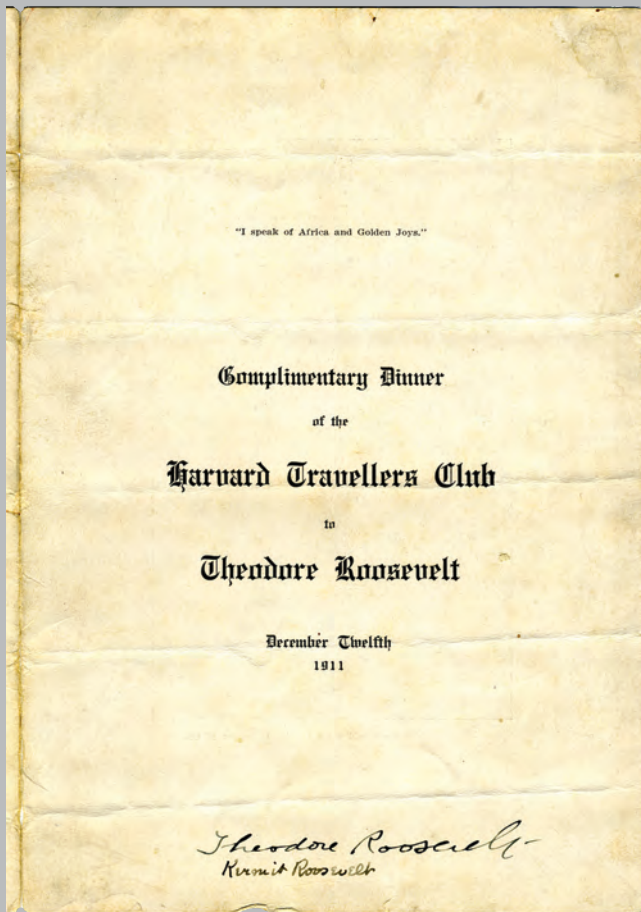


# 850<sup>th</sup> Meeting

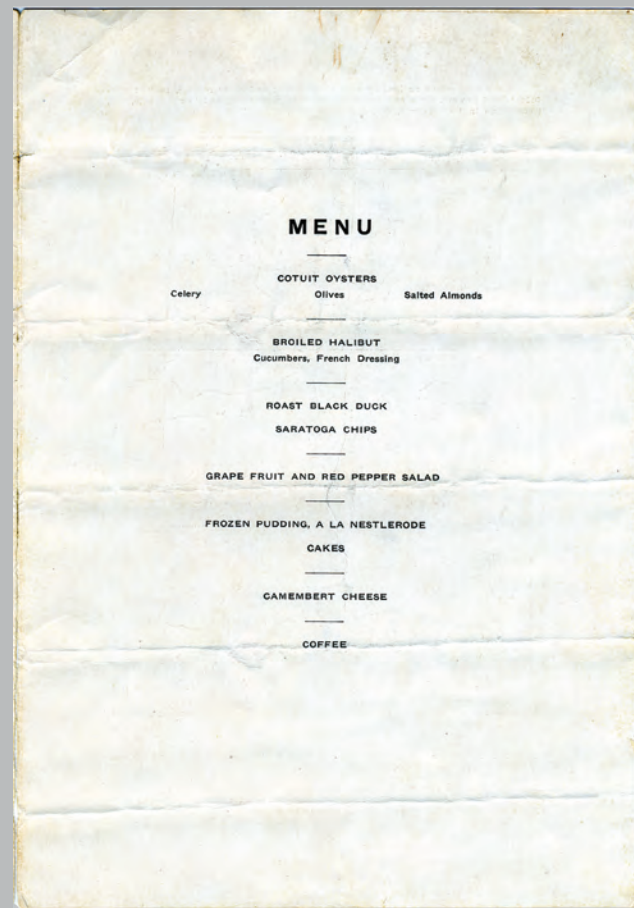


A keepsake produced for the 850th meeting of the Harvard Travellers Club held on January 12, 2016 at the Harvard Club of Boston 374 Commonwealth Avenue Boston, Massachusetts.

*Before you know it this little pup of yours is going to be a Great Big Dog!*  
— Dr. Allen M. Cleghorn commenting on the Club at a meeting in 1905.



The menu for the Roosevelt Dinner held on December 12, 1911. Signed by the former President and his son, Kermit.



## Venues – Clubs

- Harvard Club of Boston *741 occurrences*
- University Club, 270 Beacon Street, Boston *23*
- Institute of Geographical Exploration, 2 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge *13*
- Harvard Union, Cambridge *12*
- Unknown *9*
- Boston Athletic Association, Exeter Street, Boston *8*
- Exchange Club, Milk Street, Boston *3*
- Fogg Art Museum, Cambridge *3*
- Horticultural Hall, Boston *2*
- M.I.T. Faculty Club, Cambridge *2*
- Tavern Club, Boston *2*
- Club of Odd Volumes *1*
- Colonial Club, Cambridge *1*
- Hotel Brunswick, Boston *1*
- Huntington Hall, Rogers Building, Boylston Street, Boston *1*
- Legion of Honor Hall, 200 Huntington Avenue, Boston *1*
- St. Botolph Club, Boston *1*
- Union Club, Boston *1*

