

Yosemite Reveals
**the Artistry
and Humor of**
Jo Mora

A Message from the President

Winter has come to Yosemite National Park. As we go to press, snow is falling on Badger Pass, the bonfire is roaring at Curry Village and the waterfalls have returned after a five month hiatus. Everywhere, the Valley is laced with a light snow.

We have two basic goals for 2008—to form a deeper connection with our devoted members and to connect new audiences to the majesty and grandeur of Yosemite. Let me offer several highlights of our plans.

This winter, the Yosemite Association is offering many programs to help visitors enjoy the park. These include numerous opportunities to explore Yosemite in winter with a naturalist (www.yosemite.org). Additionally, YA has finalized a new agreement with the National Park Service to operate the Ostrander Backcountry Ski Hut, which provides unique lodging opportunities for skiers and snowshoers (call 209-379-0740 for reservations). Downhill skiers can enjoy the great tradition and ambience at Badger Pass, and cross-country skiers can also spend the night at Glacier Point Lodge (www.yosemitepark.com).

We are energized about strengthening our new partnership with Heyday Books in Berkeley (www.heyday.com), which has been publishing books on California and the West for many years. Publisher Malcolm Margolin is not only passionate about Yosemite, but is also one of the state's leading literary figures. As an author, his book *The Ohlone Way* was recognized by the San Francisco Chronicle as one of the 100 most important nonfiction works about the West in the twentieth century. Our goal with Heyday is to produce beautiful and inspiring books about Yosemite and the Sierra Nevada that will connect people to the park through words and photographs. These books will be at the heart of our expanded retail opportunities this year and broaden our ability to reach a diverse audience.

The next time you are in Yosemite, we urge you to visit our bookstores throughout the Park. By spring you should see a redesigned store in the Valley Visitor Center that is more spacious, accessible and will have air conditioning for those warm summer days. We will also have an improved website for the public to access information about Yosemite, purchase books and buy related educational products. Additionally, a new volunteer kiosk in Yosemite Village will provide visitors with information about the Park.

To help reach new audiences, the Association has been partnering with the Yosemite Fund and the National Park Service to further expand the Junior Ranger Program. Our Junior Ranger handbook will be available in Spanish this spring for the first time. We are also developing tailored Junior Ranger materials on areas such as Tuolumne Meadows and Wawona/Mariposa Grove, and subjects such as wilderness, geology and art. We hope you will join us in the Park for National Junior Ranger Day on April 26.

The Association will continue to support a vibrant year-round volunteer program that includes visitor information volunteers who spend a month in the Park and the cooperative work week restoration projects. Last year, these two programs tallied more than 13,500 work hours, time valued by the NPS at \$253,395. We are working with our partners to expand this program in 2008 and urge you to join in.

As you plan out your 2008, we hope that you will join us in Yosemite for our annual Spring Forum on March 29, 2008. This special members-only event will include interpretive walks and talks and opportunities to celebrate Yosemite among friends.

Enjoy your winter. We look forward to seeing you in Yosemite soon.



David Guy



INGELISE GUY

Cover:
Details of the whimsical "carte" map of Yosemite drawn by early California artist Jacinto "Jo" Mora.

YOSEMITE ASSOCIATION

YOSEMITE REVEALS THE ARTISTRY AND HUMOR OF JO MORA

The spectacular beauty of Yosemite has attracted millions of people since it was first discovered by mankind. The land has engaged people ranging from the Miwok, whose ancestral home was in Yosemite Valley, to visitors who simply drive through the park.

Many of those who have spent time in Yosemite have been inspired to express themselves in a creative manner. Albert Bierstadt, Thomas Hill, Carleton E. Watkins, Chiura Obata, Wayne Thiebaud and perhaps the most familiar artist associated with Yosemite, Ansel Adams, are among the many creative souls who have expressed their visions of the park's magnificent features.

Largely overlooked, however, are the efforts of Joseph Jacinto "Jo" Mora (1876-1947), an artist known for his depictions of life in Old California and the American West. Mora's first visit to Yosemite in 1904 eventually led to the drawing of a historic and humorous map of the park that remains a treasured piece of Yosemite history today.

Mora was born in Montevideo, Uruguay, but moved with his family to the East Coast while very young. Art and its creation was always present in the Mora household. His father, Domingo Mora, was a classically trained sculptor and his brother, Luis, a formal painter. During his school years, Mora studied art under several teachers, including his father, and seemed always to have a pencil and sketch paper at hand. As a young man, Mora first found employment as an illustrator for newspapers and book publishers. From this, Mora evolved into a multitalked, versatile artist able to express himself in mediums from pen and ink to sculpture in wood, marble or bronze.

A growing interest in the various cultures of the American West first brought Mora to California. He settled in the San Jose area before heading off to explore. Jo spent the days between June 25 and July 8 of 1904 in Yosemite. The visit was a portion of a longer, extended trip Mora undertook with a friend, Walter 'Honey' Williams, to see the Hopi Snake Dance on the Hopi reservation in Arizona. They were accompanied by two mules, Tom and Jerry, whose frisky disposition led to them being named after the popular cocktail. The mules pulled a Studebaker wagon along the little-traveled dirt roads of the West.

It took two weeks to get from the Bay Area to Yosemite but Mora found it well worth the effort. His first view of the valley, noted in his journal, reads "Soon came to 'O! My! Point'. Perfectly charming, fine view of part of valley. Photoed. Drank it all in." The diary is long on details of each day's activities, yet includes only a few personal

reflections. Twenty-five pages of tiny, cursive handwriting record lazy days largely spent shopping for food, cooking and cleaning up afterwards. "I hate this part of the programme," Mora wrote.

