

The Explorers Club

Northern California Chapter

November 2013

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

Volcanology — Hazards

Volcanos can be very dangerous!

San Francisco—November 22, 2013

Robert L Christiansen is a Research Geologist Emeritus with the U.S. Geological Survey in Menlo Park, California. He graduated from Stanford University in 1956 and was awarded his Ph.D. by Stanford in 1961.

Dr. Christiansen first joined the Geological Survey during the summers of 1954 and 1957 as a field assistant and junior geologist, working in Montana and Alaska. He was a full-time geologist with USGS from 1961 until his retirement in 2003 and continues to work actively on research projects for the USGS as a Scientist Emeritus. After starting his USGS career on volcanic rocks of the Nevada Test Site during the early phases of underground nuclear testing, he began a long career of research on active and recently active volcanoes, including studies in Hawaii, Japan, New Zealand, Italy, and Kenya. His longest and, perhaps most widely known study was in establishing the volcanic history of the enormous ash flows and calderas of Yellowstone National Park and vicinity, one of Earth's largest volcanic systems. For the past two decades he has been engaged in a detailed study of the volcanism and related

hazards of Mount Shasta and other volcanoes in the Cascade Range of Northern California.

Among other activities on behalf of the USGS, he was at various times Coordinator of the Geothermal Research Program, Chief of the Branch of Field Geochemistry and Petrology, and Coordinator of the Volcano Hazards Program, including supervision of Volcano Observatories in Hawaii, Washington State, Alaska and Yellowstone. During the eruptions of Mount St. Helens, Washington, in 1980 he organized the Geological Survey's response efforts with a program of monitoring and scientific analysis during the first 5 months of the eruptions. During the academic year 1984-85 he was Visiting Lecturer in Igneous Petrology and Volcanology at Harvard University.

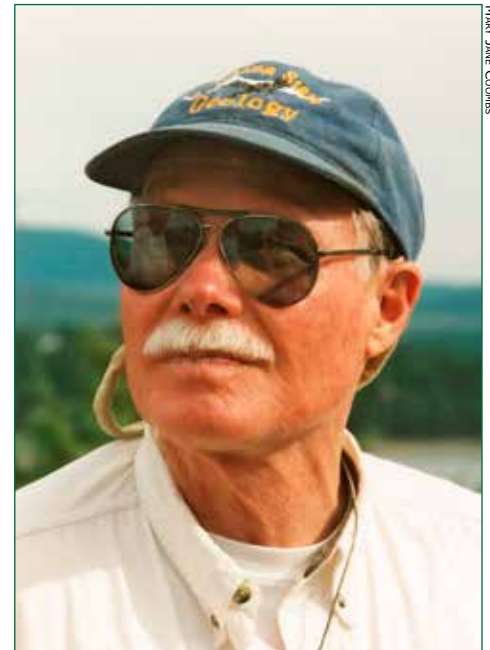
His professional affiliations include being a fellow of the Geological Society of America, the Mineralogical Society of America, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and a member of the American Geophysical Union, the International Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of Earth's Interior, and the

LOCATIONS

Note venues and dates with care.

In San Francisco, CA,
our next meeting is 6:30 pm
November 22, a FRIDAY,
at City Forest Lodge

Holiday Party is at Saber's
San Rafael
December 8, a SUNDAY



MARY JANE COOKS

research society Sigma Xi.

From this experience he will speak about the hazards associated with volcanism.

