



The Explorers Club Northern California Chapter

November 2018

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

November Meeting

Friday, November 30, 2018, 6:30pm

The Dolan Law Firm, 1438 Market Street, SF 94102

THE LAND BEYOND: A THOUSAND MILES ON FOOT THROUGH THE HEART OF THE MIDDLE EAST

Leon McCarron

Last year, Leon McCarron spoke to a group in Emeryville and the members of The Explorers Club Northern California Chapter were invited to attend. 19 members did so and spoke glowingly of the speaker and the talk. Several members availed themselves of the proffered discount of 30% to purchase the book. Now the rest of us can have the opportunity to hear for ourselves what the speaker has learned about the Bedouin people who inhabit the desert that constitutes much, perhaps most, of Palestine.

In December 2015, Leon McCarron set off from Jerusalem to walk 1000 miles through the heart of the Middle East. The five-month-

long journey took him through the rolling green hills and terraced olive groves of the West Bank; the deep chasm-like wadis and ancient kingdoms of Jordan; and vast, rugged deserts of the Sinai peninsula.

Along the way Leon collected the thoughts and stories of the people that he met, and explored the rich past, tense present

and uncertain future of the region. He also looked at how contemporary borders and checkpoints have affected the land and its peoples, and the role of walking as a possible way to make divided lands feel whole again. Working on the premise that the brain works best at 3 miles per hour, this talk explores the various layers of culture, history, faith and politics at work in the bubbling cauldron of one of the most complex and compelling places on earth - the Holy Land.



DISTRIBUTION OF THE NEW CHAPTER ROSTER

At long last our new Chapter Roster (2018 Edition) has been finalized and is ready for distribution. The Roster will be mailed to each Chapter Member and Sirdar who has paid his or her 2018 Annual Chapter dues before the end of 2018. The Roster will also be provided to new Explorers Club Members who pay Chapter dues when assigned to our chapter until our supplies are exhausted. If you are a Member of The Explorers Club in good standing and have not paid 2018 Northern California Chapter dues, you can still get a copy of the roster by paying \$10. Treasurer Joan Boothe will be in communication with Members and Sirdars on our mailing list advising them of the upcoming distribution and reminding them of their current status. Email Joan at treasurer@explorersnorca.org if you have questions.

SHRINKING THE WORLD MALARIA MAP: 1900-2040

Professor Sir Richard Feachem, FN'16, K.B.E., Ph.D., DSc(Med), FEng, Hon FFPH, HonDEng, HonMD

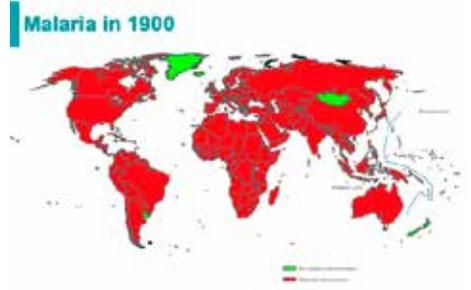
Presented at the Friday October 26, 2018 Meeting



Female Anopheles freeborni mosquito having a blood meal



Chair Steve Smith and Sir Richard Feachem



Our October meeting featured our own Chapter Member Dr. Sir Richard Feachem who presented a wonderful review of the fight to stamp out malaria world wide. Malaria: - Mala Aria - an Italian term meaning "Bad Air" reflects a Middle Age theory that certain diseases were caused by miasma, the fetid air around swampy low lying areas. In reality, malaria is a parasite of the blood that is transmitted by mosquitoes from one mammal to another. The transmission of malaria depends on the presence of infected humans, and the availability of pools of standing water that the carrying mosquito can breed in. The role of mosquitoes in the transmission of malaria in humans was discovered by Sir Ronald Ross, a British officer in the Indian Medical Service in India in 1897. He received the second Nobel Prize in Medicine in 1902. Theodore Roosevelt said about Cuba "The army is disabled by malarial-fever to such an extent that its efficiency is destroyed." (1898)

How does one get malaria and how is it treated? Malaria is transferred from one human to another by a mosquito which has previously bitten a human that has malaria. Only female mosquitoes spread the disease. In communities that have malaria, there is a program of treatment aimed at curing the patient or at least controlling the symptoms. If they manage to survive the childhood symptoms, people

who grow up in Malaria-ridden countries build up immunity that protects them in adulthood. Vaccination to prevent malaria has shown a success rate of about 40%. "With the proper use of available drugs, malaria can be cured" (CDC 2018). Most if not all drugs for treating malaria contain some form of quinine, which is derived from the bark of the cinchona tree. (See Editor's note on next page). Some experimental drugs have been found to produce drug-resistant mosquitoes and as a result have been withdrawn.

