

The Explorers Club

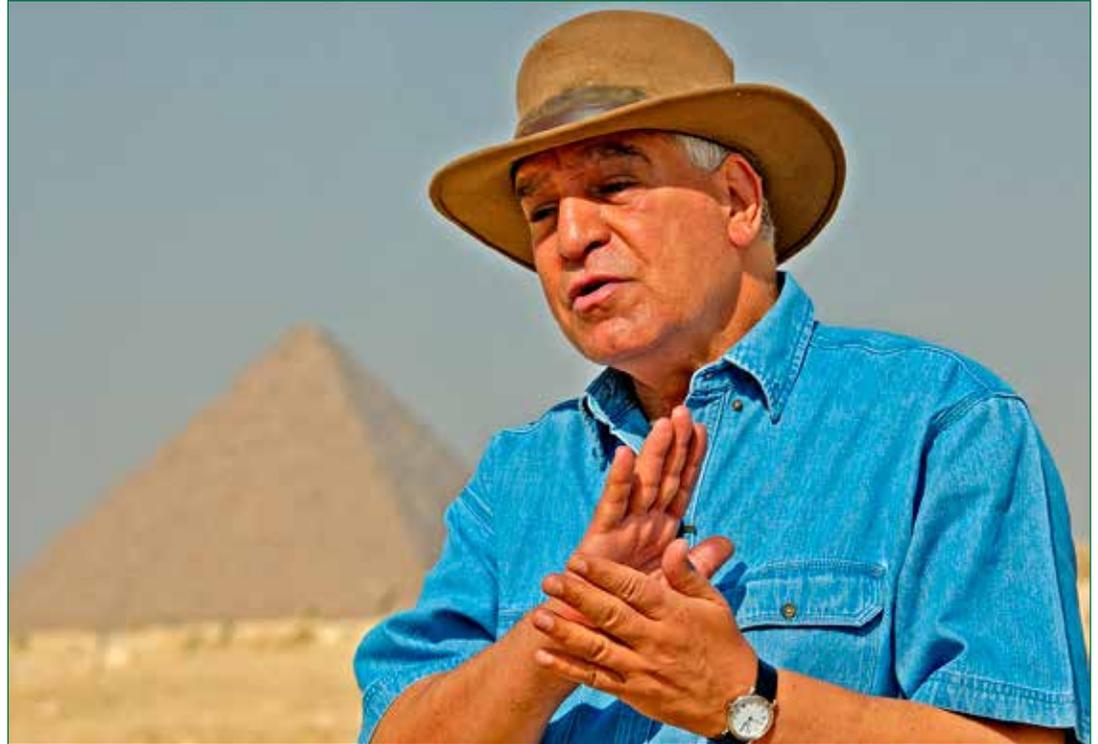
Northern California Chapter

October 2013

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

LOCATION

Note venues and dates with care.
In Carmel Valley, CA,
our next is a weekend meeting
October 25-26, 2013,
in and about Monterey Peninsula.
Come for all or part!



An Evening with Dr. Zahi Hawass

Noted Egyptologist will meet with the Northern California Chapter
Carmel Valley—October 25, 2013

Dr. Zahi Hawass, a world renowned archeologist, received his Ph.D. in Egyptology from the University of Pennsylvania in 1987. He is responsible for numerous exciting archaeological finds in Egypt including the *Tombs of the Pyramid Builders* at Giza and the *Valley of the Golden Mummies* at Bahariya. During current turbulent times in his home country of Egypt, Dr. Hawass is especially concerned with the conservation of Egypt's monuments for which he has worked tirelessly over the past several decades to protect and conserve them.

He supervised a major conservation project on the Great Sphinx and developed site management plans for a number of important sites, including the *Unfinished Obelisk Quarry* in Aswan and the *Temples of Kom Ombo, Edfu and Dendera*. Not only is he a scholar and conservationist, he is also an extraordinary speaker, a man who has lectured all over the world, received an Emmy, and been featured in numerous television specials.

A Photographic Expedition Along the California Coast, October 26

A no-cost photography tour of Big Sur with noted photographer Peter Hemming from lunch to sunset. Meet for lunch at 12:30 pm at Rocky Point Restaurant, Rocky Point, Big Sur (11 miles south of Carmel on Highway One), concluding with dinner at Nepenthe. (Meals are no-host.)

RSVP: dedewhiteside@aol.com.