## Venues – Residences of Members & Fellows

- Mr. Edward J. Holmes, 296 Beacon Street, Boston *3*
- Professor Theodore Lyman, Boylston Street, Brookline *3*
- Mr. Edwin H. Abbot, 1 Follen Street, Cambridge *2*
- Mr. Samuel Cabot, 109 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston *2*
- Dr. John C. Phillips, 299 Berkeley Street, Boston *2*
- Mr. John L. Bremer, 416 Beacon Street, Boston *1*
- Dr. H. L. Burrell, 22 Newbury Street, Boston *1*
- Richard H. Dana, 113 Brattle Street, Cambridge *1*
- George B. Dorr, 18 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston *1*
- Professor Albert B. Hart, 19 Craigie Street, Cambridge *1*
- Mr. Edward W. Hutchins, 166 Beacon Street, Boston *1*
- Mr. Charles Jackson, 462 Beacon Street, Boston *1*
- Mr. Amos R. Little, 317 Dartmouth Street, Boston *1*
- Mr. Wallace Pierce, 350 Beacon Street, Boston *1*
- Mr. A. Lawrence Rotch, 235 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston *1*



## Harvard Travellers Club

### 850th Meeting

### January 12, 2015

**T**HIS EVENING the Harvard Travellers Club holds its 850<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Club's first meeting was held on Saturday, November 15, 1902, in the Harvard Union on the corner of Quincy and Harvard Streets in Cambridge. An invitation had gone out to Harvard men and others interested in considering "...the formation of a Harvard Travellers Club, with the object of promoting intelligent travel and exploration." The invitation was signed by Professor William Morris Davis, Archibald Cary Coolidge, Copley Amory, James H. Kidder and Roland B. Dixon. Thirty men in all—students, alumni and professors—showed up. Of these thirty, the mix was close to even between students (graduate and undergraduate—12), Harvard academics (10) and others (alumni—8).

At first, the Club's meetings were only talks, perhaps with light refreshments before or after. The Union and on several occasions the Fogg Art Museum were used for meetings, also the private houses of members (on at least 22 occasions). Clubs were also used, particularly the University Club (23 meetings) when it was on Beacon Street and the Boston Athletic Association (8 meetings), then on the present site of the Boston Public Library addition. Between 1931 and 1949, the Club held 13 meetings at the Institute of Geographical Exploration at 2 Divinity Avenue in Cambridge. (The Club also had its office and library in this building which was built by Club member A. Hamilton Rice.) But without question the Club's most frequent venue has been here at the Harvard Club of Boston. The first meeting at 374 Commonwealth Avenue was on November 28, 1913, 16 days after the building's dedication. The Club has met here 741 times since. It is unlikely that any group has convened there more often or started doing so earlier than the Harvard Travellers Club.

Club meetings only began to be numbered starting with the 415<sup>th</sup> meeting (October 10, 1961). In actual fact there have been more than 850. At least 56 other non-regular gatherings of the Club have been held,

ranging from meetings of the Fellows to "Practical Talks" about a variety of travel topics to Exhibitions that were open to the general public to special luncheons or dinners (ones were given to Roald Amundsen, Sir Ernest H. Shackleton and Norman Vaughan, coincidentally all polar explorers). Glover Allen, who authored the *History of The Harvard Travellers Club 1902–1932*, was the one who going through the Club archives numbered the meetings through the 208<sup>th</sup>, May 13, 1932, the end period of his History.

At these 850 meetings, talks have been given by 1,094 persons. Some evenings in the early years of the Club would feature three speakers. In 1993 once-a-year Club or Members Nights were introduced sometimes resulting in as many as seven speakers. For those talks that are easily classified as to geographical area, Asia is far and away the leader at 27%, followed by Africa (14%), The Pacific (9%), South America, Europe and the United States (each 8%), Canada (7%), The Arctic (6%), Central America and the Middle East (each 4%), The Antarctic (3%), and The Caribbean, Australia and Space (each 1%).

With respect to subject matter, for those talks easily classified, mountaineering is the most often presented

(31%) and has been consistently since the Club's founding, followed by natural history (22%). Others include Nautical subjects (13%), Public Affairs and Hunting (each 6%; the talk at the Club's first meeting was on hunting; the last program on the subject was in 1963), Exploration (5%), Flight (4%), Health and Historical (each 3%), Archaeology and Science (each 2%), Anthropology and Architecture (each 1%) and Space and Sport (each less than 1%).

Who has spoken to the Club the most times? Our member Club Medalist H. Bradford Washburn, Jr. (1910-2007), who joined the the Club in 1931. He spoke on 16 occasions, the first on December 3, 1929, when he spoke on *The Ascent of the Grépon*, and most recently (with David Roberts and Robert Bates) at the 748<sup>th</sup> meeting on March 11, 2003, when the subject was *Escape from Lucania*. The runner-up? H. Adams Carter (1914-1995) with 12 appearances.

There have been many memorable meetings and speakers over the years. The anniversary meetings have been more frequent in recent years than in the past. Perhaps the early members thought the Club might not last too long. The first that seems to have been recorded was the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, held on November 16, 1952 (Meeting 344). George H. T. Kimble spoke on the *The Changing Face of Central Africa*. Then, on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March, 1972, the 500<sup>th</sup> Meeting was held. A hundred meetings later, on November 13, 1984, the "Roosevelt Dinner" was recreated with Kermit and Jonathan Roosevelt the featured speakers. The 650<sup>th</sup> was on January 15, 1991, Rob Perkins and Chris Knight speaking on *Kamchatka: The Unknown Land*. The Roosevelt menu was recreated once again when Tweed Roosevelt recounted his *Return from the River of Doubt: The 1992 Rio Roosevelt Expedition* at the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary meeting on November 10, 1993. On March 11, 1997, the 700<sup>th</sup> Meeting was held, H. Bradford Washburn, Jr., speaking on the *Matterhorn, McKinley and Everest*. On November 15, 2002, we celebrated the Club's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, our 744<sup>th</sup> Meeting, with our speaker Jonathan Shackleton, the third Shackleton to address the Club. At the 750<sup>th</sup> Meeting, on the 27<sup>th</sup> of May 2003, Astronaut Story Musgrave spoke on *Earth as Art*. Mountaineer Conrad Anker spoke at the 800<sup>th</sup> meeting, the title of his talk: *The Shark's Fin*. And tonight, we celebrate

the 850<sup>th</sup> meeting with Wendy Booker as our speaker; her talk: *90 Degrees Latitude and Longitude... Incredible!*