A NorCA Holiday Reception at Chairman & Aldeana Saber's

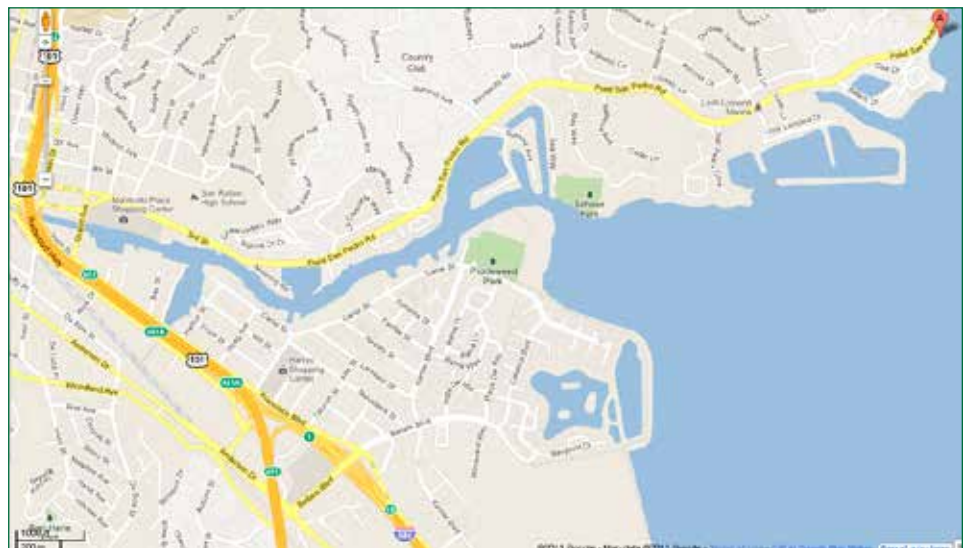
San Rafael — SUNDAY, December 8, 2013

We continue the tradition, as *the* season approaches, to gather and trade stories rather than to sit to listen. We shall again be the guests at the home of Chairman Rick Saber and his lovely wife of 26 years, Aldeana.

The December meeting of the Northern California Chapter will be held on **Sunday, December 8, from 4 to 8 pm at 828 Point San Pedro Road, San Rafael.** Members, Sir-dars, and their partners, are welcome. Potential members—bring 'em along!

BE SURE to sign up with Steve Smith. The gathering is free, but it is *very* important and helpful to know how many to expect!

To the right is a map showing the location of the Saber home by the Bay. From 101 find your way onto 3rd Street which becomes Point San Pedro Road. Parking is easy.



The Sabers request that guests wear soft shoes to protect their floor.

A Monterey Extravaganza — October 25 & 26

Sold out! Almost all seats were reserved within four days for our Monterey Weekend Talk. Of course, Dr. Zahi Hawass could have filled five times the space we had. Those fortunate enough to jump on the tickets were rewarded by an evening never to be forgotten. The ambiance, program and buzz of excitement was likened to a Hollywood Oscar Night. Mingling up close and personal with the #1 Egyptologist in the World had a lot to do with this stellar evening. All was planned and executed to perfection by our Secretary Dede Whiteside Hicks. It was said, by all attending, that the Del Mesa forest setting, the quality and presentation of five star cuisine, the candle lit décor and 1st class Bravery Cellars Wine from Jim and Von Hurson's Napa Winery insured success. Dr. Hawass kept us all on the edge of our seats as he guided us through deep, newly discovered tombs, into fantastic and challenging excavations; all the while breathing life into four thousand year old mummies. His own excitement in describing his discoveries over many decades was punctuated by his relating of ancient Egyptian humor cloaked in mysterious hieroglyphics. He dispelled any thoughts that tombs were dry and dreary burial sites.

Dr. Hawass began his presentation with a short clip updating the current situation in Egypt and how it has affected Egypt's antiquities from the Cairo museum break-in to the looting and the near destruction of another museum and its artifacts.

Evolving technology has made research easier. DNA and CT scans have confirmed identities and dispelled rumored causes of death in mummies.

On a closing note, Dr. Hawass summed up what fuels his drive – and should inspire others in whatever quests they choose. Liking to do something is not enough. Love, also, is not enough. Passion – that brings everything to a new level, said Zahi.

We were left in awe and wonder. There is still much to discover in the dark secrets held by the sands and the Nile.

The next day, our own Pied Piper, Peter Hemming, led an all day photo expedition highlighting, through the lens, many of the breathtaking vistas along the Big Sur coast. Veils of fog and sunlit shafts of light yielded plenty of photo memories for the twenty who followed him, learning newfound ways to coax excellent results from their magic boxes.

