

# The Explorers Club

## Northern California Chapter

February 2012

In color at our web site: <http://www.explorersnorca.org>

**LOCATION**  
Note venues and dates with care.  
**In San Francisco, CA,**  
our next meeting is at 6:00 on  
February 24, a **FRIDAY** evening,  
at the City Forest Lodge  
south off Seventh AVENUE.

### The Future of Ocean Exploration

#### Undersea Flying

## Joshua Glovin

### San Francisco

## February 24, 2012

Submersibles have been used for over a hundred years to penetrate the oceans and uncover their secrets. Not until recently has submarine technology advanced far enough to allow a new kind of exploration. Traditional up-and-down subs have allowed for point exploration but not long distance survey. Hawkes Ocean Technologies (HOT) operations team used the *Super Falcon* submarine to conduct scientific expeditions in the Red Sea and offshore from Guadalupe Island, Mexico. Each of these expeditions are unique in their own way and succeeded in learning more about the oceans.

The Red Sea expedition focused on long, uninterrupted surveys of the sea floor near the coast. Each section was surveyed at a depth of about 50 meters and as deep as 100 meters. The survey provided Jordan with a baseline environmental condition for 2011. It is a visual reference of the bottom. We now know the density of life, diversity of life, topography, light penetration, and a host of other information about the coastline.

In the future, another survey will reveal the impact of various environmental and human factors, such as: How much industrial waste accumulates near a port due to high traffic? How much tourist trash accumulates offshore of a popular beach or hotel? Are

marine reserves effective in protecting the life and environment? Do they help replenish populations?

The other expedition, at Guadalupe Island, focused on the minimal influence observation of great white sharks. Our filming goal was to observe the animals acting naturally without baiting, cages or other interferences. Nearly all footage to date of great white sharks has recorded the same behaviors; sharks coming close to a boat looking for food. With the ability to travel at speed underwater we put our cameras in a unique position to record the sharks acting more naturally.

Each of these expeditions was met with success and lessons learned.

Operations in  
Jordan, 2011



Graham Hawkes'  
*Super Falcon*

Joshua Glovin has been with HOT since early 2009 beginning as an intern to assist in the first expedition featuring the *Super Falcon*. Subsequently he moved into his current role: throughout it's 225+ dives he has been at its side. From Monterey to the Red Sea to Mexico and even Lake Tahoe HOT has operated around the world. Currently he is working on ground-breaking ROV technology, primarily in fiber optics.



# When Things Go Wrong in the Wrong Place

## San Francisco — January 27

V. HURSON



How do we find some of the most fascinating, intelligent, exciting people for speakers? On January 27, almost fifty members and guests met at our newest venue, *City Forest Lodge*, enjoyed a fine, tasty banquet including wine, followed by a fascinating talk covering normal and extraordinary medical challenges faced by all expeditions traveling from TimbukTu to Inner Mongolia.

With both humility and levity, the California Academy of Science's Dr. Matt Lewin explained everything from resetting dislocated limbs to removing leeches from ones eyes—which, he stated, was a common occurrence. He went on to say that, initially, his medical kit was akin to a very large suitcase, but as his skills and confidence rose in solving all kinds of medical problems, he now carries nought but a small valise, including paper clips, safety pins and other common objects with which to stabilize those souls who would otherwise curtail or severely hamper a hapless exploration.

Our audience was riveted by Matt's many stories and slides.

Matt Lewin is a cross between a clearly brilliant field and emergency doctor and MacGuyver. It takes a special mind to like dealing with emergencies and to talk about them with such enthusiasm and humor.

When asked what he would like to leave with those who attended, and those who unfortunately missed, he said:

“Knowledge of what does and does not constitute a life or limb-threatening illness-injury is a key component of any medically relevant decision in the potential emergency setting. If you know what is likely to kill or harm if left untreated you can answer the questions of greatest practical importance: ‘If I delay or miss the diagnosis, will the patient come to harm?’”

“Once you have the answer to that question, you can answer the next question: ‘How much time is there to act and is any immediate action required?’”

