



# THE EXPLORERS LOG

The Explorers Club | World Center for Exploration Published Quarterly | Volume 46 Number 4



## Fall 2014

### COMPASS POINTS

#### **Captain Barrington Irving**

FN'13 became the youngest pilot to fly solo around the world

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### IN THE FIELD

#### **2014 Victoria Strait Expedition**

finds one of the Franklin Expedition ships

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### FROM BASECAMP

#### **Dr. Sylvia Earle MED'81**

thanks members of the Club  
*see article on Tribute*

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### *Tribute to Sylvia Earle*

On September 19, The Explorers Club's beloved Fellow and Former Honorary President, Dr. Sylvia Earle MED'81, was honored by a Tribute Ceremony in the Clark Room, preceded by a candle-lit march up the stairway led by the honoree  
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*Photo: Martha Shaw*

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## EXPLORERS LOG SUBMISSIONS

*The Explorers Log* welcomes brief submissions from members, preferably in Microsoft Word .doc format with digital photographs preferred as high-resolution .jpg files sent separately from the text. Please send all materials to: [log@explorers.org](mailto:log@explorers.org).

The authors are responsible for the content of their articles. Their views do not necessarily reflect the views of The Explorers Club, and the Club is not responsible for their accuracy.

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FELLOW	MEMBER	ASSOCIATE
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FN-NATIONAL	MN-NATIONAL	AN-NATIONAL
FI-INTERNATIONAL	MI-INTERNATIONAL	AI-INTERNATIONAL
FE-EMERITUS	ME-EMERITUS	
LF-LIFE FELLOW	LM-LIFE MEMBER	HONORED
	CO-CORRESPONDING	MED-MEDALIST
	TM-TERM	HON-HONORARY MEMBER
	SM-STUDENT	PEX-PATRON OF EXPLORATION



*The Explorers Club*  
*World Center for Exploration*

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## THE EXPLORERS LOG

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*The Explorers Log is published quarterly. News items, photos, member and chapter activities, and subjects of general interest are welcomed.*

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# On the Ascent

## The Greedy Explorer

ALAN NICHOLS, J.D., D.S., FN'84

In the “good old days” an explorer could really get rich... land, minerals, gold, commodities and loot. Avarice has been a major motivation for Western explorers. The big money now days is not from exploring and exploiting the non-western world but from exploring “silicon valleys” and exploiting the whole world. Other forms of greed in exploration are more prominent nowadays...glory, publicity, business opportunities, power, control, and experience. This note is about a particular form of greed in exploration consistent with the culture we live in...greed for more and more experience and activities, and hanging on to those things we are already doing.



Of course, desire or greed for exploration or experiences are only a matter of degree. One is a compliment and the other a character flaw. In our culture, and in my own experience, it's almost impossible to resist becoming involved in the multiplicity of exploration opportunities, experiences, relationships, activities, projects. Although well-intentioned, enjoyable, and for the best interests of the whole, we probably try to do too much for our own good.

Our Explorers Club provides thousands of members the chance to be a part our dynamic world of exploration, organizationally and personally, in the field on expeditions and in our organization as chapter members and leaders, committee chairs and members, special project and event participants, the Board of Directors, sponsors, and officers, to name a few.

When confronted with a suggestion for a project or activity or change at The Explorers Club that I believe will make us better at accomplishing our mission, it's very difficult for me to turn it down...Even though it will mean a lot of effort by many people, expenditures, and a risk of failure. Maybe it's a form of organizational greed. But this is certainly an answer to anyone who thinks they don't get enough out of the Club. There are so many opportunities to participate, and participation is the key to club success and personal satisfaction.

Are we as an organization greedy, doing too much now? Not in my opinion. We are an extraordinary group with unlimited opportunities and potential. More importantly, as a team we can accomplish anything we want.

For me, our goals are an inspiration. They are not excessive and will allow us to live up to our aspirations and potential—to be the true world center of exploration, to provide unparalleled opportunities for our members in their own exploration and participation, to enjoy each other's company as we progress into the future.

– ALAN, PRESIDENT

# In the Tent...

## Entanglement, the theoretical physics of exploration

ALAN NICHOLS, J.D., D.S., FN'84

Only the bold and the ignorant like me have the nerve to attempt to anthropomorphize theoretical physics...especially *entanglement*. Even Einstein characterized the whole field as “spooky action at a distance”. Nevertheless, whether you are a proton or a club member you’re not merely *interdependent* but necessarily *codependent*.

Surprisingly, the speculative physics of entanglement can stimulate self-analysis of our own lives of exploration. In physics, entanglement includes direct interactions between sub-atomic particles or between quantum systems. In exploration, entanglement is the interaction among the explorer team and between the expedition and its environment.

Being conscious of entanglement and studying it can produce practical useful results: to explain the features of our universe and the object of our exploration; how atoms combine to form molecules and people combine to form families, for example; or sub atomic electrons, protons, and neutrons make up matter compared to our universal personal “ex-genes” of exploration.

Like entanglement for physicists, we explorers look for the unexpected, the counterintuitive, the results others say are impossible. Like flying around the world in a plane powered only by the sun or finding a species of animal that supposedly doesn’t exist. From our own experiences in the field we understand the physicist who questions the normal assumptions of cause-and-effect, claim that correlation does not imply causation, and even retro-causality. We too differently interpretation what we look for and find.

Physicists and explorers understand the “observer effect.” When the physicist measures sub-atomic particles, he becomes entangled with the object of his or her measurements. No matter what area of science we are exploring in the field, the observer becomes part of the perceived truth and, like the physicist, our observations will make a change on the phenomenon being observed. That is a major rationale for the Explorers Club mission to transform the field of exploration from solely West-centered observations to world-centered and our realization that not only the physical world but all the world cannot be described by analysis of a single locality. What we find at the moment in one place or one culture doesn’t define the world.

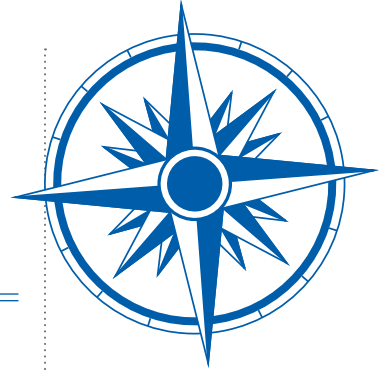
Like particles, we explorers cannot survive or even exist except as an entangled group. Like explorers, particles cannot even be described without considering all the other particles in the group. Attempting to measure or deal with a part of the group only will lead to the collapse the entire entangled system.

We particles and we explorers are all in this together...whether we like it or not!



– ALAN, PRESIDENT

# Compass Points



## Atlanta Chapter

Crusty members and vivacious guests of the Atlanta Chapter met on September 12, at a local saloon, to imbibe barrels of amber brew while overhearing an educational presentation by two learned speakers.

Who was that masked man and his native companion? You think maybe the Lone Ranger and Tonto? Close, but no cigar. Our featured speakers were F. Mark Fowler and John W. “Billy Ray” Morris. Nicole Morris was a surprise special guest! Mark Fowler is a director of the Explorers Club, a *National Geographic* filmmaker and explorer and more famously an on-camera host and producer of TV documentary and adventure programs. He is the accomplished son of Explorers Club icon and TV legend Jim Fowler. Billy Ray is North Carolina



Deputy State Archaeologist Underwater and Director of the Underwater Archaeology Branch. Nicole is a maritime archaeologist. Usually North Carolinians do not enter Georgia without travel papers, but in this case the Morrisises arrived with just their slides, a banjo and an antique marimba.

Their presentation was entitled *Blackbeard the Legend*. Nobody paid much attention, since the speakers were not standing behind the bar. However the bartender told us afterwards that the lecture was a fascinating account of the most famous pirate of his time, and his flagship, *Queen Ann’s Revenge*. The shipwreck of *Queen Ann’s Revenge* was discovered 18 years ago. To date our speakers and others have excavated, recorded and recovered slightly over half the material at the site, which includes about 475,000 artifacts. Blackbeard’s favorite cannon *Molly Maguire*, a birthday gift from his mother when he attained his majority, was recovered recently, and there are several more to bring up. Field operations will continue through 2016 to fulfill the goal of complete site recordation. All artifacts are stored at the QAR Conservation Laboratory on the West Research Campus of East Carolina University on the north side of the street just south of the 7-Eleven.

At the end of the evening, Chapter Chair **Jim Alexander** raffled a 1962 Ferrari 250 GTO 3-litre V12 RWD in mint condition. The winner will be announced in the next *Log*.

— Robert S. Becker, PhD AN’08, bob@beckermultimedia.com

The Molly McQuire with Mark Fowler (hand raised).

Photo: Wildlife Productions

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## Australia/New Zealand Chapter



Jayne Jenkins at *An Evening of Adventure*.

On September 4, at the Balmoral Boatshed on Sydney Harbour's foreshore, the quarterly *An Evening of Adventure* featured two presenters talking about their experiences and discoveries in two vastly different but equally challenging environments.

Exploration can take many forms: and it's not always necessary to stray far from home to be reminded of that fact. An award-winning underwater photographer and Board of Director member of the Our World Underwater Scholarship Society (OWUSS) – a scholarship sponsored by Rolex for young underwater enthusiasts – Jayne Jenkins gave a presentation focussed on the rare, the exotic, and the often bizarre creatures that dwell in the depths of Sydney Harbour. Combining scientific observation

with entertaining detail about the habits and lifestyles of some of the many species that live beneath the ocean's surface just metres away from busy city streets, the talk was supported by a series of stunning images; several showing in graphic detail the unintentional impact that discarded nets, lines and hooks can have on marine life.

A paleontologist using micro-fossils to track past environments – with particular emphasis on the geological history and climate of the Antarctic over the past 14 million years – **Dr. Howard Brady FI'80**, was, during the late 1960s, involved in the decision to explore Antarctica through a series of drilling projects using sediment cores taken from the dry valleys of Victoria Land (huge ancient fjords now uplifted and starved of ice) and from the Ross Sea ice shelf. Taking part in over five Antarctic expeditions, Dr Brady achieved international recognition for his identification and naming of several species of algae currently used to help trace the climate history of Antarctica.

Attracting an enthusiastic audience of members and their guests, the regular, *Evening of Adventure* series of talks serve as an informative and entertaining acknowledgement of the achievements of those who continue to push back the boundaries of knowledge.

—David Strike FI'05, [strikinc1@optusnet.com.au](mailto:strikinc1@optusnet.com.au)

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## Canada Chapter

**John Geiger FI'04** and **Joseph Frey FI'02** joined the 2014 Victoria Strait Expedition in Nunavut to search for Franklin's HMS *Erebus* and HMS *Terror* over a 1,600 sq. km. area that has never been charted. The search for the *Erebus* and *Terror* contributed to our knowledge of the lost Franklin expedition and our scientific knowledge of this region of the Canadian Arctic, with success (*see separate article, p. 34*).



Six dinosaur specimens were uncovered during the Flag 134 *Red Deer River Expedition* in June. **Phil Currie MED'02** and **Eva Koppelhus FI'02** were field leaders; **Jason Schoonover FE'86** was team leader. The team also brought out three specimens discovered by **Lee Treloar MI'09**. **Rob Tymstra FI'94** enumerated 95 bird species during the expedition.

The discovery of *Naia*, a teenager who died in a shallow pool in Mexico's Yucatan peninsula 12,000 years ago is a "bonanza find" according to **Ed Reinhardt FI'04**, one of the scientists involved. *Naia's* skull is well preserved and a tooth has yielded mitochondrial DNA that could help answer one of the most enduring questions in prehistory: "Who were the first people to populate the new world?"

**George Kourounis FI'09** recently descended to the fiery bottom of the *Door to Hell*, a deep pit of burning methane in the middle of Turkmenistan's Karakum Desert. The crater was created more than 40 years ago when the ground under a Soviet natural gas drilling rig collapsed. The soil samples collected by George contained extremophile bacteria that had thrived in the hot, methane-rich environment. The discovery could help scientists discover life outside our solar system, perhaps on planets with similar hot methane-dense environments.

**Derek Wilton FI'10** has received the inaugural *Geoscientist of the Year* award from the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, Newfoundland Branch. Derek's research into exploration applications for innovative biogeochemical techniques has global implications and could lead to the next generation of mineral discoveries.

Upcoming expeditions: **Kate Harris FI'13** will lead an all-women 250-km ski traverse of the eastern Pamir mountains in February 2015 to document the impact of fences on migratory wildlife (as Pearlman Awardee, see separate article). In January 2015 **John Pollack FI'06** and Terry Bolger will co-lead a survey of the giant river cave *Tham Khoun Xe* in Khammouane Province, Laos.



**AT LEFT** A delighted Lee Treloar high fives after discovering a skull.  
*Photo: Su Hattori.*

**ABOVE** George Kourounis descends into the Gateway to Hell.  
*Photo: Dan Byers/National Geographic*

Brianna Rowe SM'11, who investigated the ivory trade this summer for a New School/World Wildlife Fund (New York) project, at a northern Thailand elephant reserve.

Photo: Kirsten Brogaard Pedersen



In the world of film: **Mark Terry FI'08** is producing the 2014 Industry Day at the 15th annual *Planet in Focus Film Festival*. **Peter Rowe FI'08** has released two new features in 2014: *Volcanic Planet* (will screen at the Friday Harbor Film Festival) and *Shipwrecked on a Great Lake*. **Cory Trépanier MI'09** released *TrueWild: Kluane*, a short film created for Parks Canada from his expedition to Kluane National Park in the Yukon. **Daisy Gilardini FI'10** has released a video on the *Spirit Bear of the Great Bear Rainforest* in British Columbia.

