

## A FAMILY THAT TRAVELS TOGETHER, SCATTERS

As soon as the kids were judged capable of taking care of themselves, but would still pretty much do as they were told, they began their ventures to foreign countries. The “minimum” age for such learning was guessed to be about 14, though there was some variation from teen to teen. Fortunately or not, they seemed to attain such an age very quickly, and soon became a group clamoring for more. Whenever possible, grandchildren were added if they qualified.

We had a habit of inviting other family members and friends to accompany us when possible, and some of the results have been 18 of us in Kenya, 14 in England and Scotland, 14 in France, 22 in Peru, 18 in China, 11 in Egypt and 16 in Antarctica. For a number of trips there may have been only four or five of us; there were four of us in South Africa one time, and five of us were on another trip to China.

I have always believed that the monies invested in these trips were well spent, for the returns keep arriving decade after decade. Appreciations for our country grow immeasurably after a number of other countries are experienced. We also relive many of our experiences when we are together, and the howls of laughter when memories are shared make a day incredibly bright.

Even before we started traveling as a family to foreign lands we had a habit of taking the family flag with us. Ultimately there were seven stars on the flag, and thirteen stripes representing the grandchildren. The flag will show great-grandchildren when they join the tribe for future travels to foreign countries.



There follows a potpourri of pictures illustrating family behavior in various places.



The Step Pyramid, Egypt



The Summit of Huayna Picchu, Peru



With the Terracotta Warriors in Xian, China



Near the Antarctica Peninsula



At the Tower of London



Balloon trip over the Masai Mara, Kenya



At the Door of the Cathedral, Lima, Peru



Tierra del Fuego, Argentina



The Karnak Temple, Egypt



Our Feluccas for Sailing down the Nile



On the Nile with Felucca Staff (the one on the right is the Astronaut)



On Antarctica



### In Colca Canyon, Peru

Each of these excursions was planned for about a year preceding. The priorities were several;

1. It is imperative that the most be obtained for the least money.
2. A “back up” plan is designed to enable surprises to be handled more easily.
3. Each person is responsible for his own stuff, and his own actions.
4. Scattering is OK if information and directions are left behind.