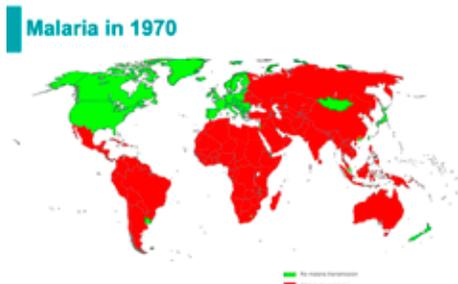
Migration of infected humans is how malaria has spread to cover most of the earth. When an infected human travels to an uninfected area and is bitten by a mosquito, the parasite is transferred to that mosquito and sets it up to infect the next person it bites. War and imperialism are two main factors in malaria's migration. In war, there are lots of standing water holes that serve as ideal breeding sites for mosquitoes, and the stress on the people at the front lines results in less resistance to the malaria mosquitoes.

The imperial outreach of the British empire, especially to the tropical countries of India and Burma resulted in many British being exposed to the malaria that they would bring back to England. The taste for quinine in a gin-and-tonic resulted from the British effort to protect themselves from malaria in India.

A fight to obliterate malaria from the earth is now under way. As recently as 1900, malaria was known to exist almost everywhere in the world except for the coldest and driest regions (Map in upper right). Mongolia, New Zealand, Greenland and Iceland were the only known malaria-free countries. Since then the WHO, NGOs and governments have all been cooperating to stamp out malaria. These efforts have included aggressive treatment of every reported infection, as well as the publication of such recommended practices as: always sleep under a net; spray walls of sleeping room with DDT (a female full of blood usually lumbers off to a side wall to hang on to while bloated); and spray standing water breeding sites with chemicals such as DDT.

The set of maps on this page demonstrates the progress that has been made. Top right red shows areas with malaria in 1900. Bottom left to right shows the progress being achieved to stamp out malaria. Bottom right shows the expected progress by 2040. AJ

Color Code for maps.
Green indicates malaria-free for > 3 years.
Blue indicates malaria-free in 2-3 years.
Purple indicates eliminating malaria;
Red indicates controlling malaria.



EDITOR'S NOTE, partly gleaned from the internet::

Malaria and the role of the Jesuits in the discovery of cinchona as a treatment for the fever from malaria were a key part of the plot in Clavel's great novel *Taipan* about the early settlement of Hong Kong. As reported on the website www.malariasite.com, "It is widely accepted that the source of the bark was clearly identified by Jesuit priests."

After Francisco Pizarro's conquest of Peru in 1532, the Jesuit priests arrived there in 1568. Although the Jesuit doctrine forbids them from studying medicine as it could detract from their primary focus of spiritual matters, they were allowed to study pharmacy and herbalism. In their studies of medical botany, the Jesuit priests undertook numerous field expeditions to describe and characterize the flora of remote forests in this newly discovered land.

During an expedition between 1620 and 1630 to Loja in the Southern district of Ecuador bordering Peru, the Jesuit's observed that the Incans, the indigenous people, were making teas out of the bark of certain trees to treat shivers from exposure to the cold. It is said that at Malacatos, 30 Km away from Loja, the Indian chief of the community, Pedro de Leiva, provided tea made of this bark to a Jesuit priest who was sick with malaria and thereby cured him. Loja (or Loja) being the natural habitat of this tree, the bark also came to be known as the Loja Bark.

The priest took samples of the bark to Lima, capital of Perú. The first written record of a malaria cure with cinchona bark dates back to 1630, mentioning that Juan López de Cañizares, Spanish governor of Loja (Ecuador), sent the same bark to Lima to cure the wife of the Count of Cinchón who was also sick with malaria fever, and this name also stuck to the bark.

Quinine is extracted from the Cinchona tree that is native to the Andean regions of South America. While there is some doubt about whether malaria was already present in the Americas before European colonization, academic consensus suggests that it was not. The disease seems to have been introduced by seafaring Europeans, after the so-called Columbian Exchange.