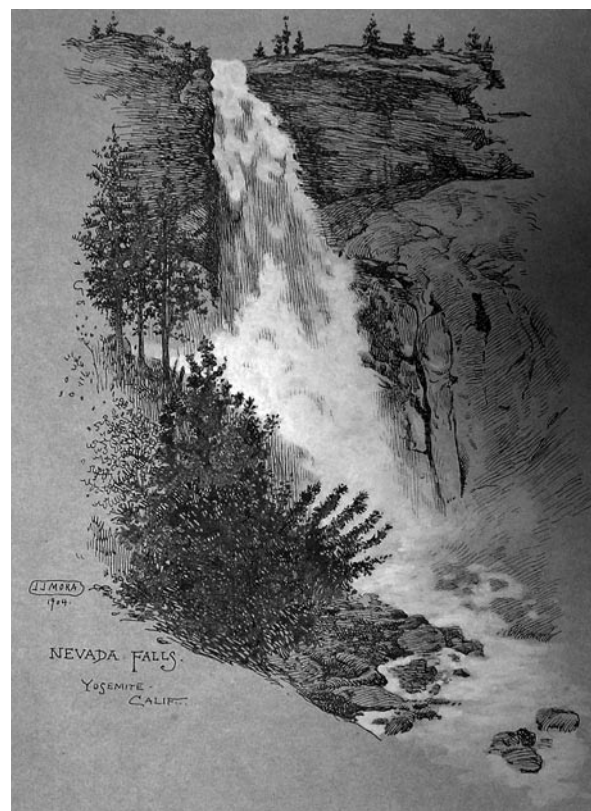
The post office in Yosemite Valley became a focal point of Mora's stay, both because it offered hopes of incoming mail and for opportunities to socialize with other park visitors. It was on one of these walks to the post office that Mora noted, "Last night when I walked to the P.O. the scenery by moonlight was almost divine. Standing in front of Yosemite Falls as they tumbled and roared down the rocky mountain wall by the weird light was absolutely fascinating..."

The time Mora and Williams spent in Yosemite happened to include the Fourth of July. The day began with the campers next to them heading out and leaving behind a bag of greatly appreciated potatoes. The celebrations in the valley started with a baseball game. Williams joined the Camp Curry team and represented the fellows well by hitting a homerun and a double, but they still lost to team Yosemite. The day's activities continued with horse and foot races. After night fell, Mora wrote, he and Williams "stood on the bridge and watched the fire works. Balloons went up fine. Fire works on Glacier Point looked very pretty." The day ended with Mora putting the beans to soak before falling asleep.

Mora made a full page of observations about the various birds he saw in the park. Some, like a Harris woodpecker spotted near El Capitan, were observed on hikes, while others, such as pigmy nuthatches 'yank yanking in great style,' were seen from the vantage point of his campsite.

During his stay, Mora made at least one major hike from the

Nevada Falls



COURTESY JO MORA TRUST

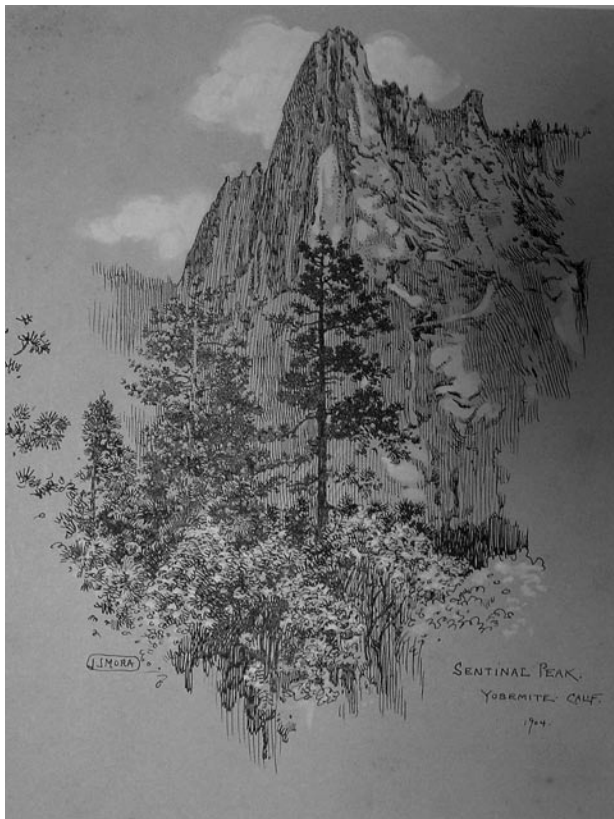
valley floor up to Glacier Point, Illilouette Fall, down past Nevada Fall, “just grand and worth the price of admission,” and Vernal Fall. Of Vernal Fall, he wrote, “There is a grand rainbow there also. River then booms along, threading its way down the canyon like a snake of foam.” Despite stopping to take photographs at many points, he completed the trek, which he was told was nineteen miles, in about six and a half hours.

The physical beauty of Yosemite, along with the photographs he took, provided Mora with source material for several drawings and paintings. These rarely-seen images focus on the park’s landmarks and are executed with a brevity of composition elements. Mora took his pencils, inks and watercolors with him on walks to find scenic viewpoints. Ansel Adams was not the only one sensitive to the light of Yosemite, as Mora wrote one morning that he “Started sketch of Glacier Point—light changed shadows badly and I found it a tough proposition. Worked hard and it made me hustle.”

Mora is best known for what he called his cartes, or maps, which he began drawing in 1927. With the help of his business-minded son, Jo Jr., he found a wonderful means to depict his love of the natural world, his deep interest in history and his sense of humor.

