



727th Meeting

Number 1

2000-2001

The first meeting of the season will be held in the Massachusetts Room of the Harvard Club on **Tuesday, October 10, 2000**. Cocktails will be served at 6:15 PM, dinner is at 7:00 PM, and the meeting will start at 8:15 PM (Price \$30 each per member and one guest, \$35 for additional guests.) Please return the enclosed card as soon as possible *only* if you are coming to dinner. Members who after making a reservation fail to attend without cancelling may be liable for the dinner charge.

### A TREK TO THE HIMALAYAN KINGDOM OF MUSTANG

Award-winning Cambridge documentary travel photographer Don Gurewitz returns to our Club to bring us on a once-in-a-lifetime trip to what anthropologists have called "the last forbidden kingdom". The Kingdom of Mustang is a semisecret, semi-independent, and semi-feudal region of Nepal, nestled in the Himalayas at 13,000 feet on the border with Tibet. It has been closed to the outside world until very recently, and, even today, special permission is needed to enter. It is the only surviving Tibetan monarchy, and because of this, and its near-total isolation, it is the "purest" surviving Tibetan culture in the world. There are no roads or airports. Join these adventurers, organized and led by our Club member Julian Sobin, as they hike and ride ponies for a week through the deepest canyon in the world, with spectacular 26,000+ foot glacial peaks on either side, to reach the capital of Mustang, the medieval walled city of Lo Manthang. Witness with them the annual 3-day spring festival of Tiji, the most important celebration of the year that draws most of the 6,000 inhabitants of the kingdom, as well as pilgrims from across the border in Tibet. Visit the unique and striking villages and monasteries; see the colorful masked dances and religious ceremonies; meet the King of Mustang and the monks, nobles, lamas, farmers, herdsman, and townspeople who are his subjects. You are guaranteed to be enthralled by this wild, remote, and starkly beautiful region and its isolated and ancient culture that few Westerners have ever seen.

Those who were fortunate enough to attend Don's excellent show a year ago can attest to the outstanding quality of his photography which has won a very long list of awards, publications and credits.

Please note the following meeting dates: Nov. 14 and Dec. 12, 2000, and Jan. 9, Feb. 13, Mar. 13, Apr. 10 and May 29, 2001.

**Club Notes:** We regret to announce the death of Charles P. Lyman, a member since 1938, on December 29, 1999.

ROBERT O. BOARDMAN, *Secretary*

Secretary's address:

163 Cottage Street

New Bedford, MA 02740-3650

Telephone (508) 993-3048, Fax (508) 990-9772

e-mail: ROBoardman@aol.com



2000-2001

The second meeting of the season will be held in the Massachusetts Room of the Harvard Club on **Tuesday, November 14, 2000**. Cocktails will be served at 6:15 PM, dinner is at 7:00 PM, and the meeting will start at 8:15 PM (Price \$30 each per member and one guest, \$35 for additional guests.) Please return the enclosed card as soon as possible *only* if you are coming to dinner. Members who after making a reservation fail to attend without cancelling may be liable for the dinner charge.

### THE HEROES OF ISANDLWANA

In January 1879, a force of over 17,000 British redcoat soldiers invaded the Kingdom of Zulus in three great columns. In an attempt to end Zulu political and military independence, Lieutenant General Lord Chelmsford tried to crush the warrior army of King Cetshwayo. The General accompanied the central column of 4,700 soldiers and intended meeting the Zulu army near the royal homestead of Ulundi.

On January 22, 1879, the center column was camped on the sides of a great mountain called Isandlwana when it was surprised by the main force of the Zulu army comprising over 20,000 warriors. In the defense of their country, these men armed mainly with spears and leader shields fought European troops who carried modern breech-loading rifles. In the course of three hours of fighting, over 1,200 British troops were killed and Britain suffered her worst colonial defeat in Africa. The epic battle produced one of the most heroic days in the history of both nations, culminating in a surprise ending which remains one of the most gallant gestures in the history of warfare. The story of the engagement transcends pure military history as the humanity and resolve demonstrated by brave men serves as an inspiration to all who hear their saga.

The talk will cover the unfolding of the famous fight, with slides to demonstrate some of the terrain, and photographs of the central characters.

