THE EXPLORERS LOG

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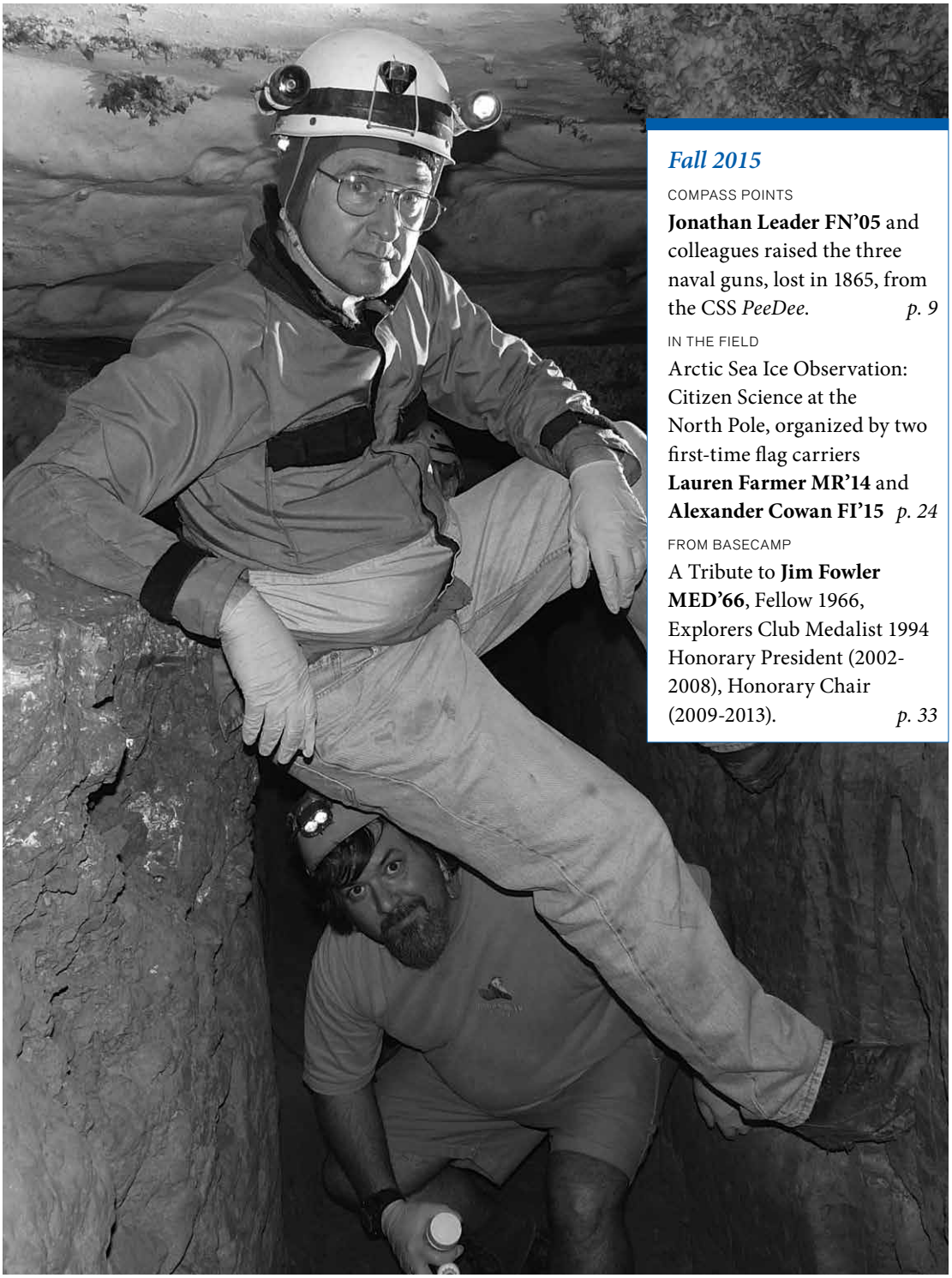

Fall 2015

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Jonathan Leader FN'05 and colleagues raised the three naval guns, lost in 1865, from the CSS *PeeDee*. *p. 9*

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Arctic Sea Ice Observation: Citizen Science at the North Pole, organized by two first-time flag carriers **Lauren Farmer MR'14** and **Alexander Cowan FI'15** *p. 24*

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Floyd Collins Crystal Cave

Doug Soroka FN'06 and Chris Clark of the National Park Service in Floyd Collins Crystal Cave (part of Kentucky's Mammoth Cave National Park); see St. Louis Chapter, page 19.

Photo: Doug Soroka archive

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EXPLORERS LOG SUBMISSIONS

The Explorers Log welcomes brief submissions from members, preferably in Microsoft Word .doc format with digital photographs as high-resolution .jpg files sent separately from the text. Please send all materials to: *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.

The Explorers Club
World Center for Exploration

MEMBER DESIGNATIONS

FELLOW
FR–RESIDENT
FN–NATIONAL
FI–INTERNATIONAL
FE–EMERITUS
LF–LIFE FELLOW

MEMBER
MR–RESIDENT
MN–NATIONAL
MI–INTERNATIONAL
ME–EMERITUS
LM–LIFE MEMBER
CO–CORRESPONDING
TM–TERM
SM–STUDENT

ASSOCIATE
AR–RESIDENT
AN–NATIONAL
AI–INTERNATIONAL

HONORED
MED–MEDALIST
HON–HONORARY MEMBER
PEX–PATRON OF 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

Flash From the Field – Exploration is Alive and Well!

TED JANULIS MR'95, PRESIDENT

If you're like me, you've been asked this question in one form or another recently: "What's left to explore, haven't the big discoveries already been made?" Of course as explorers our immediate reaction is, "You have to be kidding, we're just scratching the surface!" But, I believe one of the reasons we so often get the question is that we are an institution that participates in and celebrates so many "firsts" – as the plaque in our headquarters lobby says: "First to the North Pole, First to the South Pole, First to the Summit of Mt. Everest, First to the deepest point of the ocean, First to the surface of the Moon". As our Executive Director Will Roseman recently noted, we've even left a little room on the bottom of the plaque for the "First to Mars."

While these accomplishments are iconic and monumental, they are of course part of a larger fabric of exploration. Over the last few months, it has been easy to find headlines and articles in the news celebrating new firsts. Just two weeks ago a new species of polar dinosaur was discovered in Alaska, and this is suspected to be the first of many outstanding finds in the area. Our very own Fellow International Lee Berger was instrumental in discovering the remains of *Homo Naledi* – a previously unidentified species of human life in South Africa. In July, after a decade flying through the solar system, NASA's *New Horizons* spacecraft passed Pluto for the first time. Back on our planet, NASA, as recently as September, confirmed evidence of water on Mars. *Hōkūleʻa*, a Polynesian voyaging canoe, is *sailing* around the world on a journey to a more sustainable future. If that sounds like a familiar endeavor, you would be right; *Solar Impulse* is *flying* around the world – without a drop of fuel – in the first airplane to use clean technology and renewable energy on such an endeavour.

From TEC's perspective, with over 35 flags awarded so far this year, we are seeing as much field activity as ever. Mikael Strandberg's recent effort to document the lives of prison camp survivors carried him deep into Kazakhstan where few foreigners have been permitted to go. And the research that Randi Rotjan is currently conducting in Samoa will examine the effects of climate change and the impact of the growing El Nino, which is predicted to be the most severe in recorded history. In the tepuis of South America, Dr. Bruce Means continues his biodiversity work and has discovered a new family of frog. These members, and many others, prove through their on going work that there is still much to explore and that we must never give up our curiosity or capacity for wonder.

In the Tent...

Exploring Chapters



One of the true highlights of my last six months at TEC has been getting to know our chapters and their members better. After being hosted by Mead Treadwell and friends in Alaska in June, I've had the pleasure of attending two fantastic chapter events: Aviation Night with the Atlanta Chapter and a night at University of South Carolina's Thomas Cooper Library with the Greater Piedmont Chapter. Both events featured a diverse and engaging array of activities, including tours of an aircraft, plane assembly lines, a rare book vault and a world-class botanical exhibit, as well as two fascinating lectures on the famous *Glacier Girl* airplane and the miraculous Alexander von Humboldt. Additionally, a resurgent Great Britain Chapter, led by new Chair Seb Coulthard, recently held an outstanding program in London that was attended by approximately 50 members and interested guests. In the end, what struck me most about those evenings was the camaraderie and goodwill that our members showed to each other and their guests. It was an aspect of TEC I had not had the opportunity to experience, and I applaud all of you who are assembling and maintaining these wonderful communities of like-minded, curious explorers.

A few numbers further underscore the central role played by the chapters in our organization. First, out of 3,000+ members, less than 600 live in the New York City area; the rest are closer to one of our 27 chapters than our headquarters in New York City. Second, of our current board members, 8 have previously served as chapter chairs, ensuring that voices far from Manhattan are well represented in our governance. Third, many of our officers and committee chairs are affiliated with chapters, including our current Treasurer, VP of Flag and Honors and VP of Membership. Much of our future membership growth will develop within our chapter system.

We are genuinely interested in your thoughts and participation in continuing to build a dynamic and thriving chapter system at TEC, and I heartily thank all of you who have put so much work and devotion into making our chapters as successful as they are today. In the meantime, we will continue to implement new initiatives, such as adding regional co-chairs to the ECAD Committee, hosting regular conference calls with chapter chairs, and incorporating chapter needs and priorities into Lynn Danaher's website redesign initiative. I also truly look forward to continuing my visits with you at chapter events (the New England Chapter is next!), as they are certainly one of the highlights of my involvement with The Explorers Club.

YOURS IN EXPLORATION,



PRESIDENT

John Hodge FN'74 and his wife Sharon at a special viewing of the rare book vault at the University of South Carolina's Thomas Cooper Library. *Photo: Ted Janulis*

Compass Points

Atlanta Chapter



Moorea, French Polynesia (top); experimental flumes (middle, right); corals (bottom); Mark Hay.

Photos: Mark Hay

Mark Hay FN'15, a 2015 Lowell Thomas Awardee, spent July through early August on reefs in Moorea, French Polynesia, investigating the effects of ocean acidification on seaweed-coral interactions using experimental flumes, where ocean acidification could be manipulated to determine how it affected some of the most common corals.

On June 20, the Atlanta Chapter held a Member Show-and-Tell where members and guests were invited to bring artifacts, slides, and stories about their adventures to share with the group. **Bob Killorin MN'97** shared his experiences diving at Jackson Blue Cave in Florida. Al Padwa discussed high-altitude medicine and his many mountaineering experiences. **Bill Liss MN'13** talked about exploring the North Pole and brought a copy of Robert Peary's book signed by the author! Guillermo Sohnlein shared his plans for his upcoming expedition to Dean's Blue Hole. **Richard Taylor FN'77** talked about "*Rolling the North Pole*" in an aircraft and its effect on compass behavior. **Bob Wells MN'85** showed the trailer for his documentary *The Mystery of the Trees* which was featured in the Gwinnett International Film Festival this year. **Mark Hay FN'15** brought artifacts from his adventures in Papua New Guinea. **Jim O'Kon FN'98** shared the story of his discovery of the Mayan bridge at Yaxchilan and his exciting adventures with local guerrillas! **Hayes Wilson MN'97** showed a collection of pictures from dives at Butaritari,



ABOVE Max Gallimore MED'82 sits in the cockpit of a C-141, the aircraft he flew for many years.
Photo: Constance Difede



RIGHT The Atlanta Chapter along C-130 production line.
Photo: Todd McQueen

Midway, Easter Island, and Bonaire. And, Jordan Amadio talked about his adventures trekking in Africa. It was a great evening highlighting the many diverse interests and activities of chapter members.

On July 18, the chapter held "Aviation Night" at Lockheed Martin in Marietta, GA, and was fortunate to have President **Ted MR'95** and Barbara Janulis as guests of honor. The evening began with a tour of the Aviation Wing of the Marietta Museum of History, which showcases aircraft such as the C-141, C-130, F-14, A-6, A-4, S-3, and Jetstar. We then moved inside the Lockheed Martin facility and were given a tour of the C-130 production line; the C-130 is the longest continuously running military aircraft production line in history. The highlight of the evening though was the presentation by **Richard Taylor FN'77** and Pat Epps, who shared the story of their flag expedition to recover a P-38 Lightning deep from underneath Greenland ice. The P-38, nicknamed *Glacier Girl*, was forced to make an emergency landing in Greenland along with 5 other P-38s and two B-17s in 1942; she was subsequently covered by 265 feet of ice over the next 50 years. Richard and Pat spent 10 years planning the expedition, locating the aircraft, and digging down to rescue it. It's an incredible story of persistence and ingenuity that led to saving an amazing piece of history, and the *Glacier Girl* in now fully restored and flying.