—Elaine Wyatt, [chapterchair@explorersclub.ca](mailto:chapterchair@explorersclub.ca)

## New England Chapter

**RIGHT** Captain Eric Takakjian in Falasarana, Crete.

**BELOW LEFT** Team members Joe Mazraani (left) and Anthony Tedeschi suiting up for a dive to the U-550 with the assistance of Harold Moyers.

**BELOW RIGHT** Diving logistics, pulling fresh stage bottles out of the hold; (l-r) Brad Sheard, Tom Packer, Steve Gatto, Joe Mazraani, Harold Moyers.



Captain **Eric Takakjian FN'97** had a busy field season, beginning with a voyage to Crete to explore ancient ruins in the company of his wife, Lori. Then in June, along with **Heather Knowles MN'11** and Captain **David Caldwell MN'11**, Captain Takakjian discovered a previously unknown steamship wreck

in 250 feet of sea water (fsw) off the Massachusetts coast that, in spite of follow up dives, has defied positive identification; making further examination of it required activity before the onset of the New England





winter. Captain Eric also continued work on the previously reported U-550 project, with dives to the sunken WWII U-boat and to its victim tanker, the SS *Pan Pennsylvania*. He actually located the stern section of the PP in 340 fsw, well over ten miles from its bow! Some of the new photographic images of both wrecks will appear in a book on the subject to be released in 2015. Team members included Steve Gatto, Joe Mazraani, Harold Moyers, Mark Nix, Tom Packer, Pat Rooney, Brad Sheard, and Anthony Tedeschi.

Captain **Robert Wallace** has been engaged in nautical peregrinations that have seen him leave Majorca in the spring to deliver a ship to Singapore, then on to Borneo and New Zealand.

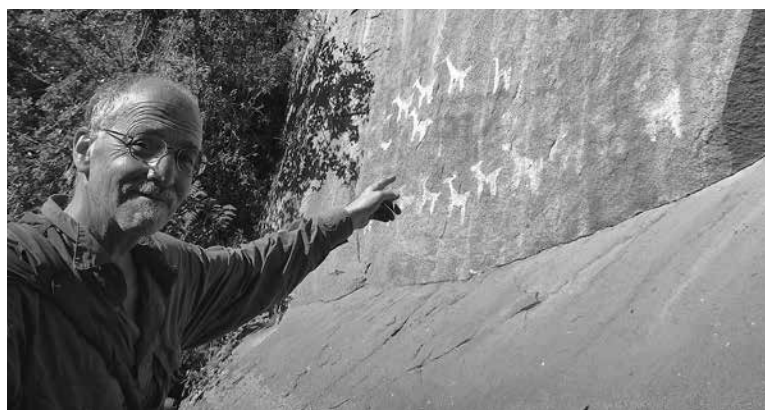
**Prof. Farouk El-Baz LF'78** has been selected by The Geological Society of America (GSA) for its International Section's *Distinguished Career Award*. Prof. El-Baz, who established and directs the Boston University Center for Remote Sensing (CRS) and who also serves as Research Professor in Archaeology, had this award presented to him at the GSA Annual Meeting in Vancouver, BC, Canada, in October. Under his leadership, the CRS has been recognized as a "Center of Excellence in Remote Sensing" by no less a distinguished entity than NASA. He also has served as secretary of the Apollo lunar landing site selection committee, trains astronauts in orbital observations and photography, and was Science Advisor to the late President Anwar Sadat of Egypt. In 1999, the GSA established the *Farouk El-Baz Award for Desert Studies* to reward excellence in the field. It was followed by the *Farouk El-Baz Student Award* to encourage students (one male and one female) to engage in the study of arid lands.

**Gregory Deyermenjian FN'88** was in southeast Peru during the month of August, setting the stage for a culminating expedition to be carried out during the dry season 2015, as well as having a reconnaissance into the hills and valleys to the north of Cusco, filming for broadcast on *The Travel Station* this coming January. He visited the site of the *Llamitas*, the pre-Conquest rock-paintings of llamas at Mant'o, at the confluence of the Amparaes and Lares Rivers, Province of Calca, Department of Cusco, southeast Peru. Local legend describes these as indicating the way to *Paititi*, the ultimate Andean/Amazonian refuge site.

—Greg Deyermenjian, [paititi@alumni.clarku.edu](mailto:paititi@alumni.clarku.edu)



Prof. Farouk El-Baz.



Gregory Deyermenjian at the site of the pre-Conquest rock-painting Llamitas.

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## North Pacific Alaska Chapter



Dr. Tony Fiorillo speaks about Alaskan dinosaurs.

Alaskans are hunters and gatherers in the purest sense of the word, but to try and “gather” a group of Alaskan Explorers during the height of the summer is nearly impossible! With that said, the North Pacific Alaska Chapter hosted an event on August 1 and enjoyed a remarkable turnout! Alaska’s Lieutenant Governor and Chapter Chair **Mead Treadwell FN’02** hosted the gracious event at his home in Bootleggers Cove.

**Dr. Anthony Fiorillo FN’13** appears as an unassuming gentleman of Italian descent. He began his talk with a charming cartoon explaining

“What in the world is a paleontologist?” A wonderful multimedia presentation highlighted the discoveries in different parts of Alaska with an emphasis on the current Denali discovery from which Dr. Fiorillo had just returned. In 2004, a team of scientists from Texas were traversing Denali National Park when they discovered a tract the size of a football field on the side of Mount McKinley (Denali) with literally hundreds of well-preserved Duckbill Dinosaur tracks. Young dinos and old dinos alike, were portrayed by Dr. Fiorillo, prancing about the Alaskan countryside – making Denali Park the longest existing ‘family vacation spot’ in the Last Frontier. Over the last several years, Dr. Fiorillo’s team, in concert with Park Service scientists have been traversing the area, making casts of the myriad of tracks, and sharing this discovery with the hundreds of thousands of guests that have since visited the Park.

We send our heartfelt support and prayers to **Dr. Roman Dial FN’04**. Roman’s son Cody, known by Alaska friends as “R2,” has been lost in Costa Rica’s Corcovado National Park. **Roman, Victoria Becwar-Lewis FN’05**, and **Joshua Lewis FN’04** have been in Costa Rica coordinating an area-wide search and rescue which began mid-July. As of this writing (late September) Cody has been missing and “off grid” for over two months. If you can participate financially, please donate to the Cody Roman Fund at Alaska USA FCU or contribute to the “Where is Cody” effort via [gofundme.com/ebhedc](http://gofundme.com/ebhedc).

—Joshua Lewis, [joshua.c.lewis@mac.com](mailto:joshua.c.lewis@mac.com)

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Cody Roman Dial, missing.



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## Northern California Chapter

The chapter Board met in July. Two particular matters discussed may be of interest to the Club at large: our newsletter and our guest policy.

After 46 years of publishing a printed and mailed newsletter, Northern California will largely convert to digital distribution, with one caveat: those who rely upon receipt of the mailed copy can “opt in,” and it will be sent. At our website [www.explorersnorca.org](http://www.explorersnorca.org) a web-friendly version is posted; a printer-friendly, high-resolution version is optional to allow individuals to print at home (in full color). We anticipate saving nearly \$3000 annually.

We decided to continue our *Sirdar* guest program. *Sirdars* have proven to be active supporters at meetings and on field trips; they pay a Chapter fee to help offset administrative expenses. Though not members of either Chapter or of The Explorers Club, they receive newsletters and are welcome at our events. *Sirdars* enhance the scale of our Chapter membership, routinely contribute to support our goals and often apply for Member status. *Sirdars* count for more than 20% of our active Chapter participants.

On September 26, NorCA held its first meeting of the season with M.E.A. McNeil telling us about bees. Bees are explorers; they go into the field and return with knowledge for the hive. Mea has devoted her insight into exploring them in return; she is an authored expert. Bees are super-organisms in the sense defined centuries ago by geologist James Hutton that they are part of a social unit where the division of labor is highly specialized and individuals are unable to survive by themselves. They contribute to our life by pollinating hundreds of plants; often these cannot create seeds without this service. Bees have been domesticated for millennia as proven by the existence of Neolithic cave paintings. Famous beekeepers such as our own Sir Edmund Hillary are counted among professionals. Chinggis Quan’s ‘mark’ remains exposed on many natural hives, a residual of when he collected taxes on honey. The use of pesticides has had an extraordinarily deleterious impact on the honey bee population. In the recent decade over a hundred different poisons have not only killed the vermin they were intended to constrain; they killed man’s friend, the bee.

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*We decided to continue our Sirdar guest program. Sirdars have proven to be active supporters at meetings and on field trips; they pay a Chapter fee to help offset administrative expenses. Though not members of either Chapter or of The Explorers Club, they receive newsletters and are welcome at our events.*

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M.E.A. McNeil receives the gift of an Explorers Club cap from NorCA Chair Capt. Rick Saber MN’01.

*Photo: Lee Langan*

(l-r) Harry Hicks (note kiss), Rick Saber & Scott McBeth celebrating Harry’s 94 years).

*Photo: Aldeana Saber*





Dr. Alan Rice lecturing to the NorCA Chapter.

Photo: Lee Langan

**Dr. Alan Rice FI'88**, visiting from the American Museum of Natural History, spoke about confirming the supposition put forth in the 1960s that a meteor swarm impacted upon Antarctica in the middle Pleistocene. Antarctica became tropical. The sea rose. If current climate change continues and polar ice melts, these studies prove the sea can rise to levels disastrous to coastal man.

On the following day, folks joined our very active Northern Californian **Harry Hicks FN'87** to celebrate his 94th birthday in Carmel. A rousing time with tales of past polo wins and traipsing through SE Asia. Mountaineer **Scott Macbeth FE'81** joined with recitals.

—Lee Langan FN'99, [lee@langan.net](mailto:lee@langan.net)

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## Norway Chapter

Summer is a time of great activity in Norway, and our members are out exploring. This means increased insights, experiences and knowledge, and few Chapter activities.



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Liv Arnesen spoke to Norway Chapter members.

In co-operation with the Chillout Travel Centre in Oslo, who generously lets us host events in their store and cafe, we are organizing regular member presentations. On September 4, living legend polar explorer **Liv Arnesen MI'92** gave an intriguing, honest and captivating presentation about her inspirations, her polar expeditions and her next project, with American explorer Ann Bancroft: *Access Water*. In 2015, they will lead a team of six women, from six continents, on a 2525-km (1,569-mile), 60-day long expedition following the River Ganges from Gaumukh to the Bay of Bengal. Each of the women will be representing the key water challenges on their continent. Their journey will be the centerpiece of global awareness and outreach in solving our global water crisis. Anyone interested in exploration is welcome to join us for these informal get-togethers in Oslo.

For those visiting HQ during the summer, a flag was missing in the Clark Room. Explorers Club Flag 123 was returned at the 2014 Lowell Thomas Awards Dinner ; it has been on loan at The Kon-Tiki

Museum in Oslo, home of the original Kon-Tiki raft, for a special exhibition in connection with the 100th anniversary celebration of Thor Heyerdahl's birth. Norway Chapter Chair **Synnøve Marie Kvam MI'02** returned the flag after display at the Kon-Tiki Museum through October 6, Thor Heyerdahl's date of birth. The museum planned an exclusive dinner that evening; amongst the guests were the King and Queen of Norway, the Heyerdahl family and all surviving expedition members from Heyerdahl's expedition who were able to join.

Chapter board member **Randi Skaug MI'11** completed a kayaking expedition along the entire Northern Norway coastline this summer. Chapter Board member **Hans Martin Halvorsen MI'13** initiated a project mapping radio dead spots in the sea off Svalbard, aiming to ensure a greater level of security for those traveling in the area. This expedition was the first expedition for our local Chapter flag, which returned from Canada and Himmeljegerne's (The Sky Chaser's) Expedition Yukon.

Our Chapter worked closely with HQ and Vice-President for Chapters **Alex Wallace MN'01** to develop a local Chapter logo. We are very happy with the result and the impact; the Chapter logo has made it possible to market local events and initiatives to a higher level. Next step is producing merchandise!

We encourage all to save the weekend 13-15 February 2015, for the 5<sup>th</sup> annual *Expedition Finse*. *Finse 1222*, a hundred-year-old mountain inn, can only be reached by train from Oslo or Bergen, or by bicycle or skis across the mountains. It has a unique historical atmosphere, with 43 rooms with 143 beds in total, as the starting point for exploring this mountainous part of Norway by ski, bike or hiking trips. Despite – or perhaps because of–its remote location, it is a much loved meeting place for Norwegian explorers. Both Nansen and Amundsen trained in this area of the Hardangervidda Mountains for their polar expeditions. Ernest Shackleton said, "This is an ideal Antarctic landscape." Expedition Finse, an annual festival, attracts the Norwegian and Scandinavian expedition elite for films, presentations and courses relating particularly to polar history and environmental research.

— Synnøve Marie Kvam Stromsvåg, [s.stromsvag@gmail.com](mailto:s.stromsvag@gmail.com)

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## Pacific Northwest Chapter

**Helen Thayer FN'89** received the prestigious WINGS WorldQuest Lifetime Award at the WINGS Women of Discovery Awards Gala this October in New York City. Congratulations, Helen!