The carte centers on an overall view of the park from the Merced River entrance, outside El Portal, looking up the valley to the east. Well-known physical features of the park are clearly noted, including Bridalveil Fall, Half Dome and Yosemite Falls.

Sentinel Peak



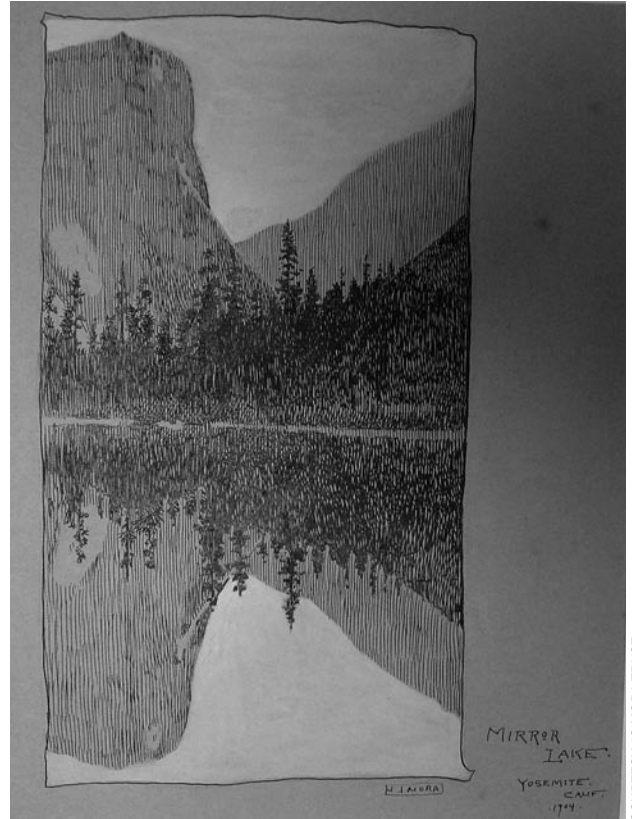
COURTESY JO MORA TRUST

Mora clearly intended his Yosemite carte to provide amusement as well as information to viewers. In the map’s introduction, he wrote, “There is so much grandeur and reverential solemnity to Yosemite that a bit of humor may help the better to happily reconcile ourselves to the triviality of man. Give me the souls who smile at their devotions! Now, should this light effort, not altogether truthful, so not although dull, afford you a tithe of mirth, I shall feel I have added to your reverence for Yosemite.” Most points of interest are shown with a visual pun to bring them to life—Washington Column is depicted with George leaning on a carved marble column; the three lovely Graces frolic at their spires; and a well-dressed woman powders her nose while gazing into Mirror Lake.

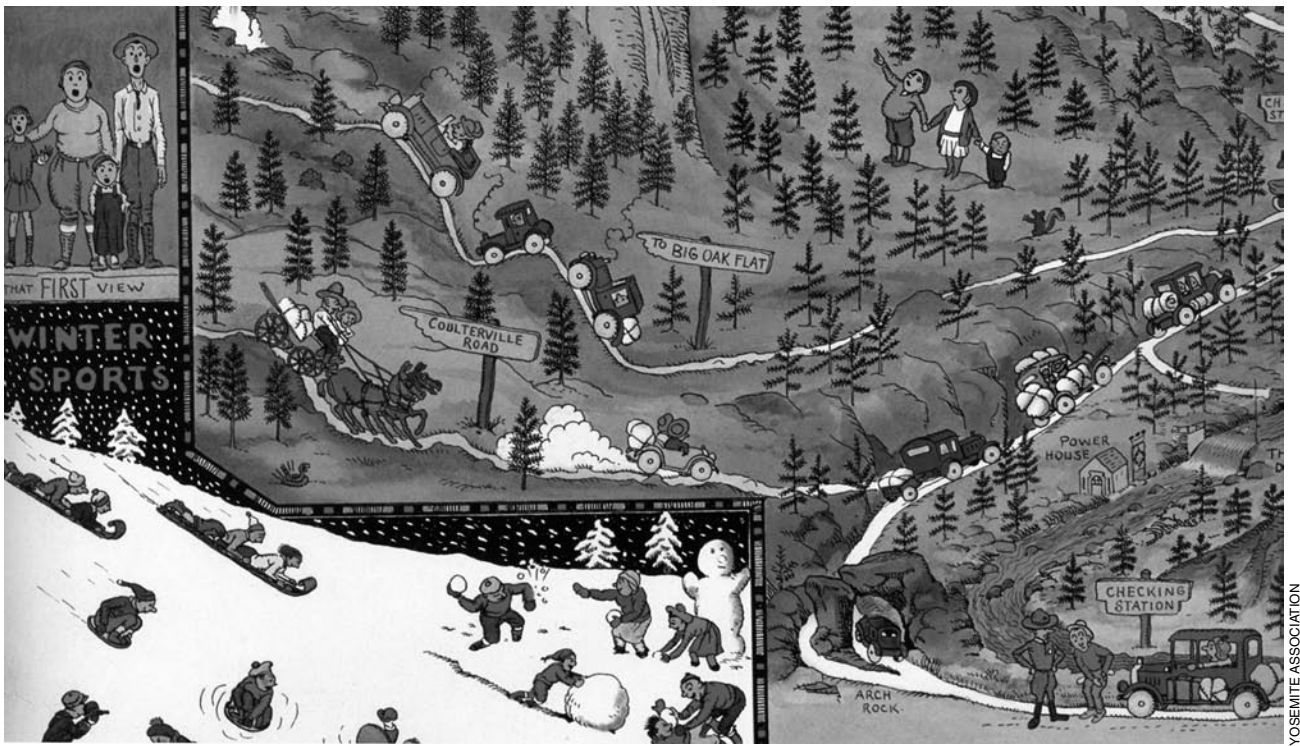
Many of the park’s famous activities are also illustrated, including the Firefall, Indian Field Day and the zoo, depending on the version of the carte. In addition, a family of four (the Moras?) is shown with mouths agape in reaction to “that first view” of Yosemite.

