

The Explorers Club Northern California Chapter

September 2016

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

LOCATIONS

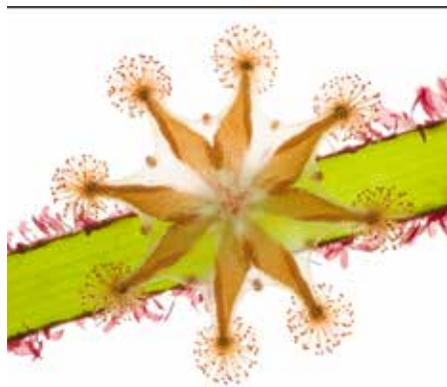
Note venues and dates with care
In San Francisco, CA.

September 23, 2016

Grace Lutheran Church
3201 Ulloa Street at 33rd Ave
San Francisco, CA 94116

SPINELESS: Portraits of Marine Invertebrates, the Backbone of Life September Presentation by Susan Middleton

Photographer and author Susan Middleton's work offers a rare glimpse into the mysterious and beguiling world of marine invertebrates. Her photographs elevate this less celebrated realm of life to the integrity of art. Her presentation to us will discuss — and splendidly illustrate through her photographs — animals not easily or often seen, fascinating creatures lacking a backbone that comprise over 98% of marine fauna. Susan will tell us about their elegant design, fragility, and resiliency as she shares anecdotes about her field work and the process of making her stunning images, highlighting the essential role of marine inverte-



ment in Hawaii. We anticipate that she will speak about this in her presentation.

Following Q & A at the end of Susan's presentation, there will be an opportunity to buy signed copies of Susan's spectacular book, titled, as is her talk, "Spineless: Por-

traits of Marine Invertebrates, The Backbone of Life".

In addition to being an acclaimed photographer, Susan is an accomplished author, lecturer, and Guggenheim fellow. She blends art and science as she photographs rare and endangered animals, plants, sites, and cultures. Susan has worked extensively with the National Geographic Society and is currently a Research Associate at the California Academy of Sciences. Her photograph of the plastic stomach contents of



a young albatross was selected by National Geographic as one of the "50 Best Photographs" published in their 125 year history.

Susan's work is represented in the permanent collections of the National Gallery of Art and the National Academy of Sciences. She lives in San Francisco.



brates in the web of life.

Susan played a very active role in the successful effort that led to President Obama's signing a Proclamation on August 26 that quadrupled the size of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Mon-



Drakes' Bay field Trip Reminder

If you haven't registered for Saturday, September 10, field trip to Point Reyes to the archaeological site where Sir Francis Drake's stopped to refurbish his vessel the Golden Hind, there's still time:

Contact Rick Blake by phone at 1-925-209-6175 or by email at www.blake2@llnl.gov

SUMMER EXPEDITION: CRISSY FIELD

Review and photos provided by Von Hurson MN'10

On the edge of the Bay – Life's a Picnic

It was Saturday morning, June 25, and the kind of day you would hope for. A comfortably cool breeze was blowing in from the water and the sun offered its usual warmth. All in all, it was a perfect setting for the members, family and friends of our illustrious NorCa Chapter as they converged on an array of picnic tables with all the enthusiasm that normally accompanies this annual event.

While we upheld the “tradition” of gathering for our June picnic, for the first time in 18 years our venue had changed from Angel Island to Crissy Field, a former military airfield, at the base of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco and a location of no less historical significance than our previous one.

So why the change? For many years much of our past fun came from our two main modes of transportation to Angel Island: Bob Schmieder's “Cordell Explorer”, a documented research vessel with an exploration history of its own

– and Rick Saber's “Eagle” a gorgeous, pristine 32-foot Trawler. Twenty or more arrived on Cordell Explorer, with another 8 or 10 on Eagle.

These excursions to the Island, not surprisingly, became part of the whole experience and provided time to enjoy the company and camaraderie of fellow members and their families both en route to, and return from, the picnic site. Those unable to connect with the two aforementioned boats arrived by Ferry, which provided it's own unique pleasure of being on the Bay.

But alas, times change. First, the “Cordell Explorer” was sold in 2014. Then Rick sold “Eagle”, last November.

So, what do normal explorers do? We adapt, and make our new situation at least as wonderful as the last. Our June picnics always seem extra special, if for no other reason than having time to savor the company of those we never have enough time to talk to at dinner meetings.

And this picnic more than lived up to its promise and expectations. An ongoing progression of people continued to arrive in a leisurely and relaxed time frame via whatever mode of transportation they chose – be it car or public transportation. With their arrival came more food to add to the growing, creative array of delicious dishes to munch the afternoon away with interesting people and stimulating conversation.

