

Press Report

Eastern Greenland Expedition 2006 –

Arved Fuchs is setting off next week on his second expedition this year



Bad Bramstedt / Flensburg, 05.07.2006

Arved Fuchs (53) will be setting off on a new expedition this coming Friday, the 14th of July 2006, with his cutter the “Dagmar Aaen” and a crew of eight. Just a few weeks following the strenuous dogsled tour along the coast of Ellesmere Island, the Bad Bramstedter is planning to journey along the east coast of Greenland. From Flensburg, the crew will sail via Iceland to the biggest national park in the world (700,000 sq. km.) on the remote coast of Greenland in order to pick up the traces of the historical “Danmark Expedition”.

Besides the historical aspects of the tour, the effects of global warming will again play an important part. On the neighbouring island Spitzbergen, almost unimaginable changes in temperature have been observed since last December. These remarkable changes have turned the glacial island into the “Hot Spot” of climatic problems. Fuchs plans to make comparisons between this island and Greenland’s eastern coast during this journey.

One hundred years after the journalist Ludvik Mylius-Erichsen set out to sea from Copenhagen with a crew of 28 and his 51 year-old ship the “Danmark”, Arved Fuchs plans to pick up the traces of this historical expedition, which ended in tragedy at the time. The leader of the expedition died during the journey along with two other members of his team and his body was never found. The “Danmark” remained two winters at Cape Bismark at its winter camp, which was named “Danmarkshavn”.

It was to this spot, that Fuchs undertook a lengthy ski tour during his “Arctic Passages Expedition” in 1997/98, after allowing the “Dagmar Aaen” to freeze up in Scoresbysund. The Bad Bramstedter plans to pick up where he left off then and continue further north from there on his present expedition. The crew will attempt to sail further north than the “Danmark” did 100 years ago. It might even be possible to reach Brölund’s grave on Lambert Land. Brölund was the Greenlander, who accompanied Mylius-Erichsen. It has only been possible to reach this point by dogsled until now.

During the next few weeks, the “Dagmar Aaen” will seek out the many relics left behind from various expeditions. The crew will, in addition, determine to what degree the thickness of the ice, which could block the expedition ship’s passage, has changed during the past decades. Special satellites will provide the necessary information needed to find a route through the ice.

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