Steven Kotze holds an M.Phil. equivalent degree in Zulu War Studies, has published articles on Zulu history and culture, and currently works as a specialist guide at Isandlwana battlefield. He intends registering for a Ph.D. in African History at Columbia University in the Fall term of 20001.

Please note the following meeting dates: Dec. 12, 2000, and Jan. 9, Feb. 13, Mar. 13, Apr. 10 and May 29, 2001.

**Club Notes:** We regret to announce the death of Emeritus Member Charles H. Bradford, a member since 1946, on May 17, 2000.

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The third meeting of the season will be held in the Massachusetts Room of the Harvard Club on **Tuesday, December 12, 2000**. Cocktails will be served at 6:15 PM, dinner is at 7:00 PM, and the meeting will start at 8:15 PM (**Price \$30 each per member and one guest, \$35 for additional guests.**) Please return the enclosed card as soon as possible *only* if you are coming to dinner. Members who after making a reservation fail to attend without cancelling may be liable for the dinner charge.

### HORSE OF KARBALA: RELIGIOUS PROCESSIONS IN LADAKH

Ladakh forms the northeast quadrant of Jammu and Kashmir State (India), sharing a border with both Tibet and Pakistan. Ladakh's diverse population reflects its centuries-old status as a crossroads for trade between Kashmir and Central Asian regions such as Chinese Xinjiang: the people who live here include not only Buddhists but also Muslims of the Sunni and Shia denominations. After a brief overview of the region and noting some of the ancient Buddhist pilgrims' sites, the focus will be on one of the most intriguing and controversial religious rituals practiced in the Ladakhi town of Leh: the celebrated 'Horse of Karbala' procession which honors the death in the Battle of Karbala of the Imam Husain, the Prophet Muhammad's grandson. A richly caparisoned, riderless stallion representing Husain's battle-steed is accompanied by a crowd of ritual mourners as a way for Shia residents to assert their identity in the presence of the majoritarian Buddhist population, as well as their distinction from the Sunni Muslims which will be described in the talk.

Dr. David Pinault is Associate Professor of Religious Studies at Santa Clara University, California. His primary area of research involves Shia Muslim ritual practices. He has worked in North Africa, the Middle East, India, and Pakistan. He is the author of "The Shiites: Ritual and Popular Piety in a Muslim Community" (1992) and "Horse of Karbala" Muslim Life in India" (St. Martin's Press, forthcoming January 2001).

Please note the following meeting dates: Jan. 9, Feb. 13, Mar. 13, Apr. 10 and May 29.  
**Club Notes:** We welcome as new members Phil Sirois and José Niguel Hurtado, Jr.

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2000-2001

The fourth meeting of the season will be held in the Massachusetts Room of the Harvard Club on **Tuesday, January 9, 2001**. Cocktails will be served at 6:15 PM, dinner is at 7:00 PM, and the meeting will start at 8:15 PM (**Price \$30 each per member and one guest, \$35 for additional guests.**) Please return the enclosed card as soon as possible *only* if you are coming to dinner. Members who after making a reservation fail to attend without cancelling may be liable for the dinner charge.

### DANCING THROUGH TIBET

Journey through Tibet on a dilapidated bus with Julie Smith and her fellow travelers. Led by Robert Thurman, friend and former translator for the Dalai Lama, the small group was hosted by several monasteries, attended ceremonies, met friendly locals and helped to rebuild the consistently washed-out roads. These road conditions necessitated traveling in convoy as they went west to Gyantze and Xigatze. Julie will present her program wearing the Tibetan national dress, the chuba, and will display some of the objects she acquired on the journey.

Julie Smith has been an active alumna of Wellesley College since her graduation in 1947 with a major in zoology. After working in research and time out for marriage and family, she became interested in the new holistic health movement when her son started cooking rice and beans at college. Her work at a Cambridge Holistic Clinic led to a Master's Degree in Holistic Health Counseling in 1983. A fifty year member, teacher and recent past president of the Boston Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, Julie and her husband, Bob, first attended the Society's Summer School at St. Andrews' University in 1960. That was the beginning of her travel life, and she has taught and danced in many of the countries she has visited. Julie has sought out unusual destinations, such as Tibet and Ethiopia, and less familiar methods of travel in more developed countries, such as canal boating in England, bicycling in France, and climbing Ayers Rock in Australia. Her slide presentations give a vivid picture of the landscapes and peoples she has encountered.