**Branan Ward's FE'51** new book, *Dimestore Explorer: Adventures of an Impetuous Geographer*, tells an inspiring story of his life of hitchhiking, flying and crashing airplanes, riding the rails hoboing on trains, canoeing rivers, sailing ships, and manning war submarines. His memoir is his true account of how his big dreams provided unforgettable explorations and experiences. Branan says he has spent nine decades running—not from anything but toward a rich and full life.

*Chapter board member Randi Skaug MI'11 completed a kayaking expedition along the entire Northern Norway coastline this summer. Chapter Board member Hans Martin Halvorsen MI'13 initiated a project mapping radio dead spots in the sea off Svalbard, aiming to ensure a greater level of security for those traveling in the area.*

**Jeanne Suchodolski MN'09** reports from 73N-168W, about 300 miles northwest of Barrow, Alaska, deployed on the USCG research icebreaker *Healy*. Her day job is engineering support, and in spare moments she makes scientific ice observations. Jeanne is no stranger to the north and south ends of the earth; she served for a year as the “Mayor of McMurdo Station,” the US Antarctic research center.

**Francoise Gervais MN'13** was last heard from as she finished work aboard a Canadian research vessel mapping the extent of glacial ice along the west coast of Greenland. She has boarded another Canadian ship, steaming toward Baffin Island to work on a bird survey and as a research diver doing underwater marine organism surveys.

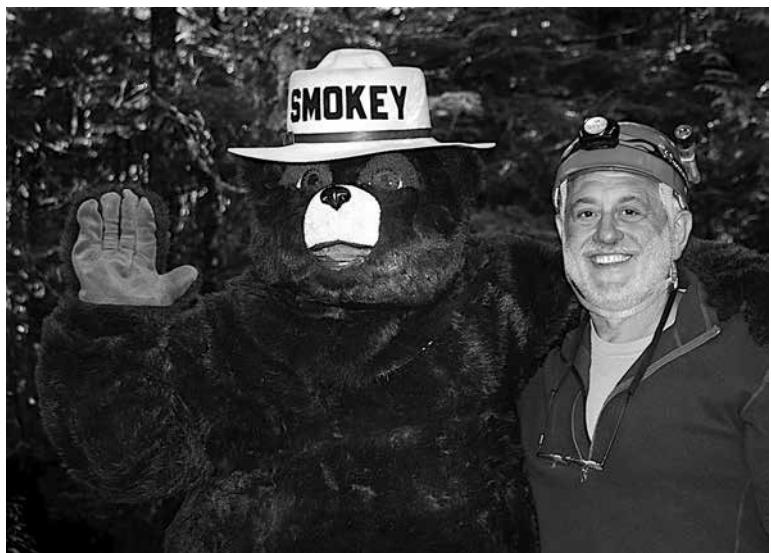
Research biologist **Sally Mizroch FN'04** was somewhere in the North Pacific studying humpback whales. Sally developed and manages the North Pacific humpback whale photo-identification project at the National Marine Mammal Laboratory. She invented the computer-based matching system that allows fast matching of the more than 30,000 photos in the flukes photo collection. From the pitching deck of the research ship she continues to photograph humpbacks contributing to that great body of knowledge.

Besides working full time on her *Headhunt Revisited* project, **Michele Westmorland FN'95** traveled to the Red Sea in Egypt in June and to Pulau Weh, Indonesia, in August. These trips were photo work for the Aggressor Fleet and to produce stories for the dive industry. Michele says that both locations were not only new to her but in general new to the dive industry. She was thrilled to capture images of the marine life, but the compelling story is that Michele got to explore and experience a place that was virtually devastated by the December 2004 tsunami. Ten years later, meeting the people and diving the reefs, she shares first hand in the resiliency of the environment and people.

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Ron Zuber wishes Smokey Bear, a childhood hero to many young American explorers, a happy 70th Anniversary. Smokey helped instill interest in Nature, conservation of the natural world, and fundamental environmental ethics. As Smokey says, “Only YOU can prevent wildfires.”

*Photo: Ron Zuber*





Dr. Donald Ryan, a colleague of Thor Heyerdahl, at his PNW Chapter Gathering .

Photo: Ron Zuber

**Emily Zuber MN'13** has loved exploring the western Wyoming Rocky Mountains and environs for more than a year, where the wary native cutthroats are enticed by her dry fly. A bit homesick for family and friends, Emily is traveling to visit her hometown. How else would she travel? By bicycle of course. Emily is riding solo and self-supported from Jackson Hole, Wyoming to Anacortes, Washington.

**Donald Ryan FN'87** hosted a PNW Chapter gathering at his home and the Thor Heyerdahl Library. Ryan and Heyerdahl worked together and collaborated on numerous archaeological projects until Heyerdahl's death. All in attendance were treated to a wonderfully warm and informative presentation about Heyerdahl the man and their work together by Dr. Ryan, plus a *luau*. You should have feasted!

—Ron Zuber FN'07, [ronzuber@comcast.net](mailto:ronzuber@comcast.net)

## Chapters

Most members of The Explorers Club participate in one or more of our 26 chapters or the de facto chapter of New York residents. This is where the routine action exists, where folks gather to get to know each other, where experiences are shared. These are how TEC has spread around the world.

Some chapters are more prolific than others, usually urban, quite centralized. They can enjoy each other more easily. Still, far flung explorers manage to meet

By being active in a chapter you enhance your experience as a member.

By being part of the chapter organization you experience maintaining the whole. While it can be demanding, it is rewarding work. It takes devotion and skill. It is interesting who you meet; guaranteed. Before long, a committee will entice; take advantage. Involvement enhances what it means to be an explorer in The Explorers Club.

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## Philadelphia Chapter



Philip Stevens at the helm of *Sigsbee*. Photo: Tim Stevens

**Tim Stevens MN'89** and his 12-year-old son Philip joined the crew of the Skipjack *Sigsbee* for a sailing adventure on the Chesapeake Bay for a week in Mid-August. Through the Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth, the crew received hands-on experience in seamanship and navigation much like sailors in the late 18th and 19th century. There was further instruction in marine ecology, conservation and history on one of the last remaining skipjacks on the bay. A highlight of the program was a stopover at the Horn Point environmental research facility of the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Sciences where the crew participated in an oyster restoration project.

—Douglas Soroka FN'06, [snowshoe7@verizon.net](mailto:snowshoe7@verizon.net)

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## Poland Chapter

**Jerzy “Yurek” Majcherczyk FR'92**, who founded the Polish chapter in 1993, visited Kraków and participated in the presentation of the new book *Wyspa Wielkanocna – Easter Island-Rapa Nui*, which was published by Medycyna Praktyczna Editorial and authored by Professor **Zdzislaw J. Ryn FI'99**. Prof. Ryn was a member of the scientific expeditions to Easter Island in 2008-2012 sponsored by The Explorers Club and filmed by National Geographic; he participated in numerous expeditions to the Andes as a physician, mainly recording the patterns and behaviors of the human brain at high altitudes. He also published over thirty books and hundreds of articles about his findings on these topics. Prof. Ryn is the former Polish Ambassador to Chile and Argentina as well a member of Polish Academy of Science and Arts and Doctor *Honoris Causa* of Universidad Científica del Sur (Lima).

—Jerzy Majcherczyk, [yurek@odkrywcy.com](mailto:yurek@odkrywcy.com)

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(l-r) Zbigniew Swiech CO'88 with Czakram Wawelski (about hidden secrets of royal Polish tombs), Jerzy Majcherczyk FR'92 (presenting the Rapa Nui book) and Zdzislaw J. Ryn FI'99 (with his *Wyspa Wielkanocna*).





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## San Diego Chapter

The Map & Atlas Museum of La Jolla was the site of the San Diego Chapter's June Field Trip. The private museum's goal is to create an awareness and appreciation for the geography, history, politics, and artistic beauty of antique collectible maps and atlases. Members gathered in the patio for snacks, drinks, and conversation before a guided tour. Our guide was a bit intimidated by such knowledgeable members as **Robert Fisher HON'88** and **Walter Munk MED'71**, but everyone shared an appreciation of this special collection.

**Prof. Tom Levy FN'09**, **Dr. Laurie Marker FI'06** and **David Dolan FN'03** co-led a Flag expedition which included **Nancy Nenow MN'04** and Alina Levy to Namibia in July and August in conjunction with the Cheetah Conservation Fund, *The 2014 Greater Waterberg Landscape Regional Wildlife and Cultural Heritage Expedition*. Thanks to Professor Levy's anthropological and archaeological skills, a preliminary report of the Waterberg Research Area Cultural Heritage Assessment was provided to the CCF staff and others with the aim of encouraging better understanding of the Herero culture, history and legacy. In addition, the team learned about the vital work of the Cheetah Conservation Fund and its various strategies to insure the survival of the cheetah.

A very congenial Summer Mixer was held at the beautiful home of Suzanne and Mike Hennessey, San Diego Chapter supporters. Chapter Chair Nancy Nenow welcomed everyone and announced upcoming fall chapter events. **David Dolan**, Southern California Co-Chair and organizer of the Lowell Thomas Dinner 2014 announced this year's award winners. Those enjoying the shaded pool area included **Tom Lamb FN'13** and his wife Kathy, **Robert Fisher HON'88** and Alicia McKown, **Jennifer Arnold MR'97**, and **John Asmus FN'97** and his wife Barbara. Also enjoying the camaraderie and lively conversation were **Pam Bit-**



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(l-r) Walter Munk, Robert Fisher, David Dolan, Nancy Nenow, and Jennifer Arnold enjoying a tour of the Map and Atlas Museum of La Jolla.

*Photo: Ken Corben*

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**BELOW LEFT** (l-r) David Dolan, Rio Hahn, and Dominique Rissolo during San Diego Chapter Summer Social.

*Photo: Lonnie Kaufman*

**BELOW** (l-r) Cheetah Conservation Fund founder Laurie Marker, CCF General Manager Bruce Brewster, Tom Levy, Alina Levy, David Dolan, and Nancy Nenow with CCF Ambassador cheetahs in Namibia.

*Photo: Casey Lay*





The 2014 Edom Lowlands Regional Archaeology Project (ELRAP) -Khirbat al-Jariya expedition team. The co-field directors, Prof. Tom Levy and Dr. Mohammad Najjar are holding Explorers Club Flag 117.

of this University of California, San Diego & Department of Antiquities of Jordan expedition was to carry out the first large-scale excavations at the Iron Age (ca. 1200-900 BCE) copper production site of Khirbat al-Jariya (KAJ) to understand the sequence of occupation and the organization of ancient copper production. Levy took a small team to insure they have original data for their doctoral dissertations at UC San Diego, even at a time when other Jordan projects were shut down because of the threat of ISIS on the eastern border. Working closely with Dr. Mohammad Najjar, former Jordan director of excavations, the team's excavations revealed a building devoted to both craft specialization and ritual activities. In spite of the heat, dust, clouds of flies and a highly poisonous Palestinian viper, the excavation results are spectacular.

—Nancy Nenow MN'04, [nlnenow@yahoo.com](mailto:nlnenow@yahoo.com)

terman MN'12 and her husband Joe, **Char Glacy MN'09**, **Rio Hahn FN'86**, **Jim Hoffman FN'00** and his wife June, **Payne Johnson FN'94** and his wife Linda, **Doug Magde MN'03** and his wife Peggy, **Neil Marshall FN'01** and his wife Judy, and **Doris Lee McCoy FN'91**. **Tim Radke MN'13** and his wife were excited about their upcoming trip to Bhutan, a trip they bid upon and won at ECAD 2014. We were happy to see **Dominique Rissolo FN'13**, **David Smith FE'53**, and **Doc White FN'95** as well as the San Diego Chapter's newest member, **Emily Callahan MN'14**.

For a month in August/September 2014, Principal Investigator **Prof. Tom Levy FN'09** led an EC flag expedition to the Saharo-Arabian desert zone of Faynan in southern Jordan. Faynan is the largest ancient copper-ore zone in the southeastern Mediterranean basin.. The aim

## The Southern Florida Chapter

In 2007, at age 23, Captain **Barrington Irving FN'13** became the youngest pilot to fly solo around the world in a single-engine airplane. On his 97-day journey, he flew 30,000 miles in a single-engine plane called *Inspiration*. He made the trip to show other youth that if he could achieve his dream, they could too. Born in Kingston, Jamaica and brought up in inner-city Miami, Barrington saw a football scholarship as his only route to college until, inspired by a Jamaican airline pilot who became his mentor, he decided to pursue a career in aviation. In 2003, Barrington founded the nonprofit *Experience Aviation* and set up the Experience Aviation Learning Center that continues to offer STEM-based programs and career guidance to middle and high school students in the Miami area.

Now recognized as a pioneer in education, he is preparing to revolutionize online learning by piloting the world's first "Flying Class-



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Barrington Irving with his Flying Classroom, *Inspiration III*.

