

Yose/Nite

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YOSEMITE ASSOCIATION

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# HETCH HETCHY VALLEY'S ENDURING LEGACY



*Editor's Note: As we were going to press with this issue of the members' journal, the inestimable tragedy of YA president Steve Medley's death occurred. His life was cut short by a car accident as he drove to work in heavy rain on October 5, 2006. Steve wrote his customary quarterly message on September 29, just a week before his passing. We share his final words below, and will publish a full tribute to Steve in the winter 2007 journal.*

## A Message from the President

**P**re-empted by the various disruptions of the great Highway 140 rockslide, my foreshortened hiking season didn't get underway until mid-August this year. After several months of uncertainty and mind-numbingly endless commutes, I jumped at the opportunity to strap on my backpack and make an overnight run into YA's backcountry work trip camp at Sunrise.

I was greeted by a fun-loving group of dedicated volunteers, tents clustered around a central kitchen and campfire area, occupying a hillside locale overlooking Long Meadow and offering terrific views of the surrounding granite landscape. The spirit of this tight-knit troop was high, and their commitment to Yosemite was exemplified by 80-year-old Verle Waters, who still roams the Sierra on foot. At Sunrise she labored elbow-to-elbow with her younger volunteer associates as they broke up and rehabilitated illegal campsites and took on other back-stiffening tasks. She insisted she'll continue to be part of the work trips as long as her body cooperates!

These remarkable association members who spend their vacations working to benefit the park reminded me again about what makes our organization such a special one. Every summer YA volunteers contribute thousands of hours to the betterment of Yosemite, demonstrating through direct personal action their commitment to a positive future for our world. They certainly have earned my respect and appreciation.

My summer hiking continued with a five-day trip at the end of August into the south end of the park. Five derelict hiking buddies and I made stops at Givens Lake (where a family of pie-billed grebes ignored our presence) and Breeze Lake, both first-time destinations for me, and Upper Chain Lake. The days were mild, the sunsets spectacular, and the silence grand. The only downside was that I had to carry my own backpack.

Returning to the "real world" gradually, I enjoyed the following weekend with 250 of my favorite YA members and friends in Wawona at our 31st Annual Members' Meeting. We used the occasion to inform those present about the negative effects of the aforementioned rockslide, and announced our campaign to establish a "Rockslide Relief Fund" to offset those effects. Please read the article about the rockslide that follows in this journal, and find out how you can obtain your own "Geology Happens" t-shirt by donating to the fund.

All the while, the Yosemite Association continues to evolve. This fall we will be bidding adieu to another long-time, valuable employee. Lou Carter, who has been integral to both our membership and Outdoor Adventure programs since 1991, is retiring in November to travel more and enjoy her grandchildren. We wish her rewarding post-career pursuits! Selected to fill Lou's position is newcomer Corrie Stetzel. There's more about Lou and Corrie later in this issue.

We're proud to report that YA's vice-president and chief financial officer, Beth Pratt, was selected by the Central California Rotary district to represent Yosemite and YA as a member of an exchange delegation to Japan next spring. Beth is frantically learning enough Japanese to be able to make short presentations to her hosts, but we believe her photos of Yosemite will not require much translation.

In September I had dinner at Lower Pines Campground in Yosemite Valley with YA's last month-long volunteer crew of the year. Many familiar faces with multiple years of work experience were present, including MaryJane Johnson, Dawn Sherertz, and Donna Engleman. This summer there were more than 75 others like them, and we're fortunate to have so many hard-working, Yosemite-loving friends of the park on whom we can rely. Without our scores of month-long volunteers, terrific interpretive facilities such as Parsons Lodge, Happy Isles Nature Center, Mariposa Grove Museum, and the Yosemite Museum Gallery would not be open for the public to enjoy.

Remember, however, that you don't have to be a volunteer to help us with our education and stewardship efforts in Yosemite. This year your special donation will really make a difference. We encourage you to send a "Rockslide Relief" gift using the envelope in this journal, or respond with a contribution to our mail appeal that you'll be receiving soon. We'll use your contribution to support critical programs in the park, working closely and in collaboration with the National Park Service.

Thanks to all our members, volunteers, and friends for helping us through a difficult year...

Sincerely,

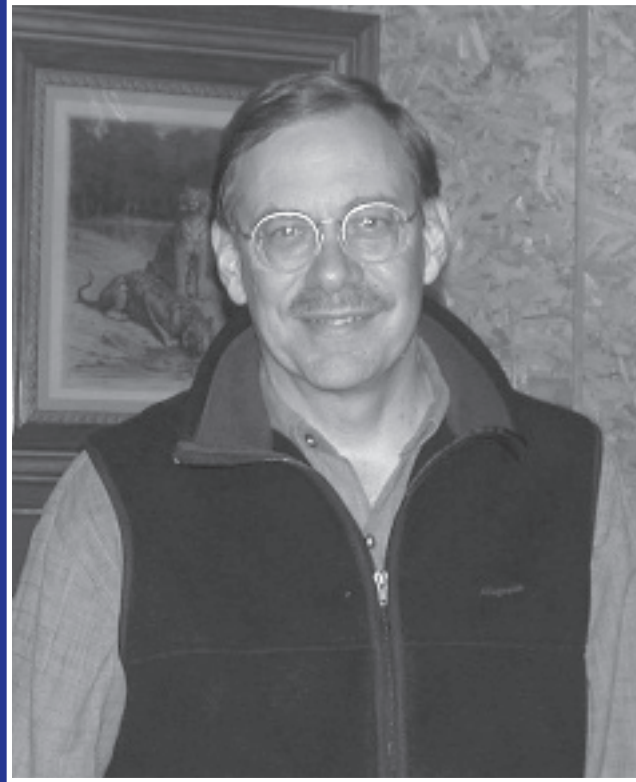
*Steve*

*Cover: The Hetchy Valley before the dam.*

PHOTO COURTESY OF  
YOSEMITE RESEARCH  
LIBRARY.



# Steven P. Medley, 1949–2006



## FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Steve was the heart of the Yosemite Association. His quick wit, and comedian's ability to see the humor and lighten the situation—whatever it was—was a gift we have shared and will miss. Steve had a way of connecting with people that was rare. He believed in the personal touch and spent generous time making his board, our members, and Yosemite partners his friends as well as his colleagues. He was a comfortable person to be with. You always got a warm hug and that infectious, quirky sense of humor was right there engaging you, making each person feel special and welcome. He knew how to rib you, how to compliment you, and how to recognize and honor your value to the effort at hand, all with a light, genuine touch. Those “just for you” words and hugs will be missed. Few people have been loved as much by so many as Steve Medley.

Steve's other genius was his eye and ear for producing beautiful, intelligent books and publications. His work brought the reader to a closer relationship with Yosemite's natural and cultural history, highlighted the values of wilderness, and illuminated the important role our national parks play in our country's heritage. He was Yosemite's most loyal advocate and friend.

The Yosemite Association is strong and vital today. The support team Steve built of his board, staff, members, and partners will allow his gentle, constructive legacy to live on as YA moves forward in its service to the park.

His presence and personal touch are easily recalled and will be held in deep memory. He was a wonderful guy we were lucky enough to know, work with, and love.

Sincerely,  
Christy Holloway  
Chair, Yosemite Association Board of Trustees

*A public celebration of Steve's life will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, November 4, 2006, at the Gray Barn in Wawona. A reception will follow on the grounds of the Wawona Hotel. Event details are posted on our website ([yosemite.org](http://yosemite.org)) or may be obtained by calling the YA office at 209-379-2646 or 209-379-2317.*

# HETCH HETCHY VALLEY'S ENDURING LEGACY

BY JENNIFER TREUTELAAR

I first learned about Hetch Hetchy Valley as a graduate student in 1999 in a course on environmental policy, but the area has been a site of national attention for over 100 years. In the early 1900s, a great debate centered on the proper use of Hetch Hetchy, between preservationists, led by John Muir, and San Francisco leaders and visionaries.

In fact, Hetch Hetchy had been inhabited by bands of the Central Miwok tribe long before its “discovery” by Euro-Americans in the mid 1800s. In fact, the origin of the valley’s unusual name is believed to be Native American. One theory is that Hetch Hetchy is derived from the word *hatchatchie*, a grass with edible seeds that grew in the valley. Another story relates that *hetchy* means “tree” and the valley was named for two pines that guarded the entrance to the meadow.

City leaders hoped to make San Francisco into an economic and cultural center to rival New York City, but growth was limited by a chronic water and power shortage. As early as 1882, city leaders recognized that the Sierra Nevada was a logical source and Hetch Hetchy Valley’s pure water and narrow outlet made it perfect for a dam site. In 1906, the great San Francisco earthquake and fire devastated the city, adding urgency and public sympathy to the quest for an adequate water supply.

Preservationists wanted the valley to remain untouched for wilderness preservation. Muir first visited the site in 1871 and considered Hetch Hetchy Valley to

be “one of Nature’s rarest and most precious mountain temples.” He and his followers, including the Sierra Club that was formed in 1892, launched a national campaign to prevent the valley’s destruction. This moment in history is considered the first grassroots environmental campaign.

In 1913, Congress passed the Raker Act, a law that allowed San Francisco to begin construction of a dam on the Tuolumne River to supply the city with drinking water and electricity. While the city won the battle, the debate served to awaken the nation to the conflict inherent in balancing wilderness and development.

Upon the passage of the Raker Act, hundreds of laborers were involved in constructing the water system under the guidance of San Francisco’s Chief Engineer, Michael O’Shaughnessy, for whom the dam is named. Because of the remote location, San Francisco first built a 68-mile-long railroad line to carry machines, materials, and workers between Oakdale and Hetch Hetchy. Workers toiled day and night for four years just to pour the concrete brought in by rail. Finally, in 1923, at a total cost of over \$100 million and the lives of more than 68 workers, the project was complete. Construction in 1938 raised the dam another 85 feet to its present height of 312 feet.

Since the dam was completed, the water system has been providing some of the cleanest water in the nation to the population of San Francisco and some surrounding areas, currently about 2.4 million users. The system



PHOTO COURTESY OF YOSEMITE RESEARCH LIBRARY.

*The Hetch Hetchy Railroad played a pivotal role in the construction of the O’Shaughnessy Dam.*



PHOTO COURTESY OF GREG LAWLER.

*The O'Shaughnessy Dam at Hetch Hetchy spilling on June 2, 2003.*

itself is a bit of a marvel. It is one of the few surface water sources in the U.S. that can be legally delivered unfiltered to customers, although it is disinfected prior to delivery for public health. Only four other major urban areas in the United States (Portland, Seattle, Boston, and New York City) do not have to filter their water.

Furthermore, the entire system is gravity fed. Thanks to the reservoir's elevation at approximately 3,800 feet above sea level, no pumping is needed to carry the water 160 miles down to the Bay Area.

The City of San Francisco and Yosemite National Park work in concert to protect the watershed of the Tuolumne River. Operational activities such as ranger patrols, interpretation programs about the watershed, and trails maintenance are part of the partnership to support the common goal of a healthy ecosystem. Joint projects are also often undertaken. For example, there has long been a need at Hetch Hetchy for interpretive signs and information. Park and city staff are currently working together to develop a series of panels that will be installed on the dam to increase visitor understanding of the watershed and the significance of the dam. We are also looking into creating a visitor center in the vicinity in the near future.

In recent years, the debate over restoring Hetch Hetchy Valley has been on the upswing. In 1987, then-Secretary of the Interior Donald Hodel proposed to study restoring Hetch Hetchy, although the basic conclusion from the resulting reports was that the economic costs of replacing the Hetch Hetchy system outweighed the benefits of restoration.

Since 1999, a nonprofit called Restore Hetch Hetchy has been actively promoting the restoration of Hetch Hetchy

Valley, calling for the removal of the O'Shaughnessy dam.