His authored books include *Women in Pharaonic Egypt*, *Secrets from the Sands*, *The Great Book of Egypt* and *The Valley of the Golden Mummies*—now published in five languages. A few of his many honors include: *Time Magazine's Top 100 Most Influential People* (2005); *Who's Who in America* and *Who's Who in Science and Engineering* (2006). He received a Silver Medal and membership in the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences (2001).

Dr. Hawass' lectures typically sell out large auditoriums. He will be flying in from Cairo to speak to our small group limited to 75 attendees. This will be an extraordinary opportunity for us to hear, first hand, what current challenges face the world of archeological exploration, and to get an inside view of the Pyramids he knows so well.

Bring a question or two and be amazed!

(His web site is a popular source of information about Ancient Egypt and also hosts a fan club for children: www.guardians.net/hawass)

Zahi Hawass Dinner Details

DATE / TIME: Friday / October 25 — 6:00 Cocktail reception (cash bar in Garden room); 7:00 Dinner (in Library); 8:00 Program and Dr. Hawass lecture

LOCATION: Del Mesa Clubhouse 500 Del Mesa Drive, Carmel CA 93923
Phone 831.624.1853

DINNER AND LECTURE COST: \$70 in advance, prior to 18 October
\$100 for reservations made from October 18 through October 22.
Absolutely no reservations will be accepted after October 22.

See rear page for reservation details.

Varied Tales from Emeriti Chairs — Sept 27 @ San Francisco



Speakers and former NorCA Chairs: (l-r)
 Dr. Steve Smith (2003-2005)
 Dr. Bill Isherwood (1999-2000)
 Lee Langan (2006-2008, just back from Sahara)

Lee Langan FN'99 spoke of his admiration of the elephant with photographs he has taken in Africa and Asia of these magnificent animals. He prefaced these with a memory of Miss Jim, an Asian elephant bought by the school children of St. Louis, Missouri. A childhood joy was to ride 'his' elephant at the St. Louis Zoo—his and all the city's children. He ended his talk with a clip from club-member John Hemimway's *Battle for the Elephant*, a PBS special devoted to the crisis in poaching for ivory caused by the insatiable demand in Asia for the limited number of these wondrous animals under slaughter. See it at <http://video.pbs.org/video/2336802391/> and judge.

Chair Rick Saber queried the audience and awarded a special recognition gift for Steve's presentation: a Golden Gate *mushroom* (a rivet collected below the bridge years ago when one could do this!

Despite health bugs, traffic delays and unavoidable absences three prior chairs of the Northern California Chapter unveiled their 'secret' presentations to a rapt group on our September 27 meeting.

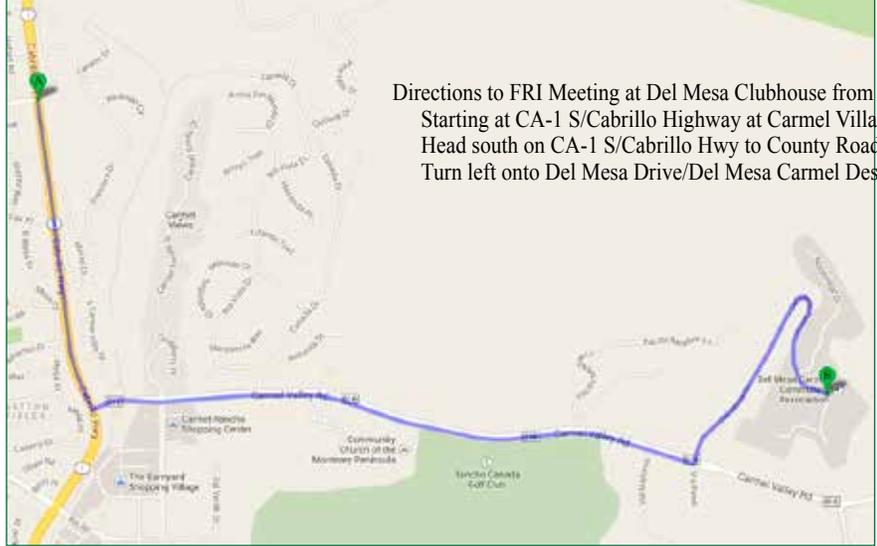
Bill Isherwood FN'70 arrived from Seattle to tell us about early ice soundings in Antarctica in the 1960s. For two austral summers and a winter-over he participated in the development moving from single-point seismic observations to detect the depth of the ice cap, through towing a radio-sounding antenna tractor along a 1350-km traverse (as part of 40,000 pounds being hauled), to portable helicopter-transported antennae. They managed to locate ice thicknesses of 3-km! They also found an entire mountain range unknown to man before. In the third year they developed airborne means to detect the ice depth, evolving beyond the ground-based resource-bound approaches.

