

759<sup>th</sup> Meeting



Number 1

2004-05

The first meeting of the season will be held in the Massachusetts Room of the Harvard Club on **Tuesday, October 12, 2004**. Cocktails will be served at 6:15 p.m., dinner is at 7:00 p.m., and the meeting will begin at 8:15 p.m. The price is \$40 each per member, \$45 for a first guest, and \$50 for each additional guest. Please respond as soon as possible using the enclosed card, email, or by telephone only if you are coming to the dinner. Reservations received after midnight of the Saturday preceding the meeting will incur a \$5 late fee. Members who, after making a reservation, fail to attend without canceling may be liable for the dinner charge.

### PERU, LAND OF MYSTERY

In July of 2002 Mark and Teresa Richey and their 15 year old daughter Natalia left their home to embark on a year long odyssey to explore and travel throughout Peru, Teresa's homeland. Although Mark had made many previous trips to climb mountains there this trip would be different. The goal was simple: to seek out and explore the most remote, wild and fascinating places of this extraordinary country. To make it happen was anything but simple. During the year long journey the family would trek around entire mountain ranges, penetrate deep into virgin rainforests, explore unclimbed mountains, and scuba dive with hammerhead sharks and huge colonies of sea lions. They would log over 25 thousand kilometers in their vintage 85 Land Cruiser, mostly on secondary roads. What made the trip most memorable was sharing their experiences and the colorful local traditions with friendly and resourceful Peruvians they met along the way.

Mark Richey has been climbing and exploring mountains and wild places since 1973. He has climbed extensively through out North and South America, Greenland, Europe, Nepal, Pakistan, India and Africa where he has established many first ascents and difficult repeats on steep and technical mountains. In 1991 he summited Everest via the South col route and recently made the first ascent of Yamandaka in the Indian Himalayas. Mark currently serves as President of the American Alpine Club.

Mark, Teresa and Natalia live in Essex MA where they own and operate an architectural woodworking business. Natalia is currently a sophomore at Pingree High School.

**Club Notes:** We regret to announce the death of Club Fellow Frederick R. Sawyer on August 13. The November meeting will be held on the ninth of that month. Brian Skerry, a noted National Geographic author and photographer, will speak on Shipwrecks and Sea Monsters.

KENNETH J. BURES, *Secretary*  
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Number 2

2004-05

The second meeting of the season will be held in the Massachusetts Room of the Harvard Club on **Tuesday, November 9, 2004**. Cocktails will be served at 6:15 p.m., dinner is at 7:00 p.m., and the meeting will begin at 8:15 p.m. The price is \$40 each per member, \$45 for a first guest, and \$50 for each additional guest. Please respond as soon as possible using the enclosed card, email, or by telephone only if you are coming to the dinner. Reservations received after midnight of the Saturday preceding the meeting will incur a \$5 late fee. Members who, after making a reservation, fail to attend without canceling may be liable for the dinner charge.

### SHIPWRECKS AND SEA MONSTERS - AN UNDERWATER PHOTOJOURNALIST'S WORLD

Brian Skerry will take the audience with him on assignment and into the sea. He will guide us through lost ships from 16<sup>th</sup> century pirate shipwrecks with Spanish treasure to the claustrophobic interiors of sunken WW II German U-Boats. He will also introduce us to a myriad of mythical marine animals, from perceived "monsters" such as sharks and sea serpents to enchanting mermaids (manatees). Brian's undersea odyssey will trek from the chilly waters of the Gulf of Maine to Australia, South America, Europe and beyond. Also featured will be images from Brian's most recent National Geographic Magazine stories: *Aquarius Habitat* - for which he lived on the bottom of the sea for 7 days, *Harp Seals* - which provides a close-up view of these magical animals living above and beneath drifting pack ice in Canada and *Squid* - which examines the beauty and beast-like qualities of these amazing sea creatures. Throughout his presentation, Brian will share the stories and anecdotes behind the photographs as well as the challenges involved in underwater photojournalism. This presentation is filled with science, history, adventure and fun!

Brian Skerry is a contributing photographer for National Geographic Magazine specializing in elusive underwater subjects. Within the last year alone he has published three stories in that magazine. His images have also been featured in magazines such as People, Sports Illustrated, US News and World Report, BBC Wildlife, Playboy, Smithsonian, Esquire, Audubon, Outdoor Life, Wildlife Conservation, Yankee, Maxim, Men's Journal and in countless publications worldwide. In addition, he is the author/photographer of four books on underwater subjects.

**Club Notes:** The Club welcomes new members Mary Jane Sawyer and John Hedley-Whyte. Please note the following meeting dates: November 9, December 14, January 11, February 8, March 8, April 12, and May 24.