After an evening of great advice Matt gave all present an extremely useful and easy suggestion for a survival tool—carry a safety pin. Ask anyone who was there for an explanation!

—thanks to Von Hurson & Rick Saber

In the field  
the Gobi “Desert”— flash flood (right)

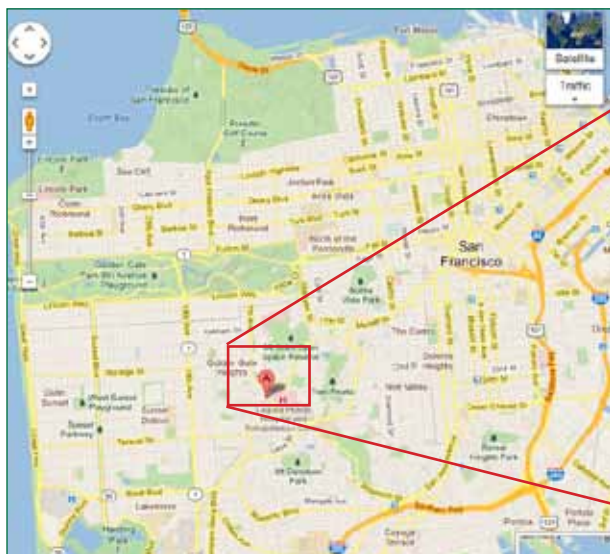
The *Member Moment* on February 24 will feature Mort Beebe FN78.

### FREQUENTLY FORGOTTEN ITEMS

- Sunglasses, hats, sunscreen
- ~~Pepto~~bismol, anti-diarrheal medicine
- Nail Clippers
- Ear plugs
- Q-tips
- Duff wipes & TP
- Thermometer!!
- Watch / extra watch / reading material / music.

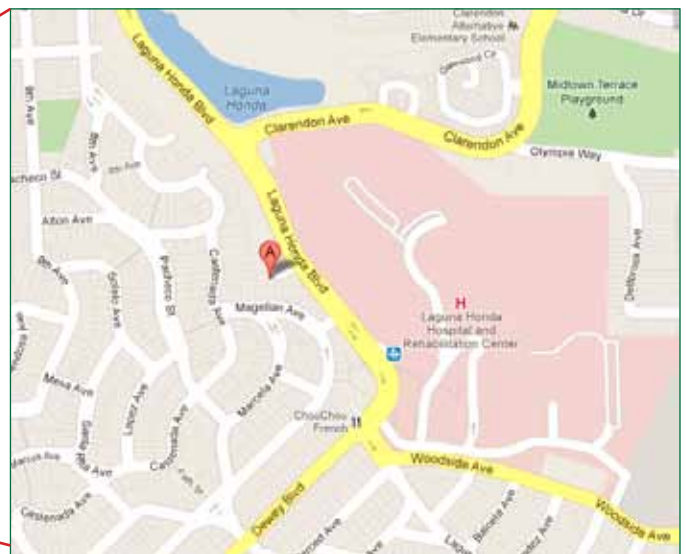


MATT LEWIN



City Forest Lodge is in the center of San Francisco near Laguna Honda Hospital.

South of Golden Gate Park, take 7th Avenue. From I280 take Junipera Serra and Potrero. From the east take Market to Woodside. Even easier take the Taraval L line to Forest Hill Station (one block away.)



## NorCA Chapter 2012 Contributors

Anderson, Susan  
Blumberg, Marion  
Boothe, Barry  
Boothe, Joan  
Cheatham, Dan  
Cook, Sandra  
Cromwell, Thomas  
Crowder, Wendy  
Durbin, Thomas  
Estey, Sue  
Ewing, Lesley  
Ford, Art  
Guzy, Michael  
Haringsma, Henry  
Jepsen, Anders  
Jepsen, Kathy  
King, Steven  
Kobal, Daniel A. –  
Kobal, Lois Z  
Komarmy, Margot  
Kvenvolden, Keith  
Langan, Lee  
Langan, PennyKarine  
Lidicker, William  
McFadden, Ian  
Pickworth, Diana  
Piper, Bob  
Saber, Rick  
Smith, Mark  
Smith, Steve  
Soper, Scott  
Taylor, Susan

**From the Chair—** Our meeting the other Friday was certainly a great success! A good turn out, great appreciation for the food and the venue, and accolades for the speaker, Chapter member. Dr. Matt Lewin FN10. It is, of course, always a pleasure to hear such a qualified speaker on the potential health travails that could occur when far away from civilization.

