



the
**Henry
Ford**



LECTURE

Was Jack London a “Nature Faker”?

John Burroughs, Teddy Roosevelt, and the Nature Faker Controversy

Thursday, March 27, 2014, 6:00pm - 7:00pm

Benson Ford Research Center at The Henry Ford-Conference Room

Americans' increasing interest in nature by the early 20th century led to the publishing of several new animal stories, including Jack London's *The Call of the Wild*. Enter renowned naturalist John Burroughs, who attacked these stories as unscientific and their authors as ill-informed “nature fakers.” Eventually, even President Theodore Roosevelt became embroiled in the controversy. What were the points of view presented by each of these people? Which side of the controversy would you take? A discussion will follow this talk by Donna R. Braden, Curator of Public Life at The Henry Ford.

This lecture is presented as part of The Big Read Dearborn, a community-wide reading celebration and exploration of Jack London's classic novel *The Call of the Wild*. For more information and a full schedule of events, please visit <http://bigreaddearborn.org>.

PHOTO: Klondikers carrying supplies ascending the Chilkoot Pass, ca. 1900.
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