



The Explorers Club Northern California Chapter

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

April Meeting

Friday, April 26, 2019, 6:30pm

The Dolan Law Firm, 1438 Market Street, SF 94102

SWIMMING WITH THE SHARKS OF BORNEO

David McGuire, MEH, Director Shark Stewards, Founder Shark Stewards

This presentation will take us halfway around the world to visit the Malaysian island of Borneo, home to some of the best diving in the world, the rare Borneo reef sharks and the issue of shark finning. Shark Stewards and its founder David McGuire will share their work of diving with and filming sharks, advocating for shark protection, and fighting the unsustainable shark fin trade.



Over the past five years Shark Stewards has been working in Malaysia, 3rd globally in the shark fin trade and a major shark fishing nation. While diving with sharks, filmmaking and conducting trade analysis with local partners, Shark Stewards has helped educate the public to reduce shark fin consumption, and advocated for increased trade restriction and the creation of marine protected areas. Malaysian Borneo is a center of marine biodiversity, with hundreds of species of coral, fish, and approximately 70 species of sharks, rays and many endemic species including endangered giant guitarfish. Working with local dive resorts, David and Shark Stewards advocate for increased shark protection and marine

protected areas supported by dive eco-tourism. David will share photos and a short film from Borneo and tell of his adventures in the Coral Triangle.



Since 2003 the advocacy of Shark Stewards in shark conservation has led to California's Shark Fin Ban and has contributed to the passage of shark fin trade bans in 11 other US states. Shark Stewards advocates for strengthened trade restrictions in the USA through the newly re-introduced shark fin trade sales act (HR 737) and a like bill in Canada (S.238.)

Although shark fin consumption has declined in the USA and even in China, the demand for shark fins is still causing overfishing of many species, and shark populations are on the decline globally. This summer Shark Stewards will be in Sri Lanka at the Convention of the International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES) at the Coalition of the Parties (CoP18) to protect mako sharks and guitarfish under Appendix II. Mako sharks, the fastest shark in the sea, are swimming

rapidly towards extinction. Driven by the shark fin trade, these sharks are disappearing and the ocean is suffering from their loss.

McGuire, marine biologist and Director of Shark Stewards, is conducting a shark research program that includes population studies, movements and fisheries impacts in Malaysia and in the San Francisco Bay. A Captain, Divemaster and filmmaker, he has explored the world's oceans on numerous sailing voyages producing media with an emphasis on ocean awareness.



McGuire holds a Masters Degree in Environmental Health, worked in education and public health at the University of California at Berkeley and is an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Environmental Sciences at the University of San Francisco.



Speaker Paul Saffo, Chapter Chair Steve Smith, Club President Paul Wiese



George Jacob, Aquarium CEO

**LOST EXPLORERS, INCOMPLETE MAPS AND THE MYTHIC ORIGINS OF SILICON VALLEY
Paul Saffo, March 22, 2019**

**Only those who risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go. – T. S. Eliot
To find the limits of your ability, one must go to the edge. (Recent variant)**

After reference to the quotation by T.S.Eliot shown above, and the secondary variant, Paul Saffo stated: “There are 2 kinds of maps, ordinary maps, and maps with white spaces. He then projected an antique British map of North America which showed California as an island just west of North America. He cited one explorer of that age who described the California island as ‘just on the edge of paradise’, a ‘myth’ that was picked up by other explorers. It was that white area between California and the rest of North America that Saffo found interesting.



The British Map 1752. David Rumsey Map Center, Stanford University.

The concept of myth is “a traditional story, especially one concerning the early history of a people or explaining some natural or social phenomenon, and typically involving supernatural beings or events,” also “a widely held but false belief or idea.” Of these two, the former definition might

relate mostly to geographical explorations, while the latter relates more to human concepts and scientific explorations.