Anniversary meetings sometimes coincided with appearances of famous speakers. Among those who have spoken to the Club who either were famous at the time or became so, were (with appearances more than once shown in parentheses): Carl E. Akeley, *Father of Modern Taxidermy*; Roald Amundsen, *First to the South Pole*; Roy Chapman Andrews, *Explorer of Mongolia*; Conrad Anker, *Mountaineer*; Captain Robert A. Bartlett, *Arctic Explorer* (4); Hiram Bingham, *Discoverer of Machu Picchu*; Barry C. Bishop, *Mountaineer* (2); Carleton S. Coon, *Anthropologist* (9); Frederick E. Crockett, *First Byrd Antarctic Expedition* (2); Charles W. Eliot, *President of Harvard*; Anthony Fiala, *Arctic Explorer*; Edward E. Goodale, *First Byrd Antarctic Expedition*; Laurence M. Gould, *First Byrd Antarctic Expedition*; Brigadier-General Adolphus W. Greeley, *Arctic Explorer*; Sven Hedin, *Explorer of Central Asia*; Heinrich Harrer, *Mountaineer*; Sir Harry Johnston, *African Explorer*; Sebastian Junger, *Journalist and Writer*; Owen Lattimore, *Asian Explorer* (5); Donald B. MacMillan, *Arctic Explorer*; George Leigh Mallory, *Lost on Everest*; John P. Marquand, *Novelist* (2); Robert Cushman Murphy, *Naturalist* (2); Otto Nordenskjöld, *Polar Explorer*; Noel E. Odell, *Mountaineer*; Commander Robert E. Peary, *Arctic Explorer*; S. Dillon Ripley, *Ornithologist and Director of the Smithsonian* (3); Jonathan Roosevelt; Kermit Roosevelt (2); Kermit Roosevelt, Jr.; Quentin Roosevelt; President Theodore Roosevelt; Tweed Roosevelt; Governor Sumner Sewall of Maine; Sir Ernest H. Shackleton, *Polar Explorer*; Eric Shipton, *Mountaineer* (2); Joseph Lindon Smith, *Artist of Egypt* (2); Frank S. Smythe, *Mountaineer*; Vilhjalmur Stefansson, *Arctic Explorer* (4); Major-General Sir Percy Sykes, *Explorer of Persia*; Bertram Thomas, *First to Cross Arabia's Empty Quarter*; Alan J. Villiers, *Author and Sailor*; H. Bradford Washburn, Jr., *Mountaineer and Cartographer*; Sir Hubert Wilkins, *Arctic and Antarctic Aviator*; Frederick R. Wulsin, *Anthropologist and Explorer* (3); and Colonel Sir Francis Younghusband, *Explorer of India and Central Asia*.



## A Harvard Travellers Club Meeting Timeline

**November 15, 1902** – First meeting of the Harvard Travellers Club at the Harvard Union, Cambridge.

**January 16, 1903** – First recorded instance of food being served. Second meeting of the Club. “A light supper will be served at 9.30.”

**January 29, 1904** – First dinner before a meeting. Harvard Union. Price \$2. Attended by 23.

**March 25, 1904** – First meeting held in a private home, the house of George B. Dorr, 18 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston.

**May 18, 1905** – Probably the first Annual meeting as such; held at residence of Dr. John L. Bremer, 416 Beacon Street, Boston.

**April 27, 1906** – First showing of motion pictures at a Club meeting, at the house of Mr. Edwin H. Abbot, 1 Follen Street, Cambridge.

**February 14, 1908** – First Annual Dinner Meeting. Held at the Hotel Brunswick, Boston.

**March 18, 1908** – Exhibition Meeting at Horticultural Hall. First attendance of a Club event by women.

**May 7, 1909** – Probably first Ladies’ Night. Held at Horticultural Hall. 200 present.

**December 12, 1911** – President Theodore Roosevelt, Harvard ‘80, speaks at the 72<sup>nd</sup> Meeting held at the Exchange Club, Boston.

**January 17, 1913** – Harvard President Charles W. Eliot speaks on *The Social and Political Condition of China*.

**November 28, 1913** – First meeting held at the newly opened Harvard Club. Professor Roland B. Dixon, *Twelve Hundred Miles through the Northern Himalayas*.

**December 13, 1938** – First showing of color motion pictures at a Club meeting. December 13, 1938.

**January 16, 1940** – First woman speaker. “She is the only woman to have addressed the Club in the thirty-eight years of its existence, and signally deserves that honor.” Mrs. Laura Bolton, *Africa in Sound and Film*. This was also the first showing of sound motion pictures at a Club meeting.

**February 25, 1947** – 300<sup>th</sup> Meeting. Held at the Institute of Geographical Exploration, Cambridge.

**November 18, 1952** – 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting. George H. T. Kimbe spoke on *The Changing Face of Centra; Africa*.

