



The Explorers Club Northern California Chapter

Also available at our web site: <http://www.explorersnorca.org>

November Meeting

Friday, November 22, 2019, 6:30pm

The Dolan Law Firm, 1438 Market Street, SF 94102



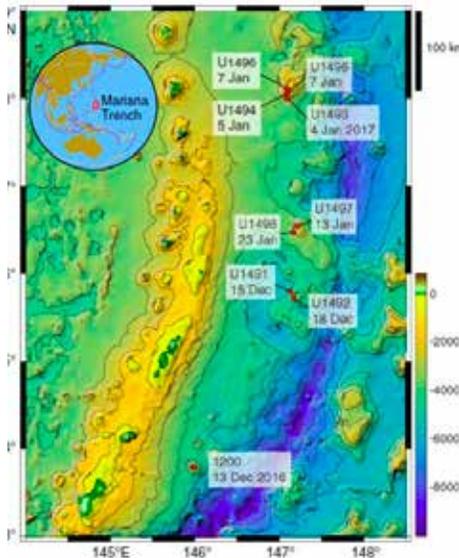
EXPLORING THE MARIANAS SERPENTINE SEAMOUNTS WINDOWS INTO SUBDUCTION

Barbara Bekins PhD

There are more than 20 serpentinite seamounts between the Mariana trench and the Mariana arc island chain. The largest is over 1.5 miles high and 25 miles across. These seamounts are the only places on Earth where we can directly sample rocks and fluids that were formed when subducted fluids react with the mantle. They are deep below the surface of the ocean.



All graphics provided by the speaker



During December 2016 and January 2017 the Integrated Ocean Discovery Program drilled into three Mariana seamounts. On board were 31 invited scientists from 12 countries, including geologists, microbiologists, geochemists and one lone hydrologist. This talk will cover some of the fascinating results of the expedition and what it's like to live on a research ship for two months over Christmas and New Year's Day.

Dr. Barbara Bekins is a research hydrologist with the U. S. Geological Survey, Water Mission Area, located in Menlo Park, CA. She studies the generation of fluid overpressures and their effect on fault strength including induced seismicity. She has participated in drilling expeditions to subduction zones in northern Barbados, Peru, and Mariana. She has a BA in mathematics from UCLA, a PhD in geology from UC Santa Cruz, and is a fellow of the Geological Society of America and the American Geophysical Union.



WELCOME TO GLEX: The Explorers Club's Global Exploration Summit. July 3 to 5, 2019

and to the "Acorn Explorers" of The Northern California Chapter of the Explorers Club of America.

{A report delivered by **Diana Pickworth-Wong FN'01** to the chapter meeting on Friday, October 25th.

"WOW", is the only way to begin this report, "A World of Wonder" of which we are all an integral part. Feted by the Portuguese whose pride in Magellan's circumnavigation of the globe five hundred years ago and the American placement of a human on the moon fifty years ago, set the bar high for human accomplishment. The conference was accompanied by the signing of The Lisbon Agreement to commit us as explorers to advocate for responsible lives as climate change spirals toward a catastrophe, far more quickly than we anticipated. Editor's note: See the summer 2019 Explorers Log for more details.)

Portugal is a welcoming country, and Lisbon a beautiful old European city as well as being a striving new city. The Dom Pedro Hotel our host hotel rose to the occasion and we certainly celebrated life, companionship, new friends and old friends lost and re-found. Our first evening together was held in the hotel, cocktails followed by a buffet, held on the patio of the eighth floor overlooking the old city. I personally allowed time before and after the summit to visit a traditional gold filigree-work museum, famous modern restaurants and to taste the wines and port of the Douro region.

The Research Foundation Champalimaud - Museum of the Unknown - a modern molded concrete building was an exquisite venue for Day 1, looking across the River Tagus it literally sang as DJ Spooky (Paul D. Miller, author of *Book of Ice* and *Artist in Residence* at Google), synchronized a live violin rendition of Kleber's *Odyssey to a Snowflake*, with strobe lights bringing to life the buildings contours in a performance entitled *Music of the Ice*. We lunched on the stepped terrace overlooking the river and out toward the vast Christian symbol of peace on the opposite side of the river, Christ the King, inspired in 1959 by the Christ the Redeemer statue in Rio.