Saffo began with reference to Eratosthenes who was the first to estimate the diameter of the earth (ca. 200 BC). He then quickly moved to considering exploration in simple map terms, referring to the “white spaces” in antique maps. The position he took in his talk was mostly directed toward geographical explorations, filling in the ‘blank spaces’ on the map. As an example, he cited Columbus who sold the ‘myth’ of the riches of East India beyond the sea to Queen Isabella, and ended up in America. Another myth that inspired a response was the first Pocket Book novel, *Lost Horizon*, which created the myth of Shangri-la, a mystical paradise in the Himalayas. The result was that Henry Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture under FDR, sponsored an expedition to central Asia, ostensibly to collect special seeds. Saffo summarized that part of his talk by saying “Success in exploration destroys the white spaces”. Since there are no more blank spaces on modern maps he seemed to imply that the only explorations worthy of the name today were those directed towards space, requiring the participation of billionaires.

Saffo used the word myth rather than ‘vision’ to describe the dreams of inventors, explorers, and scientists, and the incentives they needed to do their explorations of the unknown. The myth of Icarus who fell to earth when his wings, made of wax and straw, melted after going too close to the sun, represents the desire of man to

fly independently, like a bird. Saffo cited Paul MacReady, whose company won the Condor Prize for inventing the man-powered airplane which was pedaled across the English Channel, as an example

However, Saffo saw a parallel between Exploration and Enterprise. He considered such visionaries as Fred Terman, who, as president of Stanford, started the first university-connected industrial park in the world, convinced student entrepreneurs William Hewlett and David Packard to move there from the garage, and created Silicon Valley. Terman later lured such talent as William Shockley, co-inventor of the transistor, away from Bell Labs. He did not mention the explorations that have followed in Silicon Valley. He did mention the success of the Levi Strauss company in selling equipment to the gold miners but seemed to suggest that the Strauss success fell outside the realm of exploration although those tools and denim overalls were an integral part of California’s gold rush.

Paul Saffo is a Silicon Valley-based forecaster with three decades experience helping corporate and governmental clients understand and respond to the dynamics of large-scale, long-term change. He teaches at Stanford where he is a Consulting Associate Professor in the School of Engineering and is Chair of Future Studies at Singularity University. He is also a non-resident Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council, and a Fellow of the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences and holds degrees from Harvard College, Cambridge University, and Stanford University.

There were other speakers.:

George Jacob, President of Aquarium of the Bay, welcomed the Northern California Chapter of The Explorers Club. He described how the Aquarium had evolved from a tourist attraction to become a center of research into marine life in and around the San Francisco Bay.

Richard Wiese, President of The Explorers Club, provided the attendees with a brief commentary after Speaker Saffo had completed his remarks, arguing that there were still plenty of ‘white spaces’ in the natural world to explore. He also pointed out that without the funding support from Silicon Valley entrepreneurs there would be less exploration carried out; that, in fact, entrepreneurs were also explorers.

Some March 22, 2019 Attendees
 photos by Michael Hruska, Aquarium of the Bay



Sharon Kwok Pong, Lee Langan, Alan Nichols,
 David Wiese, James Brandt,



Foreground: Louise and Don Heyneman, /
 Facing: Kathy Jepsen, Francesca Cohn, Devin Schinski



George Jacob, President, Aquarium of the Bay



Collin Blaney, Char Rygh



Ellen Lapham & guest



Danielle and Mort Beebe with Karine Langan



_Gary Kah, Taia Ergueta, Lesley Ewing



Joan & Don Bekins, Karine Langan, Diana Pickworth



Alan & Ann Hutchinson, Alan Nichols



Barbara Berg, Becky Nichols



Wendy Crowder, Keith Kvenvolden, Lesley Ewing



Marie Martin, Dana Isherwood



Sandy Ross with guests



Thom and Lynne Chirug with Anders Jepsen

FROM THE CHAIR

2019 PAID DUES HONOR ROLL

MEMBERS

Alexander, Jim
Alexander, Linda
Allan, James
Amaral, Julia
Bekins, Joan
Berg, Barbara
Blake, Rick
Bolt, Kendra
Boothe, Joan
Chang, Joyce
Chase, H. Keith
Cook, Sandra
Day, Peggy
Diggles, Mike
Dolan, Tom
Durbin, Thomas
Estey, Sue
Eustace, Alan
Ewing, Lesley
Ford, Arthur
Fox, Susan
Freitas, Anna
Freitas, Paul
Hemming, Peter
Hermaly, Brenden
Higgins, Robert
Holmes, Robert
Hurson, Jim
Hurson, Von
Hutchison, Alan
Jepsen, Anders
Klein, Ronald
Langan, Lee
Lapham, Ellen
Lidicker, William
McCown, George
McInturf, Alexandra
Nichols, Alan
Nichols-Rygh, Becky
Prigoft, James
Ross, Sandy
Saber, Rick
Schmieder, Robert
Smith, Steve
Tarter, Jill
Weil, James
Winter, Mordechai
Wren, Sherry