**October 10, 1961** – First meeting to have the meeting number on the meeting notice. Number 415.

**March 21, 1972** – 500<sup>th</sup> Meeting. Sidney N. Shurcliff spoke on *Taiwan*.

**February 20, 1973** – “A loud speaker public address amplifier was used with considerable success.” First such use.

**October 6, 1976** – Only known instance of a speaker not appearing. Eugenie Clark failed to show because of weather and two members each of the Harvard Travellers Club and the Women’s Travel Club spoke without slides. Precursor to Members Night.

**January 11, 1977** – First African-Americans to speak to the Club, S. Allen Counter, Jr. and David L. Evans, *Surinam’s Ex-Slaves: African Settlements in America*.

**January 11, 1977** – Nametags first instituted at meetings.

**November 13, 1984** – 600<sup>th</sup> Meeting. Kermit and Jonathan Roosevelt, *East Africa: A Roosevelt Retrospective*.

**January 15, 1991** – 650<sup>th</sup> Meeting. Robert F. Perkins, Jr., and Chris Knight, *Kamchatka: The Unknown Land*.

**November 10, 1992** – 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting. Tweed Roosevelt, *Return from the River of Doubt: The 1992 Rio Roosevelt Expedition*.

**February 9, 1993** – Club (later Members) Night first held. 667<sup>th</sup> Meeting.

**October 10, 1995** – Club starts using its own slide projector.

**November 15, 2002** – 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting. Jonathan Shackleton, *Shackleton Returns! The Antarctic, Ireland, the Shackletons and One Hundred Years of the Harvard Travellers Club*.

**May 27, 2003** – 750<sup>th</sup> Meeting. Astronaut Story Musgrave, *Earth as Art*.

**November 10, 2009** – 800<sup>th</sup> Meeting. Conrad Anker, *The Shark’s Fin*.

**January 12, 2016** – 850<sup>th</sup> Meeting. Wendy Booker, “90 Degrees Latitude and Longitude...Incredible!”



# The Regular Meetings of the Harvard Travellers Club

Commencing with the 751st meeting. For earlier meetings, see <http://www.rs41.org/HTC/750.pdf>

*Note:* Place names generally appear in their original spelling.

751. October 14, 2003. *Speaker:* Terry Vose, "Return to Afghanistan."

752. November 11, 2003. *Speaker:* Dr. Alison Leslie, "Crocodiles of the Okavango."

753. December 9, 2003. *Speaker:* Mark Synnott, "High Adventures."

754. January 13, 2004. *Speaker:* Andrew M. Oldman, "The Straits of Magellan and Other Ocean Passages."

755. February 10, 2004. MEMBERS NIGHT: PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS. Greg Deyermenjian, *El Dorado and the Mythical Lake Manoa*. Martin S. Klein, *Down the White Nile from Murchison Falls (Uganda) to the Fola Cataract (Sudan)*. John S. Reidy, *Polar Bears of Churchill*. Daniel W. Senecal, *Motorcycling through the Sultanate*. Judy Summersby, *Hello Cuba: Through a Lens Brightly*.

756. March 9, 2004. *Speaker:* Marie Consindas, "Ethiopia and Other Places: A Personal Journey."

757. April 13, 2004. *Speaker:* Dr. Alison Jolly, "Lords & Lemurs: Mad Scientists, Kings with Spears, and the Survival of Diversity in Madagascar."

758. May 25, 2004. *Speaker:* Cary Wolinsky, "Anatomy of a Story."

759. October 12, 2004. *Speaker:* Mark A. Richey, "Peru, Land of Mystery."

760. November 9, 2004. *Speaker:* Brian Skerry, "Shipwrecks and Sea Monsters—An Underwater Photojournalist's World."

761. December 14, 2004. *Speaker:* Milbry Polk, "Women of Discovery."

762. January 11, 2005. *Speaker:* David Roberts, "The First Traverse of the Comb Ridge."

763. February 8, 2005. MEMBERS NIGHT: PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS. Robert Aranow, M.D., *New Zealand: Attempting Mount Cook and Achieving the Copeland Pass*. James Bildner, *A View from Above: 3,000 Miles and 300 Feet Above Ground*. Brian Dill, *Capturing Argali in the Land of Genghis Khan—A Research Expedition to Mongolia*. Charles W. Kellogg, *Nepal's Remote Roaming Valley*. Loren M. Wood, *Traversing Mt. McKinley*.

764. March 8, 2005. *Speaker:* Lucy Wendell-Thorpe, "Life at an Acharu Community in Ecuador; A People Determined to Maintain their Culture."

765. April 12, 2005. *Speaker:* Dr. Gregory S. Stone, "Ocean Expeditions for Science and Conservation."

766. May 24, 2005. *Speaker:* Dr. Twig Johnson, "Searching for Sustainability in the Amazon."

767. October 11, 2005. *Speakers:* Nat Stone and Marcus Rhinelander, "The Ho Chi Minh Trail Today: Exploring the Legacy of a War."

768. November 8, 2005. *Speaker:* Jake Norton, "Lost on Everest: The Enduring Mystery of Mallory and Irvine."

769. December 13, 2005. *Speaker:* Mickey Wittman, "Lighter-Than-Air Travel: Blimps, Dirigibles and Airships."

770. January 9, 2006. *Speaker:* Kevin Downey, "Cave Explorations: New Frontiers in the Underground World."

771. February 14, 2006. MEMBERS NIGHT: PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS. Lauren M. Bruck, *Pitcairn Island: The Living Legacy of the Mutiny on the Bounty*.

Maggy Bruzelius, *Exploration of Wardaman Aboriginal Dreaming Sites: The Land of the Lightning Brothers*. Ruthanne R. Cowan, *Libya, The Land of Archaeological Wonders*. Peter L. Lou, M.D., *Shangri-La: Pristine Beauty in Eastern Tibet, and Ancient Irrigation Engineering in Central Sichuan*. Blue Magruder, *Into Amazonia: Up the Rio Negro on the Tucano*.