—Steve Pigott MN'13, jagter@msn.com

Canada Chapter

Rebecca Wolfe S'14 completed a two-year undergraduate research project in the Peruvian Amazon on indigenous perceptions of the causes of diarrhea. Rebecca funded her work through a Youth Activity Grant from The Explorers Club and a Young Explorer Grant from the National Geographic Society. She plans to pursue a career focused on integrating Indigenous health practices with modern healthcare interventions.

Dr. Simon Spooner FI'14 lead an international group from the Anglo-Danish Maritime Archaeological Team (ADMAT) to conduct an archaeological project on *Le Casimir,* an 1829 French shipwreck off the north coast of the Dominican Republic. The project was a success, but the expedition was made even more special by permission to fly a brand new Explorers Club Flag during the expedition. Flag 211 will always be known as the ADMAT *Le Casimir* Wreck Project flag.

Canoeists **Adam Shoalts TM'14** and Chuck Brill explored an isolated tributary in the Brant River in the Hudson Bay Lowlands during the summer. Shoalts recounts his adventures exploring northern rivers alone in his book *Alone Against the North.* The book was released on October 6. **Jason Schoonover FE'86** led a team to Saskatchewan's Reindeer Lake in search of two pictographs mentioned by Hudson's Bay Company explorer Peter Fidler in 1806 and documented by P.G. Downes in 1936. They failed to find the ancient red ochre paintings, but they were able to document the condition of two other sites.

Maeva Gauthier FI'13 presented her *Fish Eye Project* to IMAX centres and science centres from around the world at the Giant Screen Cinema Association conference in San Francisco. The Project allows the public to see, hear and communicate with divers as they explore the ocean. Maeva's goal is to develop the project into a mobile, customizable marine education tool to discover and explore marine sites anywhere.

Susan R. Eaton MI'11 joined a team of 68 explorers from 21 countries on the Elysium Artists for the Arctic Expedition. Led by **Michael Aw FI'08**, the expedition's mission was to create a comprehensive and compelling artistic portrait of the Arctic, scientifically documenting its current ecological status. Artists for the Arctic carried TEC Flag 101.

Daisy Gilardinis FI'10 portfolio *Polar Nights* has been awarded the bronze medal at the PX3 – Prix de la Photographie Paris – in the Nature/Sky Category 2015 and her *Spirit Bear* portfolio received an Honorable Mention. **Catherine Hickson FI'05** was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Technology by the University of the Fraser Valley in recognition of her career contributions to the exploration of volcanoes through scientific research and for mentoring of students and young professionals in the discipline. Brent Cooke FI13 received the Canadian Wildlife Federation 2015 *Robert Bateman Award* for bringing awareness to conservation through artistic work. Cooke has mapped the ranges of various marine species and collected more than 14,000 underwater photographs for the Royal British Columbia Museum, including images of species not previously known to live in B.C. waters.

—Elaine Wyatt MI'05, ewyatt01@hotmail.com





ABOVE *Giggle,* by Maeva Gauthier FI'13, in the Professional Animal Portrait category, was awarded at the PDN Faces Portrait Photography Contest for 2015.

Photo: Daisy Gilardini

LEFT Arctic graves: one has a weathered wooden casket poking through in places; the other is in a caved-in pile of rocks with no wood at all. *Photo: Cory Trepanier MI'09*

Florida Chapter



Florida Chapter September Meeting: (seated, l-r): Tim Davis SM'05, Haley Jackson FN'10, Idee Belau MN'10, Jim Culter FN'97, COL. Joseph Kittinger MED'63. (standing, l-r): George Frandsen MN'15, Ralph Arwood MN'14, Robert Boswell MN'83, Joe Dituri FN'14, Bruce Means FN'97, John Freeman AN'12, Stewart Nelson FN'92.

The Florida Chapter is honored to be hosting the 2015 Lowell Thomas Awards Dinner, November 6-8, at the Crowne Plaza Oceanfront Hotel in Melbourne Beach. This picturesque seaside community was discovered by Spanish Explorer Juan Ponce de León when he landed here in 1513. It is nestled between the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral and Vero Beach, where just a few months ago divers discovered $4.5 million in gold coins from a Spanish ship that sunk during a hurricane in 1715. The Florida Chapter and the team from headquarters have been working diligently for months to organize and plan an extraordinary event that will honor explorers who exhibit excellence and innovation in conservation, with emphasis on emerging techniques and technologies that meaningfully contribute to our knowledge of the world and how we protect it. Lowell Thomas Awards Dinner attendees will be treated to a weekend filled with networking opportunities, VIPs, field trips, an auction, music, and a culinary spectacular which will include tastings of Florida invasive species.

On September 19, the Florida Chapter held its quarterly meeting at the Orlando Science Center. Attendees were treated to two amazing presentations. The first presentation was given by **Jim Culter FN'97**, Senior Scientist at the Mote Marine Laboratory; he discussed his ongoing research on the blue holes of the west Florida continental shelf. The second presentation, *Mummification: Resurrection of an Ancient Art* was given by Dr. **Bob Brier FR'96**. In 1994, using ancient tools and materials, Bob Brier and Ronald Wade became the first people in 2000 years to mummify a human cadaver in the ancient Egyptian style. The goal of the project was to learn more about the tools and surgical procedures used by embalmers before and during the time of the pharaohs. Brier and Wade traveled to Egypt to obtain *natron*, the dehydrating agent used by their historical predecessors, as it were, who also relied on frankincense and myrrh, which Brier and Wade acquired as well. Working at the University of Maryland Medical School, the two researchers used replicas of ancient tools to remove the brain through the nose and the internal organs through a three-inch abdominal incision. The project was the subject of a National Geographic television documentary, "*Mr. Mummy.*"

We are happy to announce that **Leigh Wright AN'15** will be updating our chapter's website and social media outlets with current news, events, and information. This will help ensure that communications are shared using a variety of methods in a timely manner.

—George Frandsen MN'15, gfrandsen@floridaexplorersclub.org

Greater Piedmont Chapter





LEFT John Dean (left) presenting Andrea Wulf with the George Fulton Medal.

RIGHT Historian and writer Andrea Wulf with Explorers Club President Ted Janulis.

On September 23, 2015, Explorers Club President **Ted Janulis MR'95** and Director **Alex Wallace MN'01** joined the Greater Piedmont Chapter and the University of South Carolina's Thomas Cooper Society to host and honor historian and writer Andrea Wulf. Ms. Wulf's new book *The Invention of Nature* is a biography of one of the greatest scientist-explorers: Alexander von Humboldt. The evening started with a tour of a Humboldt-themed exhibit in the Ernest F. Hollings Special Collections Library at the University of South Carolina. We were then given a special tour of "The Vault" which contains priceless rare books. Past Greater Piedmont Chair, **John A. Hodge FN'74** presented Wulf with a photograph-on-metal of the transit of Venus, which he took at his observatory. (Wulf also authored the non-fiction book *Chasing Venus,* which is an adventure story about the 1761 and 1769 transits of Venus.) After the tour, Andrea Wulf gave a captivating lecture on Alexander von Humboldt to about 150 Explorers Club and Thomas Cooper Society members. Past Greater Piedmont Chapter Chair **John M. Dean FN'88** (also a Thomas Cooper Society member) presented Wulf with the Greater Piedmont Chapter's *George Fulton Medal* for Wulf's work toward increasing public awareness and understanding of the important role of science in exploration. The evening ended with dinner where President Janulis and Board member Wallace presented current Greater Piedmont Chapter Chair **David Brinkman MN'08** with a bottle of Mackinlay's Rare Old Highland Malt Whisky. The Whisky and its container box are a re-creation of the ones found under the ice at the 1908 Antarctic base camp of the Ernest Shackleton expedition.

Co-project directors James Spirek (SC State Underwater Archaeologist) and **Jonathan Leader FN'05** (SC State Archaeologist), assisted by colleagues from Clemson University, Francis Marion University, College of Charleston and volunteers from local historical societies, successfully found and raised the three naval guns from the *CSS PeeDee*. The three guns had been lost in 1865 when the 150-foot-long warship was burned in the face of Sherman's advance. The 6.4- and 7-inch rifled Brooke guns (about 15,000 pounds each) were loaded with a unique set of quilted canister shot and the 9-inch captured Federal Dahlgren was loaded with an explosive shell on oak sabot. All were safely disarmed and the munitions and cannons are undergoing conservation. Ms **Nena**



Jonathan Leader wetting down CSS Pee Dee guns prior to packaging for transport.

Photo: © University of South Carolina (J. Leader)

P. Rice FN'87 representing the SCIAA Archaeological Research Trust was in attendance.

Past Greater Piedmont Chair and National Board member **Bill Vartorella FN`91** gave a TEDxYouth presentation entitled, "*The Elysium Challenge: The Future of the Automobile--Evolutionary or Revolutionary?*" in which South Carolina students proffered their designs for the next-gen cars.

—David Brinkmann, dobrink@gmail.com

New York

During the summer months, when many of our members are out in the field all over the world, it's quiet at Headquarters. The humming of the A/C prevails, the lounge invites to chill out in the literal sense of the word, and the clubhouse closes at 6pm instead of 9pm. Yet, quiet doesn't mean idle: the calmer months give staff the opportunity to catch up with the many administrative tasks, reach out to Student Members and grant awardees for contributions to our reinvigorated Students' Corner (check it out online!), or come up with new perks and benefits for our members. Yes, the Explorers Club Jacket is back!

Befitting for an organization that was established by men born in the 19th century and that is very much alive and active in the 21st century, 'tradition' and 'innovation' are oft-cited keywords. The impressive bridging of the Club's heritage and future was once more reflected in three summer highlights:

1) Members convened in the Trophy and Clark Rooms for a new edition of *As Told at the Explorers Club*. Reviving old customs, attendees first gathered in the Trophy Room for cocktails before they sat for dinner and stories in the Clark room, with **Steve Nagiewicz FN'95** as time stopper and **Gary "Doc" Hermalyn FN'75** as emcee.

2) *The Journey Continues* was the motto for the *Sixth Annual Three Island BBQ*, quasi traditionally held at or around the birthday of former president **Faanya Rose MR'94**. The House Committee (**Deirdre B. Brennan MR'04**, **Kellie Gerardi MR'13**, **Gaelin A. Ros-**

enwaks FR'06), under the leadership of **Jonathan M. Conrad MED'87** and Vice Chair **Rodney Hilton Brown MN'02**, treated members and guests to a luscious South Pacific experience, complete with coconut dessert surprise, rum drinks, and a torrential tropical downpour after sunset.

3) Director of Member Services Emerald Nash deserves credit for organizing a Famous First in terms of event programming: On a June night, *Literary Carpetbaggers*—a collaboration between The Explores Club and Short Story Thursdays—celebrated storytelling, exploration, and word traveling. Short Story Thursdays is a non-profit literature initiative that provides members all over the world with a single email per week, containing a classic short story, with an introduction by best-selling author Jacob Tomsky. The evening beautifully harkened back to the old days: an enthralled audience in a packed Clark Room listened as Tomsky read **Charles Lindbergh's** non-fiction narrative *A Leap in the Dark* about his days as a pilot for the US postal service. Lindbergh himself had shared the same story in an edition of *As Told at the Explorers Club*, eighty-four years ago!

But that's not all! Among film crews, our Lowell Thomas Building enjoys a reputation as excellent location. Over the summer, gaffers, cinematographers, directors, producers, and actors transformed the premises into sets for *Person of Interest* (CBS, episode 505 of the fifth season), *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt* (the upcoming season will be released on Netflix around March 2016), and *Expedition Unknown with Josh Gates* (Travel Channel, broadcast date not set.) Maybe some of you will be able to admire the venerable halls on modern television screens.

—Julia Knobloch, jknobloch@explorers.org

Northern California Chapter

Members were active on several fronts, either in the field, as was the **Nicole Crane FN'97** operation in the hurricane ravaged island of Ulithi or in planning for winter expeditions. Several volunteers including past chapter chair **Rick Saber MN'01** joined Nicole to help out with the Ulithi reef restoration objectives, as well as with the restoration of the human habitation which had been destroyed by the hurricane.



Destruction at Ulithi. *Photo: Rick Saber*

The September meeting featured a presentation by **Tom Dolan MN'14** (Director David's brother) on a study of tornados using Doppler sonar measurements as well as video recordings of the tornados to increase the understanding of their formation and the paths followed by them. The observations were made earlier this year as part of an Explorer Club flag expedition and showed a correlation of winds up to 200 mph winds at the core of the tornado with the degrees of destruction along its path. The Club Flag 213 was returned at the September



Flag 213 return (l-r): the Dolan's, David, Donald, Tom, and mother Helen; Constance Difede, Lee Langan. *Photo: Von Hurson*

meeting to National officials Vice President Special Projects **Constance Difede LM'01** and Director **Lee Langan FN'99**.

