

The Explorers Club Northern California Chapter

January 2018

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

LOCATION

Note venues and dates with care
Friday, 26 January 2018, 6:30pm
The Dolan Law Firm
1438 Market Street, SF 94102

CLIMATE CHANGE AND CIVIL WAR ON THE MT. EVEREST MASSIF

Talk and photos by Dr. John All LM'14



Puja honoring the mountain, 2014

From 1996 to 2006, civil war engulfed Nepal. The insurgents used the Himalayan national parks as their bases and this had severe social and environmental consequences – consequences that have continued to this day. John has worked in Nepal for many years and summited Mt. Everest in 2010 without crampons – the only person to have ever done so and lived – and was on Everest during the 2014 icefall and subsequent closure of the mountain by the former Maoist insurgents.



Rongbok Monastery in Tibet



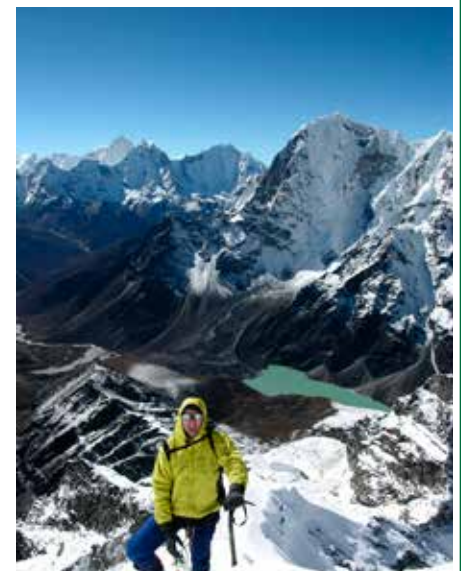
Approach to Everest Base Camp through Tibet

John's research team was in the middle of the icefall that, at the time, had the greatest death toll in Everest history, and one member of his team was killed as they studied climate change impacts on the Everest massif. He will discuss the positive and negative environmental impacts resulting from the Maoist insurgency and how these impacts have reshaped the cultural and social dynamics of the area. Dr. All will address changes that led to the 2014 closure of Mt. Everest and continue to degrade the local ecosystem.



Meeting of Sherpas after 2014 accident

John All, JD, PhD, is a global explorer and geoscientist, specializing in climate change research in remote locations and is the author of *Icefall: Adventures at the Wild Edges of our Dangerous, Changing Planet*. John is the Founding Director of the Mountain Environments Research Institute at Western Washington University. A lifetime Fellow of the Explorers Club and Fulbright Senior Scholar, All is also Executive Director of the American Climber Science Program (www.climberscience.com), which brings together scientists from many disciplines, along with students and mountaineers, to expand global research at high altitudes. His work is broadly focused on fragile, indicator environments, in particular the world's highest mountains, where changing climate has profound consequences. He is an advocate for adaptive strategies to cope with changes now occurring and his research is focused on hard science that informs public discourse. His research includes the impact of climate change on endangered species, on subsistence grazing, on fire, and on glacier particulates as they affect water supply. Dr. All works primarily in Peru and Nepal, but has led expeditions on five continents to extreme locations -- from deep caves to tropical rain forests; remote deserts to the great mountain ranges of Asia and South America. All has successfully summited Mt. Everest, Denali, Artesonraju, Mt. Blanc de Tacul, Alparamayo, El Capitan, and hundreds of other mountains around the world.



Looking down on the Khumbu valley from Lobuch >>>>>>>>>>

JANUARY MEETING TESTS A NEW MEETING VENUE

See Announcement on Page 4 for more information

HOLIDAY PARTY BRINGS EVERYONE TOGETHER

The annual Chapter Holiday Party, held at Joan and Barry Boothe's home in San Francisco was a happy event. 60+ Chapter Members, Sirdars and guests (potential new members?) spent several hours catching up with old friends, making new friends, eating tasty treats, and in general making the most of a chance to have a good time. An interesting diversion was the auction of memorabilia left over from past Explorers Club Annual Dinners. T-shirts as well as other interesting collectibles dug out of chapter archives by Chair Steve Smith were snapped up by the explorers. There was some discussion about why all the leftover t-shirts were sized Small.

Apart from the different wines from host Barry's cellar, there were plenty of other beverages as well as the tasty homemade entrees and hors d'oeuvre arrays provided by members and the Chapter. Jerry Griffith came early and was a great help in getting things going.

Most of the food and goodies were organized and provided by past Chairs Joan Booth and Lesley Ewing who pulled the whole event together. Other treats were brought by Jerry Griffith (pate), Bonny O'Keefe (bruschetta), Kay Schmieler (exotic cup cakes), Von Hurson (fruit salad), Karine Langan (ham and rolls), and Becky Nichols (sparkling cider). Lesley and Sandra Cook ran the name tag and welcoming desk.