On Day 2 the program was a mix of repeat lectures and variations on earlier talks open to the public and held in the University of Lisbon - Aula Magna, where many students joined us for the day. In the evening we dined in the vast Maritime Museum surrounded by ancient boats, definitely a highlight for me.

On Day 3 after the signing of Article 17 of the Lisbon declaration, we met in the Oceanic Research Center for a private tour of the aquarium, lunch and then we heard specific ocean related papers of exploration: the oceans, earth and space.

VICTOR VESCOVO: Leader Five Deeps Expedition. "Discovering the Mysteries of the As personal favorites I have chosen three of the presenters to highlight three areas Ocean".

TIM JARVIS: Environmental Scientist, Author and Polar Explorer. "Changing Planet: Climate Change and Sustainability". Evidences garnered as he retraced Shackleton's Journey to the Antarctic.

LINDA ELKINS-TANTON: Principal Investigator (lead) of the NASA Psyche Mission. Director of the Interplanetary Initiative at ASU (Arizona State University).

Personal favorites whom I chose for their team work, integrity, conviction and determination, qualities which I saw exemplified in their work. And the qualities I would like to see developed in my proposed project to create **ACORN EXPLORERS**. I noticed a high percentage of presenters referred back to a moment that had inspired them when they were very young. Indeed, their life path was inspired, crafted and developed based upon: an individual, a nature experience or a young personal memory. And I too was inspired to move toward creating for the under-five year old child moments that would last a lifetime and inspire them, under the auspices of the Explorers Club of America.

Three books have helped clarify a recent change in children's lack of knowledge of the universe. Richard Louv "*Last Child in the Woods*" discusses what he calls a Nature Deficit Disorder. Being in nature initiates special experiences for a child, which appear to engender creativity. Gary Paul Nabhan, a Macarther Scholar and professor at ASU (Arizona State University) wrote the "*The Geography of Childhood: Why Children Need Wild Places*" he specializes in the relationship between a child and where he lives. The third book "*A Child's Work*" by Vivian Gussin Paley references imagination and the importance of non-interference in their developing relationship with their imagined world in fantasy play. Today an associated loss of vocabulary referencing nature is marked globally and attributed to constant availability to the internet, television and cell phone. Clearly after attending GLEX it was imperative to me to begin "one child at a time" to reintroduce our little people to their world in a meaningful manner.

Our trial **Acorn Explorer** has been my three and half years old grandson and he has now experienced all three of the chosen modules. We usually go outside on the deck to talk to our resident owls under the stars when it is dark in order for him to become acquainted with night time outdoors, to see the moon and appreciate just how vast space is. His first question was a lead into how planets move. "Nana I want to play outside and I want you to make the moon go down, it is too dark". Three different sized balls and a little play acting made clear that the planets are indeed fixed and we could not change the moon's behavior. The modern loss of vocabulary I am addressing by creating an alphabet of plants, birds, trees, and insects in my wooded garden. "An Alphabet on Nana's Garden".

I have chosen a friend Dan Neber, rock-face climber, outdoorsman and medic to help me create our program for the bay area. We have in the bay area, within easy reach: tide-pools and the ocean, woodland and mountains and the sky and beyond.

Our first experiment was just myself and TSW my grandson and I chose as our destination The Bishop's Ranch west of Healdsburg. It is a location known to both of us and I wanted to see just how feasible such expeditions could be. The ranch has 350 acres of riparian land, is covered with trails, and there is a lake and small hill. Initially I let him play ball and chase the turkeys, as decompression from city life is essential before going on "The Acorn-Explorer Expedition", otherwise the child does not become invested in and fascinated by the experience. The following morning we sat on the swing so that he could sit quietly and watch the blue jays who nest in the *Camelia Sinensis* next to the swing. I suggested a walk to look for bugs and butterflies but he pre-empted any further need for me to plan a walk as he decided he wanted to walk the labyrinth and he would be the leader. One and half hours later, and many false turns, he happily reached the middle truly happy and proud of himself. I stepped in only to make sure we eventually reached our goal. He was happy with his own quest, at peace and engaged. Treasured rocks were collected and a few new plant names learnt. (continued next page)