*The Flying Classroom is a cutting-edge, global, STEM+\* learning adventure. It is a digital learning tool designed to help students excel in core subject areas aligned to academic benchmarks for grades K-8. The curriculum serves as an intervention and enrichment tool.*

room.” On this flight, he will combine air, land, and sea expeditions with a digital curriculum to engage millions of children throughout the world. The Flying Classroom is a cutting-edge, global, STEM+\* learning adventure. It is a digital learning tool designed to help students excel in core subject areas aligned to academic benchmarks for grades K-8. The curriculum serves as an intervention and enrichment tool. The Flying Classroom is aligned to the National Common Core Standards and Next Generation Science Standards. Powered by state-of-the-art technologies, the Flying Classroom will utilize the *Inspiration III*, provided by Executive Aircraft Services, to travel to 11 countries, spanning three continents. Daily dispatches on the website [www.flyingclassroom.com](http://www.flyingclassroom.com) will promote learning anytime, anywhere, on a broad range of mobile devices.

—Kristina Gossman Ducanes, MN’06, [krissyducanes@gmail.com](mailto:krissyducanes@gmail.com)

\*STEM+ = Science, Technology, Engineering, Math + Geography, History, Social Studies, Career Paths, Reading

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## Southwest Chapter

In July 2014, **Dave Decker TM’12** led a 25-member Explorers Club Flag Expedition (Flag 210) to the Peñasco Springs on Zia Pueblo, New Mexico. The diving team consisted of two world-class cave divers, Dr. Barbara am Ende and **Major Bill Mason MN’11**, who dove, explored, and mapped over 20 of these highly carbonated springs to depths of up to 20 meters, and collected rock, water, gas and biological samples from seven of the twenty mapped features. At times the divers reported it was like diving in Perrier. The research team comprised Dr. Laura Crossey, Dr. Diana Nortup, Dr. Karl Karlstrom, Dr. Penny Boston, Dr. Jason Ricketts, Mr. Mike Spilde, Mr. Chris McGibbon, and a number of graduate students from the University of New Mexico. Our support team included Mr. Kevin Lorms, lead chef and logistics specialist, Mr. Ron Maehler, expedition photographer and assistant chef, Mr. Sam Bensonhaver, lead rigger, and Mr. Bradd Hopkins, medical support and assistant rigger. Addi-

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(l-r) Valerie Blomgren, Marisa Repach, Ozzy the dog, Sam Bensonhaver, Earl Gachupin, Chris McGibbon, Kevin Lorms, Ron Maehler, LCDR Dave Decker (USN), Dr. Jason Rickets, Dr. Laura Crossey and Dr. Karl Karlstrom.

Photo: Mr. Ron Maehler



tional assistance from Mr. Pete Lindsley, Ms. Skye Norton, Mr. Garrett Jorgensen, Mr. Brent Hall, and Mrs. Michelle Wilson helped the expedition run smoothly and contributed greatly to its success. The samples are being processed in labs across the United States and results are expected to filter in over the next several months. A full write up of the expedition will be submitted to the Explorers Club archives once results have been returned. Special thanks go to Mr. Earl Gachupin and the Zia Pueblo for allowing us to camp and explore their Pueblo lands. Support for this expedition was provided by the National Speleological Society.

**Jut Wynne FN'06** was an invited participant and speaker at a planetary-caves workshop at NASA/JPL in Pasadena, California, in September. The objectives of the workshop were to create an opportunity for scientists and engineers to discuss both future research and mission-planning opportunities, as well as the technical-readiness level for robotic exploration of lunar and martian caves.

—Jonathan Hanson FN'04, [jonathan@overlandexpo.com](mailto:jonathan@overlandexpo.com)

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## Washington Group

The Odgen Museum of Southern Art in New Orleans has acquired “*Bioverse No 3*” by **Betsy Stewart MN'05** for its permanent collection.

**Kathleen C. Benison FN'10** published a paper in the international journal *Geology*, entitled “*Could microorganisms be preserved in Mars gypsum? Insights from terrestrial examples*”, based on fieldwork at Mars-analog acid salt flats in the high Andes of northern Chile. The National Geographic published a web story by **John N. Maclean FN'02** about the twin anniversaries in June 2014 of two fatal western wildfires (South Canyon Fire of 1994 & Yarnell Hill Fire of 2014), and how the lessons of the older fire failed to prevent a similar tragic outcome two decades later. Maclean is the author of *Fire on the Mountain: The True Story of the South Canyon Fire*, several other books on wildland fire, and *The Esperanza Fire: Arson, Murder, and the Agony of Engine 57*. These are being developed as feature films.

**Joyce Johnson FN'03** and **James Calderwood Jr. FN'04** led an expedition with EC Flag 112 to Tacloban, The Philippines, from July 3-20, 2014, to assess changes in the eight months since *Typhoon Haiyan*. They

found much of the storm's destruction remains, but extraordinary resilience continues among the people. During the expedition, they experienced the winds and rain of the first typhoon of the 2014 season, *Typhoon Rammasun*.

At Clemson University on October 7, 2013, **Dr. Lee Talbot MED'57**, received the *2013 Benton H. Box Award* for recognition as a teacher "who by precept and example inspires in students the quest for knowledge and encourages curriculum innovation to inculcate an environmental ethic as the rule of conduct."

**Arnella Trent MN'01** spent much of May 2014 helping the State of Delaware and the British Trust for Ornithology with banding and monitoring *Red Knots*; they feed along the shores of Delaware Bay during their migrations between the tip of South America and their Arctic nesting grounds. The data will be used for shorebird monitoring and conservation.

**Norman Cherkis FN'91** attended a conference of the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (GEBCO)-Subcommittee on Undersea Feature Names (SCUFN) in Monaco in June. The organization, under UNESCO auspices, has a direct connection to the International Hydrographic Bureau (IHB). Cherkis has been a member of the GEBCO organization since 1984. In concert with *International Hydrography Day*, the IHB held a reception attended by His Serene Highness, Prince Albert II of Monaco FI'14. During the meeting, Cherkis explained the role of GEBCO's present programs in modern mapping of the seafloor. Prince Albert II's great grandfather and namesake, HSH Prince Albert I, was instrumental in establishing the first GEBCO in 1903.

**Sarah Yeomans FN'07** spent the summer doing archeological research in Turkey and Italy. In July she was aboard a small ship to identify and survey shore lands in Italy and was in Rome, researching ancient Roman medicine for her dissertation prospectus research on the Antonine Plague in the second century. On Oct. 27, 2014 **Yeoman's** talk on "*Doctors, Diseases and Deities: Epidemic Crises and Medicine in Ancient Rome*" at TEC HQ is scheduled.

In July, the Explorers Club approved two new members of the ECWG: **Barbara L. Schoeberl FN'14** and **Huan Cui TM'14**.

—*Jack Williams FN'03, weatherjack@me.com*

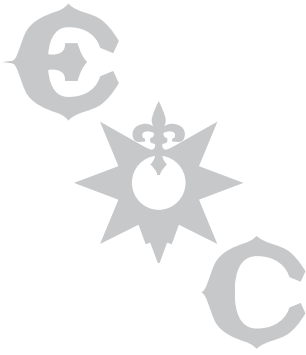


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(l-r) Norman Cherkis; Capt. Robert Ward, Royal Australian Navy (ret.) and President of the IHB; Prince Albert II of Monaco.

Yeomans emerging from an ancient tomb structure at Lydea, about an hour hike above the cove of Ağa Limanib along Turkey's southwestern coast.

*Photo: Cenk Eronat*



# In the Field

## Flag and Honors News

The Explorers Club Flag expeditions represent the cutting edge of exploration. Our archive of past expeditions is a treasure trove of information and meaningful discovery available to Club members, researchers, filmmakers and the interested public.

In additions to the archives, many recent flag expedition reports may be found at on our website at: [http://www.explorers.org/index.php/expeditions/flag\\_expeditions/flag\\_reports](http://www.explorers.org/index.php/expeditions/flag_expeditions/flag_reports)

### **CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT (l-r)**

Vanessa O'Brien and Club Archivist Lacey Flint, with Flag 206.

*Photo: Jim Clash*

Mark O'Shea FI'99 with Flag 97 and his "Phase IX" team.

Dr. Joyce M. Johnson and James A. Calderwood with Flag 112 in the Philippines.

John Hall, with Flag 117 on The Dead Sea Bathymetric Survey.  
Frederik Paulsen, Flag 50.  
James W. Kennard, with Flag 202.

### **Flag 206 Send Off**

**Vanessa O'Brien MN'13** departed in August on her expedition to *Mansalu* in the Nepalese Himalayas to test the use of altitude training tents as a means of increasing performance for mountaineers.

Club Archivist, Lacey Flint, had the honor of presenting Ms. O'Brien with Flag 206 during a special flag send-off at Club headquarters. (See separate entry on her success, page 26.

### **Flag 97**

**Mark O'Shea FI'99** with Flag 97 and his "Phase IX" team in the mountains of the *Oecusse Exclave*: (l-r) Caitlin Sanchez, Mark O'Shea, Kaitlin Rickerl, Justin Steeno, Agivedo Varela Ribeiro, Ruby Resendez, Jose Huerta, Kimberly Antekeier, Hinrich Kaiser and their local forest guard.



### **Flag 112**

**Dr. Joyce M. Johnson FN'03** and **James A. Calderwood FN'04** display Flag 112 during their recent expedition to the Philippines to document the reconstruction progress from the devastating effects of Typhoon Haiyan.

### **Flag 117**

**John Hall, Ph.D., FI'80** is pictured with Flag 117 on *The Dead Sea Bathymetric Survey 2006*. Dr. Hall remains in Israel as an anchor for other field expeditions.

### **Flag 50**

In July, **Frederik Paulsen, Ph.D., MED'02**, and a team of international climbers, set out for the Altai Mountains at the border of Russia, China, Kazakhstan and Mongolia, with Flag Number 50. The objective of the expedition was to establish new research infrastructure at the Akrtu Research Station, in conjunction with the University scientists, to increase its capacity for research and education within the field of ecology and ecosystem function.

### **Flag 202**

**James W. Kennard, FN'13** and his team, in the field with Flag 202, announced the discovery of the British steamship *Nisbet Grammer*, the largest steel steamer to have foundered in Lake Ontario. The shipwreck was located thirty miles east of Niagara, New York in a depth of over 500 feet. The *Nisbet Grammer* was enroute from Port Colburne to Montreal with a load of grain when she was struck by the steamship *Dalwar-nic* in a dense fog. Report and video online: <http://www.shipwreckworld.com/articles/20th-century-steamer-discovered-in-lake-ontario>

### **Flag 99**

In November 2013, **Tom Ambrose MN'10** and his Cuban-born daughter Natalie spent two weeks intensively surveying and documenting the abundant karst formations of Cuba; a brief summary of his report is on page 26. His report is on line.

### **Flag 123**

Retired after accompanying the voyage of *Kon Tiki*, this flag normally hangs in the Clark Room. All summer it was on loan to The Kon-Tiki Museum in Oslo, reunited with the original *Kon Tiki* raft for the first time since 1947. The flag was returned to The Explorers Club at the Lowell Thomas Awards Dinner in Santa Ana, California, on October 11, by the museum's director, **Synnøve Marie Kvam Stromsvåg MI'02**.

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*Kon Tiki* Flag given back to Club at Lowell Thomas Dinner. (l-r) President Alan Nichols, VP Flag & Honors Constance Difede, Norway Chapter Chair Synnøve Kvam.

