

The Explorers Club Northern California Chapter

December 2017

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

LOCATION

Note venues and dates with care

Sunday, 17 December 2017

2435 Divisadero Street
San Francisco, CA 94115

EXPLORERS -- COME TO THE ANNUAL NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

All Explorers Club Members, NorCal Sirdars,
their spouses,
partners, or potential members are invited to
gather and trade stories
at our annual Holiday Gala
at the home of
Joan Boothe, our current chapter Treasurer
and Past-Chair,
and her husband Barry,



THE PARTICULARS:

DATE: Sunday, December 17

TIME: 5-9 PM

PLACE: 2435 Divisadero Street, SF, CA 94115

GUESTS: Members and Sirdars are each welcome
to bring one guest.

PLEASE RSVP to Joan Boothe (hoodooskr@aol.com or 415-233-1697) by Thursday,
DECEMBER 14th for planning the food and beverages. Although there is no charge
for this party, a \$20 per person donation at the door would be most appreciated.

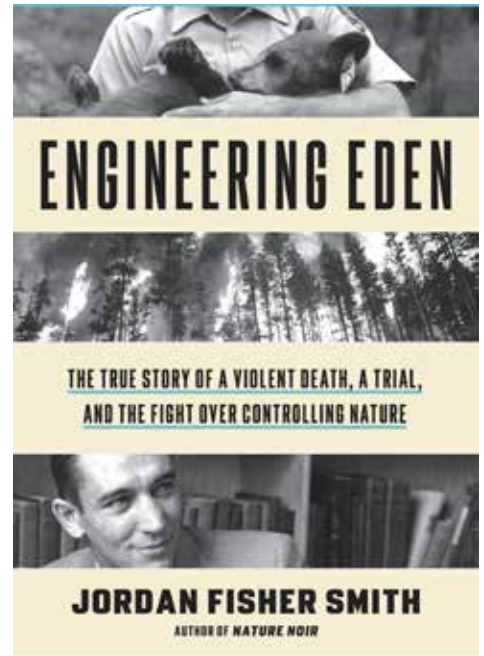
The Boothe's home is gray-blue, on the west side of Divisadero Street, between Pacific
Avenue and Jackson Street. There is usually ample street parking nearby. The best
bets are on Divisadero Street or on Pacific Avenue and Broadway Street.

Public transit: two Muni lines, the Jackson 3 and the Divisadero 24, stop at the corner
of Jackson and Divisadero, a steep half-block from the Boothe's house.

**ENGINEERING EDEN . . . or not!
17 November 2017; Jordan Fisher Smith**

On November 17, at our meeting in San Francisco's Outer Sunset, Jordan Fisher Smith delivered a compelling talk about what led him write about a legal proceeding involving Yellowstone National Park. The government was accused of bungling the handling of wildlife in the death of a visitor after an attack by a grizzly. Did the bear belong there or did the visitor? The case reached the Supreme Court and set at odds those who champion leaving the wilderness alone and those who believe it needs to be managed. His book, *Engineering Eden**, puts forth the arguments and the outcome.

under the protection of the Interior Department. After attending a meeting about climate change, attended by federal scientists and park rangers a decade ago, he found that long-ranging discussions about how to manage the wilds were inconclusive. The pending impact on these 'custodians of the timeless', was real. He felt it imperative to attempt to clarify as best he could the public and non-scientist view of fact vs fiction, with the belief that without this understanding, a free society cannot exist. Accepting facts is essential to justice. "Alternative facts" are not. Arguments, yes; fiction, no.



Using Yellowstone as his example... it being the oldest National Park, founded in 1872 He described the history of free-range hunting that had decimated the elk herds by the end of the 19th century. There followed a series of attempts to control these herds, excluding

The courts in the end found the government negligent and awarded a moderate sum to the deceased's immediate family. Read the book and see if you agree with this finding or the concepts debated.

Smith was a park ranger for more than twenty years before undertaking extended travels to understand the lands we have

hunting, and managing other predators: wolves, cougars, grizzlies and other bears, and human detritus.

In the course of these efforts, lawsuits have created a raging debate between naturalists arguing to let nature take her course and those insisting that wildlife needed to

be managed and controlled by man. In the case of Yellowstone, the efforts were mis-directed. The conclusion seems to be that, whatever management does to deal with human encroachment, it must be done with consideration of local conditions.

The debate continues and has become ever more appropriate in this age when our parks are overrun by visitors more than ever and the wildlife inhabitants are encroached upon. Smith's book describes the dilemma.

It deserves comment that a week prior to this talk, just a short distance from our meeting place, a puma roaming a neighborhood was tranquilized, tagged, equipped with a GPS collar and released a few miles south in the City's wilderness watershed. A praiseworthy management of wildlife in an urban setting. (LL)

*(2016) ISBN 978-0-307-45426-3, Crown, New York.