Even the birds were happy to see us and some perched and hovered – hoping, as birds always do, and waiting for the opportunity to fly in for a morsel or two.

From the first person to arrive to the last to leave, we had the pleasure of welcoming 30 picnic-prone explorers, plus friends and family. It was a perfect day.

So while many happy memories of Angel Island will endure, we've now moved on to make new ones – beginning this past June at Crissy Field

Von Hurson. MN'10



Anna and Paul Freitas

More picnic photos on page 3.



Joan, Heather and Barry Boothe, with GoldenGateTower

AN EVENING WITH DAMIEN MANDER ON ANTI-POACHING ACTIVITIES

On Friday, June 10, Northern California Chair **Joan Boothe MN'07** hosted approximately 30 Explorers Club members and guests at her home to meet and hear from Explorers Club Fellow **Damien Mander**, the founder of the International Anti-Poaching Foundation. The evening began with an extended social hour that offered an opportunity for people to speak individually with Damien, not to mention enjoying fine wine and accompanying eats. Following this, Damien spoke informally for about an hour, describing the background, need for, and how he is now going about his anti-poaching efforts in Southern Africa. A lively Q&A session concluded the evening.



Top Row: Alice Cochran, Rick Saber, Dave Hirzel and Aldeana Saber; guests and Peter Hemming
Middle Row: Von Hurson, Peter Hemming, Diana Peckworth, and Rick Saber; Joan and Heather Boothe
Bottom Row: Von and Jim Hurson, Suzanne Klotz; Steve Smith and Ed Von der Porten

IN MEMORIAM

Nicholas Clinch FN'69, 1930-2016

To prove you have summited a mountain, according to William Lowell Putnam, III, “you have three options. You can leave a good cairn; take a good photo, or lead a good life.” For Nicholas Bayard Clinch, FN '69, no cairns or photos are needed to prove his expeditions were successful in America's only first ascent of an 8000m peak, Hidden Peak (Gasherbrum I, 26,470 ft) in 1958; the first ascent of Masherbrum (25,660 ft) in 1960; and the first ascent of the highest peak in Antarctica, Mount Vinson (16,860 ft) in 1967. Sadly, Nick Clinch, a long-time member of The Explorers Club and of our chapter, passed away on June 15, 2016, after leading a good life.

Nick has been remembered as “the greatest American climbing expedition leader” by renowned climber George Lowe and “the greatest ever expedition leader, American or foreign” by Jim McCarthy, Honorary President of the American Alpine Club. His expeditions were noteworthy not just for great ambitions, remote locations, successful summits, and safe returns, but also for his team selection, motivation and leadership. In the case of the Antarctica Expedition, he was brought onboard to meld two competing teams of climbers, with the result being an outstanding success for all.



Antarctica Climbing Team:: Nicolas Clinch is back row center.

Nick would say that people can be measured both by their capability and will power. Someone who is both ineffective and unambitious is irrelevant. Someone effective but with low ambition can be good but not great. An unskilled person with energy can be dangerous. But, the rare people who combine high effectiveness and passion are able to achieve great things. His career and interests were shaped by both high capability and great enthusiasm. He was a great leader. But, he never sought credit. His patience, humor and wisdom always obvious, he valued humility and teamwork far more than recognition.

Nevertheless, recognition followed his achievements. He received the American Alpine Club's Gold Medal (awarded only 5 times since 1902) and the AAC Heilprin Award; he received the National Geographic's La Gorce Medal, the Sierra Club's Francis P. Farquhar Mountaineering Award, and was inducted into the Hall of Mountaineering Excellence. Clinch Peak, in Antarctica is named in his honor.

Nick Clinch served in the Air Force, was a Stanford-educated attorney and an environmentalist. He was President of the American Alpine Club 1968-1970, Executive Director of the Sierra Club Foundation from 1975 to 1981 and Director of the Environmental Law Institute from 1980 to 1986.

Nick Clinch is also remembered as an author, bibliophile and philanthropist. In 2008 he donated his vast Central Asia Library, one of the premier collections of primary materials from early exploration history in Asia and other mountain regions, to the American Alpine Club Library. He is an author, of “A Walk in the Clouds: Climbing Hidden Peak” and with his wife Elizabeth “Through a Land of Extremes: The Littledales of Central Asia” which tells the story, culled from sources in the Central Asia Library, of that English married couple who explored Asia in the 19th century.