Kathy Jepsen & Andrew Newell



Paul Green, Bonny O'Keefe, and Rick Saber



Becky & Alan Nichols



Diana Pickworth, Pete Hemming & Maggi Blake



Rick Saber and Ed Von der Porten



Sandra Cook and Lesley Ewing
holding down the name tag desk



Tom Patterson, Sue Estey & Don Dvorak



Karine Langan



Elora Lopez & Aneesh Nandam

**HONOR ROLL
PAID UP DUES
FOR 2018**

Members

Amaral, Julia
Bekins, Joan
Blake, Rick
Boothe, Joan
Chase, H. Keith
Cook, Sandra
Dehmel, Rick
Diggles, Mike
Durbin, Tom
Estey, Sue
Ford, Art
Fox, Susan
Freitas, Anna
Freitas, Paul
Griffith, Jerry
Hemming, Peter
Hurson, Jim
Hurson, Von
Hutchison, Alan
Kvnevolden, Keith
LeBonte, Alison
Lingl, Herb
Macbeth, 'Scott' (dec)
Miller, Gregory
Tarter, Jill
Weil, James

SIRDARS

Boothe, Barry
Cooper, William Scott Jr.
Hutchison, Ann
Loew, Tim
McLoughlin, Liz
Nikas, A. James III
O'Keefe, Bonny
Stewart, Zach
Van Austen, Bob
Van Austen, Judy

From the Chair

Welcome to 2018! Here's hoping that it will be a great year of exploration and discovery for all of our members and friends. First, our thanks to Joan and Barry Boothe for their hosting of our December Holiday Celebration. It was well attended, the food and wines were first rate as usual, there were lots of great conversations, and we even had a bit of fun auctioning off some EC memorabilia. It was a wonderful way to complete our 2017 activities and we are most appreciative of their hospitality.

Second, we have a new venue! After a long and pleasant relationship with Grace Lutheran Church, the Chapter has been extended a gracious offer to utilize the facilities of The Dolan Law Firm in downtown San Francisco for our monthly meetings. This is a lovely space, a bit cozier than the church basement, but one that I think most of our attendees will find pleasing. Our first meeting will be somewhat of an experiment in both logistics and format, so bear with us as we work out where the tables go, how the a/v system works, where we end up parking, etc. Knowing that everyone of us carries a flashlight in one pocket and a GPS unit in the other, I have full confidence in our ability to find the way! We've already sent a number of expeditions ahead to check out the terrain and set fixed ropes, so please read the travel and parking advisories elsewhere in the newsletter to ensure that you have minimal issues arriving.

I am saddened to report the loss of two of our fellow EC

members. Our chapter member George Belcher FN'10 passed on to higher explorations at the end of October. Among his many interests, George was an expert in the art of Mexico and Latin America, an endeavor that fostered many explorations, including the discovery of the U.S. Warship Somers, the inspiration for Herman Melville's Billy Budd. His fascinating life is reviewed by his friend Dr. James Delgado FN'97 in an obituary which we have posted on our chapter website*.
http://www.explorersnorca.org/2018/George_Belcher_Tribute.pdf

Additionally, we also lost Michelle Ridgway FN'09, the Chapter Chair of our Alaska Chapter, in a tragic car accident on January 2. Michelle was a deep-sea diver, explorer, and outspoken conservationist who spent her life in Alaska studying and protecting the marine resources of her state. We have posted a link** to an obituary with a video of one of Michelle's deep-sea expeditions on our website.
<https://www.ktoo.org/2018/01/02/marine-scientist-michelle-ridgway-remembered-outspoken-conservationist/>

Both losses will be deeply felt.

Finally, March 10, 2018 marks the date of ECAD 2018. We are looking for a volunteer to help coordinate attendees from our Chapter; please let one of the officers know if you are interested in lending a hand.

Stephen E. Smith FN'96

* **OBITUARY FOR GEORGE BELCHER FN'10**
http://www.explorersnorca.org/2018/George_Belcher_Tribute.pdf

** **OBITUARY WITH DEEP SEA VIDEO FOR MICHELLE RIDGWAY**
<https://www.ktoo.org/2018/01/02/marine-scientist-michelle-ridgway-remembered-outspoken-conservationist/>

CHAPTER MEETINGS MOVED TO NEW LOCATION

This month we will be testing out a new location which will make our events easier to get to. The Dolan Law Firm has graciously made their board room, with AV and other equipment, available to our Chapter for our monthly meeting. The location is half a block from the Civic Center Bart Station in the Dolan Law offices at.