*Photo: Lee Langan*



# Flag Expeditions

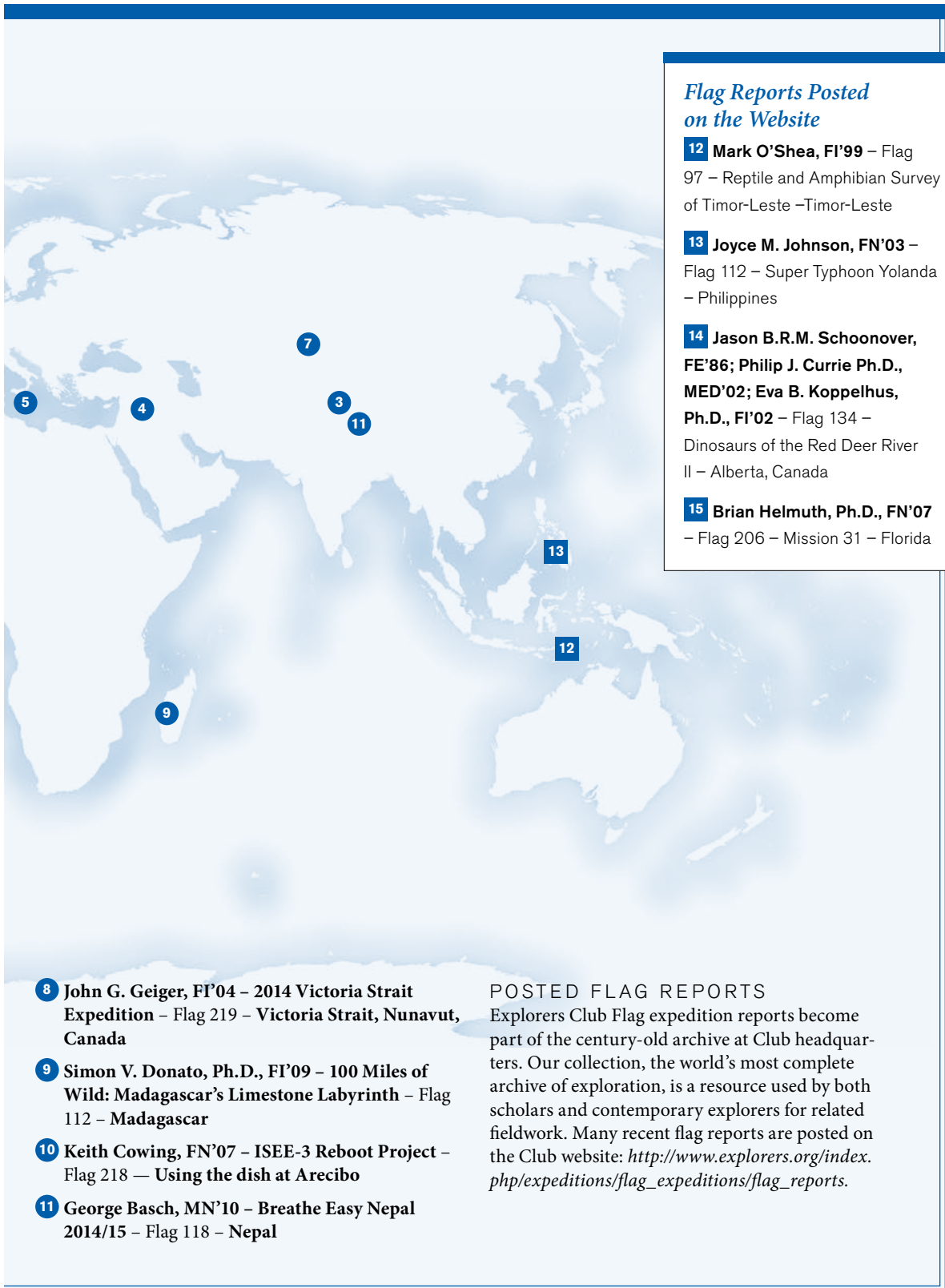


APPROVED SINCE LAST LOG



- 1** David E. Guggenheim Ph.D., FN'08 & Theodore P. Janulis, MR'95 – The Unknown Gardens of the Queen – Flag 118 – Cuba
- 2** Adam L. Shoalts, TM'14 – Nameless Arctic River Expedition – Flag 114 – Victoria Island, Canadian Arctic
- 3** Vanessa O' Brien, MN'13 – Manaslu: Nocturnal Hypoxic Exposure – Flag 206 – Nepal
- 4** Thomas E. Levy, Ph.D., FN'09 – Edom Lowlands Regional Archaeology Project (ELRAP): Khirbat al-Jariya, Jordan – Flag 117 – Jordan
- 5** Peter A. Wytykowski, MN'12 & Roman Z. Zajder, MI'12 – The Hunt for L72 – Flag 207 – Island of Malta, Mediterranean Sea
- 6** Luc Hardy, MR'08 – The Pax Arctica Endurance Expedition 2014 – In Shackleton's Footsteps – Flag 176 – Antarctica
- 7** Frederik D.A. Paulsen, Ph.D., MED'02 – Altai Mountain Expedition – Flag 50 – Altai Mountains, Russia





*Flag Reports Posted on the Website*

**12** **Mark O'Shea, FI'99** – Flag 97 – Reptile and Amphibian Survey of Timor-Leste –Timor-Leste

**13** **Joyce M. Johnson, FN'03** – Flag 112 – Super Typhoon Yolanda – Philippines

**14** **Jason B.R.M. Schoonover, FE'86; Philip J. Currie Ph.D., MED'02; Eva B. Koppelhus, Ph.D., FI'02** – Flag 134 – Dinosaurs of the Red Deer River II – Alberta, Canada

**15** **Brian Helmuth, Ph.D., FN'07** – Flag 206 – Mission 31 – Florida

**8** **John G. Geiger, FI'04** – 2014 Victoria Strait Expedition – Flag 219 – Victoria Strait, Nunavut, Canada

**9** **Simon V. Donato, Ph.D., FI'09** – 100 Miles of Wild: Madagascar's Limestone Labyrinth – Flag 112 – Madagascar

**10** **Keith Cowing, FN'07** – ISEE-3 Reboot Project – Flag 218 – Using the dish at Arecibo

**11** **George Basch, MN'10** – Breathe Easy Nepal 2014/15 – Flag 118 – Nepal

POSTED FLAG REPORTS

Explorers Club Flag expedition reports become part of the century-old archive at Club headquarters. Our collection, the world's most complete archive of exploration, is a resource used by both scholars and contemporary explorers for related fieldwork. Many recent flag reports are posted on the Club website: [http://www.explorers.org/index.php/expeditions/flag\\_expeditions/flag\\_reports](http://www.explorers.org/index.php/expeditions/flag_expeditions/flag_reports).

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## The 2014 Lowell Thomas Awardees Honored on October 11, 2014, at the Bowers Museum



Sheldon Breiner, Ph.D. FE'78



G. Chris Fischer MN'10



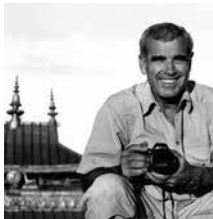
David G. Gallo, Ph.D. FN'90



Rosaly M.C. Lopes, Ph.D. FN'04



Frederik D.A. Paulsen MI'02



Edward P. Roski, Jr. MN'90

**Sheldon Breiner, Ph.D. FE'78** is a distinguished entrepreneur, inventor, and geophysicist who specializes in exploration, scientific, and cultural research to uncover hidden objects, historical places, and other mysteries noninvasively, commonly using the principals of magnetics and high-sensitivity magnetometers.

**G. Chris Fischer MN'10**, the founder of OCEARCH, has led twenty global expeditions in the past seven years dedicated to the advancement of science, education, public safety, and public policy in protecting the world's marine resources, most specifically, Great Whites and other sharks.

**David G. Gallo, Ph.D. FN'90**, Director of Special Projects at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, is a true pioneer at the forefront of ocean exploration, as one of the first use both manned submersibles and robots to map the ocean. He co-led an effort to develop the first comprehensive map of *RMS Titanic*.

**Rosaly M.C. Lopes, Ph.D. FN'04**, Manager for Planetary Science and Senior Research Scientist at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, is a planetary geologist and volcanologist working to utilize remote sensing data collected from spacecrafts to analyze the geologic features on Titan, Saturn's largest moon, and its ice volcanoes.

**Frederik D.A. Paulsen MI'02** is a noted Polar Explorer who is the only person to have attained all eight poles and the first to have crossed the Bering Strait from Alaska to Russia in an ultralight aircraft, in addition to his devoted philanthropic efforts and environmental advocacy and other exploration.

**Edward P. Roski, Jr. MN'90** is an avid cyclist, mountain climber, and accomplished wilderness diver who has dedicated his civic efforts to promoting cultural education. He has donated masterworks from three cultural regions of Micronesia, Melanesia, and Polynesia on permanent exhibition at the Bowers Museum. Mr. Roski also cofounded the *Land of the Free Foundation* serving families of US war veterans.

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## Vanessa O'Brien Successful on Manaslu

On September 25, **Vanessa O'Brien MN'13**, carrying Explorers Club Flag 206, summited Nepal's Mt. Manaslu, at 26,759 feet the world's eighth highest mountain. Prior to leaving, she slept and trained in a reduced-oxygen tent in her Boston apartment to determine if such methods help with pre-acclimatization.

This is O'Brien's fourth successful climb of an 8,000-meter peak: Mt. Everest, Cho Oyu and Shishapangma's Central Summit. "I was honored to carry The Explorers Club flag," said O'Brien. "Knowing it was there in my backpack kept me going when times got tough." And they did. Van-

essa says Manaslu claimed the life of a Japanese guide while she was there.

O'Brien holds the women's record for the fastest climb of the "Seven Summits" (the highest peak on each continent) plus ski-the-last-degree expeditions to the North and South Poles, completing all in just 11 months. She is co-chair of the 2015 Explorers Club Annual Dinner to be held at the American Museum of Natural History on March 21, 2015. In the fall of 2013, she was a guest on Jim Clash's *Exploring Legends*.



## Flag 99 at the Epicenter of Antillean Karst

The Caribbean is one of the major karst regions in the world. In late 2013, **Tom Ambrose MN'10** and his Cuban-born daughter Natalie intensively surveyed and documented Cuba's abundant limestone formations throughout the entire island. Tom gave a poetic answer when asked of his life-long fascination with these rock formations: "While rocks are usually inanimate, I consider karst a living rock with character, often 'growing' as stalactites and stalagmites, sometimes 'deforming' into bizarre shapes by acidic rainfall and even 'dying' by completely dissolving away over time by these same rains." Karst landforms can be world class. They differ in shape, size, and height. Beautiful limestone towers and cones in Guilin, China reach 1600 feet above the Li River Valley floor; these erosional features have a 2000-year written history and were sketched and painted by early artists. Cuban Karst towers (*Mogotes*) can reach 1300 feet, the highest and most spectacular in the Americas.

For Tom and his daughter Natalie, their expedition was more than "just" a scientific survey. It was also a survey of their own past. As a young geologist, Tom's first post was in Cuba, before and during the revolution in the late 1950s; Natalie was born on the Island. There he saw his first karst limestone, the 'Karren' stone column; that connection alone made for some privately significant moments, undertaken in a 1955 Chevy Bel Air.

*"It was interesting to be back in Cuba with Natalie. Our expedition necessitated traveling the island...on roads where ox-carts are still in use...pro-revolutionary signs along all roads, a shortage of hotel rooms versus the availability of private home accommodations, the breakdown prone new Chinese intra-city buses, and a "Casa de Musica" in every country town with live Cuban music and salsa dancing. Little has changed since the late 1950s - it's almost a 'time warp'—except then the railroads were running... My 1957 Esso road map served as our expedition guide with all the old landmarks still in place."*

What of today's politics and restrictions on American tourism? Tom was able to enter the country on a US research license and Natalie was admitted as a Cuban-American, with a Cuban visa. While their movements were subject to controls, they could pursue their expedition without interference from the authorities.

Vanessa O'Brien with Flag 206 on the summit of Mt. Manaslu Sept. 25 with Sherpa Nawang Tenjing.

*Photo: Russell Brice*

*For Tom and his daughter Natalie, their expedition was more than "just" a scientific survey. It was also a survey of their own past. As a young geologist, Tom's first post was in Cuba, in the late 1950s; Natalie was born on the Island.*



**TOP** Tom and Natalie Ambrose in Vinales Valley, Cuba, with Flag 99.

**ABOVE** Tom Ambrose as a young geologist in Cuba.

Tom and Natalie are aware that some of the surveyed Karst landscapes, especially the Vinales Valley, a two-hour drive from Havana, could be a major tourist attraction, should Cuba open up to US tourism. They hope that, “...advanced, strategic, and visionary planning by the Cuban government will protect the environment and beauty of this area for future generations.”

Flag 99 was also carried by Tom Ambrose to Mato Grosso, Brasil, in 2011. It was carried to Latin America twice before (Kenneth Kamler’s Mt. Vinson/Aconcagua Ice Climbing Expedition; Stanley Spielman’s XINGU 2000 Brazil expedition). Its history began in much colder climes on Finn Ronne’s US Antarctic Expedition in 1939.

## Rediscovering a Forgotten Shipwreck’s Lessons

Exploration need not be in far distant places; it can happen literally in your own backyard. Of course, other than uninhabited places, most exploration in the past involving “discovery” involved encountering a place where other people already lived. Recently, a NOAA team, including me, announced the rediscovery of a long-forgotten shipwreck with a tragic but important history just inside the Golden Gate, in waters where I started my career as a maritime archaeologist four decades ago. That counts as a near “home town” and a former “back yard.”

The wreck is the iron-hulled steamship *City of Chester*, built by John Roach at his Chester, Pennsylvania shipyard in 1875. Coming to the Pacific Coast for its owners, the Oregon Steamship Company, *City of Chester* ran north from San Francisco carrying passengers and freight until August 22, 1888. Leaving harbor on that foggy morning, *Chester* sank after being rammed by the incoming steamer *Oceanic*; she sank in several minutes, killing fifteen people. This was the second greatest loss of life at the Golden Gate.

The tragedy was widely reported and the subject of litigation over who was at fault through the 1890s; then it faded from public memory as time passed. Historians remembered it as a product of the prodigious Roach, one of 19th century America’s greatest shipbuilders, and for its wreck, especially given the sinking occurred in the midst of racial tension over Chinese immigration to the United States. *Chester* had been rammed and sunk by a steamer carrying Chinese immigrants and a Chinese crew. Accusations of indifference and poor seamanship on the part of *Oceanic*’s crew, however, were swept aside by testimony of *Chester*’s surviving passengers and crew. The Chinese crew had done all they could to save lives, one Chinese sailor leap into the turbulent water to save a drowning child.

The location of the wreck was “known” thanks to a wire-drag in 1888 that seemingly caught the sunken hulk and allowed its position to be charted by the US Coast Survey. It was the discovery of that filed and forgotten manuscript chart by NOAA historian and archivist John

Cloud that led to the rediscovery of *City of Chester*. Knowing of my interest in the wrecks at the Golden Gate, where I had first embarked on a career in shipwreck archaeology four decades ago, John sent me a scan of the chart. NOAA's Tony Reyer, an Office of National Marine Sanctuaries colleague, geo-rectified it to Google Ocean and gave modern coordinates. Robert Schwemmer, Maritime Heritage Coordinator for the West Coast, conducted a great deal of historical research, including the official inquiries and court cases.