We propose to continue to use the City Forest Lodge as our primary meeting place, and we're working to arrange parking at the church next door so that coming there by car will be less of a hassle.

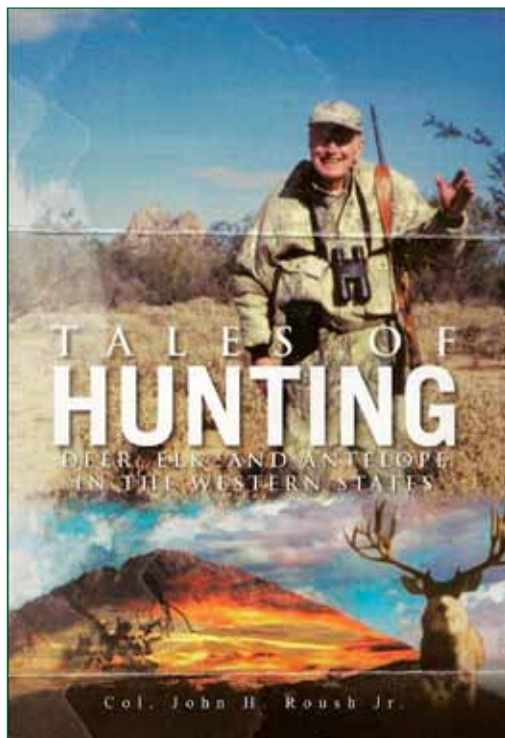
Next month ECAD, the Explorers Club Annual Dinner, is being held on Saturday 17 March at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in NYC. It's a great excuse to visit the Big Apple, and the weekend is full of TEC events, including the famous exotic canapés served at the cocktail party on Sunday afternoon, definitely an interesting and unique event. Contact Don Dana about sharing a table.

Finally, I want to remind everyone that it's Chapter Dues time again. The \$25 that we receive from each of you helps to cover the printing and delivery of our wonderful newsletter, which past Chapter Chair and current National Club Director Lee Langan puts together each month. Money well spent! Please respond soon. Thanks. –Anders Jepsen PhD FN03

**Storied Ice travels by Joan Boothe—** January 2012, my 11th trip to the Antarctic regions: 7th time to the Antarctic Peninsula, 6th time to South Georgia and 6th time to the Falkland Islands

My purpose, in particular, to see and try to understand places that I've read about in historic accounts. Officially I'm a paying passenger, but I will be giving two history lectures, supplementing the lectures of the historian on staff, so I'm semi-staff, *pro bono*

Precise destination: ah, to Antarctica, this is always an open question. We're going first to the Falkland Islands, spend three days there, on the outer islands (not going to Stanley, the capital); then to South Georgia, for six days. Then across the Scotia Sea to the Antarctic Peninsula. There we'll probably be mostly on the west coast, almost certainly all north of the Antarctic Circle.



**From the Board—** Your Board worked hard and long on the issues before it in New York on the last weekend in January. It was very productive for each of us (all sixteen directors were in attendance.) It was very productive for the Club. The natty problems and positive committee reports were dispatched over a period of two long days. The voting will result in various communications to members and chapters as details allow. We did our jobs—each director defending their position and a consensus was reached.

New York was Spring-like; the Lowell Thomas Building is beautiful with the scaffolds of recent years removed and the façade gleaming. The repaired leaded glass has tightened the building and it is snug and warm for folks and treasures therein. The extensive repairs managed by President Lorie Karnath are showing; now we are focused on repairing the European colonnades—those shared with the Cloisters—that border our terrace.