—Anders Jepsen FN'03, AJViking@aol.com

Pacific Northwest Chapter

Planning is in progress for the Pacific Northwest Chapter's 2016 Caribbean Reef Expedition. Would you like to participate? Contact expedition leader Prof. **Ed Sobey FE'81**, *sobey@gmail.com*. Coral reefs are noisy environments. Yes, the croaking, rasping, cracking, snapping of fish, urchins, and shrimp join with abiotic sounds like rainfall, ocean swells, and surf breaking on the reef. They all contribute to a cacophony that can only be heard in these specific environments. Studies have shown that interpreting reef sound may be useful in predicting reef fish community structure, and scientists relying on reef sound survey data may be able to determine the overall "reef health." Documented results have shown that each reef produces a particular sound profile that is different from all other reef sites observed. This has implications for reef management programs. The PNW Chapter expedition team will measure the sound spectrum of healthy and unhealthy coral reefs and will compare the recordings to the observations and measurements made by citizen scientist divers.

Art and Exploration: What does art have to do with exploration? As explorers, we like to mingle among ourselves, but we seek to experience and know cultures beyond our own horizons. That is, understanding people and their various customs, arts, social institutions, behaviors, and achievements. We strive to observe, understand, interact with, and participate in the daily lives and histories of different human groups and the environment they inhabit. Music and art in particular are excellent ambassadors of a culture, as Joseph Rossano, would agree. Rossano is a working artist with a diverse and unusual background. His exploratory tool is art. As studio manager for Dale Chihuly, working with glass masters from around the world, he helped develop a special glass art form. Later, he directed the *Artists Residence Program* at Waterford Crystal. Rossano's own artistic visions have been on view in more than thirty group exhibitions and an equal number of individual exhibits in glass galleries, science museums, natural history museums, art museums, contemporary art spaces, as well as public and private collections. They span an enormously broad range, a unique circum-

stance in our age of specialization and have earned him numerous prestigious awards.

While nature and biodiversity – especially animals driven to extinction – form a primary component in Rossano's portfolio, which encompasses, for example, series titled "*Vanished and Vanishing*"; "*Everything White*"; "*BOLD: A Cryptic Species Complex*", "*Whitewashed*", and "*Vanity*", he expresses a more fundamental idea about seeing nature, about how difficult it is to perceive what is right in front of us. Rossano's body of work seeks alternatives to art as a commodity. In his hands, art operates in service to ideas: think conservation. He is less concerned with how beautiful his objects are than with the hearts and minds that will be changed by



Ron Zuber (left) and Joseph Rossano at chapter talk.

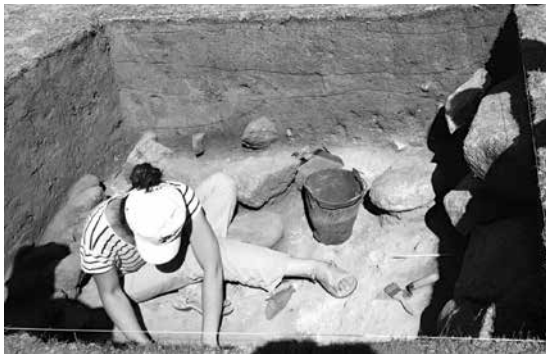
engagement with natural beauty in peril. Derived from his explorations in some of the world's most biodiverse habitats, his work is as much embedded in the science pursued as it incorporates it. Rossano's art vividly and powerfully depicts how technology influences mankind's understanding of the natural world and offers promises for its protection. Joseph Rossano's purpose is to explore cultures and create art that can shape how we treat nature and each other. It brings great value for persons and organizations working on the front lines of biodiversity protection.

—Ron Zuber FN'07, ronzuber@comcast.net

Philadelphia Chapter

Former Philadelphia Chapter Chair **David Concannon FN'96** became the Club's Vice President and Chairman of Flag & Honors in April. In June, Concannon participated in a Flag expedition off the coast of Greece to explore the wreck of the *HMHS Britannic*, sister ship of the *RMS Titanic*. The expedition, which included members **Richie Kohler MN'04**, **Evan Kovacs FN'14**, **Michael Barnette FN'09**, and Edoardo Pavia, carried the "unnumbered" Explorers Club Flag that debuted in 1985, during the discovery of the wreck of RMS *Titanic*. From Greece, it went to Belfast, Northern Ireland, for display in the Titanic Belfast







TOP Richie Kohler, Evan Kovacs, Michael Barnette, David Concannon, and Edoardo Pavia displaying The Explorers Club Flag after a successful dive to the HMHS *Britannic*, June 30, 2015.
Photo: David Colcannon archive

TOP RIGHT Test pit in China's Bortala River Valley.
Photo: Annie Chan

ABOVE James Robinson vertebra discovery.
Photo: Robinson archive

Museum in commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the *Titanic's* discovery.

With support from the Explorers Club Exploration Fund and the University of Pennsylvania Museum, **Annie Chan TM'14**, together with the Institute of Archaeology of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, carried out a fourth season of fieldwork in the Bortala River Valley, situated between the mountain ranges of Tianshan and the Dzungarian Altau, in Xinjiang, China. Annie obtained data from aerial imagery, topographical surveys, and full-scale excavations to conduct geospatial and geometric analyses of the spatial distribution and architectural design of stone structures dated to the Bronze Age (second millennium BCE). The results will be used for her doctoral dissertation on this stone architectural tradition and its implications on understanding settlement patterns and social relations in the Eastern Central Asian steppes. Among the myriad of architectural stone structures in the Bortala River Valley, those at ten selected locations have been studied in detail through survey and/or excavation in previous field seasons. Mortuary structures and settlement sites were uncovered; ceramic sherds, bronzes, stone tools, animal bones, as well as features of human inhumation establish the cultural affiliation of these archaeological remains with the Bronze Age Andronovo cultural complex of the Eurasian steppes and reflect the practice of mixed agro-pastoral economies.

James Robinson MN'14, Program Chair and Webmaster of the Philadelphia Chapter, was in the field at Choteau, Montana, where he uncovered a large dinosaur vertebra and partial spinal column. Choteau is home to the world famous *Egg Mountain* which was discovered in the 1980s and studied extensively by Jack Horner. It was here that the research confirmed that dinosaurs took care of their young.

40-year Explorers Club veteran and leader of over a dozen expeditions, Captain **Joel S. Fogel ME'73** will try his hand at a new endeavor this fall when he races across the globe in the reality television game show *The Amazing Race*. Fogel and his teammate Steven Alper were chosen last month to participate in the five-week challenge. The two men qualified for the first round of eliminations for The Amazing Race which will take place this fall from November through December.

—Doug Soroka FN'06 snowshoe7@verizon.net

San Diego Chapter





Summer in San Diego found Explorers Club members and friends enjoying a delightful July afternoon relaxing and talking of exploration and adventures at the beautiful, newly remodeled Solana Beach home of **Jim Hoffman FN'00** and his wife June.

Pam Bitterman MN'12, **John Asmus FN'97**, **Tim Radke MN'13**, **Doug Magde MN'03**, **John Rowe FN'13**, **Neil Marshal FN'01**, and **Tom Lamb FN'13** attended with their spouses. Also enjoying the conversations were **Char Glacy MN'09**, **Bruce Haggerty FN'85**, **Rio Hahn FI'86**, **David Smith FN'53**, and **Jennifer Arnold MR'97**, many of whom brought along some very interesting guests. Newly weds **Nancy Nenow MN'04** and **David Dolan FN'03** also attended. We were pleased to have a large number of our loyal supporters in attendance as well.

In August we were again outdoors on a splendid late afternoon for a barbecue buffet, before going indoors for a very exciting presentation, *Scaling the World's Highest Peaks without Outside Support*, by Alex Barber. Alex, a young man with big ambitions, told of his summiting of Manaslu and Cho Oyu peaks in the Himalayas, climbing solo and without supplemental oxygen! He also spoke of his attempt to climb Shisha Pangma where he made a wise decision near the summit to turn back because of poor weather. More recently, as he was near 23,000 feet on Annapurna, when Nepal was experienced a huge earthquake. Alex chose to stop his climb to see what he could do to help the Nepalese people. His photos of the devastation were as impressive and amazing as were those of the mountains and his climbs. Alex plans to continue to pursue his goal of climbing all the major peaks in the Himalayas without oxygen or the usual team climbers and Sherpa.

Over the summer, the San Diego Chapter was happy to welcome two new members: **Tyler Rowe FN'15** and **Lale Labuko MN'15**. Member **John Rowe FN'13** has been reclassified as Fellow National. All three were part of the team that created the award winning documentary film "*Omo Child, The River and The Bush*. Thus far, this film has won *Best Documentary* at eleven film festivals. The film tells the true story of Lale Labuko and his journey to save children from ritualistic killing by the tribes living in the remote Omo Valley of southwest Ethiopia. Not only has Lale been able to rescue and educate over forty children in his

ABOVE LEFT (l-r) Tom Lamb, Damien Leloup (kneeling), Bob Fisher, Jennifer Arnold, Talina Konotchick, David Dolan, Nancy Nenow, Kathy Lamb, Alex Barber, Frank Castle, Bruce Haggerty, and Jim Hoffman at August meeting. *Photo: Lonnie Kaufman*

ABOVE RIGHT Club members at Scripps Institution of Oceanography press conference (l-r) Damien Leloup, Walter Munk, Mary Coakley Munk, David Dolan, Patty Elkus, Nancy Nenow, and Gerry Kooyman. *Photo: Scripps Institution of Oceanography*

Jim Hoffman holding ice ax and our speaker, Himalayan climber Alex Barber. *Photo: Lonnie Kaufman*



tribal area, he has helped his tribe face the problem and to convince the elders to end this practice forever.

Quite a few Explorers Club members were in the audience on August 24, when Scripps Institution of Oceanography Director Margaret Leinen announced the launch of the new Center for Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation at UC San Diego. For more information about this innovative new center go to: *https://scripps.ucsd.edu/news/scripps-oceanography-supporters-give-5-million-create-climate-center.*

—Nancy Nenow MN'04, nlnenow@yahoo.com

Southern California Chapter

The Chapter gathered on September 26, in Huntington Beach, hosted by Steve Stong and his wife Dr. Robyn Mitchell-Stong. Steve and Robin are parents of UC Berkeley student **Spencer Stong SM'14**. Yours truly gave a talk entitled: *Stories from my Life of Exploration and Adventure*. As I end my service as the Chapter Co-Chair, I wanted to leave the chapter with some stories that would inspire, intrigue, challenge and perhaps even give ideas for new expeditions and adventures. Utilizing the story telling style of Mark Twain's "*Roughing It*," and the outline of my forthcoming memoir, we all went on a whirlwind journey during which we visited Kenya, Tanzania, Namibia, Guatemala, Lebanon, India, the rugged back country of Santa Barbara and even the nearby San Gabriel Mountains. I concluded my talk by discussing the most challenging and dangerous journey that I had ever embarked upon, a journey which is continuing to this day.

Mark Fowler MN'02 arrived at our Saturday event in his father's classic old truck, a 1987 Jeep Comanche. He told us that he was going to depart the next day to drive that rig along with his dog *Smokey* (who doesn't like to fly) some 3,000 miles in four days to the Explorers Club Headquarters to arrive on time to attend the tribute to his father **Jim Fowler MED'66** (see Basecamp).

As I conclude my service as a local chapter leader and focus my energies in my role as a member of the club's Board of Directors, I am filled with profound gratitude to so many of our Southern California Chapter members who have supported the success of our chapter. While I cannot mention everyone, I wish to particularly thank several who have served in various leadership positions and have provided significant support to the chapter. These include our chapter's officers: Co-Chair **Allan Smith MN'09**, immediate Past Chair **Alan Feldstein MN'09**, Treasurer **John Binaski MN'94**, as well as other key supporters including **Ed Roski, Jr. MN'90**, **Dr. Rosaly Lopes FN'84**, **Kristin Larson FN'02**, **Pierre Odier MN'96**, **Charles Carmona MN'12**, **Bill Richards MN'89**, **Jim Dorsey FN'10**, **Lisa TE Sonne MN'98**, 50 year member **Bob Silver ME'65** and, of course, **Dr. Peter Keller FN'84**, the President of the Bowers Museum. Dr. Keller and Bowers' Board of Governors Chairwoman Anne Shih have provided such wonderful hospitality to many of our events and especially our four West Coast Explorers Club Annual Dinners and our recent 2014 Lowell Thomas



Mark Fowler in the truck's cab. In the truck bed (l-r): Steve Stong and Dr. Robyn Mitchell-Stong, David Dolan and Nancy Nenow; in the foreground: Mary Lou Furnas and Dr. David Furnas LF'82.