772. March 14, 2006. *Speaker:* Geoffrey E. Clark, M.D., "Adventures in Arctic Film Making: The 1881 Greely Expedition."

773. April 20, 2006. *Speaker:* Jill Fredston, "Avalanche Hazard—Life and Death in Mountain Travel."

774. May 23, 2006. *Speaker:* Jennifer Jordan, "Savage Summit: The Stories of the First Five Women to Climb K2."

775. October 17, 2006. *Speaker:* Sam Abell, "The Photographic Life."

776. November 14, 2006. *Speaker:* Timur Kocak, "Second Class Sleepers—India by Rail."

777. December 12, 2006. *Speaker:* Edmund B. Cabot, "High Latitudes: Sailing Adventures in the North Atlantic."

778. January 9, 2007. *Speaker:* Greg Mortenson, "Three Cups of Tea: Promoting Peace and Building Nations, One School, One Child at a Time."

779. February 13, 2007. MEMBERS NIGHT: PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS. Nathaniel S. Coolidge, *White Water Canoeing in the Arctic (Baffin Island)*. Paula and Philip Cronin, *The Highest Walk in the World (Pakistan)*. J. Thomas Seldorff, *Jordan and Egypt*. Marilyn D. Stempler, *Namibia—Beauty in Desolation*. Theodore H.N. Wales, Jr., *North Vietnam, Laos and Northern Thailand*.

780. March 13, 2007. *Speaker:* Vaughan Langman, "Close Encounters with the World's Largest Mammals—Elephants, Giraffes, Rhinos and Killer Whales."

781. April 10, 2007. *Speaker:* Rory Stewart, "Walking Afghanistan, and Kabul Today."

782. May 22, 2007. *Speaker:* Ed Webster, "My Storm Years on Everest."

783. October 9, 2007. *Speaker:* Mabel Cabot, "Vanished Kingdoms—The Wulsin Photographs of Tibet, China and Mongolia, 1921-1925."

784. November 13, 2007. *Speaker:* Richard Hunt, "Munich, City of Light—and Darkness."

785. December 11, 2007. *Speaker:* Peter Alden, "Climate Change, Ice Bears and Inuit in the High Canadian Arctic Archipelago."

786. January 8, 2008. *Speaker:* Barbara Washburn, "The Not-So-Accidental Adventurer."

787. February 12, 2008. MEMBERS NIGHT: PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS. Lisa Austin, *Kayaking the East Arm of Glacier Bay*. Madelon Bures, *Christmas along the Rhine*. Donald Butterfield, M.D., *A Surgeon at War: Vietnam March-May 1967*.

Chuck and Diane Connors, *Switzerland—A Return Engagement*. Peter Lou, M.D., *Romania: Bucharest and Transylvania*. Chuck Staples, *Traveling the Silk Road: Xian China to the Aral Sea*.

788. March 11, 2008. *Speaker:* Charles S. Houston, M.D., "The Brotherhood of the Rope."

789. April 8, 2008. *Speaker:* Daniel Senecal, "True Adventures in Cultural Diversity."

790. May 20, 2008. *Speaker:* Don Gurewitz, "Myanmar: A Glimpse of Traditional Life in Burma."

791. October 14, 2008. *Speakers:* Anita Klausen and Bud Collins, "Bhutan, the Happy, Sleepy Himalayan Kingdom."

792. November 12, 2008. *Speaker:* Sebastian Junger, "A Journalist in the World's War Zones—Report from the War in Afghanistan."

793. December 9, 2008. *Speaker:* Chris Davenport, "Skiing Colorado's 14ers and Beyond—Ski Mountaineering the World's Great Mountains."

794. January 13, 2009. *Speaker:* Wayne Petersen, "Svalbard—An Arctic Naturalist's Paradise."

795. February 10, 2009. MEMBERS NIGHT: PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS

Peter Ames, *Exploring the Back Country of Croatia and Austria*. Michael Collora, *Climbing the Mountains of East Africa*. Arthur Holcombe, *Tibet and Tibetans as seen by an Aid Practitioner*. Marilyn Stempler, *South India: A Profusion of Color*. Terry Vose, *A Lifetime Under Water—40 Years of SCUBA Diving*.

796. March 10, 2009. *Speaker:* Mark A. Richey, "Climbing and Exploring around the World."

797. April 14, 2009. *Speaker:* Dr. Lucy Der Manuelian, "Armenia—Mountains, Monuments, Manuscripts and Miracles."

798. May 19, 2009. *Speaker:* Lou Jones, "Travel + Photography: Off the Charts."

799. October 13, 2009. *Speaker:* Geoffrey E. Clark, M.D., "Abandoned in the Arctic."

800. November 10, 2009. *Speaker:* Conrad Anker, "The Shark's Fin." 800<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE HARVARD TRAVELLERS CLUB.

801. December 8, 2009. *Speaker:* Delafield DuBois, "Back Roads: A 24-day Canoe Journey through the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge."

802. January 12, 2010. *Speaker:* Peter Athans, "Secrets of Shangri-La: Re-discovering the Caves of Mustang."

803. February 9, 2010. MEMBERS NIGHT: PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS. George Bates, *Trekking in Mongolia's Tavan Bogd National Park*. Hilary Coolidge, *Slovenia: A Jaunt in the Julian Alps*. Zeren Earls, *Treasures of Eastern Turkey: Unexpected Encounters*. Charles Kellogg, *Trek to The Lord of Beginnings in Nepal*.