Environmental Defense, one of the nation's largest, most influential environmental groups, also supports the campaign. In 2004 and 2005, these two groups released studies showing that alternatives to the Hetch Hetchy system existed and the valley could be restored.

In response, California's Secretary of Resources directed the state to do its own study, evaluating existing work and resource management plans by federal, state, and local agencies. The study, released in July of 2006, concluded that "...the existing body of work is insufficient to support sound public policy decision-making at this time.... However, the state [finds] no fatal flaws in the restoration concept that would preclude additional study." The report also estimated the costs of restoring the valley and replacing the water and power supply to range from \$3 to \$10 billion dollars.

Should Hetch Hetchy Valley be restored? That is a question individuals need to answer for themselves. Continued debate on the topic is assured, and if restoration is to be pursued, action on a congressional level will likely be necessary. In the meantime, Yosemite National Park takes pride in the enduring legacy of Hetch Hetchy and continues to care for the watershed for the enjoyment of this and future generations.

*Jennifer Treutelaar is the Hetchy Hetchy Program Manager for Yosemite National Park. She received her Master of Environmental Management degree from Duke University in 2001 and has been working at Yosemite since 2005.*

# BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE

BY LAUREL REMATORE

## FERGUSON ROCKSLIDE IMPACTS ENTIRE YOSEMITE REGION

The first rocks fell on April 30, closing Highway 140 between Briceburg and El Portal, and Yosemite area residents faced another road closure, a fact of life in our narrow canyon. No one imagined that the change wrought by the so-called Ferguson Rockslide might be permanent. The road was cleared, retaining walls went up, and the slide came down again, this time with catastrophic effects. When the dust had settled, an estimated one million cubic yards of rock and dirt covered the pavement nine miles west of El Portal, with about two million additional cubic yards of material still poised to drop.

The road, the main route to work for more than 500 park employees, was closed for nearly four months, and one-way commute times mushroomed from a modest 25 minutes into 2.5-hour marathons through Oakhurst and onto Highway 41, entering the park at the south gate, proceeding through Wawona, up past the Glacier Point Road turnoff, down into Yosemite Valley, and, in many cases, out of the park again at the Arch Rock entrance and into El Portal, where YA and NPS administrative offices are located.

Now that a temporary route around the slide has been completed and Highway 140 has reopened, the Yosemite Association, along with the National Park Service, DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite, other park partners, Mariposa businesses, and the county's 18,000 residents are tallying the effects of this summer's four-month road closure caused by the continuous activity in the Ferguson Rockslide.

Short-term impacts to the region's operations have been considerable, and the long-term impacts are still to be revealed. YA projects a shortfall from combined revenue loss and added emergency expenses of over \$200,000 for our fiscal year that will end December 31. The NPS estimates a \$300,000 loss due to expenses for employees' overtime pay, temporary housing, and lost productive time. DNC revenue is down \$4 million primarily in retail operations as day-use visitation dropped during the closure.

### THE HUMAN FACTOR

The financial losses, however, tell only part of the story. Park Superintendent Mike Tollefson reflected on the summer that "We cannot understate the significant challenges all park partners faced in trying to cope with the slide while trying to keep visitor services up and running."

"What people don't realize is that for sixty days, Yosemite was in a state of social crisis," said DNC COO Brad Anderholm. "Park families were split apart as children stayed in friends' homes or with one parent in Mariposa to avoid the horrendous six-hour round-trip daily bus ride to school while their parent(s) worked in the park. Other employees were chronically exhausted working their shifts on top of long commutes."

While car and van-pools helped, telecommuting was rarely an option for the majority of employees because they provide on-site visitor services, such as working in stores or staffing front desks at lodging facilities. A small amount of temporary housing was made available, but that was limited as lodging demands remained strong and overnight Yosemite Valley guest facilities were virtually full the entire summer. Employees who did use temporary beds often had to scramble to arrange child, pet, or livestock care in their absence. Summer gasoline prices approached \$3.50 per gallon in Oakhurst and exceeded \$4 in El Portal, further impacting commuters.



*The massive rockfall spills into the Merced River and covers Highway 140.*

PHOTO COURTESY OF BETH PRATT.



*Material waiting to fall.*

Following the NPS' lead, YA briefly opened a temporary office in downtown Mariposa to allow six affected administrative employees to spend more time working and less time commuting. We did not have the luxury of moving our stores, so five of our Yosemite Valley bookstore staff continued to commute; for safety reasons we reduced their work schedule to four days per week, and as a result the Valley Visitor Center and Yosemite Museum stores would sometimes have to open late or close early due to staffing shortages. Our Retail Director Michelle Hansen operated a cash register for most of the summer, and Vice President/CFO Beth Pratt often spent the night on an air mattress she set up in our El Portal office building rather than consume five hours a day commuting to her Midpines home.

#### **DEALING WITH ROCKSLIDE STRESS**

Inevitably, the tension-filled environment of a crisis brings out a sense of humor in those affected. A housing unit set up as employee lodging for temporary one or two-nights stays was immediately dubbed the unfortunate term of "flop house." One transient shelter in El Portal was named in a contest "The Slide Inn."

For a time in May, the premiere social function in El Portal was picnicking across the river from the rockslide to watch the rocks fall. Occasional sprints to safety did not deter the locals. Educational Programs Director Pete Devine took to turning down Beth's bed and leaving a mint on her pillow in her bedroom (aka the presidential suite) at the end of the day. (An anonymous staff member cautiously suggested that we invest in window shades for Steve's office, where Beth slept.)

Commuting and local staff would greet each other as long-lost friends when meeting in the El Portal office

after long stretches apart, and the atmosphere was positively raucous on those few occasions when all administrative employees were actually in the office on the same day. When the famous Sal's Taco truck was finally able to return to El Portal in September to again anchor bi-monthly evening gatherings, the unique Yosemite Marching Band escorted Sal into town to loud cheering from a hundred eager residents who felt connected to the outside world once more.

#### **THE ROAD IS OPEN, BUT THE WAY IS NOT YET CLEAR**

Things have returned to relative normal in the Merced River Canyon. A half-mile detour allows 24 hour per day access around the slide; travel-

ers drive across a sturdy one-lane bridge and proceed on a newly-paved stretch of the old railroad bed on the north side of the Merced River, then cross back over on another bridge beyond the slide area to reenter Highway 140. Traffic is controlled by signal lights, and sensors are in place that will allow CalTrans to shut down access remotely should there be a large rock release that presents an immediate danger to the public. The detour adds a modest five to fifteen minutes to one's typical driving time, and is restricted to vehicles of twenty-eight feet or less in length.

Our temporary Mariposa office has closed, and our seasonal bookstores are shutting down on schedule. Winter, with its promise of quieter days, approaches, but with it comes the uncertainty of long-term and new impacts of the slide. For example, after the 1997 Yosemite Valley flood, park visitation dropped precipitously from a high of 4.2 million people to about 3 million annually.

Even though the rockslide is daily news in these parts, related information is sometimes slow to reach the visiting public. While we're trying to get the word out that Highway 140 is open again, we receive calls every day from people who just heard "the road is closed," and the perception often follows in the public's mind that if a road is closed, the entire park is closed.

Winter and spring rains typically increase rockslide activity in the Merced River canyon, and likewise anxiety among area residents. If a catastrophic release forces Highway 140 to close in the winter, employees will be back to commuting over the Wawona Road, which is often subject to safety closures due to snowfall since that route reaches 6,000 feet elevation. YA and other area employers fear that scenario will be the last straw for

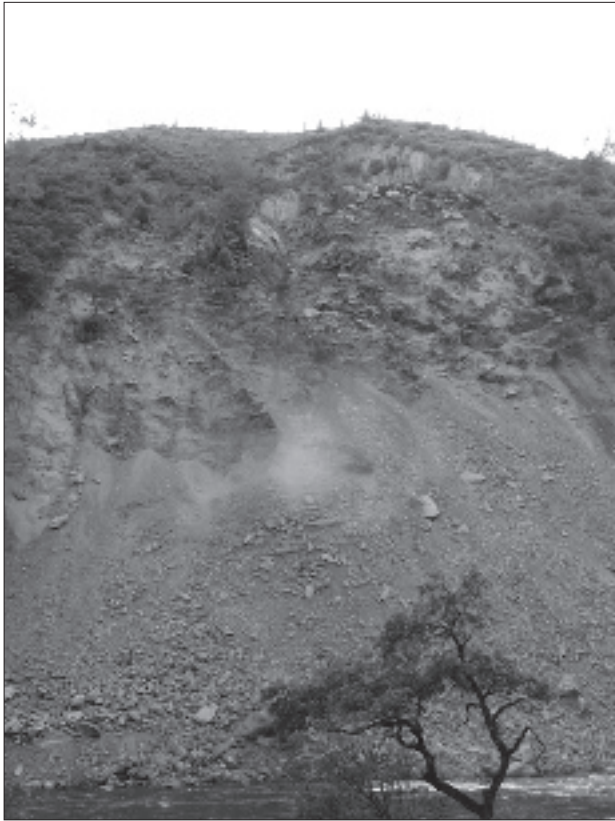


PHOTO COURTESY OF BETH PRATT.

*View of the slide. The wisps of “smoke” are dust from falling debris—geology in action!*

affected long-term employees, causing an exodus of talented staff to jobs in other parts of the country.

Further, if the detour cannot be reopened, seasonal employee hiring will be severely limited due to the lack of housing on “this” side of the slide, which will affect the scope of visitor services available in the park. Finally, CalTrans is the first to admit that the detour is only a short-term solution; the long-term solution such as a tunnel to bypass the entire slide zone has not been identified or funded, and is likely to be at least three years away.

YA’s own shortfall may have serious repercussions, and it already has affected our ability to provide cash assistance to the NPS, deliver visitor services, and invest in our own operations to make them more efficient. Important programs, such as the Cooperative Student Interns, our bookstore operations, and the Yosemite Art Center, could suffer major setbacks. As we wait to see what Mother Nature has in store for us this winter, we’re working hard to ensure that our educational mission at Yosemite doesn’t become buried beneath a pile of rocks.

*Laurel Rematore is YA’s Membership & Development Director and the editor of this journal.*

## HOW CAN YOU HELP US?

Consider making a generous donation to our Rockslide Relief Fund! We need to raise \$200,000 to offset our losses for the year. For gifts of \$100 or more, we’ll send you our exclusive “Geology Happens” t-shirt that features a full-color photo of the infamous rockslide. Other ways you can help us recover financially include upgrading your membership level; shopping at our bookstores, through mail order, or at our online store ([yosemite.org](http://yosemite.org)); giving the gift of membership to your friends and family this holiday season; and visiting Yosemite this fall or winter to expand your knowledge of the park on a fun and educational Outdoor Adventure. (Did we mention the road is open?) Proceeds from all YA programs and services help fund education and stewardship of Yosemite National Park. Your support of YA is needed now more than ever!

# GEOLOGY HAPPENS



**YOSEMITE ROCKSLIDE**

**2006**



# BACK TO THE FUTURE: THE CHANGING FACE OF RESOURCES MANAGEMENT IN YOSEMITE

*“The establishment of the National Park Service is justified by consideration of good administration, of the value of natural beauty as a National asset, and of the effectiveness of outdoor life and recreation in the production of good citizenship.”*

— Theodore Roosevelt

*“... these premises shall be held for public use, resort, and recreation; shall be inalienable for all time ...”*

— Yosemite Land Grant 1890

Since its inception, the National Park Service has been charged with accomplishing the dual goals of providing pleasure for the people and protection of natural resources. President Theodore Roosevelt, who was instrumental in creating the National Park Service, so strongly believed in those goals as to deem them necessary to maintaining and strengthening our democracy (Filler n.d.). As present-day stewards of the natural and cultural treasures of Yosemite National Park and inheritors of this rewarding and awesome task, the Division of Resources Management and Science is mindful of and excited by those challenges.