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Our second excursion was at Donner Lake when Dan Neber took over as team leader. It was wonderful and we noted that quiet time, before the excursion, definitely is important. Little people today are used to being programmed and containerized and the sudden solitude, quiet and concentration required to actually see and experience the environment had to be consciously engendered. Our earth excursion was to find a lizard and by lying still and listening in the right spot we found one quickly. He climbed rocks and trees with enthusiasm and on returning to the cabin stated with utter glee "I am filthy". The expedition to experience the lake environment again found him absorbed playing alone pulling on the rope that closed off the beach area. We gave him no toys, his own fascination with the water held his interest.

Our plan is to take our first group of under-five-year-olds with an elder, grandparent, relative or friend on a Northern California Explorers Club field trip in the bay area, so that our **Acorn Explorers** will begin the journey of their life.

Diana Pickworth-Wong, PhD FN '01

The Review of October's Head-hunter and Art presentation
will appear in the December newsletter.

Emptiness



**In the emptiness of our consciousness...
our living truths alchemically transform
life into our happiness."
(anon.)**

"EXPLORATION...

A FIRST EXHIBIT IN PHILO-PHOTOGRAPHY"

A Traveling Exhibit by

ALAN H. NICHOLS, J.D.,D.S.

PHILO-PHOTOGRAPHER and PHOTO-PHILOSOPHER

AUTHOR and EXPLORER

PRESIDENT EMERITUS, THE EXPLORERS CLUB*

OPENING RECEPTION NOVEMBER 20, 2019

(Closing: January 2020)

Where: The Tamamalpais, 501 Via Casitas, Greenbrae, CA

Time : 3:30 PM to 5:45 PM

Travel Dress

Libations and Hors d'oeuvre by Chef Mia

RSVP: Becky Nichols

Unit 1113, 501 Via Casitas, Greenbrae, CA 94904

"This is a first....To formally combine a Philo-Photography exhibit of Alan's round-the-world exploration with a few stories, why he was and is an explorer... and a sampling of his over 40 published works, including an exhibit program. and his latest books *The Hunted and the Hunter*, and *Exploration and the First Philo-Photographer and Photo-Philosopher*." Mark Weiman, Publisher.

MEMBERS

Alexander, Jim
Alexander, Linda
Allan, James
Amaral, Julia
Bekins, Joan
Berg, Barbara
Bibas, Bonnie
Blake, Rick
Bolt, Kendra
Boothe, Joan
Chang, Joyce
Chase, H. Keith
Cook, Sandra
Cooper, Alan
Day, Peggy
Dehmel, Rick
Diggles, Mike
Dolan, Tom
Dvorak, Don
Dvorak, Elaine
Durbin, Thomas
Dutcher, Susan
Elkus, Patty
Elkus, Rick
Ellis, Scott
Estey, Sue
Eustace, Alan
Ewing, Lesley
Finney, Luke
Ford, Arthur
Fox, Susan
Freitas, Anna
Freitas, Paul
Friedman, James
Hemming, Peter
Hermaly, Brenden
Higgins, Robert
Holmes, Robert
Horne, William
Hurson, Jim
Hurson, Von
Hutchison, Alan
Isherwood, William
Jepsen, Anders
Klein, Ronald
Kvenvolden, Keith
Langan, Lee
Lapham, Ellen
Lidicker, William
MacDonald, Robert
Mangus, Rodney
McCown, George
McInturf, Alexandra
Nichols, Alan
Nichols-Rygh, Becky
Prigoff, James
Ross, Sandy
Saber, Rick
Schmieder, Robert
Smith, Steve
Straka, Bill
Tarter, Jill
Velivela, Vignan
Weil, James
Winter, Mordechai
Wren, Sherry