SIRDARS

Blake, Maggi
Blumberg, Marion
Boothe, Barry
Brandt, Jim
Cohn, Lawrence
Coolidge, Oliver
Crowder, Wendy
Durighello, Joy
Fish, Sandra
Freidman, Christen
Gorenberg, Peter
Hutchison, Ann
Isaac, Nancy
Jepsen, Kathy
Johnson, Fred
Judd, Kathy
Langan, Karine
Longo-Cohn, Mary
Mani, Cassandra
McLoughlin, Liz
Messerly, Edward
Nikas, Jim
O'Keeffe, Bonny
Patterson, Tom
Pennathur, Sudha
Saber, Aldeana
Schmieder, Kay
Straka, Barbara
Townsend, Tiffany
Van Austen, Bob

Our March event was something not to be missed. The meeting opened with an address from our host Dr. George Jacob, CEO of The Aquarium of the Bay, in which he presented his vision of a futuristic high-tech ocean-related educational institution on the San Francisco waterfront that was both impressive in concept and design. Followed next by our own Explorers Club President Richard Wiese bringing news of the 2019 ECAD and all the amazing astronauts that were in attendance. Dr. Paul Saffo completed our meeting with a great lecture on the origins of innovation and exploration, and presented a challenge to those present concerning how much “white space”, i.e. unexplored territory, is left in our world, and what it means for us as explorers. Well, Richard wasn't going to let that one pass and an invigorating exchange followed! And I have to say that I agree with Richard. There is plenty of white space left to seek out. I see it all the time in my role as a reviewer of student grants and membership applications. The face of exploration continues to evolve, but there is plenty left to do. We just need to go further up and further down. Altogether, it was a great combination of speakers on one bill and we thank them all. And we also express our appreciation to the staff at the Aquarium and to our caterers for all of the support that they provided. We obviously could not have done it without you. And let's not forget the over-the-top efforts of all of your Chapter officers and supporters. Great job!

Looking forward, we have two more meetings this season and both will present very interesting speakers, shark expert David McGuire in April, and Stanford professor and archaeologist Dr. Patrick Hunt in May. The May meeting will be preceded on the same evening by our Annual Business Meeting that will include the election of new chapter officers for the 2019/2021 term. You will be receiving separate information about the election; please read it and plan to attend the meeting. This year, nominations are sought and welcomed for all Chapter Officer positions. Contribute and make a difference.

Stephen E. Smith FN'96

AFGHANISTAN AT PEACE

Sandra Ross PhD FN'03 and Edward Ross PhD FE'79 deceased.

I've just finished a delightful two hours of leafing through the curated collection of photos and text from the time that Sandy and Ed Ross, both Chapter members, spent in Afghanistan 50 years ago. *Afghanistan At Peace* presents a glorious view of that life and time before the Russian invasion. Sadly, as noted in an afterward, that culture is now gone. A magnificent collection of photos and commentary from that expedition, it is beautifully assembled and presented by the Chapter's “Three Sandys”. This remarkable book by Sandy Ross with Sandra Cook FN'15 and Sandra Fish, Sirdar is one of which the Northern California Chapter of The Explorers Club can be very proud.

Available from Amazon or Rare-Bird Books,

Anders Jepsen FN'03



CHAPTER GOODIES

At long last we have worked out some production issues with the supplier of our Official Chapter Mugs. Twenty came in, and half were snatched up immediately. We have ten or so left, so if you are of a mind to grace your morning coffee with the Chapter Logo, get your order in. \$15.00 each to Treasurer Joan Boothe. We will also be ordering hats. A number of requests came in after we gave our official chapter hats to the speakers at the Aquarium. TEC President Richard Wiese pointed out that there is plenty of white space on them to explore. Again, \$15.00 to Treasurer Joan Boothe for advanced orders.