Although Mora completed his carte illustration twenty-eight years after his first visit to Yosemite, many of the details he included appear to be biographical. Upon close inspection, one sees two passengers in a wagon drawn by two mules braking down the Coulterville Road, just as Mora and Williams had done in June of 1904. Other parts of the drawing include the loop hike Mora took up to Glacier Point and back around to Vernal Fall. It is probably no coincidence that his carte depicts a single man wiping his brow along the Glacier Point Trail

Mirror Lake



COURTESY JO MORA TRUST



Mora's Yosemite carte depicts park landmarks and visitors with charm and attention to detail.

and a man taking a photograph of Nevada Fall.

The carte is "Dedicated to the esteemed memory of my friend the late Stephen T. Mather, first Director of the U.S. National Park Service, whose untiring efforts and devotion to the ethics of the Service have been so fruitful in making Yosemite a vacation Mecca for the people of the present and future generations." Mora's path likely crossed Mather's through Francis "Borax" Smith. Mora had sculpted a mantelpiece for Smith's Oakland office. Mather also worked for Smith before becoming Park Service Director and was responsible for developing the Borax Company's "20 Mule Team" trademark.

The Yosemite carte was one of three in a 1931 series featuring national parks, including Yellowstone and the Grand Canyon. These maps were originally printed with black ink on buff-colored paper. The Wright-Eley Co. of San Jose printed the Yosemite map in an edition of 2,000. Sales of these prints became a financial windfall for the Mora family as they suffered through the Depression.

Later, the Curry Company thought a color version might prove more popular. Mora's colored version of the drawing is now in the Yosemite Museum. This led to at least two additional printings of the map in slightly smaller sizes. For these reprintings, small details such as the locations of roads on the carte were changed to match current park conditions. The Curry Company made other small changes to the carte in 1949, after Mora's son sold them the rights and printing plates. Early versions of Mora's carte are now valuable collectibles.

Jo Mora's Yosemite work can still be obtained through

the Yosemite Association. In 1998, the YA created its first reprint of the carte as well as a 500-piece jigsaw puzzle—perhaps the first commercial product produced from Mora artwork. The association used computer technology to digitally enhance the original hand-colored carte and render it in the same bright colors as the original 1941 color prints. The puzzle was re-released in 2001.

Upon leaving after that first visit in 1904, Mora wrote, "I had never imagined Yosemite was the enchanted Garden of Eden nor the only place on earth yet I had formed a good opinion of it and I'm glad to say was not disappointed. It quite came up to expectations..." He added, "I took photos from Artist Point etc. Very beautiful view of the valley and the cloud effect in the distance, almost blending themselves with the hazy mountains was superb. At last we came to Inspiration Point and we took our last view of the valley. Goodbye to Yosemite!"

Mora's farewell was only for the time being. In later years, he shared his love of Yosemite with his family. Old Mora family photo albums feature many photographs taken by family members, of family members, while enjoying the splendors of Yosemite.

As the Jo Mora Trust Collection Curator, Peter Hiller works to bring the life story and artistic legacy of Jo Mora to the attention of the public. Special thanks to Jon Gilmore of Tic Toc Tique antique shop in Murphy's for his detailed research about Jo Mora's cartes.

SKIS, STORMS AND RESCUE IN THE SIERRA

BY LENNIE ROBERTS

Yosemite has had a profound influence on my life. I've had many memorable adventures backpacking throughout the high country, climbing peaks, cliffs and mountains, swimming in snow-rimmed lakes and holing up while thunder and lightning crashed too close for comfort. But my most life-transforming Yosemite adventure took place in the midst of an El Niño winter 50 years ago. The 1958 Stanford Alpine Club Trans-Sierra Ski Trip ended with a dramatic rescue that received national headlines. A sweet back-story of the adventure was deciding that Mike Roberts would be a steady and reliable future life-mate.

As a senior at Stanford in 1958, I was juggling academic demands with more tempting diversions such as skiing for the Stanford Women's Ski Team and the all important goal of becoming engaged before graduation. Every weekend we took off for Sugar Bowl or other Sierra ski areas, but I was also intrigued by the idea of backcountry skiing where the prospect of braving the elements and snow camping screened out all but the most adventurous.

Fellow Stanford skiers Mike Roberts and Bart Hooley had been independently nurturing the idea of a winter trans-Sierra ski crossing. Over hot buttered rums at Slide Mountain in January, they began serious plans for a trip at the end of winter quarter. Bart proposed an ambitious route which would begin at Silver Lake on the East Side, follow Rush Creek to its headwaters, cross the Sierra Crest at 12,500 feet between Mount Lyell and Mount Rodgers, then follow a series of lakes and streams down the Merced River drainage into Yosemite Valley. The remote route and allotted ten travel days would permit some ascents of peaks along the way. Bart and Mike immediately included Margi Meyer and me in their plans, and eventually asked Bill Pope from Stanford and Max Allen from Cal to strengthen the party.

As our plans progressed, Bart mentioned the trip to a fellow skier, Newt Thompson, who was in the Air National Guard. Newt suggested that the National Guard might be interested in doing an air-drop of food and supplies near the Sierra crest, so we would be spared the necessity of hauling fifty-plus pounds of food up five thousand vertical feet.