We finished the day with Zahi at Nepenthe just as the sun set, and enjoyed the camaraderie brotherhood as the true Explorers we all are. The experience was *priceless* for those on this photo trek.



Von Hurson



PETER HEMMING (OTHER PICTURES ON THIS PAGE)

Dr. Hawass, hostess Dede Whiteside Hicks and Chair Rick Saber relaxing after the exhilarating event (top). Chair Saber and Dr. Hawass at the podium (middle). Chair Emeritus Bob Schmieder and Kathleen (right). Chair Saber and Dr. Hawass after talk (lower left). (l-r) Laura Phelps, Nancy Isaac, Zahi Hawass, Nicole Crane (lower right)



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 Diggles, Mike Durighello, Joy Dutcher, Susan Dyal, Palmer Ellis, Scott Estey, Sue Ewing, Lesley Faggioli, Richard E. Ford, Art Glantz, Gina Glantz, Ron 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 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 Schmieler, Bob Schmieler, 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—

Ahhh yes, year 2013 is fast receding! Can't help but notice the shortened days, time change and what we've accomplished this year. Solar Impulse Chapter support, Rick Blake's Black Mine field trip, a fantastic ECAD where I managed a one on one talk with the late Scott Carpenter, second Astronaut to orbit earth fifty years ago, a packed house for our Monterey weekend with Dr. Zahi Hawass and great future speakers set to surprise and inspire us through Spring. Next up, our annual Holiday Party, see notice in this newsletter. Don Walsh MED '61, Honorary President will share a great tale in January from one of his many dives on the Titanic. February will highlight one of our own Chapter Explorers, Dr. Lynn Rothschild FN'04, astrobiologist working at NASA.

I have a particular interest in our Volcano talk 22 November. On dozens of 747 flights I commanded LAX-HKG (Hong Kong), we often flew one of two Siberian routes high over the Kamchatka Peninsula during the winter to avoid typical, excessive headwinds. These routes exposed us to four usually quiet volcano's which could unexpectedly become active while en route on these 16 hour flights. If warned, we would give them a wide berth, but as Dr. Christensen will tell us, predicting volcano behavior is akin to predicting earthquakes. Opaque windshields, instant glass buildup on rotors causing engine shutdowns (KLM 4 engine shutdown around 1990 over Aleutians) have occurred worldwide creating emergency descents, diversions or worse for their crews. I had two experiences, once over Mt. Saint Helens exactly when it blew (in the clouds, we saw nothing) and an emergency fuel stop in Fiji on a flight LAX-Auckland (mid-nineties) when Mt. Ruapehu unexpectedly erupted while we were eight hours southwest of LAX, thereby depriving us of a critical alternate.

Lastly, Happy Thanksgiving to all NorCA members and Sirdars

—Capt. Rick Saber MN'01



Member Moment, Nov

Thomas L. Hall, MN'97, MD, DrPH., Lecturer in the Dept of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the University of California at San Francisco School of Medicine and Executive Director of the Global Health Education. Anyone who knows Tom can confirm the many other talents and interests he will share with us.



(From top) Our Speaker and Chair enjoy Nepenethe into the evening. Chair Saber with Richard & Maggie Blake. Don and Elaine Dvorak. Weekend organizing hostess and newest NorCA TEC Member Dede Whiteside Hicks.



(right, from top) Dinner wine provider Jim Hurson and photo-tour organizer Peter Hemming at Nepenethe. The hardy photographers along Big Sur's coast. Peter Hemming with a tool of his trade.

Carribean Acidification Study In December, on his next expedition endorsed by The Explorer's Club and hosted by the University of Belize Environmental Research Institute-Marine Field Station, Dr. Ed Sobey and his team will travel to Turneffe Atoll, off the coast of Belize, SCUBA diving for four days. They'll shoot video and photos documenting the effects of ocean acidification on the most biologically diverse coral region in the western hemisphere.