Members should have their Ballot, Biographical Material and Position Statement, Twelve candidates are presented, from which up-to-five (and no more) can be selected. I ask that you take the time to read each candidate's page, make a selection based upon your understanding of the qualifications for a mature, devoted volunteer Director, and VOTE. The By-Laws limit any Director to serve only two consecutive three-year terms, so only three current Directors are asking for your support to return.

—Lee Langan FN99

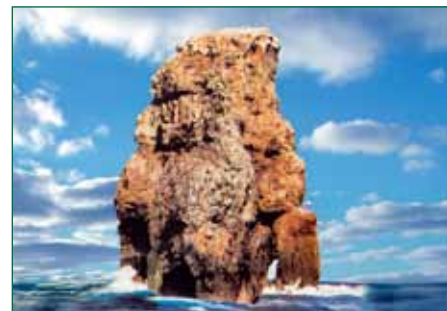
## Member Moment, 27 Jan: Bob Schmieder—

Chairman Emeritus Bob Schmieder FN86 took full advantage of his Member's Moment: He claimed a world's record! As he described it, back in 1990 he led an expedition to Rocas Alijos, an oceanic volcano 200 miles off the Pacific side of Baja. While the expedition's purpose was scientific—they were mapping, collecting specimens, and analyzing the water, and so on—Bob was able to carry out the first known ascent to the summit.

There he pulled out a radio and connected with the boat lying a mile away. A radio on the boat connected to the headquarters of the Explorers Club in New York, and then by telephone to the president of the Club. Total cost for the expedition: \$68145. Total number of radio contacts: 1. Cost per contact: \$68145. "That," Bob claimed with considerable triumphant gusto, "is a world record!" Judging by the enthusiastic applause, the attendees wholeheartedly agreed.



Photos courtesy Bob Schmieder



**Charles Geraci M.D.** died on January 16; he was 88 and a skilled surgeon.

We knew him as a cheerful exploration colleague who attended almost all our meetings with Louise! That is until the harshness of Alzheimer Disease robbed him of his memory.

His family arranged a memorial for Charley at Stanford on February 2nd; that beautiful church held a bounty of friends from his days of service as a clearly beloved practitioner of medical arts. While a surgeon, he was known to attend to the whole needs of his patients. For fifty-five years he was on call, but that hardly diminished his love of life. He was a classical pianist, he built a harpsichord and clavichord—and played them; he crafted grandfather clocks. He hiked the Sierra and skied. He served on the *SS Hope* in Peru and Ceylon and explored during wide travels of the world. He served, as well, at Ganado, Arizona, to the Navajos. Unbeknownst to many he completed the New York Times crossword each morning, in ink and in a quarter hour!

We shall miss his skills, his wit and his camaraderie.

**Tales of Hunting—**This volume contains many readable adventures of hunting deer, elk and antelope within the Western States. We are taken afield in authentic stories of the enjoyment of ethical hunting in greater detail than permitted with the ordinary magazine article, to the extent that the reader can identify with the course of the adventure and visualize the scene. The excitement of facing a trophy animal that would likely qualify for entry within the record books must be one of the most thrilling moments of any hunter's life-time experiences.

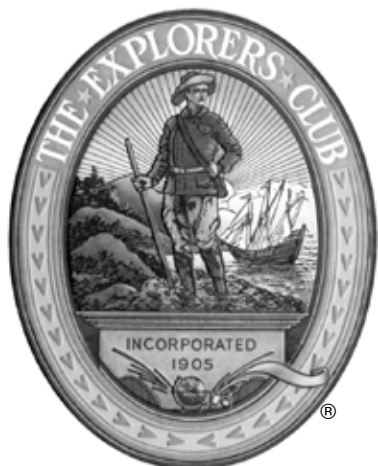
The colorful scenes of the sites of Western hunting add visualizations and charm to the experiences. With many decades of hunting experience, as a master measurer for the SCI record books, the author has had a wide background of interviewing prominent, successful hunters and has endeavored to incorporate within this book much of the wisdom gained from those highly capable men together with his own.