IN MEMORIUM

It is with sadness that we note the passing on November 12, 2017 of our long-time loyal Chapter Member Pierre de St. Julien "Scot" Macbeth FN'81. A service will be held for Scot on Thursday, December 7th at 10:00 a.m. at the Carmel Mission, Carmel California. A memorial celebration of Scot's life is planned for early in 2018.

**HONOR ROLL
PAID UP DUES
FOR 2017**

Members

Jim Alexander
Linda Alexander
James Allan
Julia Amaral
Robert Anderson
Susan Anderson
Guitty Azarpay
Joan Bekins
Richard Blake
Joan Boothe
Sheldon Breiner
Keith Chase
Doug Cheeseman
Ted Cheeseman
Sandra Cook
Alan Cooper
Thomas Cromwell
Richard Dehmel
Mike Diggles
Tom Dolan
Don Dvorak
Elaine Dvorak
Palmer Dyal
Scott Ellis
Sue Estey
Robert Eustace
Lesley Ewing
Art Ford
Susan Fox
Anna Freitas
Paul Freitas
Peter Hemming
Gerald Griffith
Tom Hall
Mike Herz
Bill Heydorn
Don Heyneman
Robert Higgins
Jordan Hollarsmith
Jim Hurson
Von Hurson
Alan Hutchinson
Dana Isherwood
Krist Jake
Anders Jepsen
Steven King
Ronald Klein
Jonathan Knowles
William Kruse
Keith Kvenvolden
Alison LaBonte
Lee Langan
Ellen Lapham
Scott MacBeth
James Prigoff
Sandra Ross
Becky Rygh
Rick Saber
Schmieder, Bob
Steve Smith
James Weil
Ed Von der Porten
Mordechai Winter

Sirdars

Barry Boothe
Marion Blumberg
Karoli Clever
Will Cooper
Wendy Crowder
Joy Durighello
Sandra Fish
Louise Geraci
Louise Heyneman
David Hirzel
Ann Hutchinson
Nancy Isaac
Kathy Jepsen
Fred Johnson
Kathy Judd
Joe Kidd
Margot Komarmy
Christopher LaFranchi
Karine Langan
Tim Loew
Liz McLoughlin
Bonny O'Keefe
Tom Patterson
Laura Phelps
Aldeana Saber
Kay Schmieder
R Stewart
Z Stewart
Judy Van Austen
Robert Van Austen
Mark Weiman

From the Chair

I am pleased to report that we held another fine meeting in November with a wonderful author/speaker, Jordan Fisher Smith. Jordan recounted some of the experiences gained from his 21 years as a National Park Ranger and, in particular, the story of a young man killed by a Grizzly bear in Yellowstone; and how that incident led to both a moral and legal examination of the conflicts arising from the dual purposes of our national parks – hosting and ‘entertaining’ the public while at the same time ‘preserving’ our wilderness. The complex issues are explored in detail in Jordan’s latest book Engineering Eden, which I heartily recommend.

On a sad note, I also reported at the meeting the passing of one of our senior Chapter members, Pierre de St. Julian “Scot” Macbeth FN’81 on November 12, 2017. Scot was a mountaineer and explorer of the first rank that we were proud to have as one of our own and he will be missed. A memorial celebration will be held in SF in 2018.

As we approach the end of 2017 I wish to express my appreciation to all of our Chapter Members, Sirdars, Offi-

cers, and Board members for their support and dedication. Together we have forged another successful year for the Northern California Chapter of the Explorers Club.

As the Club moves forward into 2018 (yikes!) with a number of important initiatives, our chapter will help lead the way. We are doing so this month with the addition of eight individuals to our Chapter roster! I’m pleased to welcome Devon O. Chivas, FN’17, Joel D. Einhorn, FcN’17, Anna H. Freitas, MN’17, Gerald E. Griffith, MN’17, David E. Hayen, Mn’17, Elora H. Lopez, Term’17, Alec L. Shumate, FcN’17, and Nancy K. Thomas, FN’17 to our ranks. Congratulations. We are excited to have you aboard.

Lastly, don’t forget our upcoming Holiday Party on Sunday, December 17th, hosted again this year by Treasurer Joan Boothe at her lovely San Francisco home. Good friends, good food, good wine, and great (and mostly true) stories are to be expected, and perhaps even a few surprises. Happy and Safe Holidays to all from your Officers and Board.

Stephen E. Smith FN’96

**A Remembrance of Pierre de St. Julien “Scot” Macbeth FN’81
March 25, 1930 - November 12, 2017**

by Dede Whiteside Hicks MN’13.