Please note the following meeting dates: Feb. 13, Mar. 13, Apr. 10 and May 29, 2001. In February, we will have our annual Members Night with short presentations by several members of the Club.

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731st Meeting



Number 5

2000-2001

The fifth meeting of the season will be held in the Massachusetts Room of the Harvard Club on **Tuesday, February 13, 2001**. Cocktails will be served at 6:15 PM, dinner is at 7:00 PM, and the meeting will start at 8:15 PM (**Price \$30 each per member and one guest, \$35 for additional guests.**) Please return the enclosed card as soon as possible **only** if you are coming to dinner. Members who after making a reservation fail to attend without cancelling may be liable for the dinner charge.

### MEMBERS NIGHT: SHORT PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS

The following presentations are currently planned, each lasting about ten minutes:

Don Butterfield	"A Surgeon in the Mekong Delta"
José M. Furtado, Jr.	"Geologic Field Work in the Kali Gandaki Valley"
Esther C. Williams	"A Visit to Lahore"
John O. Field	"Exploring the Field Glacier in Alaska"
Marty Klein	"Kashmir in the 1950s: A Visit to Srinagar and Gulmarg"
Judy & Ken Gregg	"Medical Mission to Umtata"

Please note the following meeting dates: Mar. 13, Apr. 10 and May 29, 2001.

In March, Lucia deLeiris will take us on a field trip to the Antarctic Ross Sea where she sketched penguins and seals.

**Club Notes:** We welcome as new members Edgar H. Schein and Sally L. Cheffy.

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2000-2001

The sixth meeting of the season will be held in the Massachusetts Room of the Harvard Club on **Tuesday, March 13, 2001**. Cocktails will be served at 6:15 PM, dinner is at 7:00 PM, and the meeting will start at 8:15 PM (**Price \$30 each per member and one guest, \$35 for additional guests.**) Please return the enclosed card as soon as possible **only** if you are coming to dinner. Members who after making a reservation fail to attend without cancelling may be liable for the dinner charge.

### PENGUINS AND SEALS: SKETCHING IN THE ANTARCTIC

Join Lucia deLeiris on a trip to a remote field camp on the Antarctic Ross Sea where she sketched penguins and seals, explored the abandoned huts of the early explorers, and talked with scientists about their current work. Living in a wooden fish hut on six feet of frozen sea ice for several weeks, Lucia watched a parade of emperor penguins waddling in from the ice edge in the glistening hues of midnight sun, she watched as hundreds of pregnant Weddel seals grated openings with specially adapted teeth in the forming ice cracks, popping out to give birth in the warming rays of the low spring sun. Lucia will talk about the development of expedition art in early Antarctic exploration, the challenges of capturing the Antarctic light, what life is like among scientists and wildlife during the brief season of sun, and the experience of living and painting in temperatures down to minus 52 degree F.

Lucia deLeiris traveled three times to Antarctic under the auspices of the National Science Foundation's Artist and Writer's program in 1985-6, 1995-6, and most recently in 1998-9. Her work there consisted of illustrating two natural history books: *The Natural History of the Antarctic Peninsula*, (by Moss, Columbia University Press, '88), and *Antarctic Journal for Children* (by Hooper, National Geographic Society, 2000), and painting landscapes and wildlife for several notable exhibitions. She holds a degree in zoology, has illustrated wildlife for books and magazines and has exhibited widely, combining her two interests: artistic expression and natural history. She has most recently been travelling to do field painting in the Amazon rain forest of Peru.

Please note the following meeting dates: Apr. 10 and May 29, 2001.

In April, Mark Synnott will speak on New Hampshire mountaineering.

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2000-2001

The seventh meeting of the season will be held in the Massachusetts Room of the Harvard Club on **Tuesday, April 10, 2001**. Cocktails will be served at 6:15 PM, dinner is at 7:00 PM, and the meeting will start at 8:15 PM (**Price \$30 each per member and one guest, \$35 for additional guests.**) Please return the enclosed card as soon as possible *only* if you are coming to dinner. Members who after making a reservation fail to attend without cancelling may be liable for the dinner charge.