The magnitude of time and thought that went into the arrangements for the trip while studying and taking final exams that winter quarter can't be adequately described. There were letters to the Air National Guard

and Yosemite Superintendent John Preston, discussions with skeptical parents, lists of equipment and food and packing for the air drop, all interspersed with cramming for finals. Suffice to say there were six sighs of relief as we left Palo Alto the night of March 21. Several major storms had pounded the state during March, and departing in the middle of another downpour on a Friday night was not propitious. But as Mike has been known to say, "we need to go to the end of the road and see what's there."

Our drive to the "end of the road" in Bill Pope's 1940 GMC truck was not encouraging, as we nearly skidded off the icy road above Placerville. But as I recounted in my journal the first night, even this near miss was taken in stride:

"Day One: Camp is at Agnew Lake—4 hours climb from the end of the road at the power house at June Lake Road. Weather for a week had been terrible—a continuous storm, but we were amazed this morning to have a clear day with some wind. Snow has settled enough to be fairly safe. We left Palo Alto at 9:00 p.m. in the



Margi Meyer (left) and Lennie Lamb in front of Yosemite Park Headquarters.

COURTESY LENNIE ROBERTS



COURTESY LENNIE ROBERTS

Mike Roberts and Lennie Lamb on Slide Mountain.

Popemobile—four sleeping alternately in the back with two in the front seat. Above Placerville, the truck skidded and we ended up perched precariously at an angle over the steep slope down to the river below. We had to wait until people stopped and held onto the truck while we carefully crawled out—one by one. From then on, the trip was a breeze as far as I was concerned. I slept until the light and sun woke the back seat up at Topaz Lake.”

We clambered out at the end of the road at Silver Lake, blinking in the brilliant sunshine. We decided the good weather was a mandate from above, and hurriedly made final adjustments to packs and downhill skis that had been outfitted with bear traps and cables to allow heel lifting on the steep climbs. With climbing skins on the skis, we departed at noon, and made reasonably good time to the first lake. Tired from our all night drive, we made camp at Agnew Lake at 8,500 feet elevation. I wrote:

“Tomorrow we hope to be at Marie Lakes to camp—a much farther distance but less rigorous climb. All equipment is holding out fine—especially the mountaineering boots. Dinner tonight of corned beef hash, rice, soup, Jello and nibbles of cheese and lunch meats. Optimistic about success of trip.”

The next three days were spent climbing ever higher in deep snow. We took turns breaking trail, which kept us warm despite strong winds that brought snow showers at night. My next journal entry was the fourth night:

“We are camped approximately 600 feet from the crest of the Sierra, on the eastern slope next to an unnamed lake. For two days it has been too cold and I too tired to write in the journal. We have generally had a hard time making altitude due to new soft snow and high winds.”

“The second day we traversed from Agnew Lake to a place on Rush Creek just below Waugh Lake—progress was difficult due to the soft snow and intermittent snow flurries. The day was warm, and snow did not really hinder either visibility or the comfort of the party. Pope led most of the day through snow which caused us to sink to the knees at almost every step. Our camp was selected by default—we couldn’t go any farther. Among tall trees and in the lee of a ridge, it was very comfortable.”

“The next day we were up early and off—for it was our scheduled air drop rendezvous and we had a great distance to go. We could see the Lyell massif in the distance from time to time obliterated by clouds blowing wildly in the wind. The day was clear, but quite cold.

“Bart and Pope both were feeling the altitude and my skis are especially good for breaking trail (for some odd reason!) so I led most of the second day. Thank goodness for the good comfortable pack, it felt like no weight at all. As we ascended the exposed ridge (only a few trees at 9,000 feet), the wind was really bitter. I was glad to be breaking trail since I had to exercise the most and could thus be somewhat warm—even with all available clothes on.”

Weather the third day prevented the scheduled air drop. Gusty winds were blowing huge snow banners off the peaks above. I wrote:

“The wind was blowing so hard and the clouds were whipping over the Lower Marie Lake so much just after noon that we did not expect to see our Air Force plane. However, it appeared and circled for almost an hour. We dropped to the ground, indicating to him to drop our supplies to us, but visibility was too poor. Meanwhile we nearly froze. We were so cold that it was silly to go father so we camped in the most “sheltered” place we could find—in the lee of a snow ridge in the middle of Lower Marie Lake—out of danger of avalanches. We were lucky at finding water under the ice very close to the surface, and so spent a long night—from 3 p.m. until the next morning. We were quite tired and the altitude was telling on all of us, so we slept that afternoon and again that night.”



LENNIE ROBERTS

A storm approaches the Sierra crest on the expedition's third day.

“Today (the fourth day) we were off early and climbing enthusiastically—a beautiful calm, clear day! We were almost to the saddle when the plane dropped to us—the darned chute drifted in the wind—so we had to back-track somewhat. Mike is feeling the altitude as well as Bill. I am just fine, have been leading a good deal today again. The sun has just gone down, so must get warm. The country is magnificent—well worth every sweat and strain to get here.”

We successfully retrieved the dropped food and white gas that had all been packaged together. The gas had leaked into some of the food, which we didn't find out until after eating some Triscuits. Both Mike and Bill were feeling the altitude, and the gassy crackers didn't improve things. We pressed on, climbing the last steep slopes to the spectacular Sierra crest on Day 5, only to realize that Bill was becoming seriously ill.

“The only progress that can be reported today is that we are over the crest and the weather is beautiful. However, two tents are being rested in by four of the party, while Bart and Max are hurrying to the Valley to get help.”