Photo: Barbara Wilson

Awards Dinner. Our Chapter has been visited and encouraged by several current and former Presidents during my tenure of leadership including **Dan Bennett MN'02**, **Lorie Karnath FI'89**, **Fred McLaren MED'71**, **Alan Nichols MN'84**, and most recently **Ted Janulis MR'95**. Honorary President **Don Walsh HON'61** has always been a big supporter of our chapter. Finally, I am most grateful to my student member son **Daniel Dolan SM'08** and my wife, **Nancy Nenow MN'04** (Chair of the San Diego Chapter) who have been my bedrock of support through some very difficult and challenging times. Charles Carmona will be the new Chapter Chair beginning January 1, 2016, and I know that he too will enjoy the same level of support that I have experienced from our chapter and from many other world-wide members of the Explorers Club.

—David Dolan FN'03, daviddolan@aol.com

Southern Florida Chapter

Eulogy to a Fellow Explorer: On June 3, 2015 we mourned the loss of **Florence Smith FE'85**, educator, explorer, activist. The long-time resident of Ft. Lauderdale died peacefully at the Hospice by the Sea, of complications related to Parkinson's Disease. She was eighty-one. Florence attended the Loring School for Girls in Chicago and earned a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish and French from Southern Methodist University. After graduating, she used her language skills in Europe and North Africa before returning to Chicago to work at the French Consulate. She moved to Ft. Lauderdale in the early 1960s, but shortly afterwards seized an opportunity to travel through Central America while making educational filmstrips for US schoolchildren. She moved to Costa Rica in 1965, and two years later, passionate about educating more people about Latin America, she returned to the States to pursue a Master Degree in Education at Florida Atlantic University. Florence's many accomplishments included being a skill-



Florence Smith, Ph.D.; God's Speed *Machita.*

ful equestrian, small airplane pilot, real estate agent, nursery school founder, high school teacher, fashion model, museum curator, serious bullfighting fan, editor of the *Ft. Lauderdale Magazine*, food critic for the *Sun Sentinel*, specialist in pre-Columbian archeology, bird breeder, bridge player, world traveler, a thoughtful friend, and a caring wife, mother, and grandmother. An active Explorers Club member, who was good friend and mentor to many of us, she became the first female Chair of the Southern Florida Chapter and serving on various committees and advisory positions at headquarters. She loved travel adventures, such as archeological excavations in Costa Rica, where her team nicknamed her "*Machita*", canoeing down the Orinoco River in the 1960s, or being dropped into the Amazon by helicopter. She was also passionate about protecting South Florida's ecology and was a co-founder of the *Week of the Ocean* as well as a volunteer with the Graves Museum of Archeology, board member of The Opera Guild, the Community Advisory Board of Broward Community College, the Broward County Archeological Society Vice-Chairman, the Museum of Art, and grant reviewer for the National Endowment for the Humanities.

April 2015 Meeting – The Truth About Atlantis: Geologist **Eugene "Gene" Shinn FN'99** has experienced many adventures during his long prolific career: diving in nuclear bomb craters at Eniwetok, living and diving with Persian Gulf pearl divers, filming destroyers zooming overhead at thirty knots, and researching potential bioterrorism dangers of African dust, but one stands out, namely diving and core drilling the so-called remnants of *Atlantis* lying just off the north-western shore of Bimini, Bahamas. During his forty-year off-and-on investigations along the "*Bimini Road*", he consistently encountered gullible "true believers" and a persistent media that made dealing with the Bimini-stones controversy his most unusual experience. Called by some, the most interesting earth scientist in the world, and well known among geologists, marine scientists, and petroleum engineers, Gene Shinn sometimes seems a product of another century and his adventures, the stuff of movies.

—Rudy Mola, FN'13, rmola@aol.com

JOY

Our sponsor and licensee, Johnny Walker, has introduced a new corporate motto, "Joy Will Take You Further." Quite literally they sensed the optimism of explorers and the reward we gain in the pursuit of our goals of discovery. Viewing The Explorers Club as a new partner they observed the tangible reward that our members share—the happiness achieved in search for new knowledge. It had an impact, a significant impact, such that they confirmed the value in such a positive outlook. In late September, they launched the new motto worldwide, modifying the longterm "Keep Walking!"

Quite an acknowledgment of the value of getting together. We understand that the joy of seeking the unknown is an affirmative force, a force now distilled for so many more.

St. Louis Chapter

CAVE RESTORATION EXPERTS VISIT ST. LOUIS: Eileen and **Benjamin Hulsey MN'07** hosted the St. Louis Chapter for a mid-summer picnic at their home. Doug Soroka FN06 presented information about the ongoing project "Floyd Collins Crystal Cave Restoration." The Floyd Collins Crystal Cave, a World Heritage Site, is part of Kentucky's Mammoth Cave National Park. The cave was vandalized in 1995. Doug and his wife Lynn, life-long cavers,were asked to join Jim and Val Werker on the restoration. The process of joining broken pieces of formation (speleothem) back together is like a 3-D jigsaw puzzle. Hard speleothems are epoxied together using Shell Epon™ 828 with Epicure™ 3234 curing agent. This combination is the literal 'glue that holds the pieces together.' It is non-toxic and, more importantly, does not kill biological cave life. In addition to matching the 'puzzle pieces' of the cave, finding a procedure that holds the joints together while the 'glue' cures can be challenging. Specialized clamps are used and, sometimes, piles of rocks. The completed walls are dusted with a loose powdering of cave dirt so that the colors match.

What started out as a 5-year project is now in its ninth year and will continue until completion. "The cave was discovered by Floyd Collins in 1917. Now, almost 100 years later, the cave will be restored thanks to the efforts of Doug, Lynn and the team," said Chapter Chair Hulsey. (See cover photo.)

—Peggy James Nacke MN'10, peggyn@academyofsciencestl.org

St. Louis Summer Meeting: (l-r) Doug Soroka FN'06; Mary Burke MN '09; Sue Hume MN'09.

Photo: Doug Soroka archive



In the Field

Flag and Honors News

David G. Concannon, Vice President, Flag and Honors

To my fellow members:

Fall is here above the Equator and that means putting away gear and writing up the results of our summer expeditions. If you received an Explorers Club Flag award, this also means writing and submitting your Flag Report. These reports are to be submitted within 60 days of a Flag return, but sometimes members take longer. We must correct this. The purpose of The Explorers Club is to promote exploration as "the world center for exploration." One of the primary ways we achieve this is by documenting our expeditions results and sharing these results with members and the public. If we don't have timely reports, we cannot share much of anything. The Flag & Honors Committee will no longer grant Flag applications if the applicant has not submitted a report from their last Flag expedition.

Now it's time for a *mea culpa*. We try to publish Flag reports on TEC's web site, but you may have noticed a scarcity of Flag Reports for the past three years. Many Flag reports are overdue, the Flag & Honors Committee is currently making its way through a three-year backlog of reports to review (frankly, an appalling number of Flag reports are not fit to publish.) This has placed the Flag & Honors Committee in a conundrum. We are volunteers; hard working individuals with jobs, families, expeditions and significant time spent in the field. We spend a significant amount of time reviewing thousands of pages for Flag applications, award nominations and Flag reports. It's not our job to rewrite Flag reports or to tell you how to write a Flag report! Anyone who asked for and received the privilege of carrying the Flag must follow directions for submitting a Flag report that meets the minimum standards of TEC. *These directions are printed on the Flag application!* If you are unsure how to write a proper report, contact us for examples of excellent Flag reports or visit the "Flag Reports" section of TEC's web site to review published reports. As an example, **Nicole L. Crane FN'97** and **Gino R. Caspari TM'15** submitted outstanding Flag reports for their Flag expeditions this summer; I encourage you to read them and follow their lead.

For those who don't get the message or choose not to follow directions, it's time for some "tough love." The Flag & Honors Committee has decided that if members do not submit Flag reports that meet the minimum standards outlined in the Flag application, the report will be returned to the member for revision. If the member fails to revise the report to meet the minimum standards of The Explorers Club, the report will be rejected. If your report is rejected, you should not bother to submit any more applications for the privilege of carrying The Explorers Club Flag.

The Flag & Honors Committee sees its job as protecting the integrity of The Explorers Club. Exploration is our purpose and education through publication is our responsibility. If you ask for the privilege of carrying The

Explorers Club Flag, then you are asking to participate in this century-old process. We expect you to uphold the high standards that the members of this Club have set and, if you are able, to raise the bar even higher. Please feel free to lead by example. Thank you.

Snapshots of Flags in the Field

Flag 179

Susan Fox FN'14 and team, with Flag 179 on their *WildArt Mongolia* expedition, Hokh Serkhiin Nuruu Strictly Protected Area, Bayan-Olgii Aimag, Mongolia.



Flag 179, (l-r) Moogii; Baagii; Dr. S. Amgalanbaatar; Susan Fox; Dr. Barry Rosenbaum; Chuka, Anand.

Flag 134

Gino R. Caspari TM'15 with Flag 134 on an undocumented Late Iron Age cemetery in China. To view the full Altai Landscape Archaeology report, visit *explorers.org/flag_expeditions/flag_reports*



Flag 134, Gino R. Caspari TM'15 with Flag 134.

Flag 80

Mikael Strandberg FI'03 (middle) and **Kenneth M. Kamler M.D., FR'84** (left), along with team members, hold Flag 80 while on their recent expedition: *KARLAG – A Journey in the Land Of Death And Redemption.*



Flag 80, Mikael Strandberg FI'03 (middle) and Kenneth M. Kamler M.D., FR'84 (left), along with team members,

Flag 219

Denise L. Herzing, Ph.D., FN'04 and **Anne L. Doubilet FR'02** carried Flag 219 on their recent expedition *Shifting Climate, Shifting Dolphins: Climate Change and Dolphin Movement in the Bahamas.*



Flag 219, Denise L. Herzing, Ph.D., FN'04 and Anne L. Doubilet FR'02 carried Flag 219.

Photo: © Tanya G. Burnett

Important Dates for Award Nominations

Please note these dates are approximate. Official announcements will be posted on the website and circulated via email.

April 22, 2016 – Lowell Thomas Awards 2016 – Call for Nominations

May 23, 2016 – Deadline for Lowell Thomas Nominations

July 18, 2016 – Annual Awards 2017 – Call for Nominations

Includes: The Explorers Club Medal
The Citation of Merit
The Sweeney Medal
The Tenzing Norgay Award
The New Explorer

September 5, 2016 – Deadline for Annual Award Nominations

Flag Expeditions

APPROVED SINCE LAST LOG



Flag Reports Posted on the Website

16 **G. Chris Fischer, MN'10** – Expedition Australia: Western Australia – Flag 212

17 **Nicole L. Crane, FN'97** – One People One Reef – Micronesia – Flag 112

18 **Gino R. Caspari, TM'15** – Altai Landscape Archaeology – Altai Mountains – Flag 134

19 **Jason B.R.M. Schoonover, FE'86** – The Lost Pictograph Expedition – Saskatchewan – Flag 53

20 **Denise Herzing, Ph.D., FN'04 & Anne Doubilet, FR'02** – Climate Change and Dolphin Movement in the Bahamas – Flag 219

21 **David L. Mearns, FI'91** – HMS HOOD 2015: A Foresnic Examination of the Wreck Site – Denmark Strait – Flag 114

22 **R. Craig Cook M.D., MN'01** – Phoenix Islands Expedition – Pacific Ocean – Flag 118

23 **Heather L. Knowles, MN'11** – Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary Shipwreck Expedition – Gulf of Maine; Cape Anne; Cape Cod – Flag 151

24 **Daniel J. Lieb, FN'06** – The "Robert J. Walker" Mapping Expedition – Atlantic Ocean; NJ Coast – Flag 132

25 **Robert J. Atwater, LF'05** – Manas, Assam, India Research Expedition 2015 – Flag 99

1 **Lawrence Glacy, FN'09** – *In the Footsteps of Xu Xia-Ke – Western China – Flag 60*

2 **Martin T. Nweeia D.M.D., D.D.S, FN'99** – *Narwhal Transformational Technologies, Tremblay Sound – Flag 97*

3 **Brent S. Stewart, Ph.D., FN'91** – *Whale Sharks of the Galapagos Island Archipelago – Flag 84*

4 **Mikael Strandberg, FI'03** – *KARLAG: A Journey in the Land of Death & Redemption – Kazakhstan – Flag 80*

5 **Mark Edward Hay, FN'15** – *Marine Biodiversity in Fiji and the Solomon Islands – Flag TBD*

6 **David L. Mearns, FI'91** – *HMS HOOD 2015: A Foresnic Examination of the Wreck Site – Denmark Strait – Flag 114*



7 R. Craig Cook M.D., MN'01 – *Phoenix Islands Expedition – Pacific Ocean – Flag 118*

8 Cristina Zenato, MI'13 – *The Zodiac Connection – Bahamas – Flag 207*

9 Gregory Deyermenjian, FN'88 – *2015 Yuracmayo Expedition – Peru – Flag 61*

10 Joseph Dituri, FN'14 – *Britannic Scientific 2015 – Greece – Flag 132*

11 Simon C. Roosevelt, FR'15 – *Smithsonian Roosevelt Resurvey 2015 – Kenya – Flag 25*

12 G. Chris Fischer, MN'10 – *Expedition Gulf of Mexico – Flag 212*

13 Ralph Arwood, M.D., MN'14 – *Searching for Bonnie (Eumops floridanus) – Florida – Flag TBD*

14 Rod Macdonald, MI'15 – *HMS Hampshire – Scotland – Flag TBD*

15 Randi D. Rotjan, Ph.D. – *Rose Atoll/American Samoa Expedition – Samoa – Flag 118*

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.*













The 2015 Lowell Thomas Awardees, Honored November 7, 2015, at Florida Chapter

Mark Edward Hay, Ph.D., FN'15. An experimental field ecologist, Mark Edward Hay is revolutionizing coral reef conservation and management. Dr. Hay's research involves learning to cure environmental collapse by discovering, translating, and understanding chemical communication among marine species, thus creating the foundations of the field of marine chemical ecology.