Northern California Explorers Club Chapter Annual Business Meeting
When: May 26, 2019, starting at 6:30 PM
Where: Dolan Law Center, 1438 Market Street, SF, CA

The Annual Business Meeting of the Northern California Chapter of the Explorers Club will occur just prior to our May 26, 2019 dinner meeting. The Annual Business Meeting shall be held for the election of Officers and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the members. For purposes of the election and as specified in the By-Laws, nominations and voting is limited to The Explorers Club Members; Sirdars and guests may attend the meeting, but they cannot propose nominations, propose a business matter, or vote on officers or any business matter.

Members, as defined above and in the By-Laws, are invited to submit nominations for all officer positions (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer); all nominees should be members of The Explorers Club, and all nominations should be sent to the Chapter Secretary (email address below). All Elected Directors are currently in the second year of their three-year term and no nominations for Elected Directors will be accepted at this time. The current officers and their interest in remaining in their current positions are provided below. The complete current Board is listed on Page 6.

- Stephen Smith, FN'96, Chapter Chair
- Lesley Ewing, FN'93, Chapter Vice-Chair
- Joan Boothe, MN'07 Chapter Treasurer
- Von Hurson, MN'10 Chapter Secretary; trekking@sonic.net; PO Box 5500, Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Chair: Stephen Smith has served as Chapter Chair for a two-year term. The Chapter By-Laws allow for the Chair to be re-elected for one additional year beyond the normal term; however, Steve has said that he would prefer to step down from this position and not serve an additional year. Therefore, members are invited to provide nominations for the Chapter Chair position to the Chapter Secretary. Such nominations can be provided any time up to the commencement of the Annual Business Meeting.

Vice-Chair: Lesley Ewing has served as Vice-Chair for a two-year term. The By-Laws allow for all officers except the Chair to run for multiple terms; however, Lesley has expressed an interest in running for the office of Chair, transitioning out of her current position as Vice-Chair.

Treasurer: Joan Boothe has expressed an interest in transitioning out of her current position as Treasurer, remaining for such time as may be needed to train the new Treasurer.

Secretary: Von Hurson has expressed an interest in transitioning out of her current position as Secretary, remaining for such time as may be needed to train the new Secretary.

An agenda for the Annual Business Meeting will be distributed at least 15 days prior to the meeting. All nominations received prior to the preparation of the agenda will be listed on the agenda. Members wishing to bring matters for discussion at the Business Meeting, other than the election, must notify the Secretary of this intent at least 15 days prior to the Annual Business Meeting. The preferred method is e-mail at trekking@sonic.net. If e-mail is not possible, you can phone the Secretary at 707-545-6680. When communicating by phone, please speak clearly and leave your name and a call-back number in case there is any confusion in your message.

From National: When I served on The Explorers Club Board of Directors from 2011- 2016, I provided a brief report on its member-related activities to the NorCA newsletter. Thanks to your support I have been reelected along with two new directors - Vanessa O'Brien and Marc Bryan-Brown. Milbry Polk and Synnove Stromsvag were reelected to round out the class of 2022. At our first meeting immediately after the results were announced three new officers were installed. Mead Treadwell is the new VP for Chapters, Nancy Nenow is the new VP for Membership, and Trevor Wallace is the new VP Research & Education. President. Wiese confirmed that the 115th ECAD was our largest ever with some 1700 attendees, This will bring in record financial support. He then elaborated on a half-dozen significant opportunities that are in the decision/negotiation stage to enhance the club; you will hear about these as they develop. The Explorers Club is a beehive of activity. —Lee Langan MED'99



CORRECTION: In last month's newsletter we reported that the oldest Chapter member, Harry Hicks MN'87, was 96 years old. In fact he is 98.

April 2019 Issue
Northern California Chapter
Established 1973



CHAPTER OFFICERS & TEAM

Chair: Stephen E. Smith FN'96
925-934-1051(messages only)
chair@explorersnorca.org
Vice Chair: Lesley Ewing FN'93
lesleycoastal@gmail.com
Secretary: Von Hurson MN'10
Trekking@sonic.net
Treasurer: Joan Boothe MN'07
hoodoskr@aol.com
415-233-1697
Webmaster: Mike Diggles FN'92
Newsletter: Anders Jepsen FN'03
ajviking@aol.com
925-322-8893

Chapter Calendar of Events
(Venues are identified as soon as known.)