The culmination was a survey of the area as part of the regular duties of NOAA's Office of Coast Survey's Navigation Response Team 6, based on San Francisco Bay. The team, headed by Laura Pagano, includes Ed Wernicke, and Ian Colvert. While looking at the main channel to monitor any changes, and another, more modern wreck we've been watching to see how it breaks up, they were amenable to going just a little further west with their survey launch. The multibeam data, when processed by Ian, gave us the unmistakable outline of *City of Chester*, more than 200 feet down, its bow nearly severed, upright and buried in mud up past the original waterline. It brought it all into perspective for every one of us involved in the search; a real ship, real people, and a forgotten accident that should be remembered to this day.

When NOAA announced the rediscovery in April 2014, no one expected the story to go out across the world as front page news; all told, a global audience of 1.4 billion people saw the story. Why did it resonate? I think it was all about discovery, discovery in one's "back yard," discovery in a busy harbor where not everything has been "found." It was also a reminder that the survivors of *City of Chester* who may have harbored the harsh feelings and attitudes of their time discovered that their perceptions of the Chinese were wrong. People are people regardless of race, nationality, language, religion, gender or any of the other aspects of our humanity that we often use to allow ourselves to feel different or superior to each other. As any explorer knows, the greatest discoveries are when we look beyond what we thought to be, and learn from what we find.

—James P. Delgado FN'97, [james.delgado@noaa.gov](mailto:james.delgado@noaa.gov)

*Coming to the Pacific Coast for its owners, the Oregon Steamship Company, City of Chester ran north from San Francisco carrying passengers and freight until August 22, 1888. Leaving harbor on that foggy morning, Chester sank after being rammed by the incoming steamer Oceanic; she sank in several minutes, killing fifteen people. This was the second greatest loss of life at the Golden Gate.*



Robert Gilbert painting of the *City of Chester* sinking after her collision with the steamship *Oceanic*, circa 1890.

San Francisco Maritime Historical Park  
Museum Collection, SAFR3753



**TOP** Elsa Roscoe on Lembert Dome in Yosemite, 2003.

**ABOVE** Elsa Roscoe, covergirl for USGS Volunteer's roster, 1987.

Photos: Mike Diggles

*When Elsa passed away last year, she left generous gifts to several education and research institutes including The Explorers Club. Her gift was the largest personal gift from an estate that the Club received this year. We are thankful.*

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## Elsa Roscoe, a Friend of The Explorers Club for Many Decades

In the year 1920, Edwin Hubble discovered a second galaxy in the Universe, and, on November 16, Elsa Roscoe was born. Elsa loved the outdoors (she bought her first Kelty backpack from Dick Kelty himself), respected the environment, and enjoyed nature especially in her beloved Portola Valley, California. She made friends her entire 92 years; she passed away on February 18, 2013; she spent her last decades surrounding herself with many younger folks.

Elsa was married to John Roscoe, her third husband, for almost 40 years. John was a Colonel in the Marine Corps, was on Admiral Byrd's staff in Antarctica in 1947, and was a Club Fellow—FN'54. He sponsored me in 1992. Recently, I took a look at the first roll of Kodachrome I ever shot; it was in 1956. By that year, Elsa had long since transferred from Kodak in Rochester, New York, to work at Kodak's plant on Page Mill Road in Palo Alto. After over 40 years at Kodak, Elsa retired.

Not being one to sit still, she did volunteer work. She signed on with US Geological Survey (USGS) for the *Volunteers For Science* program in about 1983, where I got to do geologic mapping with her in the Sierra Nevada. She worked eight of the ten triennial USGS Open House events. She also volunteered for the *Sensory Access Foundation*. She was a follower of The Explorers Club and through the *Earthwatch* organization went on archaeological digs to Papeete and Huahine (French Polynesia) and Chaco Canyon (New Mexico). Additionally, she trekked in Nepal, traveled through Pakistan, Burma, Greenland, and visited China. Her interest in health and nutrition, which she practiced throughout her daily life, led her to take classes in yoga and in recent years to participate in a Stanford Study on Aging.

We went to her old stomping grounds in Yosemite several times, hit a solar eclipse in Hawai'i, and went to an opera or two. She saw me in a tuxedo twice: once at the Waldorf-Astoria for the Explorers Club Annual Dinner (and *Victor Victoria*) and a decade later when she was one of the grooms persons at my wedding.

Our routine for the last several years was to get together at her house at noon on Mondays. I'd show her slideshows on the iPad, she'd show me clippings she'd saved for me. She had stories going back many years, and they added perspective that she taught me. "It's a dull day when you don't learn something new." I think she told me that came from her dad.

Earth-science education was an important cause for Elsa. When Elsa passed away last year, she left generous gifts to several education and research institutes including The Explorers Club. Her gift was the largest personal gift from an estate that the Club received this year. We are thankful.

—Michael F. Diggles FN'92, [mfdiggles@gmail.com](mailto:mfdiggles@gmail.com)

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## 2014 Scott Pearlman Field Awardee: Kate Harris

Freelance travel/science writer, photographer and emerging filmmaker, **Kate Harris FI'13** will be leading a 150-mile, all-woman, self-supported ski traverse of the eastern Pamir Mountains in Tajikistan. The “Borderski Expedition” will document the impact of border fences on migratory wildlife, especially Marco Polo sheep. The 2014 Scott Pearlman Field Award Committee and The Explorers Club are proud to provide support for this expedition with the *2014 Scott Pearlman Field Award* of \$10,000. The Borderski Expedition departs in February 2015; plans are to return with enough material to produce a short film for film festivals, feature articles with photography for print media, as well as programming for public and educational lectures.

It is well known that fieldwork requires a high level of dedication and enormous commitment of personal time and financial resources. The Scott Perlman Field Awards are provided as “seed money” to inspire larger funding sources, though many aspects of any expedition always remain self-funded. Peer support is also important and endorsers for Kate’s Borderski Expedition were **Milbry Polk FR'95** and **Rosemarie Keough FI'02**.

Kate Harris is considered one of Canada’s top adventurer/explorers. She spent two years at Oxford where she wrote her thesis about the geopolitics of mountain borderlands. Kate went on to study geobiology at MIT, where it became clear her future was in the mountains. She stays busy advocating for wilderness conservation across borders, reporting on biodiversity and environmental issues, and, per her website, “...cultivating a genius for sauntering, particularly throughout her adopted homeland of northernmost British Columbia.”

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## Sylvia Earle wins Cronkite Award

On August 6, the *2014 Walter Cronkite Award* was bestowed on ocean all-stars Dr. **Sylvia Earle MED'81** and Dr. Sam Low by the Martha’s Vineyard Youth Leadership Initiative (MVYLI), which honors people who create positive social change in the world through the power of media.

Award recipient Dr. Earle, a world-famous ocean pioneer and former chief scientist at NOAA, has spent her life exploring the world’s oceans and sharing her boundless curiosity for what lies beneath the surface of sea. In 2009, she formed *Mission Blue* ([www.mission-blue.org](http://www.mission-blue.org)) as a collaborative platform to ignite public support for a global network of marine protected areas large enough to save and restore the “blue heart” of the planet. “We are at the sweet spot of human history,” said Dr. Earle. “More has been learned about the ocean in the last



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Kate Harris in Tuktoyaktuk, Northwest Territories, Canada, bordering the Beaufort Sea.

Photo: [kateharris.ca](http://kateharris.ca)

*Freelance travel/science writer, photographer and emerging filmmaker, Kate Harris FI'13 will be leading a 150-mile, all-woman, self-supported ski traverse of the eastern Pamir Mountains in Tajikistan. The “Borderski Expedition” will document the impact of border fences on migratory wildlife, especially Marco Polo sheep.*

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**LEFT** Aboard *The Gadget*, formerly Walter Cronkite's and *Wyntje*. (l-r) Sam Low, Charlotte McCarron, Bob Nixon, Sylvia Earle, Shavanae Anderson, Mary Ollen, Katherine Reid, and Ava Thors.

**RIGHT** Dr. Sylvia Earle, 2014 Walter Cronkite Awardee.

Photos: Martha Shaw



decade than throughout all of human history. For the first time, we have access to information about our ocean as never before. Now we can actually do something. What will we do with this new knowledge? As a new generation that knows more than anyone has ever known before, what will you do with your future?"

The co-recipient was Dr. Sam Low, an anthropologist and award-winning storyteller dedicated to island people in their quest to raise awareness of our planet's fragility, of which islands are most vulnerable.

—Martha Shaw FN'06, [martha@earthadvertising.com](mailto:martha@earthadvertising.com)

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## Tangential to the Club

The Explorers Club's **Jim Clash FR'99** interviewed **Reinhold Messner HON'87** for *Forbes Magazine* at the legend's Italian *Sigmundskron Castle* (*Messner Mountain Museum Firmian*, the centerpiece of MMM's five locations) near Bolzano, in September. Messner, who just turned 70, will open his sixth and final museum, *Corones*, on 2,275-meter Mt. Kronplatz this winter.

Over a sixteen-year period Messner gained his reputation as the greatest mountain climber (Nat Geo) for, among other things, being the first to summit all 14 of the world's peaks over 8,000 meters—including Mt. Everest—without supplemental oxygen. A prolific author, he is interviewed infrequently. Clash was invited to speak with him as preparation for several future published articles.

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Jim Clash interviewing Reinhold Messner in Italy, September 2014.

Photo: Robert Anderson FN'87





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## Over There: Honoring WWI Explorers Club Members

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the beginning of WWI in Europe. The United States entered the war in 1917; in the Explorers Club Veterans Archive a folder notes the service of over 50 of our members who responded to a questionnaire sent out in 1919. Few of the responders elaborated on their experiences. What follows are entries to share in honor of their service to our country. Some were sought out by the armed forces for their expertise in specific fields, and some were sought out by President Wilson to serve with the American Commission to Negotiate Peace. Some were decorated with the Croix de Guerre.

**Douglas Wilson Johnson**, Professor of Physiography, Columbia University, was commissioned Major in the Military Intelligence Division of the American Army, assigned by the Secretary of War on a confidential mission to the European war fronts to study the relation of topography to strategy under the modern conditions of fighting in Belgium, France, Italy, and the Balkans. He was assigned to the Peace Conference in November 1918.

Captain **Wellington Furlong** had extensive service in Eastern Europe and Egypt. Among his many duties, he penetrated the interior of Montenegro and brought out the first reports after getting in touch with insurgents in the mountains.

**Isaiah Bowman**, at the personal request of President Wilson, went to Paris on September 28, 1919, as Territorial Advisor to the American Commission to Negotiate Peace. He also served on the Polish Commission and the Polish-Ukrainian Armistice Commission. He is credited with having more to do than any other American with creating the map of Europe after WWI.

In 1918, **Hiram Bingham**, Lieutenant Colonel in the Signal Corps, was made Commanding Officer of the Third Aviation Center, the largest Allied Flying School, situated on the plains near Issoudun, France.

Several of our members worked in intelligence and were not at liberty to detail. **Thomas Barbour** was chosen to work in intelligence in Latin America because of his familiarity with conditions, languages, and politics in that region.

A physician, Lieutenant Colonel **Harlow Brooks** saw duty in the Argonne and the Teul-Meuse Sector in 1918. He was awarded the *Distinguished Service Medal*. Another physician, Captain **John Walter Goodsell**, served on hospital trains conveying the American wounded from the Meuse and Argonne battlefields. He worked on the train bringing out American soldiers who had been prisoners in Germany, via Geneva.

Captain **Henry B. Kane** was Chief of Mails and established a courier service all over Europe in conjunction with the Peace Conference, Post Office, and Army Post Office.

**Charles Lewis Camp** participated in the battles of Cantigny, Soissons, St. Mihiel, and Argonne and was decorated with the *Croix de Guerre*.



**TOP** Wellington Furlong.

Photo: TEC archives (Bachrach)

**ABOVE** John Walter Goodsell.

Photo: TEC archives

*On September 9, 2014, the world learned of the discovery of one of Sir John Franklin's two ships from his ill-fated 1845 British Arctic Expedition... HMS Erebus or HMS Terror.*

**George Comer**, 2nd Lieutenant U.S. N.R.F Class 3, served on the *S.S. Radnor*, a cargo ship carrying guns mounted. Coming up the coast below Cape Hatteras, a submarine was sighted and fired upon; all speed was made to get away safely to Philadelphia.

We do not know the names of Explorers Club members who lost their lives in WWI and this file does not contain information on members who, joining the club after 1919, also served in WWI. You can view the file in the Veterans Archive at the Explorers Club Library.

—Lindley K. Young FE'89, [lindley7@gmail.com](mailto:lindley7@gmail.com)

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## The 2014 Victoria Strait Expedition

### *Important Success in Search for Sir John Franklin's Ships*

On September 9, 2014, the world learned of the discovery of one of Sir John Franklin's two ships from his ill-fated 1845 British Arctic Expedition. For **John Geiger FI'04** and I, the 2014 Victoria Strait Expedition in search of HMS *Erebus* and HMS *Terror* began two years earlier during a luncheon with Dr. Robert Ballard at the University of Toronto's Massey College, where Dr. Ballard stated "Franklin's lost ship's *Erebus* and *Terror* are currently the world's two most important undiscovered ship wrecks." John, as CEO of The Royal Canadian Geographical Society, began negotiating with the Prime Minister's Office, Parks Canada, the Arctic Research Foundation, The W. Garfield Weston Foundation, Shell Canada and One Ocean Expeditions to pull together a private/public sector expedition.