Robert Glenn Ketchum, FN'88. Robert Glenn Ketchum's imagery, exhibitions, numerous publications, and personal activism have helped to define photography's successful use in conservation advocacy. Ketchum's vision for the role of art in promoting the protection of the planet throughout his illustrious career has contributed to pivotal shifts in the communication methods of science and conservation.

Federico M. Lauro, Ph.D., FI'15. Federico M. Lauro, Director of Indigo V Expeditions works to discover the ways in which microorganisms adapt and function to drive the ecological processes that are critical for sustaining the health of global marine environments. Dr. Lauro's research has proven that a combination of innovative, cost-effective technologies and world cruiser involvement extensively broadens the scope of microbiological oceanography, driving the field into a new era of high output, high resolution, predictive science.

Anne Savage, Ph.D. Anne Savage is the Conservation Director for Disney's Animals, Science and Environment at Walt Disney Parks and Resorts. Dr. Savage's multifarious studies in animal behavior and conservation biology are not only groundbreaking from a scientific perspective, but also for her programs' infrastructure initiatives to educate and involve the indigenous population of conservation efforts, thereby ensuring the ongoing protection of surrounding natural habitats.

Gary A. Strobel, Ph.D., FN'05. The principal authority on all aspects of the study of endophytes, Gary A. Strobel is a distinguished microbiologist and naturalist. Dr. Strobel's work has contributed forcefully, and uniquely, to the recognition of the necessity of conserving remote areas for the potential value of their species for medical applications towards human health and welfare. His work nicely illustrates how strong scientific inquiry can help conserve the world's natural resources.

George Van Nostrand Powell, Ph.D. Dedicating his career and life to conserving biodiversity around the globe, George Van Nostrand Powell is a pioneer in the application of new approaches and technologies in pursuit of conservation. Dr. Powell integrates his keen insights across animal behavior, field logistics, and the latest technology to push the boundaries of wildlife conservation.

TOP: Mark Edward Hay, Ph.D., FN'15., Robert Glenn Ketchum, FN'88, Federico M. Lauro, Ph.D., FI'15, Anne Savage, Ph.D. , Gary A. Strobel, Ph.D., FN'05, George Van Nostrand Powell, Ph.D.

Arctic Sea Ice Observation: Citizen Science at the North Pole



Dr. Alexander Cohen (left) and Lauren Farmer holding Flag 69 at the North Pole, July 14, 2015.

Photo: Lauren Farmer

Flag 69 made its debut to the field in Peru, flying with the Hayden Planetarium-Grace Eclipse Expedition that documented the path of a total solar eclipse in June, 1937. It was revived in 1993, for an expedition to Nanga Parbat. It traveled back to Peru for an observation of the Quelccaya Ice Cap, to the Atlantic Ocean for the Titanic Twentieth Anniversary Dive Expedition, to South Georgia and along with the Whale Song Antarctic Voyage for Ecosystems Studies.

It was thus a fitting choice to bestow Flag 69 upon an eclectic expedition to the Arctic Ocean and the North Pole, organized by two first-time flag carriers **Lauren Farmer MR'14** and **Alexander Cowan FI'15**. Working as staff tour operators in the polar regions, they set out to monitor the thickness of sea ice between Franz Josef Land and the North Pole. Their twist: they would involve tourists in their data collecting onboard the Russian icebreaker-turned-cruise-vessel *50 let Pobedy* (the world's largest nuclear-powered icebreaker). The companies Lauren and Alex work for during Arctic summers have been running programs that impart a sense of respect for the environment to the guests. Farmer commented, "With our North Pole season ahead of us, we felt we were in a good position to attempt an ambitious citizen science project that would provide both value to the science community and be a rewarding addition to the guests' experience."

The data collected during four different journeys between July and August 2015, were the only data collected in this region of the Arctic Ocean for the summer! Through the Club's network, the young explorers were put in touch with Professor Bruno Tremblay of McGill University and Dr. Don Perovich of Dartmouth's Thayer School of Engineering, who served as advisors as well as recipients of the data. A principle end recipient is the International Arctic Research Center's Ice Watch program, University of Alaska Fairbanks. "IARC's Jenny Hutchings and her colleagues had been eager to implement Ice Watch's ASSIST program in cruise vessels. It was through Jenny that we received our training in how to make sea ice observations."

In previous years, expedition cruise operators did collect data on wildlife sighting, namely Humpback whales, Orcas, Leopard Seals and Polar Bears, just as high-end tourism enabled, for several years, former Soviet research vessels to continue their scientific work by taking guests to the sites of HMS *Titanic* or the German battleship *Bismarck*. Yet, the tourists generally remained observers. Expedition Leader Lauren and Chief Scientist Alex offered their guests active participation, merging science's demand for data about the melting sea ice with the travel industry's need for diversification of their offers in a synergetic, more cost-efficient way. Lauren and Alex were happy to report that their expedition was a great success for everyone involved: researchers around the world, the tour company, and the guests aboard: "We expected some would come for one observation on the bridge



Passengers participating in measuring melt-ice ponds at the Geographic North Pole.
Photo: Lauren Farmer

and then not return, but we were pleasantly surprised to have the vast majority return for many or even all observations. In general, we had four to six guests participating in each observation, which occurred every two hours on icebreaking days, and then roughly twenty people assisted with melt-pond measurements on the ice at the North Pole, once per cruise."

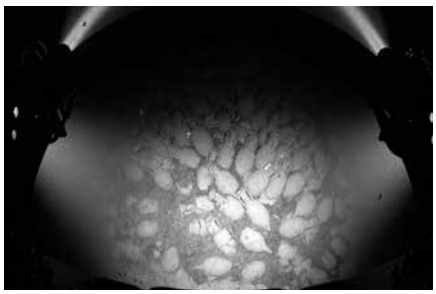
The enthusiastic citizen scientists came from all walks of life: An eight-year old boy from the Czech Republic, a seventy-five-year old retired miner from Australia, a German engineer in his forties, a hotelier from Moscow, a university-aged brother and sister from Edinburgh. The participation was entirely voluntary and never interfered with other activities offered for the cruise guests. The applied observation method was twofold: during icebreaking days, visual observations of approximately thirty minutes were made from the bridge every two hours between 09:30 and 21:30. "At the beginning of each observation, we started the video recording on a GoPro camera attached near the bridge on starboard side, documenting everything from the horizon line to the breaking ice at the ship's hull underneath our meter stick." The EC members and their assistants also noted the position, speed, and heading of the ship and whether it was traveling through ice, in leads, on station or backing and ramming. The group also took visual observations of total ice concentration, ice types, concentration of ice types, ice thickness, melt-pond concentration, various details regarding melt ponds, deteriorating ice, topography and meteorology, and inputted the findings into Ice Watch's ASSIST database with a handwritten backup in a notebook.

The expedition was not conceived as a standalone project with specific findings, Lauren and Alex are keen to point out. Instead it is a contribution to the long-term sea-ice-data sheet that only has value by virtue of it continuing for several decades. It will be available to every interested researcher.

Lauren's and Alex's vast data have already been included in the Arctic Research Consortium of the United States' (ARCUS) Sea Ice Prediction Network's August report, and shared with the Norwegian desk. The two explorers will report on this experience at the Explorers Club Monday Night Lecture Series, on November 23rd. "We are very proud to have carried a flag during this project and feel we've been good ambassadors for The Explorers Club. During each cruise, we explained to all of our guests about TEC and the honor of carrying the flag, and all were very touched to be able to take a photo with it at the North Pole."

—Julia Knobloch, jknobloch@explorers.org, with a big thank you to Lauren Farmer and Alex Cowan who collaborated from Iceland.

Exploring the Ocean Depths in Comfort



Exploration by definition involves an element of risk, but you don't need to be cold and miserable.

"Descending a thousand feet into the depths of the Mediterranean to investigate and survey ancient Roman shipwrecks in a three-person air-conditioned mini sub was like exploring the South Pole in a Lexus" stated Ian Koblick. It is the latest project carried out by explorers **Ian Koblick FN'78** and **Craig Mullen FN'97**.

Under the auspices of the Superintendent of the Seas of Sicily the AURORA Trust Foundation (*www.auroratrust.com*), of which Koblick and Mullen are founding directors, carried out photo mapping surveys of three Roman shipwrecks dating back to 200 BCE. The results were 3-D photo mosaics of each of the wrecks with high-resolution detail. The project was a joint venture between AURORA Trust and U-Boat Worx, a Dutch company that builds mini submarines

"The submarine was the most reliable and comfortable sub I have ever been in," says Mullen. The *C Explorer 3* with its 360 degree viewing sphere made it possible to carry out the photo survey from inside the sub, allowing for onsite control of each and every one of the more than 500 photos taken at each wreck site.

The wrecks were all near the island of Panarea in the Aeolian Islands north of Sicily. AURORA Trust had located the wrecks five years ago when they carried out extensive side scan sonar surveys in the islands. Dr. Sebastiano Tulsa, Superintendent of the Seas of Sicily, invited Aurora back to survey the sites and produce a photo mosaic of each wreck.

The wrecks varied in age from 200 BCE to 200 AD. One carried *garum* a pungent fish sauce much relished and expensive in Roman times; another carried wine, and the third is yet to be determined.

— Ian Koblick, ian@auroratrust.com



LEFT 2000-year-old amphora spread across the Mediterranean sea floor: image taken from within the mini-sub. *Photo: Ian Koblick*

RIGHT Mullen and Koblick with an Explorer's flag.
Photo: Aurora Trust



ABOVE Craig Mullen (left) and Ian Koblick with the *C Explorer 3 Sub.*
Photo: Aurora Trust

Galactic Gathers Future Astronauts At Explorers Club

Virgin Galactic ticket-holders from around the globe gathered at Explorers Club headquarters in September for an update on progress since the test crash of *SpaceShipTwo* last fall. After an introduction by Club president **Ted Janulis MR'95**, VG customer relations president Stephen Attenborough assured an eager audience that the new SS2 is more than 90% complete and should resume rigorous test flights next year. He also confirmed that VG founder Sir Richard Branson still plans to be aboard the first commercial SS2 spaceflight, probably in 2017.

VG's new senior test pilot, Mark "Forger" Stucky, was then introduced by VG astronaut-experience manager Clare Pelly. Stucky discussed his





ABOVE (l-r) VG test pilot Mark "Forger" Stucky, astronaut-experience manager Clare Pelly and customer relations president Stephen Attenborough at The Explorers Club.

Photo: Jim Clash

ABOVE RIGHT Greg Olsen was interviewed by Jim Clash for Virgin Galactic's fall event at The Explorers Club. Olsen wore a flight suit from his ISS excursion.

Photo: Alex Serrano

career as a military pilot, including Mach 3 flights in the SR-71 Blackbird and supersonic tests in the original SS2. Stucky will be taking several of VG's 700-plus ticket-holders to space and told the audience he is "incredibly excited" to have the opportunity.

Key-noting the evening was a live Q&A between Club director/VG ticket-holder **Jim Clash FR'99** and **Greg Olsen MN'07**. Olsen was the third paying astronaut to fly aboard a Soyuz rocket to the International Space Station, shelling out $20 million in 2005 – or nearly 90 times as much as VG ticket holders – to spend ten days in space. For the Club interview, Olsen wore the actual flight-suit he had on during his orbital excursion. Clash focused questions on what ticket-holders should especially be aware of during their comparatively short time in space (approximately five minutes). Olsen marveled about the view, but said weightlessness was what really did it for him. He also remarked that America is becoming too risk-averse and that accidents during testing, such as SS2's, while unfortunate are part of pushing new boundaries. On the lighter side, Olsen joked that, as an astronaut, his most-oft-asked question by children is, "How do you go to the bathroom in space?" He quickly noted when he had met the Dalai Lama; that question was His Holiness's first, too.