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The third meeting of the season will be held in the Massachusetts Room of the Harvard Club on **Tuesday, December 14, 2004**. Cocktails will be served at 6:15 p.m., dinner is at 7:00 p.m., and the meeting will begin at 8:15 p.m. The price is \$40 each per member, \$45 for a first guest, and \$50 for each additional guest. Please respond as soon as possible using the enclosed card, email, or by telephone only if you are coming to the dinner. Reservations received after midnight of the Saturday preceding the meeting will incur a \$5 late fee. Members who, after making a reservation, fail to attend without canceling may be liable for the dinner charge.

### WOMEN OF DISCOVERY

Women have been exploring the world for at least as long as men, but we haven't heard as much about them. Milbry Polk will help change that by describing to us the stories of three amazing women explorers from the past. We'll hear about Maria Sybilla Merian, who in 1699, at the age of 52 and accompanied only by her daughter, sailed to Suriname to collect, record, and paint nature. In fact, she became the first artist to record the life cycles of insects in their natural habitats. Milbry will also describe the travels of Mary Kinglsey, a sheltered, home-taught, middle-class Victorian English woman who, in her thirties, without knowledge of African languages or French, organized two extended expeditions to West Africa. She traveled up the Congo River, studied tribal life, lived with cannibals, and wrote incisively about her findings. The third women traveler of note is Alexine Tinné who began searching for the source of the Nile in the 1860's. In the process she became a skilled photographer, botany illustrator, and naturalist, exploring for 15 years until she was murdered in the Sahara. Lest we think that the glory days of exploration are over, Milbry will also give us brief vignettes of some equally amazing present-day women explorers.

Milbry Polk is a photojournalist who has journeyed throughout the Middle East. A Fellow of both the Royal Geographic Society and The Explorers Club, Polk is the author of *Egyptian Mummies* (1998), editor of *A History of Arabian Transportation*, and co-authored *Women of Discovery* (2001), which recounts the accomplishments of women explorers during the past two thousand years. Polk is a contributing editor for *The Explorers Journal* and is the director of Wings Trust, a non profit organization working with women explorers and scientific exploration.

**Club Notes:** Our January presentation will be by Club Member David Roberts, speaking about his latest adventure. Please note the following meeting dates for the remainder of the year: January 11, February 8, March 8, April 12, and May 24.

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The fourth meeting of the season will be held in the Massachusetts Room of the Harvard Club on **Tuesday, January 11, 2005**. Cocktails will be served at 6:15 p.m., dinner is at 7:00 p.m., and the meeting will begin at 8:15 p.m. The price is \$40 each per member, \$45 for a first guest, and \$50 for each additional guest. Please respond as soon as possible using the enclosed card, email, or by telephone only if you are coming to the dinner. Reservations received after midnight of the Saturday preceding the meeting will incur a \$5 late fee. Members who, after making a reservation, fail to attend without canceling may be liable for the dinner charge.

### THE FIRST TRAVERSE OF THE COMB RIDGE

Leave it to Club Member David Roberts to find the last remaining unexplored and underexplored areas of America. His latest find, the Comb Ridge, is a geological anomaly — a sharp crest of upthrust sandstone that stretches unbroken for a hundred miles, from just east of Kayenta, Arizona, to just west of Blanding, Utah. A kind of mini-mountain range, the Comb rises only 500 to 800 feet above the surrounding plains, yet so rugged is this escarpment, without a single mile of established trail, that it presents a serious challenge for hikers. Because two-thirds of the Comb lies on the Navajo Reservation, it remains a little-known wilderness, even among aficionados of the Southwest.

Last September, Utah guide Vaughn Hadenfeldt, veteran mountaineer Greg Child, and HTC Member Roberts made the first complete traverse of Comb Ridge, from south to north. Their eighteen-day, 125-mile backpack was threatened by a constant shortage of drinking water. Yet along the way, the trio discovered abundant and marvelous ruins and rock art—the vestiges not only of Navajo shepherders in the 19th and 20th centuries, but of the Anasazi, who abandoned the whole Four Corners region just before 1300 A. D.

David, an intrepid explorer and author of fifteen books about mountaineering, adventure, archaeology, and history, will show slides of this grueling but delightful trek through the terrain of the ancients.

**Club Notes:** We welcome Maggy Bruzelius, Finn Hals, and Mark A. Richey as new members. On February 8 we will have our annual Members' Night presentations. Other meetings will be on March 8, April 12, and May 24.