When negotiations were completed there were 13 partners with the Underwater Archaeological Service of Parks Canada as the legal permitting authority, the 'first among equals'. Ryan Harris was the project lead for Parks Canada, and Marc-Andre Bernier serves as head of the Underwater Archaeology Unit. The Royal Canadian Geographical Society, played a critical role assembling non-profits and private sector partners; John served as RCGS Head of Expedition. The combined public-private effort greatly enhanced the capability of the expedition and the technology available for the search. With both land and underwater archaeologists, this became the largest Franklin-related expedition since the early 1850s.

The 2014 Victoria Strait Expedition flotilla consisted of the CCGS Wilfrid Laurier, an 83-meter Canadian Coast Guard icebreaker (CCGS Pierre Radisson would end up assisting as well), HMCS *Kingston*, a 55-meter navy patrol ship, R/V *Martin Bergmann*, a 19-meter research vessel operated by the non-profit Arctic Research Foundation, and the 117-meter *One Ocean Voyager*, a privately operated expedition cruise and research capable ship. The smaller Canadian Hydrographic Survey Launches CSL Kinglett and Gannet, and Parks Canada's R/V Investigator were crucial to locating one of Franklin's ships.

Supported by a Coast Guard helicopter, zodiacs, state-of-the-art multi-beam and side-scan sonar, along with two Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (one operated by Parks Canada, and a second, a much larger AUV with synthetic aperture sonar, by Defense Research Development Canada). These technologies were all deployed to capture new scientific data over several hundred square kilometers of seabed never

before charted. Locating either Erebus or Terror was a key part, but not the only one reason of this expedition.

This year's sea ice was thicker than the last decade; most of the flotilla could not enter the 2014 designated North Search Zone in Victoria Strait due to ice. Our focus shifted south, with two of the platforms staying in the South Search Zone, in the Queen Maud Gulf, where in 2008-2013 expeditions a land archaeologist found two pieces of iron with clear Royal Navy markings. With this information the *Investigator* searched the area offshore and located the ship, arguably the most significant archaeological find since Howard Carter discovered King Tut in 1922!

As of this writing (September 2014) the ship has yet to be publicly identified as either the *Erebus* or *Terror* nor have the results of the archaeological survey been shared. Parks Canada's primary concern is to conduct as much underwater archaeology as possible during the short three-week season in this part of Canada and to protect the security of the site.

—Joseph Frey, FT'02, [jgfrey@rogers.com](mailto:jgfrey@rogers.com)



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John Geiger (left) and Joseph Frey on sea ice near the point of abandonment of HMS *Erebus* and HMS *Terror*, Flag 219.

Photo: Cheryl Randall (Frey Archive)

*Ed. Note: Joe Frey is a former TEC Director & Vice President and Canadian Chapter Chair; he is currently Chair of The Royal Canadian Geographical Society's College of Fellows.*

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## Membership Developments

We continue with a very productive year of TEC applicants approved in all membership categories. President **Alan Nichols FN'84**, Dr. **Mike Manyak MED'92**, **Joel Fogel ME'73** and I have each sponsored well over 100 new members, an accomplished milestone! Special appreciation is due Dr. Manyak for so many Student and Eagle Scout members. I encourage all members to sponsor all well-qualified people, it takes a one-on-one effort.

**Membership Applications:** When assisting applicants for membership, remember to make sure the Expedition Resume contains sufficient information. The Membership Committee has only the application and sponsor letters to review in making their decision on what category to recommend to the board for approval.

**Annual Dues:** Please keep your annual dues up to date. If any member or new member has a limiting situation with dues payment, contact your chapter chair or the office staff in NYC to seek a solution. Dues are a critical component of the Club's financial support.

**Requests for Reclassification:** *Term* and *Members* may use the Reclassification Request Form (TEC website member's page); send it to: Membership Committee ([membership@explorers.org](mailto:membership@explorers.org)). New sponsor letters are *not* necessary. *Associate* and *Student* Members must fill out the full TEC application together, with two sponsor letters, to seek full membership.

If I can be of assistance with any issue related to membership in this outstanding and exclusive club, please contact me via email. Until next time, "Keep Exploring!"

—Bob Atwater LF'05, Vice President for Membership,  
[ratwater@explorers.org](mailto:ratwater@explorers.org)



# From Basecamp

## Sylvia Earle Tribute filled the Club



**ABOVE** His Excellency Tommy Remengesau, President of Palau, congratulates his longtime friend Sylvia Earle.

*Photo: Jennifer Austin*

**RIGHT** Sylvia Earle thanks members of The Explorers Club as Master of Ceremony Jack Reilly (right) begins the Tribute in the warmth of the TEC Clark Room.

*Photo: Martha Shaw*



On September 19, at the Explorers Club headquarters, cups runneth over with adoration as members dressed in their finest regalia toasted the Club's beloved Fellow and Former Honorary President, **Dr. Sylvia Earle MED'81**, and then tossed brandy into the fireplace in a brilliant display of sparks. As is the tradition, the Tribute Ceremony in the Clark Room was preceded by a candle-lit march up the stairway led by the honoree, followed by members in order of tenure who chanted "Earle" to the gong of the bell as each step was ascended.

Former Club President **Faanya Rose MI'94** made the introductions with elegance and style. "The Year was 1904 and the spirit of adventure ran high, when a group of gentleman founded the Explorers Club in New York," Faanya said to the sold-out room of members, Sylvia's daughter **Gale Mead MN'98** and invited guests, who included His Excellency Tommy Remengesau, President of Palau. "Little did they imagine that women would take the Club by storm, or rather on a wave, in the 80's when Sylvia came on the scene...I am enormously proud of the contribution that our woman members have made in the field of exploration, especially the contribution of our guest of honor, Sylvia A. Earle."

Followed by pre-recorded tributes from the field by President **Alan Nichols FN'84** and Former President **Richard Weiss FN'89**, tributes were made one by one to Sylvia, who glowed in the dancing golden light from the great fireplace. The audience fully enjoyed the colorful, heart-

warming and whimsical stories of how Sylvia had touched the lives of so many of us terrestrials, and those who reside beneath the sea.

Many of the tributes were made by young women, who had been inspired by Sylvia to become members of the Club. Among the newest was **Jenifer Austin MN'14**; she recounted her first expedition with Sylvia when they encountered a market where sea snails were being sold. Sylvia suggested they buy them all up, which they did. Then they threw them all back to sea.

The Tribute was followed by the introduction of the film about Sylvia's life work, *Mission BLUE*, by producer/co-director **Robert Nixon MN'13**. It was a memorable evening full of merriment and camaraderie thanks to all those who attended, staff, volunteers, Master of Ceremonies **Jack Reilly MED'81**, and VP Programs and Lectures **Mary Gray MR'97**.

—Martha Shaw FN'06, [martha@earthadvertising.com](mailto:martha@earthadvertising.com)

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## Johnnie Walker Hasn't Climbed Everest . . . Yet!

*John Dema MN'04, Associate at Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP*

In September, The Explorers Club welcomed its latest Corporate Sponsor, Johnnie Walker, into the Club. The Explorers Club and Diageo, parent company of Johnnie Walker, announced the sponsorship and licensing agreement in a joint press release released on September 19.

To those who did not see the announcement, this sponsorship agreement settles litigation between The Explorers Club and Diageo regarding the Johnnie Walker Explorers Club Collection of Scotch whiskies and does so in a manner that promises to promote the renowned legacy and mission of The Explorers Club across the globe. As part of the agreement, The Explorers Club will be directly incorporated into the promotion of the Johnnie Walker product line, creating significant new opportunities to further enhance the reputation of our organization.

Though Johnnie Walker has yet to climb Everest, I look forward to seeing the first picture taken by a Club member of a bottle of Explorers Club whisky on that mountain, and other remote expedition destinations, in the near future.

One of the more rewarding aspects of representing the Club in this matter has been digging through past media coverage to gather materials demonstrating the strength of the Club's reputation. One quote in particular is worth sharing. In an article published on November 5, 1905, The New York Times covered the inaugural "housewarming" of the Club, then located on West Sixty-Seventh Street. The Times wrote, "The Explorers' Club, which had its first housewarming at the new club-rooms, 23 West Sixty-seventh Street, on Oct. 26, is likely to become one of the important factors in American affairs." I think we can all agree that the Club has met, and through its global expansion, since exceeded that early prediction.

The Club's reputation is priceless. It was not built through advertising dollars and marketing campaigns, but through a century of inspira-

*Many of the tributes were made by young women, who had been inspired by Sylvia to become members of the Club. Jenifer Austin MN'14 recounted her first expedition with Sylvia when they encountered a market where sea snails were being sold. Sylvia suggested they buy them all up, which they did. Then they threw them all back to sea.*

tional work accomplished by its members. The continued exploration and achievements of you, the current champions of this legacy, serve to further build The Explorers Club brand and protect its intellectual property. As part of this effort, we encourage you to send in articles and press coverage of the Club, particularly as it relates to your work, to [ArchivalMedia@explorers.org](mailto:ArchivalMedia@explorers.org).

Josh Schiller, Ben Margulis, myself, and the rest of the Boies, Schiller & Flexner team are honored to have represented the Club during this process and thank all the members and staff that assisted in the effort. In particular we would like to note the work of a few individuals: VP for Flag and Honors, **Constance Difede LM'01** for introducing the firm and the merits of the claim to the Club; President **Alan Nichols FN'84** and Executive Director **Will Roseman MR'07** for their dedicated involvement throughout this process. Further thanks to VP for Research and Education, **Julie Chase MED'97**, and former board member, **Josh Bernstein FN'04**, for appearing on behalf of the Club in court earlier this year. We look forward to working with our new sponsor to conquer areas of mutual interest in exploration.

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## The Sky Wave Room

Since the earliest days of radio, through Thor Heyerdahl and to the astronauts, explorers have carried Amateur Radio on their expeditions. In the 1980's the Headquarters Building established a permanent Ham station, K2XP, supporting base-field communications. In Fall of 2014 and thereafter, the station will offer training and mentoring for the required FCC license (no Code required). As a step in that direction, part of the Space Stories event on October 25, the station was used to contact the International Space Station as it flew overhead. Express your interest in mentoring or being mentored to the undersigned.

Chapter members with their own stations please indicate your desire to reinstate a monthly Chapter Network.

—*Jim Enterline FE'72, KV2Z@amsat.org*

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Jim Enterline, KV2Z, at the mike (viewing the satellite-tracking screen).

*Photo: a selfie*



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## September's Long Table Evening

Once again the ship's bell pealed, and the bear roared. On September 23, thirty Explorers Club members gathered for drinks in the Trophy Room, descending to the Clark Room for gumbo, and told tales before the fireplace, lights dimmed.

**Doc Hermalyn FR'75** officiated and told his own, as did **Steve Nagiewicz FN'95** who wielded his crook once again and made sure no one held forth too long. Legions of dog shark once surrounded master diver **Dan Lieb FN'06**, and he lived to tell the tale. **David Hoffman MR'14** avoided colliding with a much larger boat: David's horns sounding, when lost in the fog off Block Island. The Saharan caravan camels of **Milbry Polk FR'95** were ingeniously redirected, and **Fred Selby FE'88** made contact with and befriended a remote tribe in New Guinea. When a volcano suddenly erupted in Chile, **Ted Hepp MR'02** celebrated his good timing in threatening circumstances. **Mary Elizabeth Gray MR'97** saw that every tradition was honored and read her Tribute Poem to Sylvia Earle. And then there were the stories traded across the table. My good fortune was to be seated with two archaeologists.

There was a remarkable turnout of new and student members. Going forward, our club will be in good hands, for they have strong voices and tales of their own.

You do not have to have a story to attend this evening, but if you think hard enough, you have one. Join us next time. For the rousing details, you have to be there!

*Lindley K. Young FE'89, lindley7@gmail.com*

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## Artist in Exploration Update

**2013:** Rebecca Reeve is a British photographer living in Brooklyn, NY. She conducted two expeditions to Cuba under the 2013 Artist-in-Exploration grant, during which she photographed in the country's pristine nature preserve, the Alejandro de Humboldt National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. She returned to photograph the Jardines de la Reina Marine Reserve, the largest protected marine sanctuary in the Caribbean. Her photographs, "*Gardens of Eden*," were at a reception for her on October 14 in the Trophy Room of the New York headquarters.

**2014:** Tanya Chaly is an Australian visual artist living in New York, who works across a variety of mediums using painting, drawing and printmaking. She will work in Mozambique's vast Gorongosa National Park, focusing on the mega and micro fauna that survived the country's long, bitter civil war. Gorongosa was once one of the richest wildlife refuges in the world, but was decimated and now lays in ruins. Ms. Chaly will be joining international teams that are working to restore and sustain the

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President Nichols and TEC 2013 Artist-in-Exploration, Rebecca Reeve, presenting a beautiful portfolio box with 16 of her photographs to Stewart Wicht, president of Rolex USA (right).

*Photo: Lew Guthman*



park's fragile and unique biodiversity, as well as helping to rebuild the surrounding war-torn communities. Among those involved is **E. O. Wilson MED'04**, who is building a research laboratory there.

—*Les Guthman MR'00, Chair,*

*Artist-in-Exploration Committee, les.guthman@pipeline.com*

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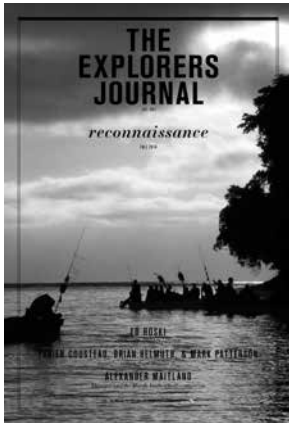
## A Swell Holiday Gift

*The Explorers Journal* is available on line for anyone as a digital edition. Visit our website; click on The Journal image (left column); click on “Subscribe to the Journal” (under headline); choose a subscription, the current issue or any of several back issues! That’s it!