804. March 9, 2010. *Speaker:* Tina Ramme, "African Lions and Maasai Nomads."

805. April 13, 2010. *Speaker:* Patricia Glyn, "Footing with Sir Richard's Ghost."

806. May 18, 2010. *Speaker:* Isobel Williams, M.D., "Edward Wilson, Life and Times."

807. October 12, 2010. *Speaker:* Jon Bowermaster, "One Ocean."

808. November 9, 2010. *Speaker:* Alice DeLana, "Provençe—A Love Affair."

809. December 14, 2010. *Speaker:* Mark W. Moffett, "Adventures among Ants."

810. January 11, 2011. *Speaker:* Chris Leahy, "Mongolia—The Last Wilderness Nation Faces the Global Market Economy."

811. February 8, 2011. MEMBERS NIGHT: PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS. Arthur Holcombe, *Pride, Potential and Plight of Palestinians in Gaza*. Robert Stephenson, *Australia—Then and Now*. Ed Summersby, *Pakistan—Karachi, Lahore and the Swat Valley*. Debbie Swenson, *Hiking the Haute Route—Chamonix to Zermatt*.

812. March 8, 2011. *Speaker:* Alex Honnold, "Alone on the Wall."

813. April 12, 2011. *Speaker:* Kathryn Bard, "Mersa/Wadi Gawasis: A Pharaonic Harbor on the Red Sea."

814. May 17, 2011. *Speaker:* Rich Wilson, "Race France to France, Leave Antarctica to Starboard."

815. October 11, 2011. *Speakers:* David Roberts and Ed Ward, "The Southeast Face of Mt. Dickey, Alaska."

816. November 8, 2011. *Speaker:* Dr. Wouter van Hoven, "Operation Noah's Ark—Restoring Angola's Wildlife."

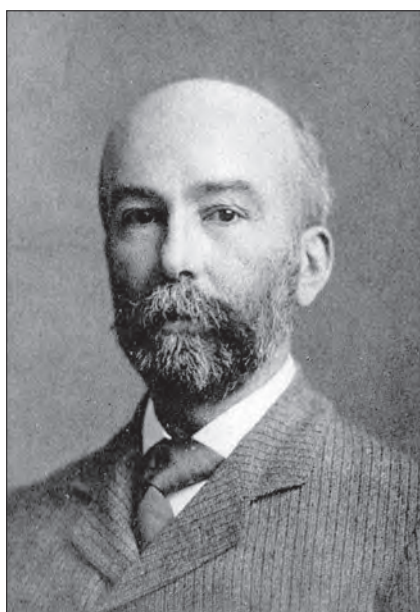
817. December 13, 2011. *Speaker:* Dr. Alan Hallman, "The Yukon Quest."

818. January 10, 2012. *Speaker:* Donald Freeman, "Venice—Saving a World Heritage Site."

819. February 8, 2012. MEMBERS NIGHT: PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS. Judy Bell, *Climbing English Oak Trees in Australia*. Terry Vose, *Ocean Trade Routes: A Roman Ship & Mother Nature*. Judy Gregg, *Muscat, the Wahiba Sands and Beyond*. Tony Tappé, *Cruising the Danube and the Rhine*.

820. March 13, 2012. *Speaker:* Christina Thompson, "The Maori People of New Zealand." [Program shortened and no images shown due to power failure throughout the Back Bay.]