Bill met Dr. Wernher von Braun while on the Ice, who became his sponsor for The Explorers Club. (Ed. Note: Bill sponsored me! Thus, there is only one degree from a relationship to the first Director of the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center!)

Steve Smith FN'96 spoke of the fork in the road that made him an explorer. Approached by competing mentors in graduate school at the University of Arizona, he took the road less traveled—to Niger for a three-year project. This extreme-poverty, landlocked country on the sub-Saharan border has little beyond the spirit of its people. Steve spoke with emotion about his admiration for their tenacity and the contrast between those of the first world in comparison. Even spending long periods working to improve upon ancient methods of energy conservation, water gathering and the most basic ways to maintain life, his group made one recommendation that surprised even them. An elegant software methodology to use solar energy (well before our current grasp of its benefits.) What they then realized, and should have known: there are no computers in Niger and no money for their acquisition. Steve continues to maintain an awareness of this poor country, filled with political strife and elegant people.



Steve Smith with his Golden Gate Bridge mushroom



Directions to FRI Meeting at Del Mesa Clubhouse from Carmel:
 Starting at CA-1 S/Cabrillo Highway at Carmel Village to Del Mesa Community Association,
 Head south on CA-1 S/Cabrillo Hwy to County Road G16 Carmel Valley Road, go left; continue east 1.7 miles.,
 Turn left onto Del Mesa Drive/Del Mesa Carmel Destination will be on the left - 0.9 mi

Getting to Hawass talk and dinner

Accommodations

There are very limited Hacienda or Del Mesa guest rooms at \$89 + tax per night. These should be arranged through dedewhiteside@aol.com.

Dede can also help with other lodging, but the price will be higher.

Please also book reservations for Saturday's **Photo Expedition** through Dede. Reserve for the dinner/lecture through Steve Smith (see back page.).

Allan, Jim
Anderson, Caryn
Barrett, Reginald
Berg, Barbara
Blumberg, Marion
Bogardus, Peter
Boothe, Barry
Boothe, Joan
Breed, George
Cantini, Mary
Chase, H. Keith
Cheatham, Nonna
Clinch, Nicolas
Conway, Peterson
Cook, Sandra
Cooper, Alan
Crowder, Wendy
Day, Peggy
Durighello, Joy
Dutcher, Susan
Ellis, Scott
Estey, Sue
Ewing, Lesley
Faggioli, Richard E.
Ford, Art
Glantz, Gina
Glantz, Ron
Guzy, Michael
Guzy, Michael
Hamer, Michael
Hemming, Peter
Heydorn, William
Heyneman, Donald
Hicks, Harry
Higgins, Bob
Hirzel, David
Hodges, Eliot
Hurson, Jim
Hurson, Von
Hutchison, Alan
Hutchison, Ann
Isaac, Nancy
Jake, Krist
Jepsen, Anders
Jepsen, Kathy
Judd, Kathy
Klotz, Suzanne
Klotz, Suzanne
Komarmy, Margot
Komarmy, Margot
Kutz, Dida
Kvenvolden, Keith
Langan, Karine
Langan, Lee
Lapham, Ellen
Libowitz, Dan
Long, Elgen
Maroney, Robert
McGann, Mary
McPhail, Brian
Meniketti, Marco
Merdinger, Charles
Moyer, David
Neiman, Martin
Nichols, Peter
O'Kane, Teresa
Perkins, Shelby
Phelps, Laura
Prigoff, James
Ross, Sandy
Roush, John
Rygh, Char
Saber, Rick
Schmieder, Bob
Schmieder, Kay
Smith, Mark
Smith, Steve
Stewart, Zack
Taylor, Susan
Van Austen, Judy
Van Austen, Robert
Von der Porten, Ed
Walsh, Don
Wegst, Andy
Weil, James
Whiteside, Dede
Ziegler, Robin



From the Chair— Welcome back from your summer in the Field! We members follow far different paths through life than the average mortal. Your Chapter Board has been busy exploring, planning ahead and setting goals to keep us inspired. Some items we'd like to share; Lee Langan and I traveled to Morocco, on short notice, as Delegates of The Explorers Club and guests of King Mohammed VI. Fourteen of us from around the world convened in NY for briefing, then flew off to Casablanca, Marrakech and out on the Sahara for five intense days. Our assigned goal, to assist in the possible establishment of the first Explorers Club Chapter in Africa; and to attend *Moussem de Tan Tan*, a meeting of 35 tribes, Bedouins, camels & stallions making up about 35,000 who come annually to share their culture and honor the King. Our President, Alan Nichols, addressed the entire Arab world, through media coverage, about our shared values, acceptance of Explorers from all cultures and gratitude for our invitation. We left an impression of friendship and support for the King's goals which was recognized by a note of thanks delivered to Alan.