It is that simple. A \$20 well spent to give four quarterly issues of this outstanding publication to someone interested in exploration. Zinio, the largest on-line magazine distributor, will advise the individual as soon as each new issue is available. Your Club benefits, as a significant portion of this expenditure supports the *Journal’s* preparation.

We take great pride in *The Explorers Journal*. Angela Schuster, TEJ Editor, has produced this exemplary report for most of two decades. The articles are overwhelming written by your fellow explorers to provide a glimpse into the active work our members accomplish.

A digital *Journal* is a swell way to champion your Club and to tell others what we do. They will appreciate it! A way to make gift giving easy.



The Explorers Club Buff.®

Photo: Lacey Flint

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## Explorers in the Buff®

The Explorers Club Buff® is a unique design with the Explorers Club Compass Rose placed over a topographical map. This multitasking bandanna provides technical performance and protection from the elements during a wide range of activities. It is versatile, durable, and machine washable. Can be worn as a scarf, headwear, as wind protection—you decide.

The Explorers Club Buff® is now available from the Club store for \$25.00.

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**Editor’s Note:** Credit and appreciation goes to Mary McBride, the Art Director of *The Explorers Log*, for the revised appearance of these pages begun with the Summer 2014 issue. The chapter reports (Compass Points), news of exploration interest and committee reports (In the Field), happenings at headquarters (Basecamp) and various essays are enhanced by the new layout. Importantly, the cover now features an engaging image and directs the reader to highlighted content. A map shows where our new flags will go and those returned when reports are filed.



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## True Explorers – From the President

This item is dedicated to our members who serve our club significantly and are important, if not celebrated, as the Club's well-known explorers. This quarter I recognize Bill and John, two more tireless members who provide important contributions.

**Bill Liss MN'13** In my whole too-long career, I've never worked with anyone as quickly responsive and supportive as our TEC Public Relations counselor, Bill Liss...nights, weekends, even in the middle of his own career as a prominent TV journalist in the Atlanta region. When I half apologize to him, or his talented wife Debbie, for my interruptions, he invariably tells me: "Are you kidding? In this business we're on 24/7."

Not only does Bill handle all our news releases, internal and external, but he arranges for our extraordinary *pro bono* public relations service from the largest public relations firm in the world, Edelman. He advises as to and arranges the PR aspects of all of our important events and activities including, for example, the notice to the world and our members as to the extraordinary license and sponsorship with Diageo, an effort he put together last week in one night under the pressures of these negotiations.

Bill is a Special Director of our board and, by popular demand, the Master of Ceremonies at the Washington DC and the Southern California Lowell Thomas international dinners. He is coordinating our *Exploration Summit* for next year; that will be a significant international event

Bill is too modest to advertise his unbelievable past experiences as a guide on two journeys for the Pope, winner of 9 Emmys, and friend of more people than you can imagine that can and do help TEC.

Thank you, Bill.

**John Dema MR'04** We should all thank our young Explorers Club member John Dema. He is instrumental in putting together a historically important license and sponsorship that was recently negotiated as one of the newest associates at the Boies, Schiller & Flexner law firm.

This is how he did it. While in South America, Ecuador international airport, he noticed a liquor display featuring "The Explorers Club." Confused, he thought we had gone into the liquor business, but investigated to find that was not true. He did some research and came up with a brilliant idea of using a rarely invoked New York statute to protect our Explorers club trademark. He took the whole matter to the lead IP lawyer in his firm, Josh Schiller "Dr. IP", and they both convinced the law firm management to take on this case. Then, John worked day and night, weekends and holidays to research, strategize, attend hearings and answer all our questions. He is always pleasant, always helpful, a great listener, and patient.

He gave us a big part of his burgeoning legal career and is a real credit to his law school, as well as his other family member explorers, his father Jack and sister Briana.

John, in my opinion, has a great future as a lawyer and, at least in my perspective more importantly, will be an important explorer and participant in our Explorers Club. You'll find it's a joy to thank him for his service when you see him at the club.

Thank you, John

# Backwards Glance

## *The World Center for Exploration and Dr. Maynard Miller FE'47*

January 2014 saw the passing of Dr. Maynard Miller, elected to membership in 1947; he had a distinguished career in exploration, both as a scientist with a PhD in Geology from Cambridge University in 1956 and a climber. At the time of his passing he was Professor Emeritus at the University of Idaho and former Dean of the College of Mines and Geology. He was also the Director of the Juneau Ice Field Project on which he had worked since 1948.

As a Harvard undergraduate in 1940, he climbed with Brad Washburn on the Mt. Fairweather Expedition and made the first ascent of Mt. Bertha in Alaska. During WW II, Maynard participated in a US Army QMC test in the Canadian Selkirk's and served in the US Navy. Upon discharge, he entered the graduate geology program at Columbia University and, in 1946, he was a member of Harvard Mountaineering Club's Mt St. Elias Expedition. The year 1963 could be said to have been the high point of Maynard's climbing career, having been selected as member of the American Everest Expedition; however, due to an injury, he was only able to climb to 23,000 feet.

The *World Center for Exploration*, which continues as part of the Club, was created in 1966 as part of a donation of \$250,000 by George R. Wallace; \$50,000 was earmarked for the Center. Lowell Thomas was the moving force behind the Center, and the donation was to be spent over two years for the Club's Exploration Program. In 1968, The *World Center for Exploration Foundation* was created to be, as quoted in the *EC Journal* (Vol. XLVI, No.3, September 1968), "... the action arm of the Explorers Club." Thomas recommended that Maynard be hired as Chair of the Center for two years, 1969-1971, "...for the specific purpose of obtaining substantial contribution from foundations and corporations" as he felt "...that Professor Miller's enthusiasm, determination, persistence and scholarship would be of tremendous value in soliciting contributions..." (EC Board Minutes, October 11, 1966)

Maynard was hired, took a sabbatical leave from the Michigan State University, moved to New York, and worked on the Center for about a year. Unfortunately, due to an austerity crisis in 1969 funding was cut, Maynard returned to MSU; the only event which took place was a *World Center Youth Activities and Seminar Program* in 1968-1969.

The *World Center for Exploration* continues as a banner for our Club.

—Jack Reilly, [John.Reilly@msmc.edu](mailto:John.Reilly@msmc.edu)



Maynard Miller (middle row, second from right), EC group ca.1947.

Photo: TEC archives



Dr. Maynard Miller at the Thyangboche Monastery, Khumbu, Nepal, March 1963.

Photo: TEC archives

# Members

*The Explorers Club congratulates and welcomes the following newly elected members (since last Log)*

## *Confirmed*

Jenifer Austin  
 Reed W. Boeger  
 Betsy Campbell  
 John M. Cheesmond  
 Jimmy K. Chin  
 Huan Cui  
 John A. d'Arbeloff  
 Caroline G. de Quesada  
 Ethan Draddy  
 Kenneth Ham  
 Oliver L. Hartman  
 Darrell W. Hartman  
 Sophie F. Hollingsworth  
 Norma B. Horton  
 George E.J. Kemper  
 Lucy H. Kemper  
 Dr. Michael J. Massimino  
 James M.S. McSparron  
 Nicolas Mendoza  
 Michael V. Paul  
 Barbara L. Schoeberl  
 Russell M. Seitz  
 Kate D. Sherwood  
 William J. Somers  
 Maressa Takahashi

Anthony J. Vinci  
 Hugo Wagner  
 Dr. Melissa Whitaker  
 Mordechai Winter

## *Approved as of November 10*

Iroko Akoua E. Abalo  
 Deborah A. Bell  
 Robin J. Brooks  
 Kevin Callaghan  
 Alison K. Carter  
 Donald S. Chenoweth  
 Renata Chlumska  
 Terry R. Coupe  
 Peter A. Dea  
 Richard C. Dehmel  
 Joseph Dituri  
 Joel W. Dugdale  
 Jessica N. Dyrek  
 Samuel L. Finklea, Ph.D.  
 Fernando V. Galan  
 Kenneth M. Golden  
 Sheldon L. Gosline  
 Michael Gregroy  
 Laurence H. Gumina  
 Platon Alexis

Hadjimichalis  
 Misha H. Herscu  
 Jeremy Hirschhorn  
 Carl D. Hoffman  
 Fredrik Isberg  
 Simon A. James  
 Darlene D. Kasten  
 G. Blake Keller  
 Lars E. Larsson  
 Janne I. Lillehagen  
 Daniel H. Lin  
 Ben W. Marich  
 Damien B. Marken  
 Michael S. Masland  
 Leslie P. Nordhauser  
 Michael A. Pasternak  
 Alvin P. Perkinson  
 Rachel B. Perks  
 Eric Rasmussen, M.D.  
 James C. Robinson  
 Elizabeth J. Rosen  
 Steven D. Saint-Amour  
 Margaret E. Sanford  
 Elaine Sargent  
 Gabriela Sbarcea  
 Nadia A. Scott

Chelsea A. Shields  
 Tane H. Sinclair-Taylor  
 Peter F. Straub  
 Alexandra E. Sutton  
 James E. Sved  
 Lars M. Tannaes-Fjeld  
 Jessie L. Ternberg  
 R. Carlton Ward  
 Lu Xu  
 Jordan Ziegler

## **On to**

### ***Higher Exploration\****

*Kirby Cockerham, FE'81*  
*Ralph Davidson, ME'72*  
*William McGrath, FF'94*  
*John Bradford Mooney, FN'95*  
*Stephen Myers, MN'01*  
*Frederick Ordway III, FE'79*  
*Daniel von Huber Rogers, FE'51*  
*Edward Stuart, FE'77*  
*Nicholas Sullivan, PhD MED'65*  
*John Troster, MN'95*  
*Valerie de la Valdene, MI'04*  
*Scott York, MN'71*

*\* Since last Log*

## ***Sponsors***

David Agee  
 Mark A. Alexander  
 Mark Allio  
 Darlene T. Anderson  
 Stanwood Armington  
 Robert S. Ashton  
 Robert Atwater  
 Richard Bangs  
 Elise Boeger  
 Joan N. Boothe  
 Camrin D. Braun  
 Adrien B. Briggs  
 Rodney H. Brown  
 Marc Bryan-Brown  
 James F. Cameron  
 Vincent Capone  
 Piotr Chemielinski  
 Jim Clash  
 Barry L. Clifford  
 Wade Davis  
 Gregory Deyermenjian  
 Nancy A. Donnelly

Patricia J. Elkus  
 Rick M. Elkus  
 Richard E. Enright  
 J. Michael Fay  
 Joel S. Fogel  
 David A. Freidel  
 Richard A. Garriott de  
 Cayeux  
 James Gehres  
 Kellie Gerardi  
 Fred Goldberg  
 Margie Goldsmith  
 Martin L. Greene  
 Les Guthman  
 Brian P. Hanson  
 Matthew Harris  
 Daryl Hawk  
 John A. Hodge  
 Julius Kaplan  
 Jocelyn Kelly  
 Timothy "Bo" Kemper  
 David Koch  
 Lee V. Langan

John R. Lawrence  
 Jonathan M. Leader  
 Richard Leakey  
 Louis Lerman  
 Michael Lopez-Alegria  
 Leslie A. Mandel-Herzog  
 Michael Manyak  
 Alfred S. McLaren  
 Marc Miller  
 Lawrence Millman  
 George Milne  
 Julian Monroe Fisher  
 Barry L. Moss  
 Steve Nagiewicz  
 Alan Nichols  
 Bertil Nordenstam  
 A.J. "Buddy" Obara  
 Jason Paterniti  
 Cynthia S. Peters  
 Jack Peters  
 John C. Pollack  
 Jerry E. Pournelle  
 Mabel L. Purkerson

Thomas E. Reimchen  
 William J. Roseman  
 Nancy Rosenthal  
 Rebecca Rygh  
 Karyn Sawyer  
 Jason Schoonover  
 Frederick P. Selby  
 Robert Simpson  
 Gregory B. Skomal  
 C. William Steele  
 George Steinmetz  
 Synnove M.K. Stromsvag  
 Robert G. Tallent  
 Rosemarie W. Twinam  
 Scott Wallace  
 Alex Wallace  
 Don Walsh  
 John C. Williams  
 Richard B. Williams  
 Delta Willis  
 Jeff Willner  
 Jut Wynne  
 Taylor J. Zajonc

HELP COMPLETE THE RENOVATION OF

## **The Lowell Thomas Building Clubhouse**

FOR A DONATION OF \$2500 YOU CAN

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Join the “Explorers Immortals” and engrave your name or dedication in stone on new floor tiles for the terrace at The Explorers Club Headquarters. Adorn our landmark outdoor space and help pay for renovations by making a tax deductible donation of \$2500 per dedicated tile to our Lowell Thomas Building Fund.



*Note: Spots for engraving and dedications will be subject to contractor and Landmark Preservation Commission requirements. Engravings are limited to 20 characters. We will accept donations and assign tiles in the order received. Donations made by email orders only. Please contact Will Roseman, Executive Director, at [wroseman@explorers.org](mailto:wroseman@explorers.org).*