When a stunningly beautiful human lives a fully engaged life, doing so raises up that possibility in all of us. Scot was such a person. He adored the Carmelite Sisters and Single Malt Scotch. He took 200 mile treks because he liked to walk. He found beauty in the wrinkled face of an old Tibetan woman as well as a morning view of Mt. Kailash. Most of his tall tales were actually true. He bought a home for his beloved Mom by the sea and died in it after living among the Himalayan peaks and the jungles of Thailand. He cherished great books and recited poetry by heart. He was a scientist and an artist, a deeply spirit-filled soul without an ounce of dogmatic prejudice. He left me filled with revelations but a nagging question: how’d I get so fortunate to know such a being? Happy Trails Dear One.

I can vision you now walking the peaks of Mt. Kailash!

Scot Macbeth and Dede Whiteside at Garapata, Big Sur,
September 2008 Chapter meeting
Sipping that old scotch.



December 2017 Issue
 Northern California Chapter
 Established 1973



Chair: Stephen E. Smith FN'96
 925-934-1051
 ecnca@oceaneearth.org
 Vice Chair: Lesley Ewing FN'93
 lesleycoastal@gmail.com
 Secretary: Von Hurson MN'10
 Trekking@sonic.net
 Treasurer: Joan Boothe MN'07
 hoodooskr@aol.com
 415-346-5934
 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.)

2017
 December 17Holiday Party
Home of Joan and Barry Boothe
 2018
 January 26Grace Lutheran Ch
 Climate Change on Mt. Everest. . . Dr. John All
 February 23Dr. Sherry Wren
 Surgical Approaches in the Ebola Crisis . . TBA
 March 30Ms. Kimberley Chambers
 Swimming With Sharks Before Breakfast . . TBA
 April 27Alan Eustace
 The Stratospheric JumpTBA

Earlier Chapter Events
 2016

JuneCrissie Field
 SeptemberDrakes Bay Field Trip
 November 18, 2016 Dr. Bob Schmieder
 2016 Heard Island Expedition . .Grace Luth Ch
 December 11Holiday Party
 Home of Chapter Chair Joan Boothe

2017

January 27David Helvarg
 The Blue OceanGrace Luth Ch
 February 23David Rumsey
 Rumsey Map CenterStanford University
 March 31.Eric Weiss
 Expedition Medicine Grace Luth Ch
 April 28.Sandy Ross
 Afghanistan pre-TalibanGrace Luth Ch
 May 26J.R. Skok
 Seeking Life Signs on Mars Spengers, Berkeley
 June 24Chapter Picnic
Angel Island
 September 22Dr. Anders Jepsen
 Drones to map landminesGrace Luth Ch
 October 27Dirk Rosen
 Save Deep Sea Corals Grace Lutheran Ch
 November 17Jordan Fisher Smith
 Engineering EdenGrace Lutheran Ch

Send address changes and
 corrections by email to
 ecnca@oceaneearth.org

OTHER EVENTS, EXPEDITIONS, etc.

Chapter Chair's lending library: Bear in mind that Steve's collection of books on exploration will be available at each meeting for monthly borrowing.

**BOOK NOOK
 (RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY CHAPTER MEMBERS)**

When Your Life Depends On It. Extreme Decision Making Lessons From The Arctic.
 Brad Borkan & David Hirzel, 2017, Terra Nova Press, PO Box 1808, Pacifica, CA 94044

Vivid Memories of an Interesting Life
 Col. John H. Roush, Jr. Self Published, 2017, Marketing Services @xlibris.com

Muddy Boots -- essays of a field biologist.
 Meg Lowman F '97 and Lowell Thomas Awardee '02. Peppertree Press, and on Amazon.com

Northern California Additions to Explorers Club Roster

Devon O. Chivas, FN'17	Nancy K. Thomas, FN'17
Anna H. Freitas, MN'17	Gerald E. Griffith, MN'17
David E. Hayen, MN'17	Elora H. Lopez, Term'17*

Joel D. Einhorn, FcN'17**	Alec L. Shumate, FcN'17**
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*Term is category available to full-time graduate students and teaching instructors that meet the same requirements as regular members.
 ** FcN (national) and FcI (international) denote the new "Friend of the Explorers Club" category formerly identified as Associate.
 Previous Associates will retain the AN or AI appellation.

**CHAPTER HOLIDAY PARTY
 Sunday, December 17, 2016**

**Home of Joan and Barry Boothe
 2435 Divisadero, San Francisco, CA 94116
 If coming, respond to Joan Boothe at (hoodooskr@aol.com)
 or by telephone (415) 233-1697**

We have an established PayPal account.

With an account, you can sign up and remit your meal costs, dues, etc. to the NorCA Chapter
There is a PAYPAL BUTTON on our website (www.explorersnorca.org); easy to use!