Your Chapter Board met immediately on our return and commenced an aggressive setting of our own goals, future plans with world class speakers and field trips. Two immediate targets are a major overhaul/upgrade of our website to create easy navigation and a robust ability to improve communications, instantly with interactively shared photos, explorations and meeting details; the second goal is an updated roster. Both works are progressing with timelines. We also passed a non-binding resolution to consider assistance in the creation of a Moroccan Chapter with the possibility of making it as a *Sister Chapter*. At this time, this is only conceptual.

The Board is most grateful to our Secretary, Dede Whiteside Hicks, for creating a most exciting up-coming weekend. Monterey, always in vogue for weekend exploration, will feature Dr. Zahi Hawass, World authority on Egyptology, pyramid discoveries and conservation who will be flying from Cairo to speak to us Friday, October 25. Normally speaking to sell out crowds of thousands, he has agreed to join our intimate gathering of 75 maximum. Revealed at our September meeting, many have already signed up, including we Saber's; all prior to notice or newsletter. (Your Chair even turned down an opportunity to join a Flag Expedition to China this month. Why? to hear about the dark secrets of the sands Dr. Hawass may disclose.) Read about this remarkable opportunity, then get aboard to join us for a stunning weekend, including Pro-Photographer Peter Hemming who will lead us on a coastal photo expedition Saturday. Read all details carefully, sign on early and stay tuned for advance news on other great events coming up.

As you can see, your NorCA Chapter is anything but static- I thank your tireless Board of Joan Boothe, Steve Smith, Dede Hicks, Lee Langan, the Hursons, Bob Schmieder and immediate past Chair Anders Jepsen for exceptional guidance, goal setting and steadfast follow-through enabling the bright future we see ahead for our Chapter.

—Capt. Rick Saber MN'01

AN IMPORTANT NorCA DECISION

The Chapter has experienced many problems with last minute reservations, cancellations, unpaid no-shows (who had reserved) and other RSVP issues. This causes monetary loss, catering problems and difficulties for our Treasurer.

Therefore, effective immediately, a reservation made is a reservation that must be paid for, unless canceled before the reservation deadline.

Paid reservations may be transferred to an alternate/replacement attendee who has not already reserved and paid, but not carried to next event.

Refunds for cause will be at Treasurer's discretion only. If, and only if, space is available, reservations made after the reservation deadline may be accepted and/or day-of walk-ins accommodated, but all will be charged at the premium rate.

Our October weekend will adhere to strict RSVP requirements imposed by the caterer, for this Special Event – RSVP at the \$70 per person rate closes 18 October. Late reservations, on a space-available basis, will be accepted from 19 October to 22 October at \$100/person. Absolutely no reservations will be accepted following October 22. Space for this extraordinary event is limited, and we anticipate that it will be a sell-out. Reserve early to avoid disappointment!

We hope you understand our needed decision.

—your NorCA Board

A Personal Decision

This newsletter, in essentially the same format, has been published for a decade. I have received many compliments for which I am very grateful. Thank you. It is time, however, to let some new eyes take on the editorial chores. I ask if anyone would enjoy this to step forward. Contact me or Rick Saber, our Chair. This is not an urgent plea; it is a real request. I will not disappear. I particularly enjoy writing the lecture synopses. However, a decade is sufficient. Come forth yee of new blood.

In this same vein, let me address the matter of receiving digital or print versions. The *NorCA Newsletter* is distributed in full color upon release to approximately 250 emails. It is posted on our website—adding to meeting summaries from 1996—in the same PDF format. As a holdover to Mr. Gutenberg's press invention, it is printed, collated, addressed and posted to 295 each issue, eight or nine times a year.

The digital distribution is free! The printed copies cost the chapter 95¢ each, mailed. (We no longer mail internationally, which was more.) They are sent efficiently, using the USPS Click & Mail site. Here we upload the same PDF that we create, in an enhanced resolution, plus our address list (updated each issue). Voilà, each recipient gets a black & white laser version. (It is no where near the quality of the color version, but it tells our tale.)

The chapter can afford to do this, but should it? You know, trees and such.

Which do YOU want? Think about it and tell us. If you read this as a printed copy, and want to change, email our webmaster Mike Diggles (mike@diggles.com). Give him your name and email address. Done! Otherwise, enjoy it as you do.

