



1990-1991

SPECIAL GALA CELEBRATION

The fourth meeting of the season will be a special celebration of our 650th meeting with an exceptional dinner, door prizes and some special surprises to make this a memorable evening. It will be held in the Massachusetts Room of the Harvard Club on **Tuesday, January 15, 1991**. Cocktails will be served at 6:15PM, dinner is at 7:00PM (we regret the dinner price must be increased to **\$35.00 per person** for this special event), and the meeting will start at 8:15PM. Please return the enclosed card as soon as possible *only* if you are coming to dinner. Please make certain that reservations or cancellations are received by the Friday preceding the meeting.

KAMCHATKA: THE UNKNOWN LAND

In the summer of 1990, Club Fellow Robert F. Perkins, Jr., and documentary filmmaker Chris Knight travelled to Kamchatka, Siberia. Their party, which also included David Conover, was the first from the west to visit this large but little known area of Siberia in over fifty years. They were the guests of Vasily Peskov, a leading Soviet environmental writer and television personality. Making use of canoes, trucks, trains, helicopters and even a Russian tank, they spent seven weeks journeying through a variety of landscapes ranging from tundra in the north to verdant forests in the south. Their route was planned to approximate the travels of George Kennan, the great uncle of the contemporary Sovietologist of the same name. This California-sized peninsula, long a militarized zone and closed to visitors, is noted for its many volcanoes, glaciers and hot springs, its salmon fishery and the nomadic reindeer-herding *Koriaks*.

The travels of Messrs. Perkins, Knight and Conover will be documented in a film to be shown next summer on PBS's "Adventure" TV series, and a National Geographic article and an illustrated book are in preparation as well. Mr. Perkins, who has thrice before spoken to the Club, and Mr. Knight will together present what is certain to be a fittingly impressive program for the 650th meeting of the Harvard Travellers Club.

Please reserve the following future meeting dates: February 12, March 12, April 9 and May 28. In February, newly elected Club member James Griswold will talk on English tithe barns.

CLUB NOTES: We regret to announce the death of Club member Francis S. Hill on November 30, 1990. We welcome as new members Ms. Susan T. Cloutier and Mr. James Griswold.

ROBERT O. BOARDMAN, *Secretary*

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