821. April 10, 1912. *Speaker:* Mitchell Zuckoff, "Lost in Shangri-La."
822. May 15, 2012. *Speaker:* Alex S. MacLean, "Aerial Reflections."
823. October 9, 2012. *Speaker:* Rosemary Mahoney, "Down the Nile; Alone on a Fisherman's Skiff."
824. November 13, 2012. *Speaker:* Tim Lamen, "Birds of Paradise."
825. December 11, 2012. *Speaker:* Stephen Loutrel, "Sailing and Mountaineering in Northern Labrador."
826. January 8, 2013. *Speakers:* Janet Bergman Wilkinson, Freddie Wilkinson & Mark A. Richey, "Indian Summer—Six First Ascents in the Eastern Karakoram."
827. February 12, 2013. MEMBERS NIGHT: PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS.  
Hal Goyette, *Around My World in 12 Minutes*.  
Peter Creighton, *Sheiks, Sharks and Schools (and Snakes!)*.  
Marilyn Stempler, *North Korea: Life in Cultural Isolation*.  
John Reidy, *Passage to India, Land of Contrasts and Contradictions*.
828. March 12, 2013. *Speaker:* Christina Thompson, "The Discovery and Settling of Polynesia."
829. April 9, 2013. *Speaker:* Jennifer Berglund, "Defending Eden: The Waorani Student Project."
830. May 21, 2013. *Speaker:* Greg Child, "K2, A Very Hard Way."
831. October 8, 2013. *Speaker:* Don Gurewitz, "Bhutan: Inside the 'Land of the Thunder Dragon'."
832. November 12, 2013. *Speaker:* Deborah C. Hoard, "They Call it Myanmar: Lifting the Curtain."
833. December 10, 2013. *Speaker:* Dr. Jerry Vanik, "Serum Run '25...The Great Race Against Death."
834. January 14, 2014. *Speaker:* Freddie Wilkinson, "Mountain/Story."
835. February 11, 2014. MEMBERS NIGHT: PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS.  
Laura Babbitt, *Research in Indonesia: Successes and Surprises*.  
Darcy Jameson, *Nepal: Religion, Art, Architecture and the Land*.  
Andy Oldman, *The Architectural and Geographic Wonders of Mont St Michel*.  
Ed Summersby, *Berlin 1955—Ten Years after the Fall*.
836. March 11, 2014. *Speaker:* Dr. Joseph Schuldenrein, "Afghanistan The Glory of Mes Aynak: Past Magnificence, Future Threats."
837. April 8, 2014. *Speaker:* Shawn Carey, "Epic Journeys: Tracking the Migrations of Shorebirds in the Western Hemisphere."
838. May 20, 2014. *Speaker:* John King, "Close Encounters of the Wild Kind: Adventures at the Top of the Food Chain."
839. October 14, 2014. *Speaker:* Matt Gross, "Why I Can't Make Sense of Turkey, But Love it Anyway."
840. November 12, 2014. *Speaker:* Nathan Benn, "Peru and the Royal Tombs of the Moche Culture."
841. December 9, 2014. *Speaker:* Joseph A. Greene, "Travellers in the Holy Land, A—Z: From the Siege of Acre to the Wilderness of Zin."
842. January 13, 2015. *Speaker:* Sarah Garlick, "Wild Stone: Big Wall Climbing in Greenland and a Climbing-Science-Conservation Project in Mozambique."
843. March 10, 2015. *Speaker:* Curt DiCamillo, "Magnificence, Marriage & Murder—The Story of Scotland's Brodick Castle."
844. April 14, 2015. *Speaker:* Patricia Glyn, "A Journey of Discovery—Trekking with the Khomani San/Bushmen of the Kalahari."
845. May 19, 2015. *Speaker:* Cheryl Knott, "Borneo, Orangutans in the Wild."
846. June 1, 2015. MEMBERS NIGHT: PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS. (Moved from February due to weather. No meeting in February.)  
Jo-Del Gaeth, *East to Eden—A Journey of Thirty Years of Friendship*.  
Judy Gregg, *Antarctica—A Trip Never to Be Forgotten*.  
Eli Dow, *Burma—The Highlight of Southeast Asia*.  
Nils Bonde-Henriksen, *Quick Trip to Iceland—Landmannalauger, and other Icelandic Names I can't pronounce*.
847. October 13, 2015. *Speaker:* Nils Navarro, "Cuba, the Queen of the Caribbean."
848. November 10, 2015. *Speaker:* Polly Mahoney and Kevin Slater, "Canoeing with the Cree."
849. December 8, 2015. *Speaker:* Carl Safina, "Beyond Words: How Killer Whales, Elephants and Wolves Think and Feel."
850. January 12, 2016. Wendy Booker, "90 Degrees Latitude and Longitude...Incredible!"  
850<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE HARVARD TRAVELLERS CLUB.



WILLIAM MORRIS DAVIS

THE HISTORY of any successful enterprise commonly centers about some great personality whose vision and courage give the initial impetus and whose inspiration helps to maintain the momentum. To the enthusiasm and zeal of its first president, Professor William Morris Davis, the Club owes much of its early success. A mere perusal of his scrap book kept during these years suffices to show the unremitting effort he put forth in its behalf—letters to well-known explorers and travellers inviting them to address our meetings, many more in the shape of replies to invitations he sent out to personal friends before each meeting, cordially asking their presence or as his guests at dinner to meet the speakers and hear the lectures. By this constructive method he interested many of his close acquaintances who later became staunch members of the Club. He aimed high that a standard might be set at the beginning which should place the meetings of the Club above the level of mediocrity.

—From the *History of the Harvard Travellers Club*, 1933

DEAR SIR:

You are cordially invited to attend a meeting in the Assembly room, Harvard Union (2nd floor), Cambridge, at 8 P. M., Saturday, November 15, 1902, to consider the formation of a

HARVARD TRAVELLERS CLUB,

With the object of promoting intelligent travel and exploration, especially by Harvard men.

Mr. Jas. H. Kidder will speak on his travels in Alaska, with lantern illustrations.

Mr. Copley Amory will give his impressions from a short visit to Cuba.

Prof. W. M. Davis will outline a plan for the conduct of the proposed club.

We should be glad to receive from you the names and addresses of Harvard men who have travelled in the more distant parts of the world, and who might be interested in the club.

If you can attend the meeting, please send word not later than Nov. 12, to Dr. R. B. Dixon, Peabody Museum, Cambridge.

W. M. DAVIS.  
A. C. COOLIDGE.  
COPLEY AMORY.  
JAS. H. KIDDER.  
R. B. DIXON.

CAMBRIDGE, Nov. 1, 1902.

The invitation that went out announcing the Club's first meeting.



The Harvard Union, now the Barker Center.  
Where the first Club meeting was held.

3

— 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting —

The first meeting was held at the Harvard Union Nov 15<sup>th</sup> 1902.

Mr James H. Kidder gave an account of his experiences with the Kodiak Island and Alaskan Peninsula bears, more especially with reference to their habits, size etc. His talk was supplemented with lantern slides from his own photographs -

Prof. Davis gave an idea as to the proposed objects of the club.

The following men registered their names.

A. H. Clark. Camb.  
George Sharp <sup>Esq.</sup> Can. 94 Brattle St. Camb.  
Ernest Howe. U.S. Geol. Survey  
Sinclair Kennedy Readville, Mass  
George H. Burnett Beck Hall.  
Russell Tyson Chicago  
J. Walter Spethwait, 67 Thayer Hall

The Minutes of the First Meeting.