—your Editor



Tan Tan delegation arrives in Tan Tan, Morocco

From the Board Your Chapter Chair well noted the exciting visit that 14 delegates of the Club made to the Kingdom of Morocco and the special opportunity to accept the invitation as Honored Guest at the *Moussem de Tan Tan*. It was a true education for all, condensed into five days and distant travel. Participation by Chapters, Committees, Officers and the Board made the visit truly representative of those who are active participants in the Club.

Exploring Legends (conducted by Board Director Jim Clash) continued, with two more (now 14 this year) featuring the Gariott father and son astronauts and Vanessa O'Brien who climbed the highest peaks on seven continents and visited both poles in one year!

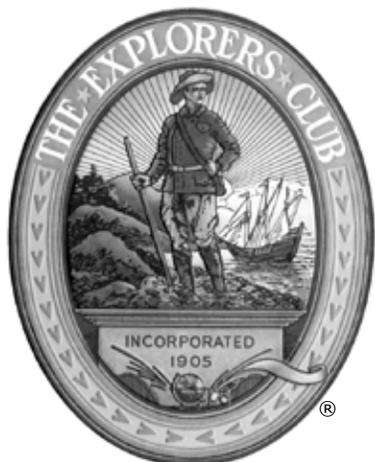
—Lee Langan FN'99

The list is building.
Add your name!
Dues go to the cost
of our newsletter!

Send \$25. to
Steve Smith



October 2013



Chair: Rick Saber
415 457-0345
eagle@rsaber.com
Vice Chair: Joan Boothe
415 346-5934
hoodooskr@aol.com
Treasurer: Stephen E. Smith
925 934-1051
ecnca@oceanearth.org
Secretary: Dede Whiteside Hicks
Webmaster: Mike Diggles
Newsletter: Lee Langan

October 25-26, 2013 – Carmel Valley

Northern California Calendar of Events

(Venues are identified as soon as known.)

Our Next Event

October 25-27, 2013 - Monterey Weekend
Dede Whiteside Hick's event

Upcoming Events (2013)

November 22, 2013 . Robert Christiansen Ph.D
Volcanology-Hazards City Forest Lodge
December 8, 2013 . Saber residence, San Rafael
Holiday Party
January-May 2014 plans available soon.
June 2014 NorCA Picnic

Earlier Chapter Events (2012/13)

October 26 City Forest Lodge
Cordilleran Blanca. Dr. Bill Straka
November 30. Prof. Michael J. Harner
Tribes of the Amazon and Shamanism
December 16. Annual Holiday Party
..best expedition photo contest". Saber home
January 25, 2013. TEC Board visit
Board's Story Night Ferryboat, Pier 3, SF
February 22, Dr David Des Marais
Mars Exploration by NASA, Moffett Field
March 28, Susan Klotz
Northeast Nepal. City Forest Lodge
April 26 Bob Schmieder
Clipperton Isle City Forest Lodge
April 29, 2013 Solar Impulse visit
Moffett Field Mountain View
May 11, 2013 NorCA Field Trip
Black Diamond Coal Mine, Contra Costa
May 24, 2013 Nicole L. Crane
Conserving Ocean Resources City Forest Lodge
June 9, 2013 - NorCA Picnic
Angel Island "Expedition"
September 27, 2013 Former Chairs
Selected Tales, 40th Anniver. City Forest Lodge

USE PAYPAL!

October 25, Carmel Valley @ Del Mesa Clubhouse

DATE / TIME: Friday / October 25 — 6:00 Cocktail reception (cash bar in Garden room); 7:00 Dinner (in Library); 8:00 Program and Dr. Hawass lecture
LOCATION: Del Mesa Clubhouse 500 Del Mesa Drive, Carmel CA 93923
Phone 831.624.1853; see map and directions on page 2.

DINNER AND LECTURE COST: \$70 in advance, prior to 18 October
\$100 for reservations made from October 18 through October 22.
Absolutely no reservations will be accepted after October 22.
Please mail information, payment, food choice to Steve Smith,
email ecnca@oceanearth.org, call (925) 934-1051
or mail to 402 Via Royal, Walnut Creek, CA 94597

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!

Reserve _____ spaces for 25 October 2013

Cost: \$70 each person

Name: _____
Address (if changed): _____
Companion: _____

Entrée Choice (select from below*):
Filet au Poivre, Coquilles St. Jacques au Pernod or Vegetarian

Send address changes and corrections by email to Dede at dedewhiteside@aol.com

Please reserve by OCTOBER 17, 2013!