A recently completed NTSB investigation found the Oct. 31, 2014, VG crash resulted from an error by SS2 co-pilot Michael Alsbury. Alsbury, who was killed, had deployed the re-entry "feathering" device too early, causing the spacecraft to break apart during ascent.

—Jim Clash, jamesmclash@gmail.com

A New (Overdue) EC Fellow

This is the story of a great explorer who was not allowed to be a member of The Explorers Club because of her gender. With so many women active these days in The Explorers Club, it may be hard to remember when women were not chapter chairs, committee members, board members or the president. But until 1981, when sixteen very deserving women were elected for membership, no women were members of our Club. Now there are about 750 women out of a total membership of 3000. But who knows how many more distinguished women explorers have not yet been recognized?

At the 2015 ECAD, I learned about one such woman. Helen and Frank Schreider were amazing explorers. Their first expedition took them from Alaska to Patagonia in an amphibious jeep (1954-56). They were then hired by National Geographic and took two more amphibious jeep journeys, down the Ganges and through the islands of Indonesia, before heading into four more major expeditions throughout the '60s that led them down the Great Rift Valley, across the Middle East following in Alexander the Great's

footsteps, throughout the island of Taiwan, and finally rafting down the length of the Amazon on a hand-made boat. Together they documented their tours and discoveries, took photographs, gathered audio tapes, wrote articles for National Geographic, wrote books, and gave lectures. But when it came time to give a lecture at the Explorers Club, Frank was alone. In 1956, Frank enjoyed a membership dinner and gave a presentation; Helen was only allowed to 'join' the dinner from a card table set up for her in the hallway outside the main meeting room.

I learned about Helen and Frank from **Richard Coe AI'14**. Years earlier, Rick was riffling through a pile of old *National Geographic* magazines looking for reading material, and bought the issue that included one of Helen and Frank's articles on Indonesia. He was enthralled by their travels and quickly became keen to continue in their tracks, planning an amphibious-vehicle trip from London to Sydney. As he began the trip planning, he went looking for the earlier explorers. Frank is no longer with us, but Rick discovered Helen. Discover is the right word—she is living in Santa Fe and remains a whirlwind of energy and curiosity. When Rick and I spoke about Helen at ECAD, we both agreed that we should right the earlier injustice and enable Helen to sit in the main room as a full member of The Explorers Club.

I brought past club president **Faanya Rose MI'94** into the scheme and Richard brought in Anna Darrah, who is making a film about Helen and had access to many of her articles, photographs and stories. We secretly submitted an application on behalf of Helen and the membership committee recommended the unconventional procedure. The Board approved, and **Helen Schreider FN'15** became a member of the Club.

Since Helen had already waited over four decades to become a member of The Explorers Club, we decided to keep it a secret for a while longer so that all of us could be together to give Helen the news. On August 10, Faanya, Richard and I gathered at Anna's house for the surprise announcement. Those who have known Helen for many years claim that it was the first time she has been speechless!

Helen Schreider is very special, but she is not alone. Who else is long overdue to become an EC member? Our younger members provide energy and a view of the future, but our mature members add a special richness to the Club's fabric and history. I wish all of you the joy of having some people who inspire you. As we look for new members, let's not overlook the Helens of the world.

—Lesley Ewing FN93, Lesley.Ewing@coastal.ca.gov

Note: Dr. Lesley Ewing has been active in the Northern California Chapter of the Explorers Club for more than 20 years and was Chapter Chair in 2001-2002. This article appeared in the NorCA Newsletter, October 2015.



Helen Schreider receiving notice of her membership with Lesley Ewing just behind. *Photo: Jen Peres*

Polar Ocean Challenge

In preparation for the *Polar Ocean Challenge* scheduled for Summer 2016, the sailing vessel, *Northabout,* with seven of us as crew, just completed a shakedown cruise from Bristol, England through the Lofoten Islands to Tromsø, the gateway to the Arctic, and finally to Longyearbyen in Svalbard. We encountered a mix of conditions ranging from



VP Special Projects Constance Difede aboard the *Northabout.*

delightful sun and fair seas to driven snow, icebergs and gale force winds. In the area surrounding Ny-Ålesund, Svalbard, we practiced picking our route through fields of icebergs around Lilliehookbreen in anticipation of the conditions we shall encounter next summer. (Ny-Ålesund is also known to be the starting point of Roald Amundsen's successful 1926 expedition to the North Pole on the airship *Norge*.)

The Polar Ocean Challenge is the conception of TEC Director David Hempleman Adams, MED'00. It entails an expedition sailing a route through 13,500 nautical miles and navigating both the North East and North West Passages within one summer season. The critical pinch points in terms of ice will be Cape Chelyuskin in Russia (North East Passage) and the Bellot Strait in Arctic Canada (North West Passage). At these pinch points the *Northabout* will need the ice to open to sail through both the passages to complete the Challenge.

—Constance Difede LM'01, cdifede@explorers.org

Honduran Emerald Hummingbird Listed as an Endangered Species



Robert Hyman and his wife Deborah Atwood with Club flag in Honduras. *Photo: Hyman archive*

Robert E. Hyman LF '93 and his wife **Deborah Atwood SWG '95**, were recently interviewed by a reporter for *Audubon Magazine* regarding the approval of their petition before the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (on July 29, 2015) to list the Honduran Emerald Hummingbird under the Endangered Species Act. Roberts previous flag expeditions to Honduras have focused on the destruction of this endemic birds habitat. Robert and Deb have been involved in biodiversity conservation in Honduras for more than a decade. To learn more about their efforts visit *www.honduranconservationcoalition.com*

Related Links include:

The *Audubon Magazine* interview can be read at *https://www.audubon.org/news/hope-honduran-emerald-hummingbird*

Press release by USFWS *http://www.fws.gov/news/ShowNews.cfm?ID=D5394B01-5056-AF00-5B9E773EBDBDA77B*

The ruling on the Federal Register is at *https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2015/07/29/2015-18602/endangered-and-threatened-wildlife-and-plants-listing-the-honduran-emerald-hummingbird-amazilia*

Vanessa O'Brien Brings Back Glacier Samples From K2

This past July, **Vanessa O'Brien MN'13** took Explorers Club Flag 132 to *K2*, the world's second highest mountain, in the Gilgit–Baltistan region of Pakistan. O'Brien was attempting to become the first American woman to summit the 28,251-foot peak.

Bad weather ultimately kept O'Brien and her team, organized by Madison Mountaineering, from the top, she collected snow and ice samples at the Godwin-Austen Glacier. Dr. Natalie Kehrwald at the US Geological Survey in Denver, CO, will use radiogenic isotopes from the samples to help determine whether glaciers are thinning from the top down above 6,000 meters. If glaciers are melting from the top down as well as

from the bottom up, and scientists are not taking both occurrences into consideration, projections for glacier melting could be understated.

Glaciers, valuable reservoirs of freshwater, also feed major headwaters. For example, the Naimona'nyi Glacier in south-central Tibet is at the headwaters of the Ganges and Brahmaputra Rivers, which supply fresh water to a half-billion people. Knowing how much freshwater is available and stored within mountain glaciers helps policymakers and planners update global projections. It is difficult to determine the volume of freshwater stored in glaciers using satellite techniques. For sample collection, one must use traditional "boots on the ground" – ie, the old fashioned way.

O'Brien, an accomplished mountaineer, has accomplished summits of four 8,000-meter peaks: *Everest*, *Manaslu, Shishapangma* and *Cho Oyu*. She plans to return to K2 at some point in the future.

Note: Guinness World Records 2015: Person to climb the Seven Summits The highest mountains on each of the continents are known as the "Seven Summits". Two lists have been compiled: the "Bass list", which includes Mount Kosciuszko in New South Wales, Australia, and the more difficult "Messner list", which recognizes Oceania's highest point as Puncak Jaya in Indonesia. It took Vanessa O'Brien (USA) 295 days to climb both Messner's and Bass's list – the fastest Seven Summits ascent (female). Vanessa began with Everest on 19 May 2012 and finished on Kilimanjaro on 10 Mar 2013.



Vanessa O'Brien with Jalal u Din (left) and Mohammad Abdul, two Pakistani high-altitude porters, at Concordia with K2 in the background. *Photo: Gul Muhammad*

Ed Ross

A hundred colleagues, friends and family gathered in downtown San Rafael, California, to honor centenarian **Dr. Ed Ross FE'79** on August 29. He turned 100 years old September 1. Quick of mind but a bit steeped, he still minds his trove of photographs to add to his enormous scientific bibliography. His contribution to scientific knowledge is as an entomologist—his bug photographs are all the more remarkable because of his early use of close-up flash photography resulting in a huge Kodachrome inventory of insect "portraits". (Today's digital capability didn't exist in his years of field exploration on long months in his outfitted home/laboratory truck traveling the African continent.)

There were three large video displays showing images of his long productive life: 1) the insects, colorful in their natural habitat; 2) an extraordinary sequence of portraits from pre-World War II field work in Afghanistan, interspersed with scenes from that era before the turmoil of recent decades; and 3) a rolling sequence of pictures of family members of Ed as a young man growing up in San Francisco, including receiving his PhD in 1937. These were all the more enjoyable because each had a careful notation written on its back and shown in sequence, attention to a detail evident throughout his life.

Several invitees spoke spontaneously and the theme had a common thread describing a curious man eager to share his knowledge and to encourage all who might have any interest. In other words, a classical explorer. Several prominent professors credited their own careers to his scientific excitement an excitement experienced when they were young students.

Ed's wife **Sandy MN'03** arranged a fitting tribute, a luncheon and an afternoon of celebration allowing those close to honor this man of merit.

—Lee Langan, lee@langan.net





TOP Ed and Sandy Ross.

ABOVE The chocolate birthday cake adorned with bugs.

Photos: Lee Langan



General James H. Doolittle, USAF (ret.). *Photo: TEC archives*

General James H. Doolittle, A Hero Remembered

In honoring Veterans Day, our Club can stand proud to remember **Jimmy Doolittle**. When President George H. W. Bush gave Doolittle the *Presidential Medal of Freedom*, he called him "the master of the calculated risk."

On September 24th, 1929, Jimmy Doolittle climbed into the pilot's seat of a single-engine military trainer whose cockpit was covered by an opaque hood, completely obscuring his vision of anything outside the plane. He flew a set course and returned to land at Mitchell Field on Long Island, making the first instrument "blind flight" in aviation history. Doolittle later said that his landing had been "sloppy." He went on to make many additional contributions in the area of aeronautical technology.

But, he is remembered above all for the April 18th, 1942, raid on Japan when he led a 16-bomber attack on Tokyo from an aircraft carrier. There was no significant damage inflicted, but the raid put the Japanese people on notice that their cities were in reach of US air power. After the war, Doolittle told a Senate committee, "you can't lose a war if you have command of the air, and you can't win a war if you haven't…."

Doolittle was the commanding general of the 8th Air Force in World War II. He was awarded the *Medal of Honor* and numerous other military decorations conferred by the US as well as medals from France, Britain and other allies. He received the 28th *Explorers Club Medal*.

Jimmy Doolittle was a legend in his time and continues to excite the minds of those interested in aviation. More information can be found in the Veterans Archive at The Explorers Club. The Veterans Archive seeks participation from all our veteran members. Please be in touch.

—Lindley K. Young FE'89, Lindley7@gmail.com

Elephant Summits Address Slaughter

Two meetings were held in September 2015, to address the ongoing slaughter of elephants in Africa, where an average of 96 a day are killed for ivory. In New York, the *Elephant Action Network* gathered at the Clinton Global Initiative, where the Wildlife Conservation Society and other groups earmarked $80 million in a 3-year program begun in 2013. Despite the initiative, poaching continued to rage in several countries, such as Tanzania, where thousands of elephants were killed in the Selous and Ruaha Reserves. As heads of state met with conservation leaders in New York on September 29, more dead elephants were discovered, poisoned by cyanide at Hwange National Park, Zimbabwe.

At the Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival, filmmakers brainstormed with biologists at a 3-day *Elephant Summit*. US Fish & Wildlife and Interpol provided vital intel, Saba-Douglas-Hamilton and her husband Frank Pope gave reports from *Save the Elephants*, and hundreds of delegates, including Laurie David, producer of *An Inconvenient Truth*, proposed solutions. *National Geographic* investigative reporter Bryan Christy proved the role of terrorist groups, by planting a tracking device

in a fake tusk, described in the PBS documentary *Warlords of Ivory*, produced by EC members John Heminway and Katie Carpenter.

On September 25, the Friday before the two Elephant Summits began, China's premier and President Obama recognized the "urgency" of combatting wildlife trafficking and promised to cooperate to craft a "comprehensive" effort to combat it, including "significant and timely restrictions on the import of ivory as hunting trophies, and to take significant and timely steps to halt the domestic commercial trade of ivory."

