

# Project Cornerstone

## Newsletter #3:

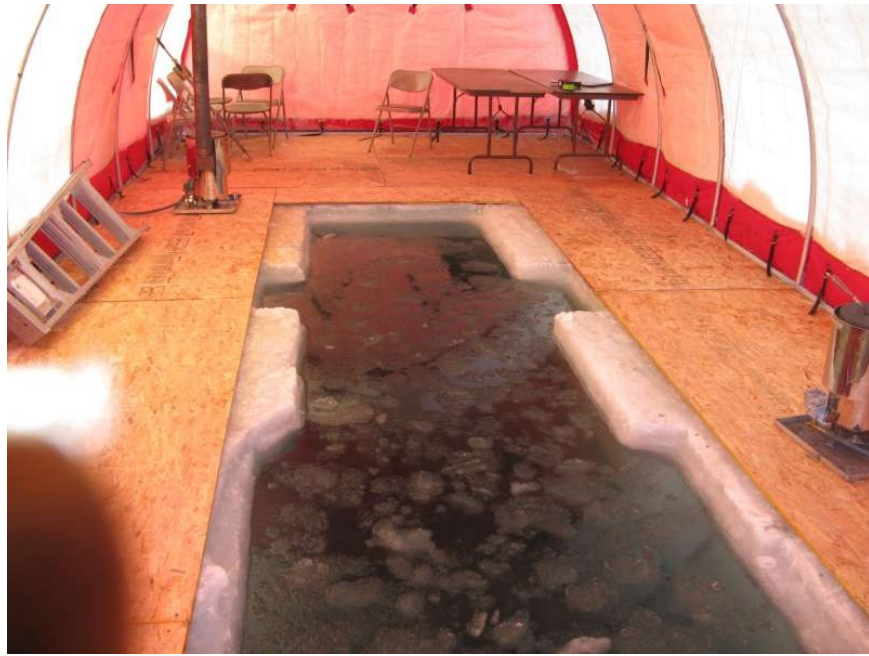
24 March, evening.  
Yesterday, the 23<sup>rd</sup>,  
I went out with  
Garry Heard to help  
set up his 'deep  
water' camp. The  
others who came  
along to help, teach  
and learn were Don  
Mosher, Warren  
Connors, Nicos  
Pelavas, Derek  
Clark and Sean  
Spears. The water  
at this site is 103 m  
deep, which,  
according to the  
chart is just about  
the deepest water  
in the area. The ice  
was only 80 cm  
(32") thick, which  
makes it easy to  
drill through, but, on  
the other hand  
makes it quite weak  
if the ice is put  
under pressure by a  
strong north wind.  
We'll just have to  
take the risk. The  
wonderful  
smoothness of the  
pan is shown by the  
upper picture. I  
believe we'll have to  
post speed limits.

Garry insists that  
the camp will be  
called Niflheim  
after the Norse  
mythological land of  
ice and cold. He says that at reasonable approximation to its pronunciation is: knee-ful-hym. (To the irreverent the camp is known as Dumbell Bay North.) The picture above shows Garry and company heading across the rough-ish ice out to their new camp.

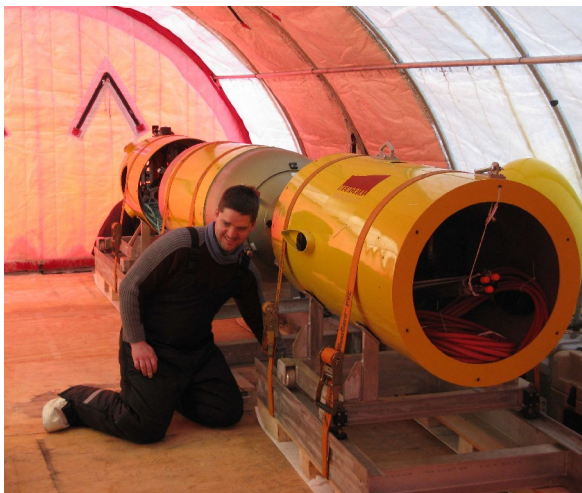
Today, the camp continued to grow. The Octagon tents were tied down nice and securely, and stoves, tables, chairs and other amenities were installed. The occupants had time to make a series of water-depth measurements.



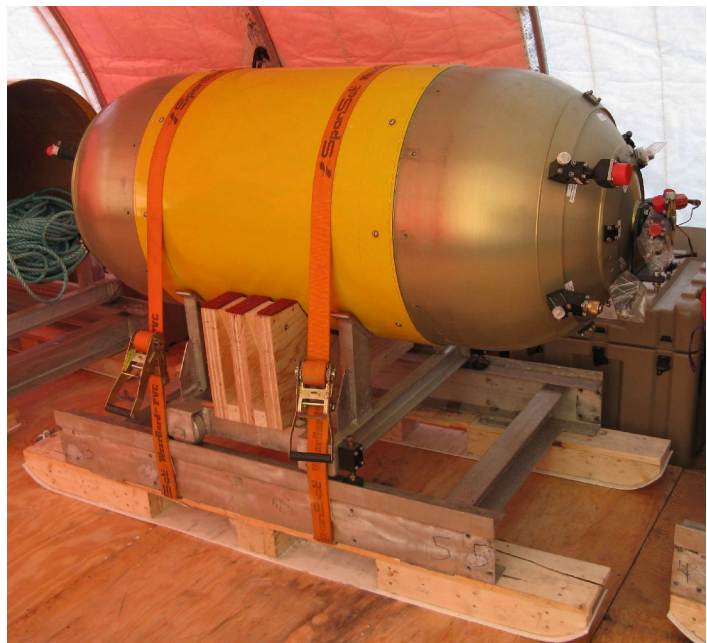
Yesterday at the larger main camp – the AUV camp – (Dumbell Bay South, perhaps), DRDC, ISE and MUN people put the AUV sections into the tent, with the intention of putting the vehicle together the following day. The picture to the right shows the large ice hole in the tent. This is, of course, before they started loading it with gear. You can get the scale from the plywood sheets. Notice that it is being heated by two small stoves. A little later in the season, one stove will be sufficient.



Today the hole was covered over with flooring panels, the gantry crane was brought in and set up, and the AUV was put together.



The picture above shows Peter King (MUN) with the AUV parts. The picture to the right shows the only part of the AUV that has to resist the pressure of the deep water. It will contain the batteries and electronics.



This picture shows the gantry crane after it had been wrestled inside and put together. The roof clearance is zero. Hooking up the winches are Sean Spears and Dave Wheaton. Al Tremblay is to the right. They are all from DRDC, Halifax.

Some of the other fellows who worked on the AUV today are:



Ron Lewis (from MUN)



Darrell Moulund (from MUN)



Chris Kaminski (from ISE)



Dan Graham (DRDC – Halifax)

Finally, to give you an idea of where we are working, Garry has provided the following map of the Alert/Dumbell-Bay area. The little blue squares are at one kilometer spacing. The AUV camp is located at the small circle just above the first 'L' in Dumbell Bay. Garry's camp (Niflheim or Dumbell Bay North) is at the small circle 2 km north of Cape Belknap, just by the 117-m depth sounding.



Best Wishes, Ron Verrall (ronverrall@gmail.com)