“The fifth day dawned a beautiful clear and calm morning with warm sun, even at 11,500 feet. Bart and Max set out to climb Rodgers Peak while the rest of us rested. Pope had a bad cough and Mike had a bad altitude headache and was burping white gas. The two returned at around noon, and we commenced to climb the last 800 feet to the crest. The weather was changing—high thin clouds and a ring around the sun warned us that a storm was coming. It was a struggle to get to the top and down to the first lake on the west side, but we all made it, although we made camp extremely late.”

“Meanwhile, we were increasingly worried about Pope, who had been coughing all night, and now was almost incoherent—wanting to camp on top of the crest or on the steep west-facing avalanche-prone slope rather than on the lake. Bart somewhat strongly induced him to continue down. We were all tired, but encouraged to be over the crest. Mike's stomach was still giving him trouble—he could hardly keep any food down and he had a monstrous headache. That night the snow began falling, although not heavily.”



LENNIE ROBERTS

The “Popemobile” and group at departure.

“The sixth day we awakened rather late to find that we were enveloped in a whiteout—no visibility in any direction, no distinction between contours, no mountain outlines, only occasional rocks to serve as a guide. We were very anxious to get Pope to a lower altitude, since he would be able to breathe much easier. I carried some of his gear, and Max, the rest, but even with no pack, Bill could hardly move. After an altitude loss of some 300 feet and a time lapse of about two hours, we decided that Bart and Max should go on as fast as possible for help. I am sure that Bill has pneumonia. Today he is delirious but not spitting as much blood as yesterday. He started to take acromycin yesterday, and that seems to be helping.”

“The storm continued yesterday but today it is beautiful. Mike was nauseated again last night. Margi has her hands full taking care of Pope, for he moans constantly, breath is very short, but not much cough. Margi and I are fine. I got a small dose of white gas poisoning yesterday, which I am over now—we eat as much as possible but it is still not much. We are concentrating on resting. Mike and I are sleeping in one bag now, for the nights are very cold at this altitude. Even so, with all clothes on, one is barely warm and wakes up about every two hours shivering to turn over. We are encouraged today to find it clear again—we are hoping that Bart and Max will get to the Valley today, and possibly a helicopter will be able to come in to take us out. Pope’s supply of medicine will last him through tomorrow, and after that we can only hope that he will be able to fight it himself.”

Indeed, Bart and Max did arrive in the Valley after a day and a half of some incredible skiing. In a whiteout, where they navigated by keeping their skis headed downhill, they followed the drainage past Washburn Lake, Merced Lake and into Little Yosemite Valley. They decided to risk taking the shorter but ice-covered Mist Trail after dark and miraculously navigated it without mishap. Arriving in the Valley, they alerted the authorities, who began an intensive rescue operation. Meanwhile, we were tending to Bill, shoveling snow off our small two-man tents, keeping an eye on the weather and hoping for the best.

My journal on the eighth day described a valiant but unsuccessful attempt to move Bill to a lower elevation:

“Last night, Mike feeling better, decided grimly that we must make every effort to get Pope down some altitude. We planned to make a sled of his skis, and keeping him in his sleeping bag, pull him across the lakes and sidestep the sled down the steep pitches. We were all feeling much better—lots of hot liquids during the day, and sleep in the warm tent in the sun improved both our physical condition and our morale. It was a very quiet day, with fluffy clouds obliterating the Lyell massif from time to time—

impressionistic it seemed to us whenever we got enough energy to peek out of the tent. Later in the day we had some snow flurries, which lasted into the night. We were all hoping that Bart and Max could make the 26 miles by that night (a total time traveling of a day and a half).”

“The night was warmer than usual, and Pope had improved in spite of spacing his pills from every four hours to six hours to conserve them. In fact he was most rambunctious from about 2 a.m. until dawn—charging around in the tent and generally giving Margi a hard time. In spite of the inconvenience, we were all encouraged by his activity.”

This morning we woke early and made all preparations for the trip out. Mike made the sled while Margi and I packed the camp. We were ready to go about 10:00—Pope inside his sleeping bag on the sled made of his skis and packframe—Mike and I pulling two forward ropes and Margi ready to either pack the trail ahead or to act as a brake from behind. We had just discovered that the sled wouldn’t go in the soft snow, when we heard a motor down in the valley below!!!”

A minute later a single engine plane came into view and spotted us. It was twice as exciting as the airdrop. Bart and Max had reached the Valley last night, we supposed, and the mountain rescue service was certainly on the ball. The plane circled several times sizing up the situation, then dropped us a note that he would go for a toboggan to drop by parachute, then we should transport Pope to a lake two miles below where he could land. So now we are waiting for him to return sitting on the remains of camp debris scattered indicating the stuff we considered unnecessary for further travel. Pope is singing to himself on his sled. Mike, Margi and I are munching on crumbly candy bars. We have packed a trail part way to the lake. I can hear the plane approaching...”

The toboggan scheme did not work. The small plane dropped it to us, but we had a hard time just hauling the empty toboggan back to our camp. Bob Symons, the pilot of the small plane, must have figured out our mobility problem, for he next dropped instructions for making a helicopter landing spot on a small knoll above us, and marked the site by dropping a roll of toilet paper.

But once again, weather intervened. Mike wrote of his frustration on the ninth day:

“Palm Sunday. The storm which arose yesterday has worsened during the night and this morning, with winds of 30-60 mph and visibility approx. one mile. Fortunately it is relatively warm—about 15 degrees, which makes the situation somewhat better. It is hopeless to move around outside, however, much less to attempt



LENNIE ROBERTS

Bill Pope, Max Allen, Margi Meyer and Bart Hooley gather in the morning sunshine of Bridgeport Meadows on the day of departure.

to pack the toboggan trail for Bill. So here we sit (lie) while undoubtedly the forces of rescue are being equally thwarted by the Sierra weather, which refuses to realize its seasonal worst is past and continues to deposit fresh deep snow.”