In Beijing the price of ivory has risen more than thirteen times in the past decade, and retail outlets quadrupled to satisfy a growing middle class who covet carved ivory as a status symbol. After Asia, the USA is the second largest ivory market in the world, with new ivory illegally sold in New York and San Francisco. On October 4, California Governor Jerry Brown signed a law to ban ivory sales in that state.

Shipments seized in Asian ports reveal small tusks of immature elephants, while the Sheldrick orphanage near Nairobi continues to rescue calves left behind when mothers are killed.

Several rays of hope: herds are better protected in Kenya's Amboseli and Samburu National Parks, while Botswana remains a haven. "Coming on a photo safari to see these majestic, intelligent mammals is the best step you can take to help," says Dr. Cynthia Moss, founder of the *Amboseli Elephant Research Project*; "Ecotourism supports local communities and deters poaching."

—Delta Willis MN'05, delta@deltawillis.com

Note: Delta was a delegate to both the 2015 Elephant Summit in Jackson Hole and the 2013 Clinton Global Initiative's Elephant Action Network.





AT LEFT At a watering hole in Zimbabwe's Hwange National Park, where cyanide was used to poison over 300 elephants and other wildlife.

ABOVE Many new calves in Amboseli reflect heath of herd; swamp fed by snows of Kilimanjaro. *Photos: Delta Willis*

Artist in Residence Exhibit

The poster at right shows an art exhibit in Connecticut featuring the two most recent Explorers Club Artists-in-Exploration, Rebecca Reeve (2013) and Tanya Chaly (2014). The program is generously sponsored by Rolex.

—Les Guthman MR'00, AIE Chair, les.guthman@pipeline.com



Your Medical Committee

The Explorers Club Medical Committee is made up of accomplished doctors, dentists, nurses, and EMTs with expertise in providing emergency medical care in remote environments. The committee's objective is to provide a resource that members can use to answer questions on wilderness and expedition medicine. Here is an example of a recent query and response:

Q. I'd like to join a Himalayan expedition which will include trekking over passes as high as 14,000 feet. In the past, I've had trouble acclimatizing at ski resorts at 7,000 feet. Can I go? What precautions do you recommend?

A. You can go. The problem with acclimatizing at ski resorts is reaching an altitude too quickly, like flying up from sea level in an afternoon. Any rapid gain in altitude will cause symptoms of headache, fatigue, nausea, dizziness and more. That doesn't mean you can't tolerate high altitude. It means you got there without a chance for your body to acclimatize.

The best solution to altitude sickness is to avoid getting it in the first place. Especially in the Himalayas, it's necessary to make a gradual ascent. To be safe, your starting point shouldn't be higher than 6,000 feet. Shortness of breath and headache commonly occur on arrival. Treat that with fluids, easy walking, and oxygen if available. If those symptoms persist for more than one day, or certainly if they worsen, you should descend to a lower altitude.

If you're doing okay, you can start up. A comfortable rate of ascent might be 1,000 feet a day with every third day a rest day. Take an extra rest day if you develop symptoms. *Diamox (acetazolamide)* has been shown to be effective as a preventive, and also as a treatment, for altitude illness. Consider taking 125mg twice a day, starting one day before you ascend and continuing for at least three days after you reach maximum altitude.

Slow, gradual ascent is the key. Remember, it's not a race; the first one to reach camp gets a headache.

2015 Scott Pearlman Field Award



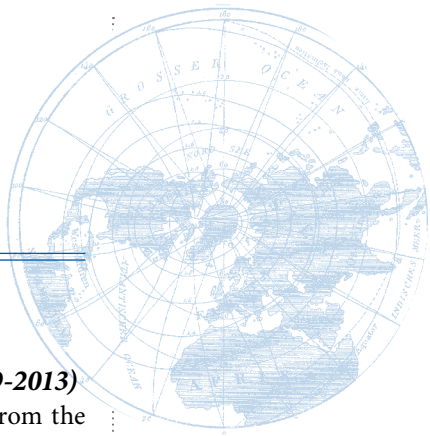
2015 Pearlman awardee Alega Ally.

Alegra Ally FI'14, a photographer, ethnographer and expedition leader from Sydney, Australia, will lead a solo expedition to the Yamal Peninsula in Northwest Siberia to study and document the traditions and practices of childbirth amongst Nenet women during their long winter migration across the peninsula. Ally will be using the fields of visual ethnography, photography and film to document the various aspects of the expedition. She is a well-known advocate for indigenous people, and the outcomes of the project will provide an educational reservoir of cultural and traditional knowledge, a collection of images in a format of a photography book and a film. This expedition is a part of her larger project called "*Wild Born*" which celebrates women and cultural diversity, particularly the resilience, roles and power of tribal women and girls.

Exploration and field research requires a high level of dedication and enormous commitment of personal time and financial resources. The 2015 Scott Pearlman Field Award Committee and The Explorers Club are proud to support the *Women at the End of the Land* expedition with the Scott Pearlman Field Award of $10,000. Peer support is also important, and the endorsers for Alegra's Expedition were **Inger Vandyke MI'13** and Greg Downey, Head, Department of Anthropology, Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia. The solo expedition departs in February, 2016.

—Robert Pearlman MED'78, bwanabob09@gmail.com

From Basecamp



A Tribute to Jim Fowler

Fellow 1966, Explorers Club Medalist 1994
Honorary President (2002-2008), Honorary Chair (2009-2013)

Live and well, Jim climbed the stairs of The Explorers Club from the Member's Room to the Clark Room, each step lined with members holding lighted candles, as the bell rang and the assembly shouted "Fowler, Fowler, Fowler,..." as each step was gained. The members folded behind him to follow into the darkened room, sitting in order by when they were accepted in the Club and facing a roaring fire within the huge limestone fireplace. Therein followed a love fest of hearty and heartfelt salutations from a long line eager to honor this "Tarzan" of The Explorers Club, long-time host of Mutual of Omaha's *Wild Kingdom*, and frequent guest of Johnny Carson. The champion of wildlife protection, early advocate of saving the African elephant, and educator to countless school children (as well as adults) sat quietly absorbing the accolades. He was deeply touched.





LEFT Jim spoke in response to so many kind words.

ABOVE Former President Richard Wiese toasted across the roaring flames. *Photos: Lee Langan*





ABOVE President Janulis offered his toast to Jim as a Career Ambassador to the wild kingdom.

FAR RIGHT In honor of Jim, 2012 Artist in Resident A. J. "Buddy" O'bara unveiled the remarkable penguin sculpture he had proposed, just before Jim spoke; he noted it would last well after all attendees. Buddy is indeed a master of his art, on the world stage. Come to headquarters and see it.

Photos: Lee Langan

Jim's family was present led by the charming and vivacious Betsy Fowler, life mate and soul mate since she first laid eyes upon Jim—her tale, told to a giggling crowd. His son, Club Director Mark spoke of the family man still the wildlife educator and the closeness he and his sisters have enjoyed. Many spoke of the impact he had upon their personal choices in life, others about his impact as an early ambassador for the animals in the wild and the value of his popular television stage, still others about his affection for The Explorers Club. As each shared their thoughts, a toast was made then the glass thrown into the fire which leapt forth with the residual alcohol.

Even before the tributes began a video was shown which encapsulated some of Jim's close calls, as he told them on the NBC *Today* and *Tonight* shows. He was never afraid of the wild animals he encountered; he certainly was respectful. It was a time capsule that set the stage and an often comical memory of the early introduction of wild animals to the public and The Explorers Club.

Jim ended the evening not quite at a loss of words, but clearly affected by such an outpouring of admiration. He was very appreciative. He spoke of his ongoing interest in "exploring the mind of exploration.," on understanding "exploration as it has an effect on human welfare". He wants to be part of shifting "the exploration of the past as exploitation" to now developing exploration "as the time for explanation." He is working to move from a focus upon 'information' to one of 'communication'.

Members adjourned to the Library for dessert, drinks and some Johnnie Walker Explorers Club Collection whisky. It was a lovely evening.

—Lee Langan, lee@langan.net

Global Rescue to the Rescue!

Explorers Club members, by our nature, are often on the go to places near and far, for casual recreation, physically challenging activities or groundbreaking exploration. These adventures often expose us to unfavorable consequences such as injury, illness, or political uncertainties. The Explorers Club recently signed a partnership arrangement with Global Rescue *emergency response services,* to provide emergency medical, security, crisis management, and evacuation services for our members, wherever they are in the world. (**Dr. Michael Manyak MED'92** and I have wanted to secure this service for our Members for a number of years and are happy it is finally done.)

All Explorers Club Members now receive Global Rescue's field rescue, evacuation and medical advisory services, including medical support from Global Rescue's critical care paramedics and physicians; medical referrals to local medical providers and hospitals, including more than 200 medical centers of excellence; and travel assistance, including legal referrals and assistance with lost passports and travel documents. This *basic* coverage is paid for by the Club, *as a service to members*.



In 2006, Dr. Michael Manyak (left) and Richard Wiese FR'89 (right) attended Blackstone Dilworth immediately after his fall.

Explorers Club members may also *upgrade* to full Global Rescue membership, taking advantage of a 5% discount on any membership. Those members who are traveling for a set period of time may arrange selective coverage for their specific needs, including medical evacuation from remote areas and emergency medical expertise from top-ranked Johns Hopkins Medicine physicians. Further, *extended* Global Rescue coverage affords members the option to choose their own home-country hospital destination, if necessary. Members have access to Destination Reports on more than 200 countries, including health and security risk assessments, entry and exit requirements, exchange rates, important phone numbers, weather conditions and other essential information. You also can access recent regional events, compiled by Global Rescue's in-house intelligence analysts. Finally, by upgrading to a Global Rescue security membership, members are protected from non-medical emergencies. Global Rescue strongly recommends a security upgrade whenever there is risk of natural disaster, civil unrest, terrorism, or war.

No company provides the degree of coverage or professional service offered by Global Rescue. An example is the recovery of Explorers Club Member, **Blackstone Dilworth MN'01**, who was extracted from a Canyon in Peru, in 2006, after losing his footing on a narrow trail at 8,500 feet and tumbling 50 feet down a steep slope into the canyon. Within twenty minutes of receiving the call, Global Rescue activated assets in the region that included both American and Peruvian fixed- and rotor-wing aircraft. A helicopter succeeded in evacuating Dilworth; then Global Rescue had a medically configured turboprop airplane rendezvous with the helicopter at the nearest available airstrip. From this remote airstrip, Dilworth was flown to Lima where his wounds were cleaned and bandaged prior to his evacuation to the United States.

For more information and for extended coverage requests, Members should go to www.globalrescue.com and also call: 617-459-4200 or email memberservices@globalrescue.com.

—*Theodore M. Siouris MR'95, Chairman* tsiouris@nyc.rr.com

Shape the Future of The Explorers Club Through our Legacy Society

As long as there is The Explorers Club your name will be listed as a Member of The Legacy Society.

Each of us owns our personal share of the adventures and explorations that make our Club extraordinary. Though many have been acclaimed for their achievements, most have only a private satisfaction of our accomplishments.

While we have always cherished our past, The Explorers Club is firmly focused on the future. Our dedication to research, science, and exploration depends on a sound financial foundation, which can be provided by funds generated through donations to The Explorers Club Legacy Society.

Founded in 1999, The Legacy Society and its irrevocable Legacy Endowment Fund is a source of financing to meet the needs of future explorers. To further our responsibility of fostering exploration, the Board approved an annual *Legacy Society Student Grant* of $2,000, available from annual earnings and appreciation, administered by our Student Grants Committee.

This autumn, The Explorers Club is undertaking a campaign to build our Legacy Endowment Fund by encouraging Explorers to join the roster of Legacy Society Members with a tax-deductible donation of at least $1,000. At present, there are165 Members on The Legacy Society Membership Roster, including 31 who are deceased. Because deceased Members continue to be listed on the Roster, I've received a number of calls resulting in the posthumous enrollment of Legacy Members by their relatives.

Donations to our Legacy Endowment Fund are deposited with Fiduciary Trust Company and maintained under New York State Trust Laws. Those funds may be applied only "to the advancement of The Explorers Club mission, namely in the areas of exploration, science, education, and library & archives." To date, the only money ever withdrawn from the Endowment was $5,000, in 2013, that was given as student grants.

As of August 31, 2015, the total value of the Legacy Endowment Fund was $528,111.49. As directed by our Board of Directors, it is invested approximately 50% in equities, 25% in fixed income securities, and the balance in short term securities. Bequests (promises) of several million dollars have also been pledged.

There is no accurate number of explorers who have been Club members over our history, but there are currently 3,265 active members and an estimated 3,300 deceased Members. If you share our dedication to The Explorers Club and its mission, join us as a member of The Legacy Society. When doing your estate planning, consider adding a codicil to your will, with a tax-deductible donation to "The Explorers Club Legacy Endowment Fund."

For additional information about The Legacy Society, log on to www.explorers.org, or email me.

Join us!