### ALPINE BIG WALL ADVENTURES

Mark Synnott has a mission in life: to seek out and climb the world's biggest cliffs. His obsession has seen him up some 50 big wall climbs world-wide, including major first ascents in Baffin Island, the Karakoram, Patagonia, and the Bugaboos. Synnott was one of the first climbers to explore the remote east coast of Baffin Island, where he has established four big wall first ascents, including a Grade VII on the 4700-foot North Face of Polar Sun Spire. More recently, Synnott traveled to Baffin to make a documentary of a big wall first ascent for the National Geographic Society. Synnott's credits also include the second ascent of Pakistan's 19,800-foot Shipton Spire, which he climbed by a new route in 1997. Most recently, Mark, along with Alex Lowe and Jared Ogden, summited the 6,000-foot northwest face of Great Trango Tower, Karakoram, Pakistan, one of the longest rock climbs ever completed. Mark's presentation to us will concentrate on his climbs in Baffin Island as well as on his climbs of Shipton Spire and Great Trango Tower in the Karakoram. Mark's enthusiasm for climbing and adventure is contagious, so come join him for wild stories and breathtaking images of these committing ascents.

When he's not on a wall, Mark works as a member of The North Face Climbing Team, and as a motivational speaker, guide and freelance photojournalist. He is a Senior Contributing Editor to Climbing Magazine, and his articles and photos have appeared in many publications in the United States and abroad, including National Geographic, National Geographic Adventure, Outside, Rock and Ice, Unlimited, and Sports Afield. He lives in Jackson, NH, with his wife and son.

Please note the following meeting date: May 29, 2001, when Astronaut George D. Nelson will speak on his work for NASA and subsequent related services.

**Club Notes:** We regret to announce the death of Richard H. Daggy, a member since 1982, on January 21, 2001.

We are pleased to welcome new member Judy Gregg.

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# REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE



Pursuant to Article VII of the Constitution, the Nominating Committee presents the following nominations for the year 2001-2002.

*President:* Louis A. Sgarzi

*Vice-Presidents:* Kenneth J. Bures  
Edmund K. Summersby

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Robert O. Boardman

*Councillors* Jo-Del Gaeth  
Liisa M. Kissel  
C. Lansing Fair  
Elizabeth Gaye Brown

Respectfully submitted,  
MARY BLUE MAGRUDER, *Chair*  
ROBERT BIGELOW STEPHENSON  
JOHN OSGOOD FIELD  
*Nominating Committee*



## RECOMMENDATION FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP INCREASE

In order to bring the cost of a one time payment for a Life Membership in the Club into the traditional relationship with the cost of Annual Dues and Initiation Fees, the Council recommends that the cost of a Life Membership in the Club be increased to \$1,000. This proposal will be a topic for discussion and vote at the Annual Meeting of the Club to be held on Tuesday, May 29, 2001.





2000-2001

The eighth meeting of the season will be held in the Massachusetts Room of the Harvard Club on **Tuesday, May 29, 2001**. Cocktails will be served at 6:15 PM, dinner is at 7:00 PM, and the meeting will start at 8:15 PM (**Price \$30 each per member and one guest, \$35 for additional guests.**) Please return the enclosed card as soon as possible *only* if you are coming to dinner. Members who after making a reservation fail to attend without cancelling may be liable for the dinner charge.

## THE NATURE OF SPACE FLIGHT, SPACE FLYERS AND SPACE ITSELF

George D. Nelson originally wanted to be a major league baseball player, but he wasn't quite good enough. In college he gave up serious baseball to study physics and to learn to fly airplanes. He received his Ph.D. in astronomy from the University of Washington in 1978, spent eleven years as an astronaut for NASA, and has since taught astronomy and astrophysics, and served as a university administrator. He now runs Project 2061 for the American Association for the Advancement of Science - AAAS's long-term effort to radically reform science, mathematics, and technology education.

He stays current in his science and engineering fields as chair of a NASA oversight committee for the Hubble Space Telescope. He was the first to fly untethered from the Space Shuttle to an errant satellite, and was a crewman on the missions just prior to and immediately after the Challenger accident.

His presentation will reflect on his NASA career, the unique experience of space flight, the unique individuals who go to space, and finally, some of the mind-boggling new astronomical discoveries. They will also be mention of the future and the role of education in charting its course.

Please note the dates of meetings for the next season listed in the Annual Reports.

**Club Notes:** We are pleased to welcome new member Carole Cushing.

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