1438 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

After reconnoitering the approach to our new venue, we have the following recommendations. If you are driving, the best place to park may be in the Market Square Garage located under the Twitter Headquarters Building. Google "Market Square Garage" for a map. This garage is open until midnight on Fridays and charges \$5.00/hour. Approaching on Market Street from the direction of the Embarcadero, turn left on 10th Street and then take the first available left onto Jessie Street. There is no obvious street sign identifying Jessie. The entrance to the garage will be down the street on the left side. It is a short walk to the Dolan Office from the garage.

Alternatively, parking may be available on Fell Street, which is behind the Dolan Offices. After 6:00 pm the street is unmeted. Enter through the back door of the Dolan Offices on Fell Street; there is a sign above the door.

If you are taking BART or Muni, check your schedule and train information and get off at the Civic Center station. The best exit is the Exit B1 Market & 8th Street Exit. There is an escalator up to the street from this exit. This is the exit at the far north end of the Civic Center station and it places you just down the block and across the street from the Dolan office. It is an easy walk from that exit. Note: if you choose one of the main exits from Civic Center station you may end up walking quite a distance on Market Street. If so, walk on the south side of the street to avoid the potential crowds in the civic center plaza area. Better to stay underground and find the correct exit noted above. **SS.**

January 2018 Issue
Northern California Chapter
Established 1973



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

2018
January 26 The Dolan Law Firm
Climate Change on Mt. Everest. . . Dr. John All
February 23 Dr. Sherry Wren
Surgical Approaches in the Ebola Crisis . . TDLF
March 30 Ms. Kimberley Chambers
Swimming With Sharks Before Breakfast . TDLF
April 27 Alan Eustace
The Stratospheric Jump TDLF

Earlier Chapter Events
2016

June Picnic. Crissy Field
September Drakes Bay Field Trip
November 18, 2016 Dr. Bob Schmieder
2016 Heard Island Expedition . . Grace Luth Ch
December 11 Holiday Party
Home of Chapter Chair Joan Boothe

2017

January 27 David Helvarg
The Blue Ocean Grace Luth Ch
February 23 David Rumsey
Rumsey Map Center Stanford University
March 31 Eric Weiss
Expedition Medicine Grace Luth Ch
April 28 Sandy Ross
Afghanistan pre-Taliban Grace Luth Ch
May 26 J.R. Skok
Seeking Life Signs on Mars Spengers, Berkeley
June 24 Chapter Picnic
. Angel Island
September 22 Dr. Anders Jepsen
Drones to map landmines Grace Luth Ch
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

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

OTHER EVENTS, EXPEDITIONS, etc.

September 19 – October 1, 2018. 13-day Uganda-Rwanda study/Adventure
Long time Chapter Member Julia Amaral MN'88 is leading an exciting
expedition in support of the Kellermann Foundation's work with the
Batwa Pygmies. 2-3 places are still available. An exciting itinerary.
For more information, contact Julia at 530-277-4640 or jamaral@saber.net



Gorilla in the Umubwindi
swamp, Bwindi Impenetrable
National Park, Uganda.

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

CHAPTER DUES

TEC Chapter Members and Sirdars, your dues are due! Our Treasurer, Joan Boothe, has distributed the annual dues statement for 2018 to all Chapter members. For TEC Members, the requested donation is only \$25 a year; for Sirdars your dues of \$50 keeps you on the distribution list and is not optional. Your chapter depends on these monies to fund the day-to-day running of the chapter, as well as to support our two annual events for which we do not charge — our Holiday Party and the Annual Picnic.

All donors are acknowledged on the Honor Roll in the monthly newsletter. We encourage all Northern California Chapter members to join those who have already sent in their dues. You'll find their names on the "Honor Roll" in this newsletter. And don't forget . . . since our chapter is recognized as 501 (C) (3), whatever you send us may well be tax deductible, depending on your personal situation.

CHAPTER MEETING Friday
January 26, 2018

Date: Friday, 26 January 2018
Place: The Dolan Law Firm
1438 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
Time: 6:30 - reception
7:15 - dinner; 8:00 - program
Meal Options: Tri-tip of beef or grilled salmon
Veggie option - Pasta primavera
Cost: \$49 in advance, \$60 after 23 January; Students: \$35.
(2018 dues: Members \$25, Sirdars \$50)
Please mail reservations, checks & dues to Joan Boothe
email: Joan at hoodooskr@aol.com; or Call 415-233-1697 or
mail to 2435 Divisadero Street, San Francisco CA 94115

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!