“The rescue people have been very active, dropping a toboggan, gas, food, and medicine. Symons (the pilot) seems to know what he is doing although we are not sure he understands difficulty of moving toboggan uphill to helicopter landing site in this soft snow. We had enough difficulty just bringing it 100 yards to camp yesterday. Tent is being whipped around like fury and my boots are frozen solid, so am not too interested in exploratory stroll today. Even if it cleared up, I doubt they could bring a copter in here with present wind conditions. Hope this isn’t making too big a splash in the outside world. LSJU (Stanford University) is probably not too happy right now.”

My journal entry on the same day elaborated:

“Mike has just gone out to clear the snow off the tent, which is pressing down on us and increasing our tent claustrophobia. It is quite a job, since it has snowed some

two feet since last night. It is not cold, for which we are thankful. Since the helicopter rescue was not successful yesterday, we imagine that a great deal of activity is present in the valley today.

“Visibility is nil—has been all day. Inactivity and the frustration of being cooped up in a somewhat verdant tent—no bath for 9 days plus various smells of gas and food—is not helping our nerves at all. The wind is still blowing. The packs, toboggan, and any other odd articles left outside have been covered over with snow. We have enough gas for two more days at least, and various and assorted foodstuffs for longer than that, if necessary.

“Pope is a good deal better today—talking normally and not moaning or coughing. Things are quiet inside while we listen to the wind whipping our tents alternating with the incessant falling of the snow. The temperature inside the tent is above freezing—the sleeping bag has dried out from where condensation falls continually all night—much like a local snowstorm. My boots are unfrozen for a change. In the mornings we usually thaw them out by sticking the Borde burner (the tiny stove unit) inside in order to get our feet into them. We are all very comfort-

able and except for the close conditions, happy and well. Probably one of the most valued articles (at least to us!) was the roll of toilet paper marking the plane's original note. We were very low on this commodity, and skimping is hard when it is used for so many purposes."

The rest of the story was a big rush, after all the enforced waiting. Later that morning, the weather abated, and Bob Symons dropped us a new note with detailed instructions and a map showing where we should prepare the helicopter landing spot. We busied ourselves with preparations, hoping the break in the weather would continue long enough to allow the helicopter to get to us that afternoon. But the storms intervened and clouds enveloped us once again. We spent the night sleeping fitfully, listening to the wind howling outside the tents.

It was barely light when we heard the faint drone of the plane overhead. It was very cold, around zero, but clear. I rushed out of the tent, jammed my feet into my frozen boots, put on my skis, and went to retrieve another note Symons had dropped. It told us the helicopter would arrive in an hour, and gave more instructions for packing down and marking the landing spot on the chosen nearby knoll. Mike first went up the hill and compacted the snow on the landing spot by side-stepping back and forth over the area on his skis. I followed with the flares and a sleeping bag for Pope to use. We returned to the tents with a half hour to spare, but before we could go back up with the orange crepe paper and black powder to mark the landing spot as per instructions, the air and sky were suddenly filled with the most alien presence one could imagine.

It was a huge helicopter, and it seemed to fill the sky. The roar, echoing off the peaks, was deafening after ten days of silence broken only by the sound of the wind. I started back up the hill, and Mike and Margi helped Bill on his skis; by this time, he was strong enough to stand and help us help him.

I arrived at the top of the knoll just as the helicopter settled down. It had to make several tries as one wheel kept sinking into the soft snow. The twin rotors sent up a mini-blizzard like the "snow" in a paperweight. As soon as the rotors stopped, I lurched forward to cover the last few yards and watched the side doors open. This was an Army "flying banana" helicopter from Fort Ord near Monterey. It had been stripped of all seats and other extraneous gear to enable landing at this never-before-attempted altitude. Two men in army fatigues, wearing oxygen masks, leaned out, looking like they might need help jumping down. I reached out my hand to help, only to find *they* were trying to hand *me* an oxygen mask! The

scene was like some Star Trek encounter of creatures from two entirely different galaxies. I suddenly realized that when anyone flies at this altitude, above 10,000 feet, they have to have oxygen. But we six had climbed to this altitude the hard way—on our own power—and we were fully acclimatized except for Bill.

One by one, we piled into the cavernous space of the helicopter, and held our breath as it strained to lift off. Would it fly? At first it dipped alarmingly as it left the knoll. Then slowly it began to move horizontally instead of down. Gathering speed, we followed the route Bart and Max had taken over the headwaters of the Merced River, down through Little Yosemite, and past Vernal and Nevada Falls. We passed the summit of Half Dome at eye level, and then the other familiar granite cliffs and landmarks of the Valley. In just minutes we were landing on an asphalt parking lot near the Visitor Center.

Our premonitions of media mania turned out to be correct. Our plight, inaccurately described us as "stranded on a rocky ledge," was headline news across the country for four days. In addition to the air rescue, a ten-person party had set off on skis to reach us. The continuing storms made the story into an irresistible drama. Were we dead or alive? What would be our fate?

EPILOGUE

The helicopter rescue set a high altitude record. Pilots John Cooney and William Williams received Distinguished Flying Crosses. The pilot of the single engine plane, Civil Air Patrol member Bob Symons, was killed three weeks later in a glider accident. Bill Pope fully recovered from what turned out to be a fairly common high altitude syndrome; the cure is to get to a lower elevation as quickly as possible and administer antibiotics. He continued his medical studies, became a doctor and subsequently devoted most of his career to rural public health and family medicine. Mike and I decided that this exhaustive mountain test of physical and mental capabilities was a good indication of compatibility under stress and married seven months later. Our group of six plans a reunion this year to celebrate the Golden Anniversary of the Great Trans-Sierra Ski Trip.