Central to our meeting these resource complexities in the future is ensuring that recreational venues enjoyed today, such as pedestrian and bicycle trails, campgrounds, roads, or even the placement of shuttle bus stops, are designed to protect the park’s natural and cultural resources as much as possible. In fact, “Our mission and enabling legislation reflect a commitment to the proper planning and management of visitor use in national parks while protecting the natural and cultural resources for future generations,” says Niki Nicholas, Chief of Resources Management and Science. “We have learned over the years that our goals have to unite appropriate visitor experience, environmental protection, and resource management.”

## PLAYING IN THE GOOD OLD DAYS

The initial focus of Yosemite’s management was luring visitors out West to experience the natural wonders of this paradise. Once here, the human hunger for beauty and the inclination to play took care of the rest. Issues of carrying capacity and limits of acceptable change were barely bumps on the management horizon, and some of the activities that passed for recreation back then now exist only in pictures and memory. Early photographs of two women dancing on Glacier Point’s Overhanging Rock or Arthur Pillsbury’s Studebaker loaded with fourteen

daredevil souls perched on that same spot speak to the thrill of experiencing the Yosemite landscape.

One popular and almost iconic activity enjoyed by past visitors was watching habituated bears feed on human goodies. At one time, visitors could sit in bleachers specially-constructed for watching Yosemite bears gather at the garbage dumps in the valley to gorge on “leftovers.” Even though bear-feeding did not cease being public entertainment until the 1940s, the need to protect both bears and visitors from the consequences of this practice was realized as early as the 1920s by Park Naturalist Carl Russell. In fact, the staged feeding had been implemented as an early management effort to lure the “marauding” bears away from campsites while at the same time continuing to provide this popular entertainment for visitors (Runte, 1990). The long-term effects of habituation to humans and their food became a lethal cultural legacy for generations of Yosemite’s bears, one



PHOTO COURTESY OF YOSEMITE RESEARCH LIBRARY.

Yosemite Valley black bears eating garbage, November 1942.

which current bear management practices have worked hard towards changing for the improved health and longevity of bears and for the benefit of visitors as well.

While black bears remained the main attraction, visitors of the past also found entertainment giving handouts to other wildlife, including birds, squirrels, and deer. As one Yosemite visitor wrote to a park official in 1924, “The tameness of the deer, bear, and birds is the greatest attraction of them all,” (Runte), and the cruelest irony as well, for not only is human food unhealthy for wildlife, but feeding them also causes them to lose their natural fear of humans or can put them in harm’s way if they approach vehicles to get food. In short, feeding can prove fatal. These activities still unfortunately occur, but to a much lesser degree today, thanks to visitor education and signage posted in and around food vending areas.



PHOTO COURTESY OF YOSEMITE RESEARCH LIBRARY.

*Visitors camping and picnicking in Stoneman Meadow, Yosemite Valley, May 1927.*

Although today’s visitors are spared the sight of beautiful meadows clogged with cars, there are doubtless numbers of Yosemite lovers who fondly remember the day when car camping was allowed in the valley, an activity that caused significant meadow degradation beginning in the 1920s that continued throughout the 1960s. As early as 1929, however, Yosemite National Park management, under the direction of Superintendent Charles

G. Thomson, took measures to keep vehicles out of the meadows. According to Park Historian Charles Palmer, a series of so-called “morality ditches” were dug “around the edges of meadows to keep vehicles from driving across them, particularly to keep the occupants of these vehicles from participating in unauthorized activities among the shrubberies.” No doubt the ditches may have kept the vehicles out of the meadows for a time, but the shrubberies aren’t speaking to the success of that effort.

Over the years, a number of lesser known recreational venues have come and gone, including a miniature golf course at The Ahwahnee, a miniature train and toboggan slide at Camp Curry, a 60,000 square foot ice skating rink, and a small bowling alley (Yosemite National Park Planning Team 2004; USDI, National Park Service 1980). Even recent days have seen recreational pursuits halted in the name of visitor and resource protection: BASE (Buildings, Antennas, Spans and Earth)-jumping and paragliding. Significantly fewer visitors may remember or miss participating in these activities; fewer still may recall that economic enterprises such as sheep and cattle-grazing and large-scale timber harvesting also occurred in the Yosemite of the past.

#### **REPEAT VISITORS**

Strikingly apparent from the many comments is that many visitors have made coming back to Yosemite, year after year, and with successive generations, a part of their family culture. Park management practices change over time to accommodate new scientific findings and a changing visitor profile. The many visitors comments would seem to be supported by a 2002 visitor survey (Lackey et al.) that found 75% of those who responded identified themselves as repeat visitors, and a more recent visitor survey (White et al. 2006) which found 63% of respondents said they had visited Yosemite previously. Whether the evidence is self-reported or part of a study, it all points to the unique nature of Yosemite and the experiences it affords that keep people coming back.

#### **“IT’S JUST THE SCENERY”**

As Outdoor Recreation Program Manager Jim Bacon points out, “Interestingly, sight-seeing and scenic vistas were part of Yosemite’s enabling legislation and the historic basis for setting aside the Mariposa Grove and Yosemite Valley,” two of the most popular visitor destinations in the park. A visitor use study conducted in the summer of 2005 provides a good picture of the current expectations held by visitors to Yosemite, underscoring the historic role played by this unique scenery in the park’s creation.

The survey revealed that a majority (87%) listed sightseeing as a reason they come to the park, followed in order by visiting the Visitor Center, eating in a park

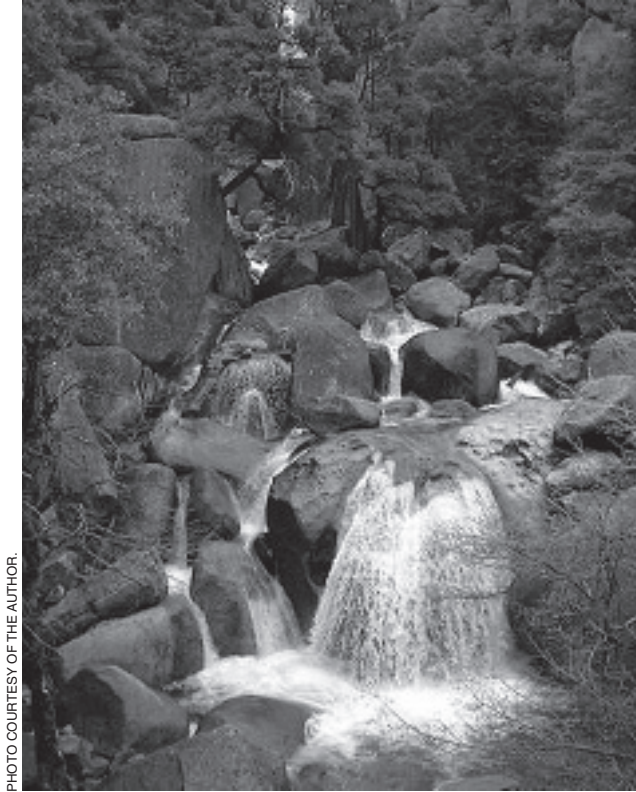


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE AUTHOR.

*“It’s just the scenery...” unique to Yosemite, like this view of Cascade Creek, that keeps visitors coming back. Recent surveys have listed sightseeing as the activity most of them come to take part in.*

restaurant, going on day hikes, painting or taking photographs, shopping in park bookstores, and picnicking. Only 13% said they came to camp in developed campgrounds or stay in park lodging. Eight percent listed attending ranger-led programs and 5% said they came to climb. The least selected reason for visiting was overnight backpacking, listed by 3% of the visitors surveyed. A final category listed as “Other” was selected by 16% of the respondents (Littlejohn et al. 2006).

In addition to providing information regarding recreational preferences, this survey also underscores changing demographics, which currently includes 18% international visitors. Of US visitors, by far the majority—69%—come from California. And it would seem that, while repeat visitation is high, the average length of stay—59%—is only two to three days (Littlejohn).

The overwhelming majority of respondents in the 2005 survey listed sightseeing as an activity they came to Yosemite to enjoy, suggesting a strong appreciation for the unique landscape of the park. A subsequent study (White et al. 2006) supports this conclusion, and quotes one visitor in this survey who summed up her feelings—and no doubt the feelings of numerous other visitors—quite succinctly: “It’s just the scenery. It’s just any direction you look there’s beautiful scenery. Not just in one spot, it’s everywhere. A lot of the parks it’s just in one spot. But in Yosemite it’s everywhere.”

Research such as this suggests that visitors come to Yosemite for a variety of personal, social, and economic benefits, perhaps based in part on the expectations and the

familiarity with park resources on the part of return visitors. As numerous visitors have commented, their personal experiences have, over time, become part of their family culture and are often shared with younger members of their families who may not have yet visited the park. One visitor shared that his grandfather has made his memories of Yosemite part of his family’s storytelling tradition.

In addition to specific thoughts, many visitors speak to their particular love of the park’s natural and cultural resources. Positive comments and the high percentage of repeat visitors reported by these studies may be good indicators that the public is willing to view favorably the prescriptive measures taken by park managers to protect resources and plan recreational opportunities.

One of the 2006 studies (White et al.) quotes one visitor who made a point of commenting on the changes in managing resources: “I think I’ve learned that there are a lot of programs that are changing. ... There’s been an evolution of thought on how to manage fire, how to manage bears, things like that.”

#### MEETING THE CHALLENGE

While studies of the effects of visitor use on park resources date back to the 1930s and became more actively pursued in the 1960s, there has been a resurgence of interest resulting from management concern about impacts from increases in visitation (Leung and Monz 2006). In 1997, the Visitor Experience and Resource Protection (VERP) framework, more than thirty years in the making, was born not only out of these same concerns for the rising numbers and the impacts of visitor use on national park resources, but out of concern for the effects on the visitor experience itself.

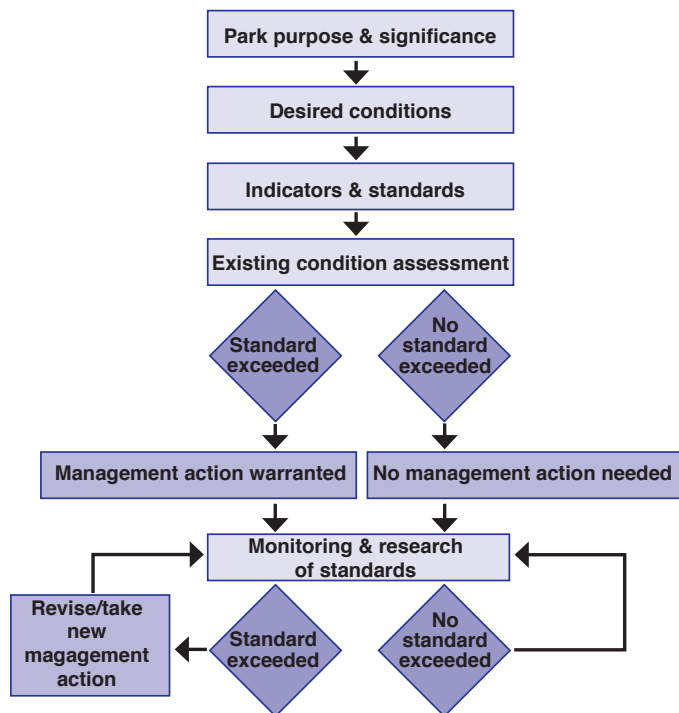




PHOTO COURTESY OF BRENT JOHNSON.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMES MCGREW.