SIRDARS

Baye, Karin
Blake, Maggi
Blumberg, Marion
Boothe, Barry
Brandt, Jim
Clever, Karoli
Cohn, Lawrence
Coolidge, Oliver
Crowder, Wendy
Durighello, Joy
Fish, Sandra
Friedman, Christen
Gill, Naveet
Gorenberg, Peter
Hirzel, David
Hutchison, Ann
Isaac, Nancy
Jepsen, Kathy
Johnson, Fred
Judd, Kathy
Langan, Karine
Longo-Cohn, Mary
Mani, Cassandra
McLoughlin, Liz
McNulty, Edward
Messerly, Edward
Nikas, Jim
O'Keefe, Bonny
Patterson, Tom
Pennathur, Sudha
Saber, Aldeana
Schmieder, Kay
Smith, Koda
Straka, Barbara
Townsend, Tiffany
Van Austen, Bob
Van Austen, Judy
Weiman, Mark
Yoder, Karl

FROM THE CHAIR

We had a great demonstration on Friday of Explorers ingenuity. Our main speaker for the evening was to be Michele Westmorland, a club member from the Pacific Northwest Chapter. She was planning to come down to the Bay area, stay with a friend and talk about her film – *Headhunters Revisited*. That was Plan A. At the beginning of the presentation week, she felt very weak and sick. She went to her doctor and who told her not to travel. She put Plan B into place and sent a scripted presentation to her friend Deborah Kirk so that Deborah could give the presentation. All was going well till Deborah ran into some problems reading the text, so Tom Dolan initiated Plan C (or maybe Plan B.2). With one computer for the presentation and one computer for the script, Deborah finished Michele's presentation and took a few questions. My comment at the end was that since Michele and Deborah have done some exploration trips together, perhaps Deborah can put together a presentation for a future meeting (on diving in cenotes for example) and Michele can come down to present it.



In addition to the main meeting, Diana Pickworth talked about the Global Exploration Summit that the Club held this summer in Lisbon, covering exploration of the land, air and ocean. She was struck by the number of stories of that special moment that set the course for many explorers – some childhood moment of realization. She wants to now develop a program to help young children be exposed to their 'aha' moments and will have more to say on this in future newsletters.

There are lots of events to look forward to this November. A chance to see some of Eugene Boudreau's artifacts (see below for details), Alan Nichols photography exhibit opening at The Tam in Greenbrae and our November 22nd dinner talk by Dr. Barbara Bekins. All of that before Thanksgiving!

Finally, hold open the afternoon of December 15th for the Holiday Party; more details to come.

Lesley Ewing, FN'93

**A special Special Event: November 17, 2019, Sunday from 1 PM to 4 PM
Home of Sybil Boudreau, 1209 Beattie Lane, Sebastopol CA 95472**

Please RSVP to our Treasurer Anna Freitas, by November 14.
Luncheon Fee: \$25 (\$35 thereafter)

The late Gene Boudreau, a loyal and frequent participant in the affairs of the Northern California Chapter, was an avid semi-professional ethnologist in addition to being a professional geologist. Any member that visited his and Sybil's home reveled among his archive of materials collected from the Tarahumara Indians of Mexico's Sierra Madre and the Turkana tribe of northern Kenya. Important pieces of these collections are offered by Sybil to our members, and you can come to this event and leave with unique treasures.

Most of the Mexican items have been taken for a museum in northern Mexico — they are essentially “going home!” However, there are many ceramic pots and many hand-woven blankets available for our members or guests to take. Sybil is offering the pots for \$10 to \$40 based upon their size and the blankets, appraised for far more, at \$50. The archive from northern Kenya is for you to peruse and find something you like, at what ever small donation you deem reasonable.

The collections were gathered over several journeys to these locales. Gene had an eye for everyday utilitarian items that he felt would no longer be used but represent their culture's craftsmanship. His trips were self-motivated and self-funded. All materials were gathered with the permission of the individuals who used or created them, and all were paid whatever sum was requested. Most trips were solo, although he did invite fellow explorers to join him on occasion.

To provide you with some insight into what is available you can link to two documents that summarize both the Tarahumara and Turkana collections:

Tarahumara:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/x3x60cc0lkz00lj/BackinTime%2Bsamples.pdf?dl=0>

Turkana:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/k1m84tlqtptfi3p/BoudreauTurkana%2Bsamples.pdf?dl=0>

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Northern California Chapter
Established 1973



CHAPTER OFFICERS & TEAM

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 Treasurer: Anna Freitas MN'17
 Treasurer@explorersnorca.org
 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.)

