was BM1 Dowler who unfortunately was unable to complete the trip, but proved to be a valuable link in maintaining the morale among the Deck Force. BM2 Buehler often hard and mean was the main driving force behind the Deck Department. He ruled with an iron fist and often clashed with BM3 Ryan and war would rage. Petty Officer Ryan was strict himself, but differed in principle and personality.

Across the Pacific and into the Antarctic proved to be an adventure. Few will forget "Blaze" Cheschi's "Yellow Submarines", BM3 Ryan's antarctic plunge and Doug "Jethro" Burden's solo demolition derby with McMurdo's tow truck. Who can forget sooging outside in the ice, teaching the Burton Island how to break ice and the penguins showing SN Cunningham how to play football. SN Cunningham looks like a pirate from the 1800's and played the part well crossing the Equator. He'll make a good Petty Officer if he ever passes the test.

While underway the Deck Force maintained watches on the bridge as Helmsman, Lookout, Messenger and Boatswain mate of the watch. Knowing these people it's a wonder we made it back. SN Schjolin took the record with a 48 degree roll this trip. Other people merely spilled cups and food on the mess deck.