*Members of the Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation start a prescribed fire in the traditional way. The prescribed burn, which took place in October 2005, was a joint effort between the Southern Sierra Miwuk and Resources Management and Science staff.*

The challenge today is not only recreation planning and resource protection, but developing cost-effective monitoring methods to be used in a variety of settings that will yield useful information in the long-term (Leung and Monz). The VERP framework describes nine related elements that are intended to meet these challenges. These elements include public involvement, resource and visitor use analysis, and identifying visitor experiences and resource conditions (VERP Framework Handbook 1997). “Currently,” says Bacon, “the park is using a series of indicators, like water quality, and standards or desired conditions to measure and monitor visitor use and related impacts in the park as well as to gauge the ‘health’ of park resources and visitor experiences.”

Also critical to achieving our goals is maintaining relationships with park partners like the Yosemite Association, the Yosemite Fund, and the Yosemite Institute, partnerships without which numerous restoration projects would not be possible. One recently completed project was the removal of 250 yards of asphalt walkway in Stoneman Meadow, a remnant of the historical wetland environment in Yosemite Valley, which disturbed the natural flow of water through the meadow. Other restoration projects completed this year include the construction of the second boardwalk near the Merced River in Cook’s Meadow and the Fern Spring restoration, which included cleanup of the area, installing signs and

a fence to mark the pathway, applying native mulch, and transplanting ferns.

One joint effort for mutual benefit took place last fall between Yosemite National Park’s fire and resource management programs and the Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation. This restoration project used anthropogenic fire to clear 13 acres of the invasive Himalayan blackberry, a non-native plant which can be found growing in many areas of the park, from a meadow in Yosemite Valley. The blackberries have been choking out culturally important native plants used by the local Miwuk. Members of the Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation and Yosemite personnel carried out this prescribed burn following local Indian tradition, and continue to monitor the burn area.

An example of ecological restoration that began this summer is the HaPY, or Habitat Protection of Yosemite program, a drop-in volunteer program conducted through the Interpretative Division of Yosemite National Park. Beginning on July 4, 2006, visitors could drop in to learn about invasive plant species from a resources management ranger. Visitor-volunteers then pull the invasive Himalayan blackberry plants from locations in the valley, directed by a work leader from Delaware North Corporation. This program is public involvement at its best.

The management of park resources will continue to evolve. The result will be more projects such as these that

enhance the visitor experience and at the same time help continue to protect the natural and cultural resources that make this park unique.

#### “INALIENABLE FOR ALL TIME”

Yosemite National Park will continue to draw visitors not only from our own nation, but increasingly from around the world. Our challenge remains today and in the future as it was when the Yosemite Land Grant was established in 1890, to insure that this uniquely beautiful land will always be protected and accessible to the public.

“We are doing a better job of managing resources and mitigating any damage that may have occurred over the park’s long history,” says Nicholas. “Our ongoing ecological restoration of the valley’s meadows is a very visual example of the type of things that improve the resource for today’s visitor and future generations.”

*Trudy Williams is an Administrative Assistant in the Division of Resources Management and Science at Yosemite National Park.*

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## Farewell to Lou, Hello to Corrie

After 15 years of valuable service to our members, our Fulfillment Coordinator Lou Carter is retiring from the Yosemite Association in early November.

Lou is the person who has printed and mailed thousands of YA membership cards, enrolled thousands of people in Outdoor Adventure seminars, helped thousands of people over the telephone, and been valuable in numerous ways in our office and our organization every day. She’s been one of the cheery people welcoming you at the registration table or serving wine and cheese at our Members’ Meetings and Spring Forums. She was one of the actors behind the scenes when you received a gift for upgrading your membership, when your quarterly journal reached you even if you’d just moved, when you reserved a free campsite for a YA course, and when your seminar instructor met you right where and when Lou told you they’d meet you.



*Long-time employee Lou Carter (at left) prepares to pass the baton to Corrie (at right) as YA’s Fulfillment Coordinator.*

She’s an important member of the El Portal community as well, with an extensive network of good friends. All three of her children work or have worked for the National Park Service. Her husband Hugh owns and works at the El Portal Market, and it’s not uncommon to find Lou at work there, after a full day at YA. Both her desk area and the market’s check-out counter are covered with pho-

tographs of their cherished grandson, Dylan.

Her years of experience at YA comprise an irreplaceable source of knowledge for systems that keep our 11,000 members organized, and for how our education programs run best. We will miss this knowledge, and we will miss her. We wish her the very best in her retirement.

Filling in behind Lou, we are pleased to welcome Corrie Stetzel, an Iowa native who has been working for YA in our Wawona Information Station at Hill’s Studio this summer. She worked in Great Smoky Mountains National Park before coming to Yosemite, loves to hike, has a green thumb, and came to us highly recommended by Wawona rangers and her coworkers. She’ll be working with Laurel and Pete to fulfill your membership and Outdoor Adventures needs from our El Portal office. Welcome, Corrie!

# EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

## Cooperative Student Intern Program a Success

The 2006 program succeeded on many fronts this summer. Jack McCrone, Harry Ramirez, Emily McKeighen, Stella Yu, Janet Melgoza, Adam Clare, and Jasminn Chestnut all had a professional development experience that they enjoyed, the NPS Division of Interpretation had this extra staff to put into the field, and visitors to Yosemite had valuable encounters with this multicultural, polyglot intern cadre from UC Merced.

National Park Service education staff Kathy Dimont, Kristine Hutchinson, and interpreter Shelton Johnson provided valuable guidance to the interns. The students lived in Wawona or El Portal and led interpretive hikes, gave campfire programs, worked with Junior Rangers, and conducted an array of general public contact services.

The multifaceted successes of the program were summarized in a note from intern Harry Ramirez: "While working in the Mariposa Grove, I loved talking to foreigners. I enjoyed practicing my Spanish when I spoke to visitors from Spain, Mexico, and other Spanish speaking countries. I enjoyed watching their faces light up when they found out a ranger could speak their language. And I often realized how lucky I was to be working in Yosemite (in my opinion the most beautiful place in the world)



PHOTO COURTESY OF LAUREL REMATORE.

*Yosemite Cooperative Student Intern Harry Ramirez speaks with the public during National Parks Family Day. This Fresno outreach event was designed to "bring the parks to the people" and encourage the diverse citizenry of the Central Valley to experience national parks.*

when people would ask, "How did you get this job?"

If YA members are interested in contributing to the support of this valuable program, we could truly use your help. Please contact our development office about getting more involved.

## Outdoor Adventures for 2007

If you haven't experienced **Yosemite in winter**, you're missing a marvel. We have several snowshoe trips coming up this season, and terrific naturalists who will connect you with our great snowy range. As well as looking through the January-March catalog enclosed in this journal, you can go to our website for more details; then,

come join us in what Muir described as "a milky way of snowflowers."

Members will have a great opportunity for a full weekend of enjoyment, education, and inspiration if you come to the **Spring Forum** and take an Outdoor Adventure course the day before and/or after the Forum. This weekend is based in Yosemite Valley, and starts with two courses from which to choose on Friday, March 30. The Forum fills the day on Saturday, March 31, and on Sunday, April 1, there are three more Outdoor Adventure programs from which you might select. Imagine: snowshoeing in eight feet of snow one day, the fellowship of the Forum the next, and then being dazzled by wildflowers before heading home on the third day. It won't be easy to choose, so start thinking about it now.

We are very excited about our fourth annual **Yosemite Birding Festival**, May 4-6, 2007. World-renowned bird-song expert Don Kroodsma will be helping us all develop our listening skills, and photographer John Hendrickson will delight us with his storied life with raptors. Both will be signing their books, and there'll be the usual scope of programs and birding field trips with the best naturalists/instructors there are for Sierra springtime birds.

## Yosemite Art Center Wraps Up Successful Season

It has been a successful year of learning for YA at the Yosemite Art Center. This season we took over daily operations of the YAC from our partners at Delaware North. Twenty-three different artists volunteered their time to conduct free art lessons for the public for twenty-three weeks this summer, and we had about 2,000 people participate. YA volunteers and staff sold art supplies, facilitated classes, and provided general visitor information. DNC generously provided housing for the artists each week. This winter we hope to make some changes inside the building to expand its uses for art and education programs.

Artists who contributed their time and expertise to Yosemite this year included: Fealing Lin, Dick Keys, Milton Bullard, Osamu Saito, Pam Pedersen, Frank Paulsen, James Grimes, David Deyell, Carol Earle, John McClary, Susan Trimmingham, Bonni Carver, Pat Devitt, Tom Winans, Tom Fong, Linda Mitchell, Sonja Hamilton, Don Fay, Thor Erickson, Jim Burns, Bob Chapla, Patrick Duffy, Donna Naes, and Carolyn Fitz. We also thank Carol Buss and Roger Folk, who would've taught courses if the rockslide hadn't forced a temporary closure of the YAC early in the season.

# Yosemite Outdoor Adventures

January–March 2007

**Welcome** to experiential education in Yosemite! These four pages contain most of the information you need to join us for an adventurous outdoor learning program in the first part of the year. You'll want to go to our website, [www.yosemite.org/seminars](http://www.yosemite.org/seminars), to see more details on each course and instructor. Taking a course in the quiet winter months is an excellent way to grow your connection to Yosemite. As Mr. Muir put it "...the winds will blow their freshness into you, and the storms their energy..."

**Register** on our website, [www.yosemite.org](http://www.yosemite.org), by calling Corrie or Pete at (209)379-2321, or by mailing or faxing us the form on the fourth page of this insert.

**Tuition** is 15% less if you're a YA member. It covers instruction, the park entrance fee, and camping. Meals, lodging, and equipment are not included unless specifically noted.

**Stay** in a campground for free if you're in a course, but we'll also send you reservation information for the rooms we have set aside during each course, available at extra cost.

**Weather** is what makes the Sierra in winter so dynamic! We prepare and want you to be prepared for anything, from rain and snow to warm sun. Links on our website will get you more information, and you can phone the continually updated NPS road and weather recording at (209)372-0200.

**Physical demands vary among courses and with snow and weather conditions.** Look at each course description on the website regarding daily mileage, gradient, elevation and likely snow cover conditions. **You must be in good physical condition for these mountain programs;** the instructors have the right to deny your participation if they feel you're not healthy enough or are otherwise unprepared for the course.

**Cancellation** is something we hope won't apply to your participation, but there are three things you should know. A 90% refund is given if you cancel at least 30 days before the course. Within 30 days of the program, without exception, **we cannot issue refunds for any reason.** (You may be able to apply your tuition to another course in 2007, though.) If YA cancels a course, we will refund your full tuition, but aren't responsible for other travel or lodging plans you've made.

**Liability forms must be signed by all participants before attending a course.**

**Why Outdoor Adventures?** As with everything that YA does, our education program is devoted to the National Park Service mission of preserving resources and providing for the enjoyment, education and inspiration of today's citizens such that the beauty we value today will be unimpaired for future generations. Through educational courses that are professional, safe, fun, and Leave No Trace on the Sierra, we want our participants to become more informed, active park stewards. Yosemite has something to tell you.



The catalog for the remainder of 2007 will be mailed out in the winter *Yosemite* journal—and posted at [www.yosemite.org](http://www.yosemite.org) in January.

THE LANDSCAPE IMAGES ARE COURTESY OF DELAWARE NORTH COMPANIES PARKS & RESORTS AT YOSEMITE



# YOSEMITE OUTDOOR

Start 2007 with something interesting...

You'll find many more details on our website, [www.yosemite.org/seminars](http://www.yosemite.org/seminars).

## JANUARY

### Dewey Point Snowshoe Trek

#1

Saturday January 13

\$82, or \$70 for YA members

Badger Pass (snowshoes provided)

Hiking: somewhat difficult

Yosemite naturalist **Karen Amstutz** is your guide for this snowshoe trip from Badger Pass to a dramatic spot on the rim of Yosemite Valley. Winter natural history, rich photographic subjects, a physical adventure, and great company will fill your day.