With video, photos, and data collected on the atoll, and with help from NRG! Exhibits, Dr. Ed will produce a traveling science exhibit in which he'll display his findings and analysis. He'll also be publishing a book of photos from the reefs.

NorCA's Dida Kutz will be the Dive Master. She's stoked!

From the Board On the same weekend as our chapter enjoyed Monterey, the annual Lowell Thomas Awards Dinner was held at the historic Willard Hotel in the Nation's Capitol. It was a grand success; details will be published in a future Log. The lectures were held at the National Geographic's auditorium; a banquet was at the Portuguese Ambassador's home (he is a member); Laurie Marker hosted a cheetah at the dinner where we could get up close and listen to his purr; she also arranged a visit to the cheetah compound at the National Zoo. And more....

Your Board held its meeting at the Cosmos Club with a busy and long agenda. All actions were taken after due consideration in a refreshingly cordial manner, with most near or at unanimity. The Club is busy with many plans and opportunities. If members pay their dues on time we should be moving ahead very positively. —Lee Langan FN'99



The list is building. Add your name! Dues go to the cost of our newsletter! Send \$25. to Steve Smith



Von Hutchison

Saber

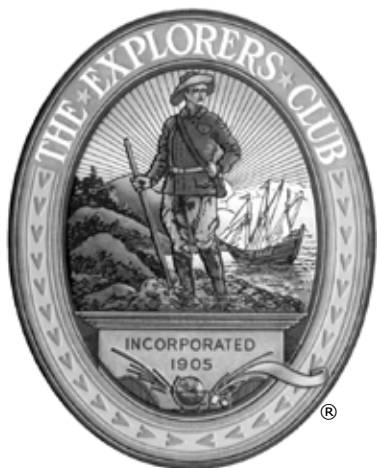
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Saber

November 2013



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eagle@rsaber.com
Vice Chair: Joan Boothe
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Treasurer: Stephen E. Smith
925 934-1051
ecnca@oceaneearth.org
Secretary: Dede Whiteside Hicks
Webmaster: Mike Diggles
Newsletter: Lee Langan

November 22, 2013 – Volcanology

Northern California Calendar of Events

(Venues are identified as soon as known.)

Our Next Event

November 22, 2013 . Robert Christiansen Ph.D
Volcanology-HazardsCity Forest Lodge
December 8, 2013 . Saber residence, San Rafael
Holiday Party

Upcoming Events (2013)

January 31,2014 . Honorary President Don Walsh
Meals aboard the Titanic.City Forest Lodge
February 21, 2014 Dr. Lynn Rothchild
Is there life in space.City Forest Lodge
March-May details soon
June 2014 NorCA Picnic

Earlier Chapter Events (2012/13)

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

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

USE PAYPAL!

November 22, San Francisco @ City Forest Lodge

Date FRIDAY, November 22, 2013
Place: City Forest Lodge
254 Laguna Honda Blvd
San Francisco, CA 94116-1409
(415) 753-8326
Time: 6:30 - reception
7:15 - dinner — 8:00 - program
Cost: \$49 in advance; \$60 after 19 November
Students: \$35. (2014 dues now accepted \$25!)
Please mail information to Steve Smith,
email ecnca@oceaneearth.org, call (925) 934-1051, or
mail to 402 Via Royal, Walnut Creek, CA 94597
Reserve _____ spaces
Name: _____
Address (if changed): _____
Companion: _____
Meal choice: _____

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!
(There is a slight extra fee of \$2 for this service.)

*November Meal Options (select your choice)

tri-tip beef, grilled salmon filet, or vegetarian pasta primavera

In 2012, the City Forest Lodge was sought out as a meeting place in the heart of San Francisco. The lodge is
hidden in a driveway just south along Seventh Avenue as it turns into Laguna Honda Boulevard. The Lodge
has the catering and space needs we require, and our meetings this year have proved it is working!

Location details should be researched in advance

There is parking, and the location, while unfamiliar to some, is easy to find tucked away just across from
the City's Laguna Honda Hospital. Once the lot is full, park within the neighborhood, just uphill to the west.
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 Peninsu-
la'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.)