By the time Europeans reached and colonized the Andes the indigenous population already used the bark of the Cinchona tree to treat malaria and other types of fever. The disease had spread faster than the European colonizers could. Note that at this stage the bark itself was used as a medicine, the chemical processes to extract the quinine from the bark were only invented later.

The European colonizers first sent the bark to Europe around the 17th century, probably by way of Jesuit missionaries. Thereby cementing it as a "Popish" medicine in the minds of many Protestants. Nevertheless it provided a superior cure to a variety of fevers prevalent in Europe, particularly in its swampish regions. The bark was ground down into a powder and then mixed with wine to counter its bitter taste. Problems with dosage and classifying exactly which tree yielded the correct bark hampered its use as a medicine.

Below are some of the 35 attendees who came to hear about malaria.



Deanna & Webmaster Mike Diggles



Director Rick Saber, Ingrid Peterson Ellen Lapham



Trick or Treater?



Dr. Jill Ostrem & Vice Chair Lesley Ewing



Barry Boothe, Bob Blumberg & Phil Hicks



Director Lee & Karine Langan



Director Jim Hurson & Dr. Steven Phillips

**PAID DUES
HONOR ROLL**

MEMBERS

Alexander, James
Alexander, Linda
Allan, James
Amaral, Julia
Beer, Michael
Berg, Barbara
Bekins, Joan
Blake, Rick
Bolt, Kendra
Boothe, Joan
Chase, H. Keith
Cheeseman, Ted
Cook, Sandra
Cooper, Alan
Day, Peggy
Dehmel, Rick
Diggles, Mike
Dolan, Daniel
Dolan, Tom
Durbin, Thom
Dutcher, Susan
Dvorak, Don
Dvorak, Elaine
Dyal, Palmer
Estey, Sue
Ewing, Lesley
Ford, Art
Fox, Susan
Freitas, Anna
Freitas, Paul
Graber, David
Griffith, Jerry
Hemming, Peter
Heydorn, William
Heyneman, Donald
Hicks, Harry
Higgins, Robert
Hurson, Jim
Hurson, Von
Hutchison, Alan
Isherwood, William
Jake, Krist
Jepsen, Anders
Klein, Ronald
Klotz, Suzanne
Kvenvolden, Keith
Langan, Lee
Lapham, Ellen
LeBonte, Alison
Lidicker, William Jr.
Lingl, Herb
Macbeth, Pierre de St. J.
Mason, William
McMillan, Peter H.
Meniketti, Marco
Miller, Gregory
Nichols, Alan
Prigoff, James
Rygh, Rebecca L.
Saber, Rick
Schmieder, Robert
Skade, William
Smith, Steve
Straka, Bill
Tarter, Jill
Von der Porten, Ed
Wagner, Hugo
Weil, James
Whiteside, Dede
Wren, Sherry

SIRDARS

Barnes, James
Boothe, Barry
Marion Blumberg
Clever, Karoli
Cohn, Lawrence
Cooper, William Scott Jr.
Crowder, Wendy
Durighello, Joy
Elkus, Nancy
Engstrom, Dafne
Gorenberg, Pete
Heyneman, Louise
Hirzel, David
Hutchison, Ann
Isaac, Nancy
Jepsen, Kathy
Judd, Kathy
Kidd, Joe
Langan, Karine
Loew, Tim
Longo-Cohn, Mary
McLoughlin, Liz
Nikas, A. James III
O'Keefe, Bonny
Patterson, Tom
Phelps, Laura
Saber, Aldeana
Stewart, Zach
Straka, Barbara
Townsend, Tiffany
Van Austen, Bob
Van Austen, Judy
Weiman, Mark

FROM THE CHAIR

The October meeting featuring Professor Sir Richard Feachim received extensive plaudits from our attendees – the level of interest was attested to by a question and answer period that was one of the longest in recent memory. Sir Richard’s command of, and investment in, his topic captured our attention and held it throughout the evening. The progress made to date in defeating malaria is a testament to the hard work of Sir Richard and his many cohorts throughout the world. It’s so unfortunate that the world’s nations can’t find more reasons such as this to work together for the benefit of humankind. Trite but true, it’s amazing what we can accomplish when we have common a goal. It’s sad that such goals seem few and far between.