2019

April 26 David McGuire
Swimming with Sharks. Dolan
May 31 Dr. Paul Hunt
Hannibal?. Dolan

Earlier Chapter Events
2017

October 27 Dirk Rosen
Save Deep Sea Corals Grace Lutheran Ch
November 17 Jordan Fisher Smith
Engineering Eden Grace Lutheran Ch
December 17 Holiday Party
. Home of Joan and Barry Boothe

2018

January 26 Dr. John All
Climate Change on Mt. Everest. Dolan
February 23 Dr. Sherry Wren
Surgical Approaches in the Ebola Crisis . . . Dolan
March 30 Kimberley Chambers
Swimming With Sharks Before Breakfast . Dolan
April 27 Alan Eustace
The Stratospheric Jump Dolan
May 25 3 Term EC Members
Term Members Research/Annual mtg . . . Dolan
July 21 Chapter Picnic in Novato
September 21. Michelle Trautwein
Meet Your Face Mites: Dolan
October 26 Sir Richard Feachem
Shrinking the World Malaria Map Dolan
November 30 Leon McCarron
Exploration by Walking Dolan
December 16. Holiday Party
. Home of Rick and Aldeana Saber
January 25 Pat Scannon
Recent Discoveries Dolan
February 22 James Nestor
Outdoor adventure. Dolan
March 22. Paul Saffo
Dynamics of Change. Aquarium of the Bay

CHAPTER DIRECTORS

Directors (Past Chairs)

Joan Boothe
Lesley Ewing
Lee Langan
Anders Jepsen

Alan Nichols
Bob Schmieder
Rick Saber
Stephen Smith

Elected Directors

Jim Hurson
Sandra Cook
Paul Freitas

Chapter Email Addresses and Chapter Phone Number

chair@explorersnorca.org
vicechair@explorersnorca.org

treasurer@explorersnorca.org
secretary@explorersnorca.org

webmaster@explorersnorca.org
fieldtrips@explorersnorca.org

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

2019 CHAPTER DUES

On January 1, 2019, Chapter Treasurer Joan Boothe sent emails to all chapter Members who had not already paid 2019 dues encouraging them to pay their optional chapter dues of \$25. She also sent emails to Sirdars – for whom dues are not optional – reminding them to pay their dues if they wish to retain their Sirdar status. Sirdar dues are \$50/year except for Sirdars who are spouses/partners of TEC members. For them, Sirdar dues are \$25/year. Many Members and Sirdars have already responded, and they will see their names on the Honor Roll in this newsletter. If you have not yet paid your dues, you can do so by going to the chapter website [www.explorersnorca.org] and using the appropriate Paypal button there. Alternatively, mail your dues to Joan Boothe / 2435 Divisadero St. / San Francisco CA 94115. In you have questions, email Joan at hoodoskr@aol.com or call her at 415-233-1697.

2019 Roster

Northern California Chapter of the Explorers Club
The preparation of the 2019 roster will start soon.
If you would like to help the club by working on the roster project,
please contact Paul Freitas at pmfreitas@pacbell.net.

CHAPTER LIBRARY

As you know, the Chapter maintains a selection of books on exploration that are brought to meetings and available for borrowing. Chapter Librarian Richard Dehmel (mapdayrcd@gmail.com) has issued a call for suggestions of titles to be added to the array of volumes available for borrowing.

CHAPTER MEETING
Friday, April 26, 2019

Place: The Dolan Law Firm
1438 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
Time: 6:30 - reception
7:15 - dinner; 8:00 - program
Meal Options: Grilled salmon or Tri-tip of beef
Veggie option - pasta primavera
Cost: \$49 in advance, \$60 after April 23, 2019; Students: \$35.

Please mail reservations, checks to Joan Boothe
2435 Divisadero Street, San Francisco, CA 94115.
Or email Joan [hoodoskr@aol.com]
or call Joan at 415-233-1697

You can also sign up and remit your meal costs online.

Go to the website (www.explorersnorca.org) and use the convenient payment buttons there.