2019

November 22 Dr. Barbara Bekins
 Windows into Subduction Dolan
 December 15 Holiday Party
 North Bay

2018

February 23 Dr. Sherry Wren
 Surgical Approaches in the Ebola Crisis . . Dolan
 March 30 Kimberley Chambers
 Swimming With Sharks Before Breakfast . Dolan
 April 27 Alan Eustace
 The Stratospheric Jump Dolan
 May 25 3 Term EC Members
 Term Members Research/Annual mtg . . Dolan
 July 21 Chapter Picnic in Novato
 September 21. Michelle Trautwein
 Meet Your Face Mites: Dolan
 October 26 Sir Richard Feachem
 Shrinking the World Malaria Map Dolan
 November 30 Leon McCarron
 Exploration by Walking Dolan
 December 16. Holiday Party
 Home of Rick and Aldeana Saber

2019

January 25 Pat Scannon
 Recent Discoveries Dolan
 February 22 James Nestor
 Outdoor adventure. Dolan
 March 22. Paul Saffo/Richard Weise
 Dynamics of Change. Aquarium of the Bay
 April 26 David McGuire
 Swimming with Sharks. Dolan
 May 31 ANNUAL MEEETING plus . . Dr. Paul Hunt
 Hannibal". Dolan
 June 9: Picnic
 Tilden Park
 September 27 Robert Anderson
 Material Science & Forensic Engineering Creola
 October 25. Michelle Westmorland
 Headhunters Revisited. Dolan

CHAPTER DIRECTORS

Directors (Past Chairs)

Joan Boothe MN'07
 Lesley Ewing FN'93
 Lee Langan FN'99
 Anders Jepsen FN'03

Alan Nichols FN'84
 Bob Schmieder FE'86
 Rick Saber MN'01
 Stephen Smith FN'96

Elected Directors

Jim Hurson MN'10
 Sandra Cook MN'16
 Paul Freitas MN'10

Chapter Email Addresses and Chapter Phone Number

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 vicechair@explorersnorca.org

treasurer@explorersnorca.org
 secretary@explorersnorca.org

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Late arrival phone number for Monthly meeting at the Dolan Law Center
 The door will be locked and unattended after 7:15 p.m.
 Chapter Phone: 415.236.3459 (for message or locked door entry).

CURRENT EXPLORATIONS

- * Chair Emeritus Anders Jepsen FN'03 presented a paper to the Technical Demining Workshop held in Basel, Switzerland early in November. His non-profit Exploration For Humanity, Inc. reported on the success of a drone-mounted magnetometer system to detect UXO and landmines in a regional exploration survey in Germany.
- * Chair Emeritus Alan Nichols FN'84 opens his photo-philosopher exhibition with a reception at the Tamalpias Residence on 20 November 2019. Well known explorer Frederick Paulson will be in attendance..
- * Diana Pickworth FN'01 is just back from GLEX and explains elsewhere in this newsletter what it was and why was it held in Portugal
- * Chair Emeritus Bob Schmieder FE'86 is busy laying out his book about his expeditions to the antarctic Heard Island which took place in two separate expeditions to the South Atlantic..

MEETING VIDEOS

Our Chapter now records all of our dinner meetings. Videos of recent speakers' presentations are available on the Chapter Website.

CHAPTER MEETING
Friday, November 22, 2019

Place: The Dolan Law Firm
 1438 Market Street
 San Francisco, CA 94102

Time: 6:30 - reception
 7:15 - dinner; 8:00 - program

Meal Options: Chicken Picatta, Spiral sliced baked ham
 Vegetarian: Pasta Primavera.

Cost: \$49 before November 19; \$35 for students, \$60 for everyone after October 22.

Please mail reservations, checks to Anna Freitas
 161 Camino Posada, Walnut Creek, CA 94595.
 call Anna at 925-457-6424
 or email treasurer@explorersnorca.org
 To sign up and remit your meal costs online, go to www.explorersnorca.org,