### Snowshoe Explorations with a Naturalist

#2

Saturday January 20

\$82, or \$70 for YA members

Badger Pass (snowshoes provided)

Hiking: moderate

Ace interpreter **Emily Jacobs** will inform and delight you in your explorations of the winter habits of park wildlife and trees, and with the fascinating background of Sierra weather and snowpack. Get deep into the season on snowshoes.

### Winter Landscape Photography

#3

Thursday evening January 25-Sunday January 28

\$335, or \$285 for YA members

Yosemite Valley

Hiking: easy

Full-time photographer **John Senser** has extensive experience in the techniques that capture Yosemite in its most spectacular season. Film and digital formats, and all levels of experience are welcome for these days of low-angled light and clouds on snowy cliffs.

## FEBRUARY

### Full Moon Snowshoe

#4

Friday February 2

\$82, or \$70 for YA members

Badger Pass (snowshoes provided)

Hiking: moderate

Interpretive naturalist **Karen Amstutz** explores the mysteries of winter, the night and the moon on this afternoon/evening excursion. It is a rare experience to be in a silent landscape, both dark and brightly lit, to learn about this unique time and place.

### Full Moon Snowshoe

#5

Saturday February 3

Same as above, a day later, and led by interpreter **Emily Jacobs**.

### Winter Ecology Weekend

#6

Saturday February 10-Sunday February 11

\$176, or \$150 for YA members

Yosemite Valley

Hiking: moderate

Biologist **Roger McGeehee** inherited this course from Dr. Carl Sharsmith, and is a delightful ambassador for examining the natural history of wintertime in the Valley. Here are two valuable days of in-depth detail about this part of the park's annual cycle of life.

### A Writer's Winter Walk

#7

Saturday February 17

\$84, or \$71 for YA members

Yosemite Valley

Hiking: easy

Author **Beth Pratt** facilitates a contemplative day of wintry observations and sharing of the written word. Bring mittens and creativity for exploring the frozen cliffs, dormant trees and a range of written media. Dessert and tea at The Ahwahnee conclude your day.

### Discovering the Valley in Winter

#8

Saturday February 24

\$82, or \$70 for YA members

Yosemite Valley

Hiking: easy-moderate

Ranger **Dick Ewart** knows the stories of the creatures, places and people that make up Yosemite. Winter in the Valley's varied microclimates makes an interesting day's exploration on the lesser known trails through forest, meadow, river and cliffside.

### Discovering Winter at Badger Pass

#9

Sunday February 25

\$82, or \$70 for YA members

Badger Pass (snowshoes provided)

Hiking: moderate

Ranger **Dick Ewart** is THE naturalist for the Badger area, and will lead a day of exploration of winter adaptations of Sierra life, the mechanics of snow crystals and the snowpack, and following animal tracks for clues to the season's happenings.

Mark your calendars now, for the Yosemite Birding Festival, featuring John Hendrickson and Don Kroodsma, May 4-6.



# ADVENTURES

## MARCH

### A Hard Road in Gold Mountain

Saturday March 3

\$82, or \$70 for YA members

Yosemite Valley

Hiking: moderate

Ranger **Yenyen Chan** celebrates the heritage of Chinese-Americans in Yosemite with a walk on the old Wawona Road, which was built by Chinese laborers. Discover some unknown contributors to park history on the day of the Lantern Festival.

#10

### Full Moon Snowshoe

Saturday March 3

Same as in February, with interpreter **Emily Jacobs**.

#11

### Dewey Point Snowshoe

Saturday March 17

Same as in January, led by **Karen Amstutz**.

#12

## ADVENTURES WITH YA'S SPRING FORUM

These Outdoor Adventure courses have been scheduled on either side of the Yosemite Association Spring Forum for members, which is on Saturday March 31. Non-members are welcome. Each of these courses is \$75, or \$64 for members of the Yosemite Association. The Friday courses will start at 10:00 and end by 4:00. The Sunday courses will start at 9:00 and end by 2:00. Our website has more course details: [www.yosemite.org/seminars](http://www.yosemite.org/seminars).

### On Friday, March 30

#### The Unknown West End with Dave Dahler

Few people walk the bridle trail around the west end of Yosemite Valley, where some incredible natural and cultural features are hidden. Here's your chance to expand your concept of the Valley. Moderate.

#### Discovering Badger Pass in Winter with Dick Ewart #14

This is a day of snowshoe exploration of the winter adaptations of Sierra life, the mechanics of snow crystals and the snowpack, and following animal tracks for clues to the season's happenings. Moderate.

#13

### On Sunday, April 1

#### Poles for Hiking, Trekking and Walking with Jayah Faye Paley #15

This popular course shows even the fittest hiker how to use hiking (or trekking) poles to travel further, faster and longer on Yosemite's trails. You'll be amazed by correct use of this tool. Moderate.

#### Wildflowers of the Merced Canyon with Michael Ross #16

Witness the explosion of color and diversity in our lower canyons with an enthusiastic expert. Identification, natural history, and photographic opportunities await on a delightful spring day. Moderate.

#### Biological Illustration with Dov Bock #17

Grow your observing skills and your creative abilities with this talented resident Yosemite Valley artist. Using simple drawing materials, you should expect to go home with an enhanced portfolio of attractive and accurate nature art, and inspiration to see more details, even in big places. Easy.

Learn more about our instructors by looking at their biographies on our website, [www.yosemite.org/seminars](http://www.yosemite.org/seminars).

**YA would be glad to design a Custom Adventure for your family or group event. Call us at (209) 379-2321 for more information.**

# Outdoor Adventures

## ENROLLMENT FORM • 2007 YOSEMITE OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

Name	
Additional Name	
Address	
City/State/Zip	
Daytime Phone ( )	Evening Phone ( )
FAX #: ( )	e-mail address:

### YOSEMITE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS

- Individual \$35
- Joint/Family \$40
- Supporting \$60
- Contributing \$125
- Sustaining \$250
- Patron \$500
- Benefactor \$1000

Enter membership total below

### CHECK APPROPRIATE BOXES:

#### Accommodations

- I want to camp with the group in YA reserved shared sites.
- I will reserve and pay for my own private campsite by calling 1-800-436-7275.
- I want to rent a room—please send me the reservation request form.
- I will make other accommodation arrangements.

#### Cancellation Policy

- I have read the cancellation policy and understand that to receive a refund, I must cancel at least 30 days before a course and pay a 10% fee per enrollment.

#### Membership

- Enclosed is my new Yosemite Association membership fee.
- I am currently a member of YA. Member #: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Class Roster

We typically provide a class roster to participants to encourage carpooling, equipment sharing, and networking.

- No, please do not give out my contact information to others in my class.



### WHERE DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE OUTDOOR ADVENTURES?

### FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING FOR EACH ADVENTURE:

Qty.	Class No.	Class Name	Date	Course Fee

Yosemite Association  
P.O. Box 230  
El Portal, California 95318

fax: 209/379-2486  
phone: 209/379-2321  
e-mail: info@yosemite.org  
website: www.yosemite.org

Total Course Fees:	\$
Membership or Renewal Fee:	\$
<b>GRAND TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$</b>

### PAYMENT:

- Check enclosed. Checks should be payable to the Yosemite Association.

Or, charge my credit card. We accept:

- Visa
- MasterCard
- American Express
- Discover

Card Number:

Exp. Date:

Signature:

or sign up online! [WWW.YOSEMITE.ORG](http://WWW.YOSEMITE.ORG)

# PARK PROFILE

LEIGH WESTERLUND



**Name:** Leigh Westerlund

**Job Title:** Executive Director, Yosemite Institute

**Hometown:** Kansas City, Missouri

**Education:** BS in Business Administration, with minors in Economics and Psychology; MS in Environmental Education

**Years worked in Yosemite:** 13.5 years (spread over a 15 year time period)

**What do you do in Yosemite?** I lead Yosemite Institute in our mission to “provide educational adventures in nature’s classroom to inspire a personal connection to the natural world and responsible actions to sustain it.”

**What brought you to Yosemite?** The opportunity to apply my newly acquired business skills to a mission towards which I was inspired to work. I was so excited and impressed by the YI that I heard about when I was in St. Louis: an organization that taught science in a stunning natural setting like Yosemite National Park. It sounded too good to be true. I’ve stayed because my expectations were, and continue to be, not only met but exceeded.

**What do you enjoy most about your job?** The people with whom I get to work, both the YI and the greater Yosemite communities, the location in which I get to work, and the inspiration of the work itself. I was in and out of hospitals as a kid, struggling with Crohn’s Disease, and I promised myself then that I would always celebrate the beautiful things in life (friendship, health, happiness, passion, fun) and that I would find ways to help others do the same. I believe that YI is fundamentally in the business of helping students to celebrate their own beauty in profound ways.

**What is your favorite place in Yosemite?** Sierra Point. It’s a beautiful spot, and it is where my husband, Erik, and I started falling in love.

**What is your favorite Yosemite book?** *An Illustrated Flora of Yosemite National Park* by Stephen J. Botti and illustrated by Walter Sydoriak. The information is clearly presented and easy to access. The illustrations are spectacular. And it is exciting to own a piece of Yosemite’s history and to see the evidence of such passion for and dedication to the plants of Yosemite, rather than focusing on Yosemite’s charismatic megafauna as so many have done.

**What is your favorite non-Yosemite book?** I’m primarily reading parenting books these days. *Operating Instructions: A Journal of My Son’s First Year* by Anne Lamott is a personal favorite.

**Who is your favorite historical figure?** Thomas Jefferson. Decisions he made in his personal life aside, I really like his ideas on freedom and democracy in government. His creativity and curiosity were expressed in inventions that really appeal to my own left-brain dominance.

**Where do you like to go for a vacation?** Monterey. It’s within a three-year-old child’s driving distance and the area offers attractions for all members of my family: Point Lobos State Reserve, Monterey Bay Aquarium, Fishwife restaurant, Asilomar, etc.

**What do you think YA’s most important role is?** Providing additional venues for interpretation and education in the park. Through books, seminars, workshops, volunteer programs, etc., YA is providing valuable opportunities for people to connect to Yosemite and to wilderness settings in general. Whether someone walks to work, plants a tree, or starts a recycling program as a result of reading a YA publication like *Yosemite, the Promise of Wildness*, YA is making a difference.

**What do you hope to do in your life that you haven’t done yet?** In many ways I’m already living my dream. I hope to complete YI’s new campus project to ensure that students who reflect the diversity of California’s population will be experiencing the magic of Yosemite for years to come. In my personal life, I hope that I can sail around the world to exotic ports of call with my husband someday.



# MEMBERS PAGES

## Members, Marching Bands, and Mrs. Melmac — Oh My!

On Saturday, September 9th, over 250 Yosemite Association members gathered to attend our 31st annual Members' Meeting in Wawona. During the bright, cool morning, members attended a variety of interpretive programs including tours of the rich cultural history of Wawona, stagecoach rides through the Pioneer Yosemite History Center, and readings of recent works by authors Gerry Haslam and Eric Blehm. Following lunch on the lawn of the Wawona Hotel, YA President Steve Medley, Board Vice Chair Suzanne Corkins, and Superintendent Mike Tollefson addressed the members before introducing our guest speaker, YA cartoonist emeritus Phil Frank. Phil discussed the characters of his syndicated comic strips including Farley, Alphonse, Bruinhilda, and Velma Melmac's summer days in Yosemite. While presenting his work, Phil drew 17 images which were later auctioned to the delight of many adoring fans, and to the benefit of YA.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LAUREL REMATORE.

*YA cartoonist emeritus Phil Frank addresses the crowd at our 31st Annual Members' Meeting*

As YA staff and volunteers poured wines generously donated by Redwood Creek and the *American Park Network*, Phil joined Eric Blehm, Gerry Haslam, and Michael Ross in signing copies of their work in front of the Grey Barn. Just after 4:00 pm, an odd hush fell over the crowd as faint notes of "When the Saints Go Marching In" wafted over the covered bridge. To everyone's amaze-



PHOTO COURTESY OF LAURA BEARDSLEY.