I’m most pleased to report that our new Chapter Roster has been printed and is ready to distribute. Effusive thanks go to Director Paul Freitas and Sirdar Wendy Crowder for their work in putting this together along with the editing assistance of a number of others. Our last Roster had become quite dated; the new one has been updated in a number of ways and features photos of many of our members and Sirdars. Refer to our announcement of the details of Roster distribution elsewhere in this newsletter.

Our November meeting is one to look forward to. Leon McCarron is traveling all the way from the UK to spend the evening with us and share his recent adventures. Leon is an author, a filmmaker, and an adventurer who seems to delight in distance, a thousand mile walk through the holy land, a 14,000 mile bike ride. Based on what my derriere feels like after 20 miles on my bike, that seems almost incomprehensible. I had the pleasure of listening to Leon in Berkeley earlier this year, and I can assure you that you will have a humorous and informative evening with a modern day explorer.

Last May we had three wonderful presentations by Term members of our Chapter on the work they are doing in support of their graduate research. Elora Lopez, one of our presenters, has sent us an update on her recent fieldwork in the Marshall Islands. Elora is studying the potential genetic impact on the ecosystem of the testing of nuclear weapons in the 1940s and 50s. Check out her blog at: <https://hightidings.stanford.edu/2018/11/01/paradise-irradiated/>

I’m looking forward to seeing you all on the 30th after you have recovered from your holiday dinner. Get your reservations in early! Final warning - note the special phone number included in this newsletter. If you are late to a meeting it may be your only chance to gain entrance and take part in the festivities. Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Stephen E. Smith FN’96

**URBAN ART PART 3
The Art of Jean Michael Basquiat
Photos by Jim Prigoff**

Jim Prigoff writes:

“Jean Michel Basquiat, was an active part of the Andy Warhol entourage. He painted for about ten years and died of an overdose. The upper pictures are SAMO tags (SAME OLD SHIT) that Basquiat wrote on NYC walls as he was first “getting up” in the streets. Was it vandalism then?

“If you could cut it off the wall, it would bring big bucks today - like a Banksy. In a capitalist society, price is considered a measure of value. Basquiat and Keith Haring’s names are mentioned today in the same terms as Lichtenstein, Warhol, Oldenburg, Hockney, Rauschenberg, etc.

“The lower picture is a photo I took of a Basquiat canvas hanging in the Broad Museum. A similar canvas was sold to a mega-bucks gentleman from Japan for 110,000,000 dollars. (yen?) I would not rate it as one of the twenty best canvases Basquiat painted.”



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Northern California Chapter
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CHAPTER OFFICERS & TEAM

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 Trekking@sonic.net
 Treasurer: Joan Boothe MN'07
 hoodooskr@aol.com
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 Newsletter: Anders Jepsen FN'03
 ajviking@aol.com
 925-322-8893

Chapter Calendar of Events

(Venues are identified as soon as known.)

2018

November 30 Leon McCarron
 Exploration by Walking Dolan
 December 16. Holiday Party
 Home of Rick and Aldeana Saber

2019

January 25 Pat Scannon
 Recent Discoveries Dolan
 February 22 James Nestor
 Outdoor adventure. Dolan
 March 22. Paul Saffo
 Dynamics of Change. TBA

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

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

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 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).

**DON'T FORGET TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR
 HOLIDAY PARTY AT THE SABERS IN NOVATO
 16 DECEMBER 2018**

VIDEO ASSISTANCE REQUESTED!!! STILL!

Your Northern California Chapter is interested in preparing videos of our meeting presentations. Our primary goal is to allow non-attendees to enjoy the presentations that they may have been unable to attend and to widen the audience for our excellent meetings. If you have expertise in shooting videos and/or video editing, or know someone who could help us with the process, we want to hear from you. Join our video committee and make a difference!

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 has issued a call for suggestions of titles to be added to the array of volumes available for borrowing.

**CHAPTER MEETING
 Friday, November 30, 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: Grilled Salmon or Beef tri-tip
 veggies option - pasta primavera
 Cost: \$49 in advance, \$60 after 27 November; Students: \$35.
 (2019 dues: Members \$25, Sirdars \$50)
 Please mail reservations, checks to Joan Boothe
 2435 Divisadero Street, San Francisco, CA 94115.
 Or email Joan [hoodooskr@aol.com]
 or call Joan at 415-233-1697

You can sign up and remit your meal costs online.
 Go to the website (www.explorersnorca.org) and use the convenient payment buttons there.