Meeting - Nov. 15 - 1902

A. H. Clark 68 Parkers  
George Sharp Esq. 94 Brattle  
Ernest Howe - U.S. Geological Survey  
Sinclair Kennedy. Readville, Mass.  
George H. Burnett 42 Beck Hall  
George H. Field 18 Randolph Hall  
Russell Tyson Chicago, Ill.  
George Byron Gordon Cambridge Mass  
J. Walter Spethwait 67 Thayer Hall  
J. W. Spethwait  
Lawrence Patch, Hyde Park, Mass.  
Gordon Donald 20 Russell Hall.  
Fritz D. Talbot Sewall Ave. Brookline  
Charles L. Harding East Greenwich R.I.  
Delafield D. Bone 4 Ware Hall

Page I of the First Meeting sign-in sheet.



## The Founders

THE INVITATION on the previous page is the first document in the first of several Club scrapbooks. Those registering at this inaugural meeting included professors at the college, graduates and undergraduates, and alumni, in all thirty, as follows:

	Years of Membership
George Hall Burnett	1902-03
Austin Hobart Clark ( <i>First to sign-in at First Meeting</i> )	1902-03
William Morris Davis ( <i>First President</i> )	1902-34
Roland Burrage Dixon	1902-34
Gordon Donald	1902-22
Delafield Dubois	1902-07
George Hayes Field	1902-03
Alexis Everett Frye	1902-36
William Hargadine Glasgow	1902-03
James Walter Goldthwait	1902-31
George Byron Gordon	1902-27
Charles Lewis Harding	1902-09
Ernest Howe	1902-32
Thomas Augustus Jaggar, Jr.	1902-53
Harris Kennedy	1902-51
Sinclair Kennedy	1902-47
James Hathaway Kidder ( <i>First Speaker</i> )	1902-03
Samuel Watts Lewis	1902-57
Leonard Metcalf	1902-07
John Charles Phillips ( <i>First Secretary</i> )	1902-38
Frederick Ward Putnam	1902-15
George Sharp Raymer	1902-29
Motte Alston Read	1902-20
Abbott Lawrence Rotch	1902-12
Rollin S. Saltus	1902-34
Herbert Weir Smyth	1902-37
Raymond Eugene Streit	1902-03
Fritz Bradley Talbot ( <i>Last surviving Charter Member</i> )	1902-64
Russell Tyson	1902-63
Robert Walcott	1902-56

359 S. Wilson Ave. Pasadena, Calif.

Feb. 17, 1931

Dear Dr. Allen [*Glover M. Allen, President 1927-28*],

Your note of January 30 about the Harvard Travellers Club gives me the good news of its successful meetings of recent date, which makes pleasant reading. Success of that sort means thought and care and WORK on the part of the officers, and I congratulate them on the result.

A first meeting, held with the idea of forming the Club was held in my house on Francis Avenue, Cambridge, in 1902, I think; but as often happens in such cases, no record was kept of those present or of action taken.

The Club languished for a time because its secretaries did not put much effort into their share of the needed work. Records were very imperfect for two or three years. Then a gradual advance was made. Dr. Townsend Thorndike became Secretary and many meetings were held in private houses of members in Boston or Cambridge. At such times we were frequently favored by the presence of invited guests, some of whom were so pleasantly impressed by what they saw and heard that they became active members. Somewhere there is a book of notes of acceptance or regret received from the invitees.

On one occasion when Sir Colin Scott Moncrieff addressed us and the meeting was held in the house of the late Edward W. Hutchins, all the attending members were personally presented to our host and our speaker as they entered the spacious room where we gathered; and they seemed to like that sort of thing, too.

We occasionally had dinner meetings: at one of them when Manchuria was our subject—on which the speaker discoursed in an unfortunately dull manner—we had all the Harvard Corporation present, except Dr. Arthur Cabot; he also had expected to be there but was called away at the last moment, probably to remove someone's troublesome appendix.

At another meeting when Peary drew a full house at the Fogg Art Museum, we adjourned to the Harvard Union for a supper; and President Eliot there said in his impressive manner: "Your Club seems to be an immediate success." But I was not in a good humor that night, for the speaker had asked for his \$100 before he would step out on the platform.

Another reminiscence touches Sven Hedin, the distinguished Swedish medal-gatherer. The newspapers said that he was about to visit the United States, so I wrote to him inviting him to address the Club. He replied that his reported visit was a mistake; he was sorry, for he would have been glad to speak to us, and it would have been a good thing for our members to see a real explorer! When he did come over about ten years later, he was NOT invited to our meetings.

Our Shackleton luncheon at the Harvard Union was a brilliant success. When we went into the living room after the luncheon, it was packed solid with students, who gave our visitor such a sudden cheer that he was almost scared with the burst of sound.

We held two very successful exhibitions. At one of them, in Horticultural Hall, an evening was given to two addresses by the Long and Short of it, as I said in introducing the speakers. One was Dr. Tom Barbour, evidently the Long; the other was Elsworth Huntington, as evidently the Short. Their subjects were New Guinea and the Desert of Gobi.

The house meetings were given up after the establishment of the Boston Harvard Club; and in my opinion we thereby lost a valuable "personal touch," but the change made the conduct of the Club easier and it has I suppose been pursued for that reason.

The distinction between fellows and ordinary members was early introduced and was helpful. I hope it has been kept up. Also the plan of electing new members not in order of their nomination but according to the fellows' opinion of their value to the Club.

Let me close by expressing a hearty wish that your own work is going on well; also that Museum is prospering under its new Director. I should so much like to see him at work in that fine responsibility! Please give to him and to my other friends in the Museum and in the Club my best wishes; and accept a good share of them for yourself.

Very truly yours,

[*signed W. M. Davis*]

You may add, if you like, that "Einstein and I" are having a fine time at the Cal. Tech. this winter.

At one of the exhibitions, each member's exhibit had a world map over it, on which was traced in red all of his travels.