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The fifth meeting of the season will be held in the Massachusetts Room of the Harvard Club on **Tuesday, February 8, 2005**. Cocktails will be served at 6:15 p.m., dinner is at 7:00 p.m., and the meeting will begin at 8:15 p.m. The price is \$40 each per member, \$45 for a first guest, and \$50 for each additional guest. Please respond as soon as possible using the enclosed card, email, or by telephone only if you are coming to the dinner. Reservations received after midnight of the Saturday preceding the meeting will incur a \$5 late fee. Members who, after making a reservation, fail to attend without canceling may be liable for the dinner charge.

### ANNUAL MEMBERS' NIGHT PRESENTATIONS

The following presentations will be made, each lasting about twelve minutes.

Charlie Kellogg	-	Nepal's Remote Rolwaling Valley
Brian Dill	-	Capturing Argali in the Land of Genghis Kahn – A Research Expedition to Mongolia
Rob Aranow	-	New Zealand: Attempting Mount Cook and Achieving the Copeland Pass
Jim Bildner	-	A View from Above: 3000 Miles and 500 Feet Above Ground
Loren Wood	-	Traversing Mt. McKinley

The Council of the Harvard Travellers Club has voted the following Club awards, to be presented at the Members' Night meeting.

For their distinguished and on-going service to the Club as Council members, officers, and active volunteers, the Club confers the award of Honorary Member to Mary Blue Magruder and Dr. George B. Wenckebach.

For his impressive record of travel to out-or-the-ordinary places the Club confers the award of Fellow to David Roberts.

**Club Notes:** We welcome J. Thomas Selldorff as a new member. Club meetings for the remainder of the season will be on March 8, April 12, and May 24.

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2004-05

The sixth meeting of the season will be held in the Massachusetts Room of the Harvard Club on **Tuesday, March 8, 2005**. Cocktails will be served at 6:15 p.m., dinner is at 7:00 p.m., and the meeting will begin at 8:15 p.m. The price is \$40 each per member, \$45 for a first guest, and \$50 for each additional guest. Please respond as soon as possible using the enclosed card, email, or by telephone only if you are coming to the dinner. Reservations received after midnight of the Saturday preceding the meeting will incur a \$5 late fee. Members who, after making a reservation, fail to attend without canceling may be liable for the dinner charge.

### LIFE AT AN ACHUAR COMMUNITY IN ECUADOR A People Determined To Maintain Their Culture

The Achuar live deep in the Amazon rain forest of Ecuador, living much as they have for hundreds of years. They hunt with blowguns, cook over log fires, make pottery and weave cloth, and know the medicinal uses of hundreds of plants. The Achuar and the jungle around them are under pressure from the lure of modern technology and from oil companies eager to drill beneath their lands. The Achuar have responded in some innovative and constructive ways to counter these pressures.

Lucy Wendell-Thorpe has visited Achuar communities three times. They normally do not allow photography, but by gaining their trust and friendship, Ms. Wendell-Thorpe was able to photograph them going about in their daily lives. In her presentation she will show and describe their gardening, pottery, weaving, hunting, cooking, building and fishing practices. She will also talk about many Achuar spiritual customs such as the guayusa tea ceremony, chicha - their manioc beer, and their search for Arutam.

Lucy Wendell-Thorpe lives in Yarmouth, Maine, and is an editor, writer and photographer for the Portland Business Digest, AMC Outdoors, and other publications. An accomplished photographer, she has had recent photographic exhibitions in Falmouth, Maine and in Boston. Lucy is also an adventurous traveler, with special interest in wildlife, ecology and culture. Her most recent trips have been to Alaska, Africa, and the Galapagos, in addition to the Ecuadorian Amazon.

**Club Notes:** As many of you are aware, our elected President, Liisa Kissel, has been unable to serve this year because of serious family medical issues. Dan Senecal and Ed Summersby, our elected Vice Presidents, have assumed the role of Acting President during Liisa's absence. In recognition of the situation, Liisa has recently tendered her resignation as President, and it was accepted with regret by the Council. Pursuant to Article VII.3 of the Club Constitution, the Council has elected Ed Summersby as President. We wish Liisa and her husband Don all the very best.

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765<sup>th</sup> Meeting



Number 7

2004-05

The seventh meeting of the season will be held in the Massachusetts Room of the Harvard Club on **Tuesday, April 12, 2005**. Cocktails will be served at 6:15 p.m., dinner is at 7:00 p.m., and the meeting will begin at 8:15 p.m. The price is \$40 each per member, \$45 for a first guest, and \$50 for each additional guest. Please respond as soon as possible using the enclosed card, email, or by telephone only if you are coming to the dinner. Reservations received after midnight of the Saturday preceding the meeting will incur a \$5 late fee. Members who, after making a reservation, fail to attend without canceling may be liable for the dinner charge.

