BE AN ARMCHAIR ADVENTURE TRAVELER!

Join the LOS GATOS-SARATOGA AAUW TRAVEL SECTION'S 2018-2019 Travel Series with Exciting Trips Around the World! Meets at The Terraces of Los Gatos, 800 Blossom Hill Road at 7:30 pm.

October 5, 2018 - SHARING THE SCIENCE - What 2500 Whale Watchers are doing for Research - Presented by Ted Cheeseman.

"There's something amazing happening across the Pacific Ocean: every single humpback whale swimming in waters accessible by tour vessels may soon be identified as an individual and tracked. A growing team of citizen scientists collaborating with researchers through the web platform *Happy Whale*, www.Happywhale.com, have now identified over 16,000 individuals from the Antarctic to Alaska. Suddenly, whale science has become personal, and accessible, and hopefully, more powerful. With this, we are more quickly identifying entangled whales, learning if individuals who have suffered entanglements survive. Join us to enjoy stories and images from an inspiring movement in citizen science."

November 2, 2018- THE MANY CULTURES IN YUNNAN PROVINCE, CHINA –

Presented by Ed Chang

Ed Chang has traveled extensively in China and is presenting for the first time to our group. He states "There are 56 ethnic groups in China. "Han" people are the majority with 91.5% of the population in China. The rest, 8.5% of the population, consists of 55 minority ethnic groups. Of the 55 minority ethnic groups, about 25 of them are in Yunnan Province. Yunnan Province is located southwest of China, bordering Myanmar, Laos and Vietnam. This presentation takes you to Yunnan Province to see some of the minority ethnic groups, their daily life, costumes, houses, markets. ...etc."

<u>January 4, 2019</u> - <u>EXPLORING PATAGONIA</u> - Presented by photographer Gary Marcos.

Join Gary and wife Anne as they journey through Patagonia, located in South America and spanning both Argentina and Brazil and which is well known for it's majestic and dramatic mountains. Gary says "In 2018, I staged many 2-3 night backpacking trips starting in the town of Bariloche to the 'Refugios' or Refuges where one can stay overnight in rustic backpacker 'lodges' all within Patagonia's Nahel Huapi National Park. In this presentation you will see the beautiful mountains, trails and Refugio's all requiring extensive and challenging hiking to reach these remote locations."

- <u>February 1, 2019</u> <u>JOURNIES THROUGH BHUTAN AND NEPAL</u> Presented by Virginia Turner. Enjoy visiting the Kingdom of Bhutan with AAUW member Virginia Turner. Set among majestic Himalaya peaks, Bhutan offers many historic dzongs (forts), Buddhist shrines and temples, and the world's most beautiful airport. Join the hike to Taktsang (Tiger's Nest) Monastery which hangs on a precarious cliff 3,000 feet above the Paro Valley. Then fly to NEPAL and ride along in a helicopter up Mt. Everest to land at 17,700 feet certainly a high point of any trip to this part of the world.
- March 1, 2019 SAILING TOWARDS THE NORTH POLE Presented by George and Tamar Mednick. The Svalbard Archipelago is a series of islands far into the arctic circle above Norway, where the polar bear and walrus reign supreme. We travel through the small inlets and fjords in a small ship to experience this vast undeveloped wilderness and the unique wildlife that inhabit it. The phenomenal images of these intimate encounters will be sure to astonish and amaze. This is adventure travel at the extreme edges of the planet.

April 5, 2019 - EXPLORING THE SIERRAS - Presented by Eric Thomson

Hiking Leader, Eric Thomson, will take us first to Yosemite National Park as he hikes the Panorama Trail, the Clouds Rest Trail and the Half Dome Trail, all with 360 degree panoramic views of the valley. Then going East over Tioga Pass and South on 395, is Mt. Whitney which at 14,505' is the tallest mountain in California, as well as the highest summit in the country. Hiking there provides fantastic views of the surrounding country-side. Further South, Eric will hike through the the beautiful red and gray rock formations in the Alabama Hills. In nearby Lone Pine there is a movie museum of all the old cowboy movies of the 40's & 50's that were filmed in the Alabama Hills. Eric said that as a kid in Scotland, he loved going to Saturday morning movies to see Roy Rogers, Gene Autry, the Lone Ranger, etc. which were all filmed there. (This should bring back memories for many of us in the audience!)

May 3 2019 - TBA

COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND GUEST WELCOME!

Join us on the 1st Friday of each month Cookies to share are always welcome! Chair: JoAn Lambert – 867-6237 - Co-Chair: Marlene Lamb and Assistant Ivan Fawley