Col. John Roush Jr. FN80 is a retired Army officer whose last assignment was as a military attaché. He is a 25-year member of the American Outdoor Writers Association who authored twelve books in diverse fields. John has 86 big game trophies in the record books. You can get a copy of the book directly from John: [www.colroush.com](http://www.colroush.com)

Dues cover  
the costs of our  
newsletter!

Add Your Name  
by sending \$25  
to Treasurer  
Joan Boothe

February 2012



Chair: Anders Jepsen
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415 346-5934
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Secretary: Stephen E. Smith
Webmaster: Mike Diggles
Newsletter: Lee Langan

February 24, 2012 – HOT Undersea Flying

Northern California Calendar of Events

(Venues are identified as soon as known.)

Our Next Event

February 24 . . . . . Joshua Glovin
HOT Ocean Exploration . . . . . City Forest Lodge

Upcoming Events (2012)

March 30 . . . . . Ed Von Der Porten
New Findings of San Felipe. . . . . City Forest Lodge
April 27 . . . . . Stephen Smith
16 years at Kosrae . . . . . City Forest Lodge
May 25 . . . . . Joel Tracey/John Wilus
Fremont's Canon . . . . . City Forest Lodge
June 9 . . . . . Angel Island Picnic

Earlier Chapter Events (2011/12)

February 25 . . . . . Don Dana
Ethiopian Research Expedition University Club
March 25 . . . . . Tom Cromwell, MD
Medical Disasters . . . . . University Club
April 22 . . . . . Robin Ziegler
Google Earth . . . . . University Club
May 20 . . . . . Alan Nichols
Dead Men Tell Tales. . . . . California Academy
June 11 . . . . . Angel Island Picnic
September 23 . . . . . Jim Westerman
The Osireion, Egypt . . . . . UC Faculty Club
October 28 . . . . . Jay Gregory
Discovering Bolivia . . . . . University Club
November . . . . . Joan Boothe/University Club
Otto Nordenskjöld's 1901-03 Saga of Survival
December 5 . . . . . Rick & Aldeana Saber
Member Reception . . . . . Tiburon
January 27, 2012 (Friday). Expedition Medicine
Matthew Lewin, MD . . . . . City Forest Lodge

Send address changes and corrections by email to Steve at nauticos1@oceaneearth.org

USE PAYPAL!

February 24, San Francisco

Date: Friday January 27, 2012
Place: City Forest Lodge
254 Laguna Honda Blvd
San Francisco, CA 94116-1409
(415) 753-8326
Time: 6:00 - reception
7:15 - dinner — 8:00 - talk
Cost: \$49 in advance; \$60 after 20 Feb
Students: \$35. (2012 dues \$25!)
Reserve \_\_\_ spaces for February 24, 2012
Cost: \$49 (for members and sirdars)
\$35 for card-carrying students
Name: \_\_\_\_\_
Address (if changed): \_\_\_\_\_
Companion: \_\_\_\_\_
Please reserve by Feb 20!
Please mail information to Joan Boothe,
2435 Divisadero St., San Francisco, CA 94115
or email hoodoskr@aol.com or call (415) 346-5934

We have an established PayPal account.

For those of you who have an account, you can sign up and remit dinner costs to the NorCA Chapter by transferring money to: explorersnorca@gmail.com
There is a PAYPAL BUTTON on our website (www.explorersnorca.org); easy to use!

SECOND MEETING AT A NEW VENUE FOR THE NorCA CHAPTER

The City Forest Lodge was sought out as a meeting place in the heart of San Francisco; location details are mapped on page 2 of the newsletter. The Lodge has the catering and space needs we require, and our January meeting proved it worked!

There is parking, and the location, while unfamiliar to many, is easy to find tucked away just across from the City's Laguna Honda Hospital.

Muni access is VERY easy from downtown via the light-rail Taraval 'L' Line and Ocean View 'M' Line. Exit at the Forest Hill station and walk a block north. These lines can be reached by BART and the Peninsula's CalTrain. (Forest Hill Station is located deeper underground than any other Muni Metro station; so much so that, unlike other stations, most people use an elevator to reach the platform at Forest Hill.)