*Brandishing a tuba, YA President Steve Medley prepares to jam with the Yosemite Marching Band.*

ment, the infamous Yosemite Marching Band paraded through the festivities and nearly succeeded in recruiting a new member, tuba player Steve Medley. Following the performance, Steve took to the podium once again to announce the results of the raffle and silent auction, which raised over \$4,600 for YA. With Steve's wit, the live auction proved a crowd pleaser and raised an additional \$3,000. The festivities closed with an old time barn dance with caller/ranger Dean Shenk and the Wawona Philharmonic in the Grey Barn.

The day's events would not be possible without the help of many friends, volunteers, and YA staff. We thank the following individuals for providing interpretive programs during the weekend: National Park Service staff Steve Thompson, Brian Mattos, Jeff Lahr, and Kristine Hutchinson; Yosemite Institute's Deepak Dathatri, YA's own Pete Devine, and volunteer Fred Fisher. Many thanks to Ed Whittle and Calvin Liu for masterful audio support on Saturday; and to DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite staff Adrienne Kar, Debbie Scales, Jenny Duncley, Robert Stritzinger, and the rest of the staff at the Wawona Hotel who graciously hosted us for the weekend. Once again the contributions of our perennial volunteers Julie Schuller,

Fred Fisher & Joe Lattuada, and Vern & MaryJane Johnson ensured the success of the raffle, auction, and wine and cheese reception. Finally we would like to thank Dean Shenk, and the volunteers and staff of the Pioneer Yosemite History Center for all their hard work over the weekend.

Many thanks to all of our generous raffle and auction prize donors for helping make this one of our most successful fundraising events to date: The Ansel Adams Gallery, Barbara Boucke/ Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, Tom Bowman, Nicole Brocchini, Nené Casares, Suzanne Corkins, DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite, Dumont Printing, Tom Fong, Phil Frank, Garcia Machine, Steve Harrison, Gerry Haslam, Jeff Grandy Photography, Naturals from the Earth/Fred Fisher & Joe Lattuada, Michael Frye Photography, John McClary, Mono Lake Committee, Pacific Printing, Panorama International Productions, Patti's Plum Puddings/ Patti Garrity, Beth Pratt, Quietworks Photography/Keith Walklet, Redwood Creek and *American Park Network*, Scope Enterprises/Arnold & Carole Compolongo, Carol Skooglund/First Street Gallery, and the Yosemite Museum.

## An Evening with Authors and a Cartoonist

Ninety people reveled in the company of YA's cartoonist emeritus, Phil Frank, authors Gerry Haslam and Eric Blehm, park superintendent Mike Tollefson, YA board and staff at a special gathering preceding our 31st annual members meeting to honor the association's most generous supporters. Our guests were members who have donated \$250 or more to YA in the past year. The group converged around delicious appetizers and enjoyed wine generously donated by Redwood Creek and *American Park Network* at the Sun Room of the Wawona Hotel on Friday, September 8. Old friendships were rekindled, new acquaintances made, hiking adventures were swapped, and fond park memories were shared.

Won't you join us? We hold special donor receptions the evening before the annual fall meeting and the Spring Forum. Those who contribute \$1,000 or more are also invited to a casually elegant dinner on the Ahwahnee Meadow, hosted by DNC COO Brad Anderholm. We invite you to upgrade your member-



*Author Eric Blehm, at left, chats with Steve Medley (center) and member Eugene Kodani (right) at the donor reception preceding YA's 31st Annual Fall Meeting.*

ship or give a generous gift to the association so that you too may attend these special gatherings! You can make a gift online at [yosemite.org/helpus/donations.html](http://yosemite.org/helpus/donations.html), or send your gift in the envelope included with this journal. To upgrade your member level today, please call the Membership Department at (209) 379-2317.

## Ostrander Ski Hut Winter Operation

The Ostrander Lake Ski Hut will open for the 2006-2007 winter season on December 16, 2006 and remain open until April 8, 2007. The facility is operated and staffed by the Yosemite Association on behalf of the National Park Service, to encourage ski touring and snowshoeing activity in the park. The ski hut is a group lodging facility that is limited to 25 people per night with a fee of \$20 per person. Large groups are welcome, but limited to a maximum of 15 people in one party. The facility includes single bunk style beds, a common kitchen facility for meals and two outdoor bathrooms—however, there is no electricity or running water at Ostrander. Reservations are required for this popular winter facility—so popular,

in fact, that reservations are awarded based on a lottery. This year's reservation lottery is scheduled for November 20, 2006. Once the lottery has taken place, any remaining dates are available to reserve after December 1, 2006 by calling the Yosemite Association office at 209-379-2646 until December 29, 2006. After January 2, reservations are available through the Yosemite Wilderness Reservation System at 209-372-0740. Please contact the YA office for an application and information on the Ostrander Lottery.

For more information about the Ostrander Ski Hut, go to: <http://www.yosemite.org/newsroom/clips2003/april/042103.htm>

## May We Share Your Address With Other Nonprofits?

Occasionally we have the opportunity to trade our mailing list with other nonprofit organizations, so that both entities may increase our membership rosters and enhance our ability to support our respective parks or institutions. List trades are invaluable to nonprofits because they introduce us to new potential members while helping us minimize our operational costs.

Although we have rarely capitalized on such opportunities, we would like to be able to do so when we know the other organizations to be reputable and to have something of value to offer to our members. If you would prefer not to have us share your name and address, please notify the Membership department by calling us at 209-379-2317, by sending an e-mail to [info@yosemite.org](mailto:info@yosemite.org), or by mailing a note to us at P.O. Box 230, El Portal, CA 95318. All "do not share" requests will be acknowledged and will be honored in perpetuity. Note that telephone numbers and e-mail addresses are not released or traded for any reason.

## Internet Search Engine Shares Its Revenue with YA

The Yosemite Association has recently been approved as an eligible charity on [www.GoodSearch.com](http://www.GoodSearch.com), a Yahoo-powered search engine that shares its advertising revenue with charities. Simply log onto the site and register your support for the Yosemite Association. Then each time you search the internet using GoodSearch, YA will receive a donation. You can even track estimated earnings for YA by clicking on the "Amount Raised" button. Visit the GoodSearch website today and help us help Yosemite every time you search the internet!

### MEMBER INFO LINE 209/379-2317

If you're planning a trip to Yosemite and have questions, give our phone line a call between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. We don't make reservations, but we can give appropriate phone numbers and usually lots of helpful advice.

## YA Volunteers Make It Happen

Remember the awe, and confusion, you felt entering Yosemite Valley or crossing the Tioga pass for the first time? Every day thousands of visitors, many on their first visit to Yosemite, face the same wonder and amazement. Their questions are greeted by the welcoming smiles and helpful suggestions of Yosemite Association volunteers throughout the park. This year, 83 member volunteers spent a month (or two, or five!) providing vital information, staffing interpre-

John McClary, Bob McConnell, Ken & Patsy McKay, Jillian Metz, Carole & Lou Meylan, Erin & Russ Mills, Dorothy Nakama, Sally Ness, Johanna Olson, Nancy Ornee, Gary Orr, Laverne & Fred Polkinghorn, Charlie Ryan, Julienne Schuller, Richard Schuman, Dawn Sherertz, George & Mary Sutliff, Lori Syme, Alicia Taylor, Paget Valentzas, Doug Van Der Linden, Jackie Wagoner, Jo Wamser, Cathy & Barry Warmerdam, Jan Webster, Julice Winter, Gary Wuchner, and Pat Zucarro.

invasive species, participated in rare plant surveys, and helped reduce the human impact near Sunrise High Sierra Camp. On behalf of all the park partners who participate in the Cooperative Work Weeks program, YA thanks the 2006 Work Week crew:

Kyoko Adachi & Hiroyuki Minamino, Ricardo Azucena, John Barnes, Syd Bluestone, Ray Borean, Don Burns, Joan Carter, Jerome Chin, Tony DeMaio, Jim Derry, Jean Dillingham, Rese Eberl, David Eichorn & Jeanette Larsen, Chris & Candace Elder, Marshall & Judy Fisher, Anne Gomes, Gerry & Jan Haslam, Don Hedgepeth, Christine Heritage, Robert Jansen, Judy Johnson, Eric Juline, Mona Knight, June Krystoff-Jones, Betty Mae & Jim Locke, Kate Mawdsley, Wendy McDade, Clem & Marina Michel, Greg Moon, Russell Morimoto, John Mullen, Jerry Nuding, Ralph Occhipinti, Elneta Owens, Carolyn Palmer, Reuben & Teresa Peterson, Ed Polainer, Jean Roche, Joan Sanderson, Pat Soussan, Alison Sterley, George, Linda & Meredith Sward, Marjorie Thompson, Verle Waters, and Ronald & Carolina Williams.

Want to help out next year? Recruitment for the 2007 month-long volunteer season begins this December, and applications and project descriptions for the Work Week program will be released in early February. For more information, please visit our website at [www.yosemite.org/helpus/volunteer.html](http://www.yosemite.org/helpus/volunteer.html) or call Laura Beardsley at 209-379-2317 after December 1, 2006.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LAURA BEARDSLEY.

*Volunteer Adrienne Kalmick answers a visitor's question at the membership booth outside the Tuolumne Visitor Center.*

For many, the wonder of their first visit to Yosemite develops into a life-long love of the park and its many treasures. For some this grows into a desire to give back time and energy to help restore and preserve natural resources in the park. For the past 19 years, YA, in partnership with

Yosemite Institute and Delaware North Companies Parks & Resorts at Yosemite, has assembled volunteer crews who assist the National Park Service in restoration projects throughout the park. This year, the work week program resulted in 1,980 service hours and a lot of tired smiles, as 57 volunteers on five crews removed

tive facilities, and introducing park visitors to the Yosemite Association and our efforts to support education and stewardship in the park. Many thanks to the following volunteers who together contributed over 10,044 hours to the park in the program's 22nd year:

June Bailey, Jennifer Baker, RoxAnne Borean, RJ Bragg & Paula McNerny, Helen Brohm, Mary & Mike Burchmore, Tom & Kristin Byde, Gary Cava, Gary Childs, Bob & Beverly Combs, Richard Conness, Catherine Cresswell, Fannie Curro, Michael Darling, Donna Engleman, Alice Ensley, Barbara Fumagalli, Geidra Gershman & Allan Shrafman, Teri Gold & John Orlowski, Sue & Jack Hansen, Ann Hardeman, Carol Harris, Doug Hitchingham, Ted Hoesman, Kathy Hopkins, Suzanne Howell-Gleason, Vern & MaryJane Johnson, Adrienne Kalmick, Jerry & Susan Kaplan, Chuck & Mille Krueger, Charlie Laird, Chris & Jeff Lashmet, Joanne Mandel, Laurie & Jim May,



PHOTO COURTESY OF RUSSELL MORIMOTO.

*The 2006 Backcountry Work Week crew restores a trail near Sunrise High Sierra Camp.*



# ASSOCIATION DATES

Legend:  
OA = Outdoor Adventure

NOV.

**Daily (through Jan 28, 2007):** "America's Best Idea," a photographic journey through our National Parks, on display at Yosemite Museum Gallery

**Nov 2-5:** OA: Focusing on Nature

**Nov 4:** Memorial gathering to celebrate the life of Steven P. Medley; 1 p.m. at the Grey Barn in Wawona

**Nov 20:** Ostrander Ski Hut lottery applications must be received by this date

**Nov 23-24:** YA Administrative Office closed for Thanksgiving holiday

DEC.