Ken Ehrhart MN'12

Author's note: I, like so many in The Explorers Club, have had the great pleasure of knowing and working with Nick over the years. A wonderful person and person of wonder, he will be greatly missed.

HONOR ROLL OF PAID UP DUES FOR 2016

Members

Jim Alexander
James Allan
Julia Amaral
Susan Anderson
Reginald Barrett
George Belcher
Bonnie Bibas
Rick Blake
Peter Bogardus
Kendra Bolt
Joan Boothe
Keith Chase
Doug Cheeseman
Ted Cheeseman
Sandra Cook
Alan Cooper
Thomas Cromwell
Don Dana
Peggy Day
Rick Dehmel
Mike Diggles
Thomas Dolan
Louise Downe
Thomas Durbin
Susan Dutcher
Donald Dvorak
Elaine Dvorak
Scott Ellis
Sue Estey
Robert Eustace
Art Ford
Susan Fox
Paul Freitas
Lawrence Glacy
Ron Glantz
Arjun Gupta
Tom Hall
Peter Hemming
Michael Herz
William Heydom
Don Heyneman
Robert Higgins
Jim Hurson
Von Hurson
Alan Hutchison
Anders Jepsen
Steven King
Ronald Klein
Suzanne Klotz
Bill Kruse
Keith Kvenvolden
William Lidicker
Pierre de St.J. MacBeth
Marco Meniketti
Teresa O'Kane
Peter Overmire
James Prigoff
Edward Ross
Sandra Ross
Rick Saber
Bob Schmeider
Sara Shoemaker Lind
Steve Smith
William Straka
Susan Taylor
Richard Tenaza
Ed Von der Porten
Don Walsh
James Weil
Gordon Wiltsie
Sherry Wren

Sirdars

Linda Alexander
Caryn Anderson
Marion Blumberg
Barry Boothe
Karoli Clever
Wendy Crowder
Joy Durighello
Dafne Engstrom
Mats Engstrom
Sandra Fish
Eric Follestad
Anna Freitas
Louise Geraci
Gina Glantz
Jerry Griffith
Louise Heyneman
David Hirzel
Nancy Isaac
Kathy Jepsen
Kathy Judd
Margot Komarmy
Ellen Lapham
Iyana Christine Leveque
Tim Loew
Liz McLoughlin
Bonny O'Keefe
Ingrid Peterson
Laura Phelps
Aldeana Saber
John Schlagheck
Kay Schmieder
Scott Soper
Robert Van Austen
Judy Van Austen
Andrew Wegst
Mark Weiman
Thomas Yohannan
Robin Ziegler

FROM THE CHAIR

Joan Boothe MN'07

Welcome back from summer, a time when many of you have been out in the field, exploring. Wherever you were, I hope that you found your time well spent. And for those of you who did not venture out on explorations in the field, well, you're in good company too. Virtual exploration based at home can also be satisfying. For myself, although I did not head off on an expedition as such, I did attend the biennial meeting of the Antarctic Society in Maine. It was wonderful to be surrounded and interact with a marvelous cast of veteran Antarcticans, men and women who have collectively spent literally hundreds of years living and working in the Antarctic. (If you would like to know more about the Antarctic Society, check out the link on our chapter website [www.explorersnorca.org].)

Although we did not have a chapter meeting during the summer, we were not entirely inactive. On June 10, I hosted a meeting at my home for Explorers Club fellow Damien Mander, and on June 16, dozens of us gathered at Crissy Field to enjoy our annual chapter picnic. See the write-ups of both these events elsewhere in this newsletter.

Now that summer is past, your Northern California

chapter of the Explorers Club is resuming activity. We are working to line up a great program of speakers and adventures. The first two of these are taking place this month — a field trip to Point Reyes on September 10 and our first regular meeting of the year, on September 23, which is described on the first page of this newsletter. I hope to see many, many of you at these events. Looking beyond September, we are currently planned to meet, as usual, on the last Friday of October and January through May. For November, it will be on the third Friday, so that we don't interfere with your Thanksgiving weekend. And for December, of course, it will be our annual holiday party. Check out the calendar on the last page of this newsletter to see all the dates.

And don't forget the Lowell Thomas Dinner. It's being held on the West Coast this year, in Santa Barbara on October 15. The California chapters, including NorCa, are the official sponsors. I hope that many of you will join me in attending.

And finally, welcome to our new Chapter Treasurer, Sandra Cook. It's going to be great to have her on board.