—Theodore M. Siouris MR'95, Chairman tsiouris@nyc.rr.com

The Legacy Society Committee: Theodore M. Siouris (Chairman), Robert Atwater, Brian Boom, 'Augie' Brown , David Dolan, Kay Foster, George Gowen, Scott Hamilton, Brian Hanson, Virginia Newell , Alan Nichols, Walter Noonan, Mabel Purkerson

Hundreds of Bottles of Scotch Whisky on the Wall



President Ted Janulis (left) and Executive Director Will Roseman flank a photo of new member Dr. Jim Beveridge, with some of his whisky casks. The display in the Member's Lounge held some 300 bottles representing just some samples available to blend.

Photo: Lee Langan

On September 29, our *Explorers Club Collection* partner Johnnie Walker, filled the Club headquarters with impressive displays showing the techniques and materials used to create their Scotch whisky, with luminaries and the press to announce the first addition to their worldwide mantra, *Keep Walking*. All Johnnie Walker blended whisky will henceforth carry the following: "*Joy Will Take You Further. Keep Walking.*"

While this was not a Club event, because of our licensing arrangement with Johnnie Walker we were closely involved and prominently mentioned throughout the two-day session. Our initial exposure to the executives of Johnnie Walker came from our licensing arrangement; as they got to know individuals and the reputation of all our members, they were impressed with the optimism they experienced as a general characteristic of explorers. As we worked together on a series of collateral materials developed to market the *Explorers Club Collection* through Duty Free Shops around the world, individuals from both Johnnie Walker and The Explorers Club found a convivial relationship that recognizes the mutual benefit that both organizations derive.

The September event has been developing all summer; upon visiting the Club, those involved in the launch of this worldwide campaign were impressed with what they saw and experienced. Brian Cox, Director of Scotch Whisky, Diageo North America said of the event: "We feel extremely privileged to have Johnnie Walker and our Master Blender Jim Beveridge welcomed into the inspirational halls of The Explorers Club, a group which illustrates that *Joy Will Take You Further*."

New member **Dr. Beveridge MN'15** provided insight in depth about the JW blending process and the thoughts behind why the different blends are produced. For Scotch drinkers it was eye-opening from the Master Blender who creates from some of the 8 million casks they have (each holding between 200 to 500 liters of spirit.) An analytical chemist who has traveled the world studying the components that contribute to his craft, even at minute levels, he uses the science of defining organics to its limits. In the end, he says the human sense remains more precise in the art of blending new whiskies and in maintaining the consistency of established blends.

—Lee Langan, lee@langan.net

The Treasurer's Note$

In the last Log I cautioned that last fiscal year (FY15) appeared to be a disappointing year for the Club. Unfortunately, now that we have completed our financial statements, I have to report that last year was indeed disappointing. The bottom line: the Club significantly overspent *operating* revenue. As you can imagine, this can't continue.

The close-out for FY15 is still underway. I had hoped to have our financial statements completed by the end of August, our audit completed by the end of September, and our IRS tax report (Form 990) filed by the end of October. Although our schedule has slipped, we did complete our financials on September 10th, the earliest in modern memory. However, our auditor is not available to begin work until November which in turn will delay our IRS report. As I stated before, all of these documents will be available for review upon completion, but I will have to withhold releasing the financial statements until they have been audited.

Our records show that FY'12 and FY'13 990's (our tax exempt filings) were filed in May 2013 and May 2014, within approved extension periods. To our surprise the IRS recently informed us that their records show that we only *just* filed each of these returns and subsequently penalized us. In consequence we have filed a formal letter of penalty abatement. The IRS in turn has temporarily abated its demand, pending its review and response to our submission.

We are continuing to work actively on a participatory budget for FY16 and plan to have it finished for Board approval at its November meeting. In this regard, several items must be recognized:

We haven't increased our dues for at least seven years

Our standard ECAD ticket price hasn't changed in six years while dinner, beverage, and rental costs for this event have increased dramatically

Expenses for Club events have increased but our event prices have remained static

Therefore, in addition to controlling expenses, we will have to propose increases to cover expenses

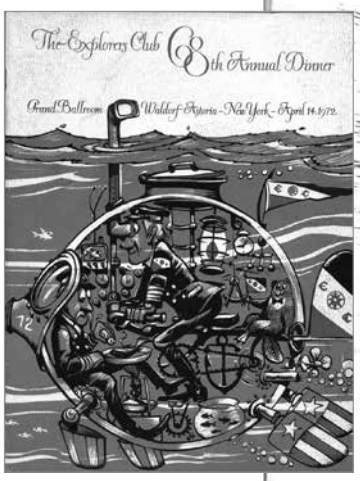
By the time this budget is implemented, the current fiscal year (FY16) will be half over. For the balance of the year you can expect the following:

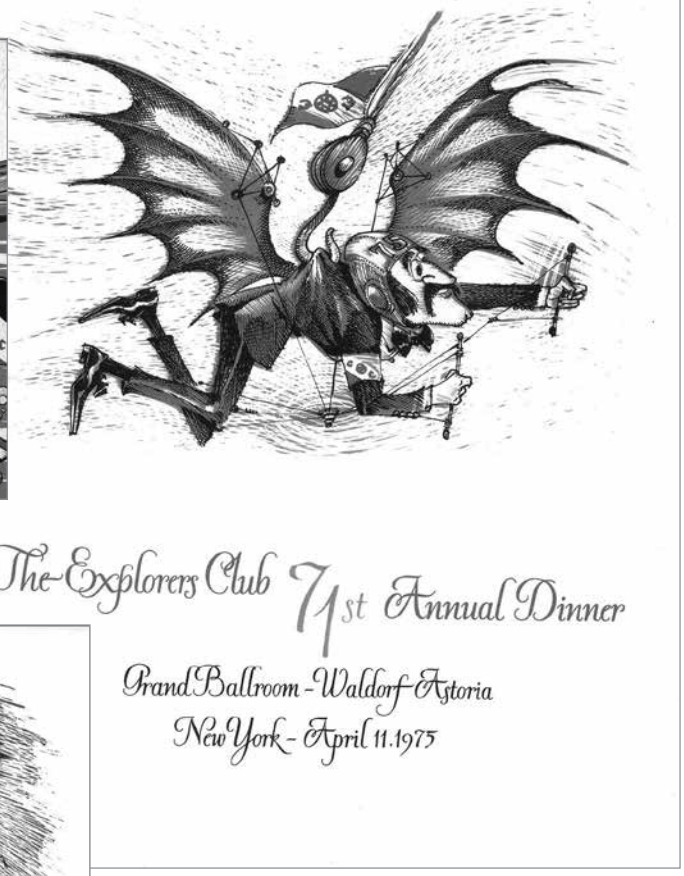
A change in our *dues* year, from calendar year to fiscal year (July through June). Thus, our FY16 dues year will be for only six months, thru June 2016. This will not increase dues revenues, but it will simplify our financial statements and improve our summer "cash-flow" issues.

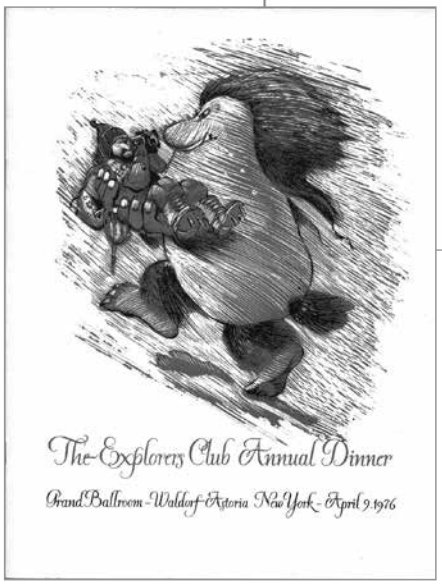
There will be a dues increase to reflect price increases over the past several years.

We will still have a deficit in FY16 but, if our budget adjustments are successful, it will be far less than FY15.

—Bruce Blanchard MED'78, treasurer@explorers.org







Examples of ECAD art created by James Houston (see Backwards Glance).

Backwards Glance

ECAD, an event that many members look forward to with great anticipation: the Honorees, the speakers, the exotics, the good fellowship, but also the printed program, a program whose cover has often been a work of art. For the 2004 Centennial ECAD and its printed program, the name of one member, James Houston, immediately came to the mind of the Committee as the artist for the cover. Having done several programs before, the Committee felt he should be asked, unfortunately, he was not well and declined. He passed away the following year. As we look back on the heritage of the Club, and prepare for ECAD 2016, a profile of James Houston is in order.

Born in Toronto, Canada in 1921, Houston attended the Ontario College of Art, served in the Canadian Army as a ski patroller in Labrador during World War II, and, when the War was over, traveled to Paris to study art. Returning to Canada, feeling a bit out of place with his very conservative fellow Canadians, men in blue suits and women in the fashion of the day, Houston headed to the Arctic, where he fell in love with its beauty and its people, the Eskimos, especially their artistic abilities. In 1950, and newly married, he was appointed the first Civil Administrator of West Baffin Island with his headquarters at Cape Dorset. The posting would last eleven years, till 1961.

In 1988, the *NEW YORKER*, in the *Talk of the Town* section, did a profile on Houston, which, by the way, is a delight to read; he had, by that time moved to New York City, at the behest of Arthur Houghton, head of Steuben Glass. Houghton had met Houston when he traveled to the Arctic and Cape Dorset as one of the first tourists to visit the area, and he quickly recognized Houston's artistic talents. Houston had recently taken a six month leave to visit Japan and study under a master woodblock artist. Recently divorced and not wishing to grow old in the Arctic, he accepted Houghton's offer to join Steuben Glass as an artist.

Leaving behind a career in the Canadian Arctic, having done extensive exploratory work on Baffin Island, living in a community of 343 Sikusalingmuit's, Houston began a new very profitable and prolific career, not only as the Associate Director of Design for Steuben Glass but also as a novelist and screen writer for a major Hollywood production of his book "*The White Dawn*." His children's book *Tikta'liktak: An Inuit-Eskimo Legend*, published by Houghton Mifflin, was reviewed in the New York Times book reviews in 1996. Houston was sponsored for membership in 1965, by Lewis Cotlaw, and he would go on to present several Public Lectures at the Club on his Arctic adventures and publications.

—Jack Reilly, john.Reilly@msmc.edu



James Houston lecturing at The Explorers Club, *Photo: EC archives*

Members

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

Aaron N. Addison
Joshua M. Alcorn
Liam Allen
Chad C. Anderson
Jim Beveridge
Gilbert E. Boswell
Ivan D. Brannan
Jon A. Cox
Robert J. Desnick
Christy Duan
Annette S. Engel
Bonnie P. Folkins
Gabrielle K. Foss
Gilles J. Gagnier
Jeanne P. Gallagher
Laetitia Garriott de Cayeux
Julieta L. Gismondi
Elin G. Haugland
Anne Sophie Le Brun Robles Gil
Christopher A. Linder
John V. Lucas
Hamish R. Magoffin
Christopher Martin
Sally R.P. McIntosh
Stephen R. Morse
Liam K. Neigh
Robert P. Nickelsberg
Jess Peláez
Guy Perrotta
Brenda L. Powell
Haley E. Rankin
Pete Ryan
Colby G. Schindel
Jeremy C. Schomberg
Douglas J. Scott
Robin E. Stutman
Todd Tai
Charles N. Thompson
Krystyna E. Urbancic
Edmund P. Wardle
David W. Williams
Michele D. Zousmer

*On to Higher Exploration**

Richard Berry MN'09
Marc Cornelissen FI'02
Carlos Echeverria MR'06
Rabbe Gronblom MI'11
Judith Heath LM'95
Henry Hoffstot ME'74
George Kelly FE'64
Leslie Mandel-Herzog FE'89
Ann McGovern FR'85
Richard Randall FE'78
David Raynolds LM'72
Arthur Ruff FN'72
H. Morgan Smith FE'56
Florence Smith FE'85
Nancy Sullivan FI'06
Ross Severan von Burg, MR'07

** Since last Log*

Thanks to the following club members for sponsoring these accomplished individuals:

Robert J. Atwater
Barbara A. Berg
Marc Bryan-Brown
David G. Concannon
Sebastian A. J. Coulthard
David C. Culver
David A. Dolan
Sylvia A. Earle
Peter Fields
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Richard A. Garriott de Cayeux
John G. Geiger
Kellie Gerardi
Rory Golden
Les Guthman
Luc Hardy
David K. Hempleman-Adams
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James H. Smith
Nick A. Smith
Edwin J. C. Sobey
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Simon Q. Spooner
C. William Steele
Denis A. St-Onge
David R. Strike
Leona 'Lee' Treloar
Anthony J. Vinci
Don Walsh
Michele R. Westmorland
Elaine Wyatt

The 112th

EXPLORERS CLUB ANNUAL DINNER

SAVE THE DATE
MARCH 12, 2016
AT
THE WALDORF ASTORIA