### OCEAN EXPEDITIONS FOR SCIENCE AND CONSERVATION

We're all increasingly aware of the environmental stresses that oceans are facing – the destruction of coral reefs, and the breakup of Antarctic sea ice – to name just two. Our April speaker, Dr. Gregory S. Stone, studies these phenomena, and will take us on a tour of his ocean research. We'll go from the Ross Sea, where Dr. Stone will describe his bone-chilling dives under B-15, the largest iceberg in history, to the Phoenix Islands in the South Pacific, where he discovered the last pristine oceanic coral archipelago in the world. Underlying all of Dr. Stone's work is the need and desire to explore and conserve the oceans. His talk will be illustrated with his spectacular photography.

Dr. Gregory S. Stone is Vice President for Global Marine Programs at the New England Aquarium. He is a marine biologist, explorer, expert diver, award-winning film maker, and author of over 100 publications and two books. His book *Ice Island* won the 2003 National Outdoor Book Award. He publishes articles frequently in *National Geographic Magazine*, the most recent in February 2004. The day after he gives his talk, Dr. Stone will be leaving for Thailand to lead a diving expedition to assess coral reef damage from the recent tsunami.

### Club Notes

The Council of the Harvard Travellers Club has voted to confer the award of Fellow to Gabrielle H. Whitehouse for her impressive record of travel to out-of-the-ordinary places.

We welcome Dorothy Dawson Burlage as a new Member of the Club. The last meeting of the season will be on May 24, which is the *fourth* Tuesday of that month. Dr. Twig Johnson will talk on "Amazon Alternatives – The Search for Sustainability". That meeting is also our annual business meeting.

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2004-05

## REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Pursuant to Article Seven of the Constitution, the Nominating Committee presents the following nominations for the year 2005-2006.

President:	Edmund K. Summersby
Vice-Presidents:	Daniel Woodbury Senecal Jo-Del Gaeth
Secretary-Treasurer:	Kenneth J. Bures
Councillors:	C. Lansing Fair Lauren Meridith Bruck Brian P. Dill David S. Roberts Martin S. Klein

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE B. WENCKEBACH, *Chair*  
JOHN OSGOOD FIELD  
LOUIS A. SGARZI

*Nominating Committee*



766<sup>th</sup> Meeting



Number 8

2004-05

The eighth meeting of the season will be held in the Massachusetts Room of the Harvard Club on **Tuesday, May 24, 2005**. Cocktails will be served at 6:15 p.m., dinner is at 7:00 p.m., and the meeting will begin at 8:15 p.m. The price is \$40 each per member, \$45 for a first guest, and \$50 for each additional guest. Please respond as soon as possible using the enclosed card, email, or by telephone only if you are coming to the dinner. Reservations received after midnight of the Saturday preceding the meeting will incur a \$5 late fee. Members who, after making a reservation, fail to attend without canceling may be liable for the dinner charge.

### SEARCHING FOR SUSTAINABILITY IN THE AMAZON

We've all heard about the "demise" of the Amazon, without always understanding what that may entail. Our May speaker, Dr. Twig Johnson, will take away some of the mystery, while also giving us a vivid and up-to-the-date description of the region. For seven years Twig has been involved with the Pilot Program to Conserve the Brazilian Rain Forest, a project funded by the G-7 group of countries, and began in 1992 out of concern with deforestation. Its purpose has been to demonstrate conservation and sustainable use of the region's natural resources. Dr. Johnson has served on the International Advisory Group, which visits the region twice a year to provide independent assessments of progress. This has given him an unparalleled opportunity to travel throughout the region. At our meeting he will highlight some of his more interesting observations and experiences during his many field visits to the upper Rio Negro and Middle Amazon rivers.

Dr. Twig Johnson is currently on leave from the National Academy of Science where he led the "Science and Technology for Sustainability" program. He received his Ph.D. in ecological anthropology from Columbia University and taught at Queens College, CUNY, and the University of Maine. His government service has included responsible roles with the Agency for International Development, the United Nations, and the Peace Corps, as well as the National Academy of Science. Dr. Johnson has also worked as Executive Director of Earthwatch's Center for Field Research, and with the World Wildlife Fund as Regional Director and VP for Latin America.

#### Club Notes

Please note the Nominating Committee's revised list of recommendations for officers and councillors in the enclosed 2004-2005 Annual Report.

Please reserve the following dates for next season's meetings: October 11, November 8, December 13, January 10, February 14, March 14, April 11, and May 23.

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