Joan

MEET OUR NEW TREASURER

Sandra Cook MN'16 has had an extensive career in industry as well as for 10 years in philanthropic and non-profit worlds. We are indeed fortunate that Sandra has volunteered to take over the responsibilities of Treasurer. In particular, reservations and meeting fees and other dues should be directed to Sandra.

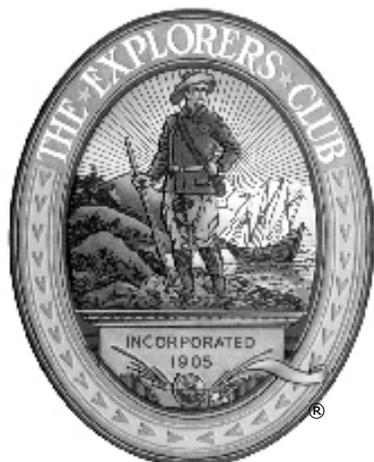


OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE

* Join the Chapter AV team to help with video and audio equipment set-up at Chapter meetings. A little training session and you're ready to help out.

September 2016 Issue

Northern California Chapter Established 1973



Chair: Joan Boothe MN'07
415-346-5934
hoodooskr@aol.com
Vice Chair: Stephen E. Smith FN'96
925-934-1051
ecnca@oceaneearth.org
NorCalExplorers@gmail.com
Secretary: Von Hurson MN'10
Trekking@sonic.net
Treasurer: Sandra Cook MN'16
cook_sandra@comcast.net
Webmaster: Mike Diggles FN'92
Newsletter: Anders Jepsen FN'03
ajviking@aol.com
925-322-8893

Chapter Calendar of Events

(Venues are identified as soon as known.)

2016

September 23. Susan Middleton
Marine Invertebrates in the Pacific Grace Luth Ch
October 14-16Lowell Thomas Awards Dinner
. . . . Fess Parker Resort, Santa Barbara, CA
October 28 Dr Eric Weiss
Wilderness Expedition Medicine . Grace Luth Ch
November 18, 2016 TBA
December 11 Holiday Party
Home of Chapter Chair Joan Boothe
2017
January 27 TBA
February 24 TBA
March 24. TBA
April 21. TBA
May 26. TBA

Earlier Chapter Events

2015

November 7-8Lowell Thomas Meeting
November 20.. . . .Arjun Gupta
Third Pole Initiative. Covenant Presbyterian Ch
December 13. Holiday Party
.Home of Joan Boothe

2016

January 22 Ted Cheeseman
Modern Ocean Exploration . Grace Lutheran Ch
February 26 Rosemarie Twinam
Game Counting in Africa . . . Grace Lutheran Ch
March 11-13. ECAD New York
March 25 Daniel Lin
Navigation on Polynesian Voyages Grace Luth Ch
April 21 (Thursday).Autodesk
Technology in exploration. Gallery, 1 Market, SF
May 27.Anne Sanquini
Surviving the 2015 Earthquake in Nepal GLChurch

Send address changes and
corrections by email to Sandra Cook
sandra_cook@comcast.net

OTHER EVENTS, EXPEDITIONS, etc.

September 10: Point Reyes / Drakes Bay Field trip. Visit the site where Sir Frances Drake careened the Golden Hind, and the site of the galleon San Agustin Wreck. See detailed information and how to sign up at www.explorersnorca.org.

October 14-16, 2016: Lowell Thomas Awards Dinner

PHOTO AND STORY OF THE MONTH

Got a favorite picture from your explorations? How about an interesting personal story? Please submit them to the Newsletter editor (ajviking@aol.com) so the rest of the club can enjoy them - picture, story or both..

CHAPTER MEETING Friday, September 23, 2016

Grace Lutheran Church
3201 Ulloa Street, at 33rd Ave., San Francisco, 94116

Date Friday, 23 September, 2016

Place: Grace Lutheran Church
3201 Ulloa Street, at 33rd Ave
San Francisco, CA 94116

Time: 6:30 - reception
7:15 - dinner ---8:00 - program
Meal Options (reserve your choice)
Tri-tip of beef, chicken marsala, or veggie (pasta primavera)
NOTE: veggie request must be in by prior Sunday

Cost: \$49 in advance \$60 after 20 September; Students: \$35.
(2016 dues: Members \$25, Sirdars \$50)

Please mail reservations, meal choice, checks & dues to Sandra Cook
email: cook_sandra@comcast.net Call 415-653-3665 or
mail to 1550 Oakland Ave., Piedmont CA 94611

We have an established PayPal account.

With an account, you can sign up and remit your meal costs, dues, etc 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!