**Daily (through Jan 28, 2007):** "America's Best Idea," a photographic journey through our National Parks, on display at Yosemite Museum Gallery

**Dec 7:** YA Holiday Open House and Warehouse Sale at El Portal office

**Dec 9:** OA: Woodpeckers: the Quest for Eleven

**Dec 16:** Ostrander Ski Hut opens for the season

**Dec 18:** Last day to place holiday orders to arrive by Dec. 25

**Dec 25:** YA Administrative Office closed for Christmas holiday

JAN. 2007

**Daily (through Jan 28):** "America's Best Idea," a photographic journey through our National Parks, on display at Yosemite Museum Gallery

**Jan:** Invitation to Spring Forum (Mar. 31) to be mailed to all members this month

**Jan 1:** YA Administrative Office closed for New Year's holiday

**Jan 3:** Wilderness permit reservation system opens for the season

**Jan 13:** OA: Dewey Point Snowshoe

**Jan 15:** YA Administrative Office closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday

**Mid-Jan:** Winter 2007 issue of the members' journal *Yosemite* to be mailed

**Jan 20:** OA: Snowshoe Explorations

**Jan 25-28:** OA: Winter Landscape Photography

FEB.

**Feb 2:** OA: Full Moon Snowshoe

**Feb 3:** OA: Full Moon Snowshoe

**Feb 10-11:** OA: Winter Ecology Weekend

**Feb 17:** OA: A Writer's Winter Walk

**Feb 17:** OA: Hard Road in Gold Mountain

**Feb 19:** YA Administrative Office closed for Presidents' Day holiday

**Feb 23 – May 6:** Yosemite Renaissance XXII exhibit at Yosemite Museum Gallery

**Feb 24-25:** OA: Discovering the Winter World

MARCH

**Mar 3:** OA: Full Moon Snowshoe

**Mar 17:** OA: Dewey Point Snowshoe

**Mar 30:** OA: The Unknown West End

**Mar 30:** OA: Discovering Badger Pass in Winter

**Mar 31:** Spring Forum, Yosemite Valley

APRIL

**Apr:** Free Yosemite Art Center courses begin this month

**Apr 1:** OA: Poles for Hiking, Trekking, and Walking

**Apr 1:** OA: Biological Illustration

**Apr 1:** OA: Wildflowers of the Merced Canyon

**Apr 8:** Ostrander Ski Hut closes for the season

For an expanded events calendar, visit [yosemite.org/member/calendar.htm](http://yosemite.org/member/calendar.htm)

To register for an Outdoor Adventure or to book a custom adventure, call 209-379-2321 or visit [yosemite.org/seminars](http://yosemite.org/seminars). Proceeds from all YA programs help support Yosemite!

# YOSEMITE CATALOG

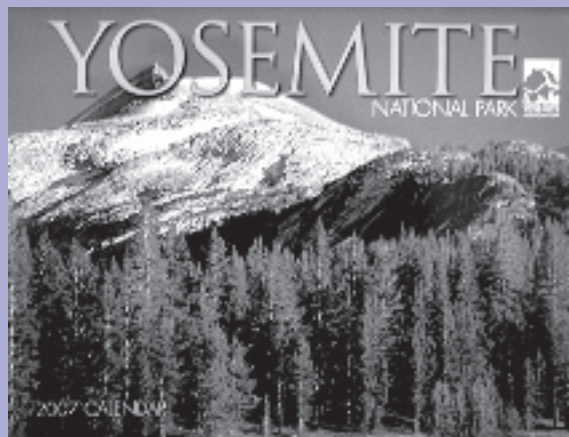
## GIFTS AND STOCKING STUFFERS

### Yosemite National Park 2007 Wall Calendar

by Tide-Mark Press.

This annual photographic wall calendar is as beautiful as ever for 2007! It features a variety of subjects, from impressive granite landmarks to snow-laden landscapes, and from sparkling waterfalls to high country meadow expanses. Work is included by such renowned photographers as Larry Ulrich, Douglas Steakley, Dennis Flaherty, and Nancy Hoyt Belcher.

From icons in Yosemite Valley to alpine landscapes and peaks, their images capture the spirit of awe that John Muir felt so strongly when he made the park his home. Each month is laid out with thumbnails of the previous and following months, and is annotated with important dates and phases of the moon. The calendar is 14 by 11 inches, unfolds to 14 by 22 inches, and is printed in full color. Copyright 2006, Tide-Mark Press. \$13.95; **members price \$11.86**



### Wawona and Tuolumne Meadows Logo Enamel Pins

by Yosemite Association.

The colorful new Wawona and Tuolumne Meadows identity logos are presented here as high-quality enamel pins. The square Wawona pin uses reddish-brown, tan, green, white, and light blue enamel with gold highlights within a brass border.

The Tuolumne Meadows pin is an oval, using violet, light blue, grey, green, yellow, and white. Each pin features a pointed prong on the reverse with a removable clip to hold it to clothing or a day pack. Copyright 2006, Yosemite Association. \$5 each; **members price \$4.25**

### Wawona and Tuolumne Meadows Logo Decals

by Yosemite Association.

The colorful new Wawona and Tuolumne Meadows identity logos are reproduced here as a heavy vinyl decal to be applied to your car, a window, or any other flat surface. The Wawona decal is 3.5 inches square and printed in reddish-brown, tan, green, white, and light blue, while the Tuolumne Meadows decal is a 4.25-inch-wide oval printed in violet, light blue, grey, green, yellow, and white. The adhesive is on the back.

Demonstrate your love for Wawona and Tuolumne Meadows (and Yosemite generally) with these eye-catching logo decals. The vinyl decals are printed in full color. Copyright 2006, Yosemite Association. \$1.50 each; **members price \$1.28**

### Wawona and Tuolumne Meadows Logo Patches

by Yosemite Association.

The colorful new Wawona and Tuolumne Meadows identity logos are reproduced here in the form of embroidered patches. The cloth patch for Wawona is a square, while the Tuolumne Meadows patch is a wide oval. They can be sewn or ironed onto clothing, day packs, and other fabric objects.

The embroidery colors for the Wawona patch include reddish-brown, tan, green, white, and light blue, while the Tuolumne patch is reproduced in violet, light blue, grey, green, yellow, and white. Copyright 2006, Yosemite Association. \$4 each; **members price \$3.40**





Last day to place orders for Christmas delivery is Dec. 18. (Expedited shipping charges will apply.)

### Yosemite—Valley of the Giants (music CD)

by Mars Lasar.

This is an evocation of Yosemite National Park from Mars Lasar, who has been creating remarkable music for years. His

Yanni-esque electro-orchestral compositions, full of sweeping strings, seductive rhythms, and soaring melodies, are inspiring.

On songs like “El Capitan,” “Merced River,” and “Glacier Point,”

Lasar uses instrumental samples to create an orchestra of sound from strings to flutes and percussion. “Yosemite Valley”

is one of the more ominous pieces, opening up with wind and bird cries that evolve into a tribal, vaguely native rhythm topped by gothic voices. “Half Dome” is a triumphant excursion of swelling voices, tribal drums, sampled flute melodies, and Irish uilleann pipes—all accompanied by chirping crickets.

Join Mars Lasar as he journeys through space and time while capturing the reverence of this magical place, a musical portrait so amazingly beautiful it simply glows with love and respect for our home. The digital audio CD is approximately 48 minutes long and packaged in plastic jewel case. Copyright 2006, GeminiSun Records. \$16.00; **members price \$13.60**



### Yosemite Holiday Card Assortment

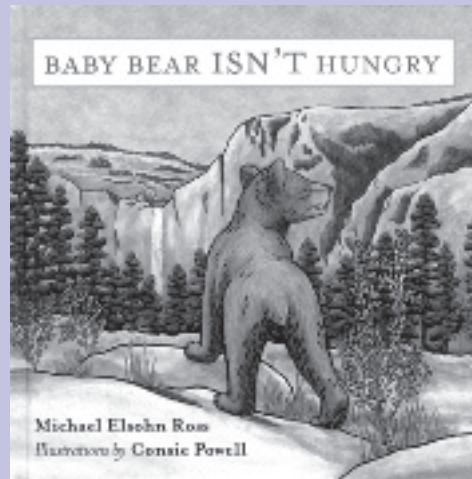
by Sierra Club.

This set of twenty holiday cards features

the colorful photographic images of Dave Welling. There are five cards each reproducing four different views: “Gates of Yosemite Valley,” “El Capitan,” “Yosemite Valley,” “tunnel view,” and “Merced River.”

Printed inside each card is “Season’s Greetings,” the set is printed with soy-based inks on recycled paper, and the cards are packaged with twenty envelopes in a cardboard box. Brighten the season with these new holiday cards, featuring stunning shots of Yosemite. 20 cards with envelopes, 5 by 7 inches. Copyright 2006, Sierra Club. \$15; **members price \$12.75**

## KIDS



### Baby Bear Isn't Hungry

by Michael Elsohn Ross;  
illustrated by Consie Powell.

This is the delightful story of a baby black bear who's too curious to eat. Baby bear is completely fascinated by the natural world around her, and sees her surroundings as one big outdoor playground.

Not paying attention to where she's going, baby bear tumbles down a hill and into an occupied

campsite. It's hard to tell who's more alarmed – baby bear or the humans in whose camp she has found herself. In her panic, she climbs high into a pine tree and fearfully calls for her mother. Now it's mama bear's turn to be distressed, and she frantically searches for her cub. Following the worried cries, she finally locates baby bear. Children will love how the predicament is resolved.

Illustrated in an eye-catching woodblock style by noted illustrator Consie Powell, the story appeals to young children whose energy levels differ little from baby bear's. It's perfect for bedtime reading. This heart-warming tale, with its simple yet serious crisis that is resolved in a reassuring manner, is sure to become a favorite of readers, both old and young alike. The book is 26 pages long, 8 inches by 8 inches in size, illustrated in full color, and features a sturdy library binding. Copyright 2006, Yosemite Association. \$9.95; **members price \$8.46**

### Park Ranger Doll

by MerryMakers.

This colorful new doll is a careful rendering of a female park ranger, made of the highest quality with meticulous attention to detail. From her felt ranger flat hat, to her ranger badge and patch, the doll sports a reproduction of the National Park Service uniform. There's even a pair of binoculars to help with search and rescue activities and birdwatching.

Made with materials that conform to all federal and state safety regulations, the doll is lightweight and soft—perfect for taking anywhere, including a tour of the national parks.

The park ranger doll is sure to stimulate fun, laughter, adventure, and role modeling in children, and give rise to lots of time spent with family and friends. The fabric doll is approximately 11 inches tall with a cloth uniform and a plastic hat. Copyright 2006, MerryMakers. \$12.95; **members price \$11.01**



To see an expanded list of the products we offer for sale, visit the full-featured, secure **Yosemite Store** on the internet at: [www.yosemitestore.com](http://www.yosemitestore.com)

## KIDS

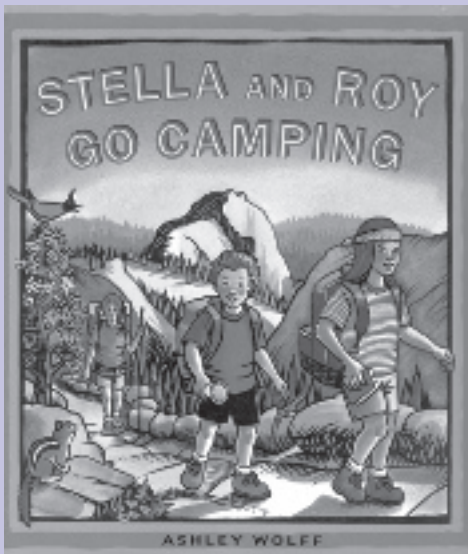
### Stella and Roy Go Camping

by Ashley Wolff.

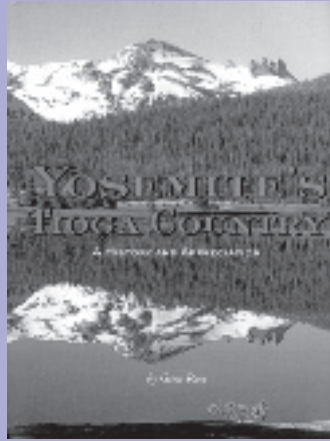
This is a reprint of the children's classic set in Yosemite, featuring an entertaining and informative story about a family backpack trip. Stella and Roy are going camping at Lone Pine Lake with their mother. Hoping to see a bear, Roy is ever on the lookout for tracks. But new reader Stella has her animal identification book along, and she delights in showing Roy what kind of animals really made the tracks he's found. Roy spots coyote tracks and marmot tracks and lots of others, too—but no bear tracks.

At night, however, after the last marshmallow has been roasted, the food safely stowed in a black plastic bear barrel, and everyone is asleep, Roy hears a clunking, rolling sound outside the tent. Could it be the bear barrel? Could it be a bear?

This colorful sequel to the highly-praised *Stella & Roy* deftly takes young readers and listeners through the changing aspects of an outdoor overnight. Sister and brother's eagerness to see new sights, their playful sibling rivalry, the day's cozy campfire ending, Roy's hoped-for satisfaction – all are served up with ebullience and understanding. The book is 40 pages, 9 inches by 10 inches, printed in full-color, and hard bound with a dust jacket. Copyright 2006, Yosemite Association. \$15.99; **members price \$13.59**



## GOOD READING



### Yosemite's Tioga Country—A History and Appreciation

by Gene Rose.

Yosemite's Tioga Road passes through one of the world's great wonderlands. Travelers over the route enjoy a high country experience like none other, replete with stunning vistas, forests abounding with flora and fauna, and multiple opportunities to recreate, relax, and reflect.

This new book recounts the intriguing history of the region, documenting a human presence that has existed for hundreds of years. From early Native American nomads

to miners and shearers, the high country has been home to a fascinating array of individuals, who each developed a special relationship with the land.

Now the Tioga territory is primarily the domain of park visitors, who hike, backpack, rock climb, fish, bicycle, and otherwise interact with this remarkable mountain environment. For such visitors and other high country lovers, this book is an appreciation of a landscape unparalleled on Earth – Yosemite's Tioga country.

The volume includes over one hundred historic photographs never before published; early maps of the Tioga region; portraits of key historic figures; a reprint of *The Tioga Road – A History* by Keith Trexler; a comprehensive overview of post-contact history; and a mile-by-mile description of the Tioga Road and its highlights. The book is 220 pages, 8.5 by 11 inches, illustrated in black and white, and casebound with a dust jacket. Copyright 2006 by the Yosemite Association. \$24.95; **members price \$21.21**

### Our National Parks.

Photography by David Muench;  
essay by Ruth Rudner.

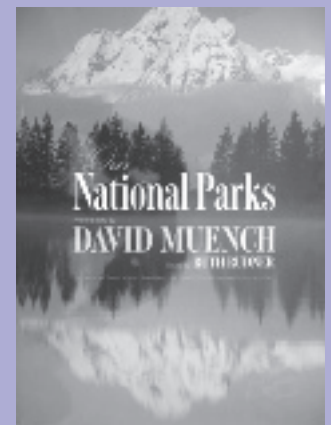
David Muench, one of the nation's premier landscape photographers, captures the moods of seashore, glacier, mountain, desert, forest, and meadow, of icons and singular moments in our country's great national parks. His images present to the viewer both the wild beauty of the landscape and the transformative power of nature.

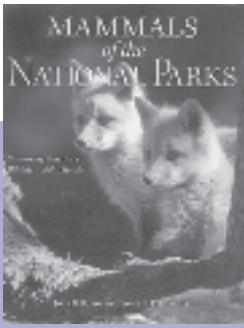
In her personal essay about backcountry experiences in our national parks, Ruth Rudner reveals

how at home she is in the wild places and her conviction that wilderness is a requirement for the health of our nation. This moving essay coupled with

Muench's visual celebration of these great lands, brings to life everything from the Great Smoky Mountains to the Grand Canyon, and Yellowstone to Bryce Canyon. The gift book is 230 pages long, 10 by 13.5 inches, illustrated with 254 full-color images, and casebound with a dust jacket.

Copyright 2005, Graphic Arts Books. \$50; **members price \$42.50**





### Mammals of the National Parks

by John H. Burde and George A. Feldhamer.

From the stunning seascapes of Acadia to the desert of Death Valley, America's national parks are home to hundreds of species of wild mammals. Captured in vivid photographs, both the mammals and the parks are revealed in this breathtaking book written by two leading experts—one a forester and the other a zoologist.

The first section of the book describes the history and landscape of each park, and gives an overview of conservation issues and tips on sighting particular animals. The second section provides a thorough description of each type of mammal, including physical characteristics, behavior, range, and feeding habits. Each entry outlines the environmental issues affecting the populations.

Providing a rare glimpse into the habits and habitats of mammals in fifty-six national parks, *Mammals of the National Parks* captures the wonder and beauty of our national treasures. The book is 224 pages long, 9 by 11 inches, illustrated in full color, and casebound with a dust jacket. Copyright 2005, John Hopkins University Press. \$29.95; **members price \$25.46**

### Past Tents—The Way We Camped

by Susan Snyder.

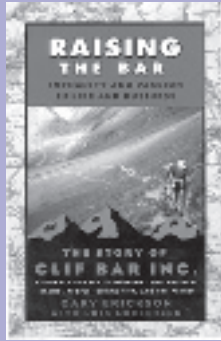
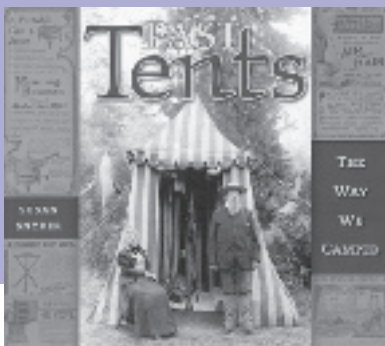
From the award-winning author of *Bear in Mind: The California Grizzly* comes this lighter look at Americans' infatuation with the great outdoors. Mining once again the vast archives at the Bancroft Library, Susan Snyder has mapped out this cheeky yet accurate history of camping in the West.

Full of photographs and descriptions of family outings in the first years of the automobile, of campgrounds and campfires against the familiar backdrop of the Sierra Nevada, of the remarkable gear and "helpful" hints that accompanied outings to our newly minted state and national parks and forests, *Past Tents* is a humorous romp through one of our favorite pastimes.

Easy to pick up, hard to put down, it's the perfect gift for anyone who's ever been in the thrall of redwoods, s'mores, and Smokey the Bear.

Susan Snyder worked as a teacher, illustrator, and Japanese language interpreter before landing as the head of Access Services in The Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley.

The book is 160 pages, 9 by 8 inches, illustrated in black and white, and paperback. Copyright 2006, Heyday Books/The Bancroft Library. \$17.95; **members price \$15.26**



### Raising the Bar—Integrity and Passion in Life and Business

by Gary Erickson with Lois Lorentzen.

In April of 2000, Gary Erickson turned down a \$120 million offer to buy his thriving company. Today, instead of taking it easy for the rest of his life and enjoying a luxurious retirement, he's working harder than ever. Why would any sane person pass up the financial opportunity of a lifetime?

*Raising the Bar* tells the amazing story of Clif Bar's Gary Erickson and shows that some things are more important than money. Gary Erickson and coauthor Lois Lorentzen tell the unusual and inspiring story about following your passion, having the freedom to create, sustaining a business over the long haul, and living responsibly in your community and on the earth.

The book is filled with compelling stories from Erickson's life – trekking in the Himalaya Mountains, riding his bicycle over roadless European mountain passes, climbing in the Sierra Nevada – as inspiration for his philosophy of business. Throughout the book, Erickson, a competitive cyclist, jazz musician, world traveler, mountain climber, wilderness guide, and entrepreneur, convinces us that sustaining one's employees, community, and environment is good business.

The volume is 342 pages, 6 by 9 inches in size, illustrated in black and white, and casebound with a dust jacket. Copyright 2004, Jossey-Bass. \$24.95; **members price \$21.21**

### Yosemite—Art of an American Icon

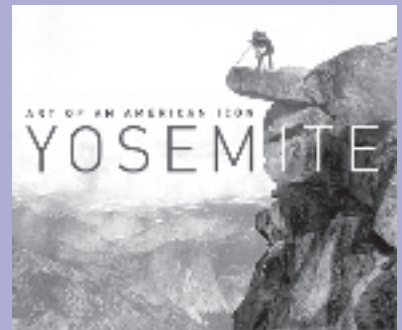
edited by Amy Scott.

This lavishly-illustrated volume offers a stunning new view of Yosemite's visual history by presenting two hundred works of art together with provocative essays that explore the rich intersections between art and nature in this incomparable Sierra Nevada wilderness.

Integrating the work of Native peoples, it provides the first inclusive view of the artists who helped create an icon of the American wilderness by featuring painting, photography, basketry, and other artworks from both well-known and little-studied artists from the nineteenth century to the present.

*Yosemite: Art of an American Icon* pursues several evocative themes, including the relationship between environment and aesthetics in Yosemite; the various ways in which artists have shaped how we see and use the park; and the dynamic intersections between art, nature, and commerce that have played out during its history.

With Essays by Amy Scott, William Deverell, Kate Nearpass Ogden, Gary F. Kurutz, Brian Bibby, Jennifer A. Watts, and Jonathan Spaulding, the book is 300 pages, 10 by 11.5 inches, illustrated in color and black and white, and paperback. Copyright 2006, UC Press/Autry National Center, Museum of the American West. \$34.95; **members price \$29.71.**



**SPECIAL SALE! Order early—quantities are limited!**



**Yosemite Valley Scale Model**

by TopoGeo, Inc.

This plastic scale model depicts Yosemite Valley in gray relief. The model is packaged in a clear plastic box with various peaks, landmarks, and waterfalls marked on its top. It is scaled at 1:75000 with contour lines at every 24 meters, or approximately 80 feet.

This scale allows inclusion of the entire distance from El Capitan on the west to Half Dome on the east – some of the park’s most beautiful and famous scenery. The model is approximately 6 inches wide by 4.25 inches high by 3 inches deep. Copyright 2005, TopoGeo, Inc. Regular price \$39; **special sale price \$21 (no members discount allowed)**

**Yosemite Christmas Greetings Cards**

from the Yosemite Museum collection.

For the holidays, these reproductions of a historic Christmas greeting card from the Yosemite Museum are just the ticket. Originally appearing on a postcard, the full-color image of El Capitan framed by poinsettia flowers has been reproduced on a sturdy note card of recycled paper.

The striking image reads “Christmas Greetings,” and there is no message on the inside of the card. This set of notecards is a great way to remember your friends and Yosemite during the holiday season. 8 cards with envelopes; 5 inches by 7 inches; copyright 1998, Yosemite Association. Regular price \$7.50; **special sale price \$4 (no members discount allowed)**



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ENROLLMENTS AND GIFTS PROCESSED BETWEEN JUNE 29 AND SEPTEMBER 11, 2006

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Every membership contributes to the care, well-being, and protection of America's foremost national park—Yosemite!

# Yosemite

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- \$1,000 Benefactor
- \$50 International

### Please send a Gift Membership to the Yosemite Association to ...

Name (please print): Mr. \_\_\_ Ms. \_\_\_ Mrs. \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Sign gift card from: \_\_\_\_\_

Choose their special gift:  2007 Calendar, or  Canvas Tote Bag

List any additional gifts on a separate sheet of paper.

**For last minute gift giving, call (209) 379-2317.**

### From:

My Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed: (Make checks payable to Yosemite Association) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Or charge my credit card: \_\_\_\_\_

Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: **Yosemite Association**, PO Box 230, El Portal, CA 95318

Purchase online at: <https://applyweb.com/public/contribute?s=yosememb>