Lennie (Lamb) Roberts has been a member of the Yosemite Association Board of Trustees since 1982, and serves as Chair of the Publications Committee. She also is a member of the Council of Directors of the Yosemite Fund.

THE NEW YOSEMITE BOG-ORCHID

BY PEGGY MOORE

A BOTANICAL SAGA

It was the pungent smell that first attracted Alison Colwell's attention. Like a corral of horses on a hot day or perhaps a pair of socks just returned from summiting Mount Dana, the fragrance was intriguing if not altogether pleasant. A botanist in her first year with the U.S. Geological Survey's Western Ecological Research Center, Colwell had been in the field seeking a rare plant called Bolander's clover when she was drawn to some slender stalks bearing tiny flowers. Colwell thought the plants resembled the sparse-flowered bog-orchids common in Yosemite. However, these flowers were tennis-ball yellow and matched nothing in the books.

Alison had recently been alerted by Dean Taylor, a fellow botanist with UC Berkeley's Jepson Herbarium, that an unusual orchid might occur in the area. The newly-published *Flora of North America* indicated that purple bog-orchid, a species of the southern Rockies, also occurred in Yosemite. Taylor thought the Yosemite occurrence suspect because of the great distance from the historic range of that species and therefore worth investigating. His observation would ultimately result in the rediscovery of a new species: the Yosemite bog-orchid.

"At first glance, I thought, 'This is definitely the plant Dean was talking about,'" Alison said of the rare find. "At second glance, I thought, 'Wow, this is really something different!'"

Alison was not the first to encounter the plant. Its earliest known collection was in 1923 by orchid enthusiast George Henry Grinnell. He sent pressed specimens to the herbarium of the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden in Pasadena. Some 70 years later, Ron Coleman, author of *The Wild Orchids of California*, and Leon Glicenstein, of the Hoosier Orchid Co., were examining the Garden's orchid collections when they came upon Grinnell's two specimens. They were struck by the plants' distinctiveness and immediately set out for Yosemite to find them in their native habitat. In the last light of evening, they found nine plants and promptly alerted bog-orchid expert Charles Sheviak of the New York State Museum. Sheviak later included their find in his chapter on bog-orchids in the *Flora of North America*.

It was ten years later that Alison located the unusual orchid in the field. She then convinced Sheviak to come to Yosemite to see it in person during his summer trip to California. Overcoming logistical challenges that included wildfires and park road closures, we succeeded in getting him to two populations. Upon viewing the plants, he uttered exclamations of delight and declared them to be

entirely distinct and worthy of new species status.

In 2004, we began gathering information for an official species description. Sheviak used five or six flowers supplied by Alison to do a chromosome count, and Alison made careful measurements of plant and flower parts. Sheviak then translated the description into Latin. This seemingly archaic practice serves as a stable, detailed description immune to the evolution of any language in current use. This description, and an explanation of why the species is distinct, was reviewed by knowledgeable botanists and then published in July 2007 in *Madroño*, a journal devoted to Western North American botany.

The orchid family is one of the most diverse in the world, with an estimated 15,000 to 35,000 species worldwide. Complex and subtle relationships as well as hybridization make the exact species number elusive. The bog-orchids (scientific name *Platanthera*) number approximately 85 species and occur in temperate North America and Eurasia. Unlike other orchids, they have leafy stems and elongated, nectar-bearing structures that protrude from the base of each flower's middle petal.

Thirty-two species of bog orchids occur in North America, only four of which were thought to occur in

The Yosemite bog-orchid was rediscovered in Yosemite National Park in 2003.



USGS-ALISON COLWELL

California. These are the white-flowered (*Platanthera dilatata* var. *leucostaphys*) and green-flowered (*P. sparsiflora*) varieties, the slender bog-orchid (*P. stricta*) of Northern California, and another newly described yellow-green-flowered species (*P. tescamnis*) from the east side of the Sierra Nevada.

New species of bog-orchid are found and described periodically. What is remarkable about this rediscovery is that it occurred in as well-studied and frequently visited a place as Yosemite.

The new species (*P. yosemitensis*) grows up to 32 inches tall, including a single, narrow stalk of flowers that diminish in size upward. From five to seven long, slender leaves clothe the lower portion of the stem. The quarter-inch flowers are yellow and the wand-like stalk on which they are arranged is so delicate as to disappear amid its companion plants. It is the only orchid species whose range is limited to the Sierra Nevada.

Several features distinguish the species from its closest local relatives. These include its yellow flower color, small flower size, musky daytime fragrance and the unusually short and inflated nectar spur projecting from the rear of the flower. Leaf characteristics distinguish it from the Rocky Mountain purple bog-orchid.

The Yosemite bog-orchid's unique flowers have come about through the development of a plant-pollinator relationship typical of orchids. Selective pressures optimized the orchid flower's form and scent to attract the most effective local pollinator. The Yosemite bog-orchid likely targets one specific pollinator, such as a fly or mosquito, capable of carrying the flower's entire load of pollen to another flower of the same species. To further encourage this pollinator, the Yosemite bog-orchid offers a reward: a sip of nectar residing in its short spur that is just the right length for the insect's tongue to reach.

Why should an orchid go to such trouble to attract a particular kind of insect? The answer is that orchids have extremely tiny, almost dustlike seeds—and there are thousands in the fruit produced by each pollinated flower. Each seed must be fertilized by a separate pollen grain. Because it would not be energy efficient for the orchid to mature entire fruits with only a few seeds, thousands of pollen grains must be brought to each flower at the same time. The solution orchids have evolved is to bundle all of the pollen grains produced by one flower into a pair of pollen sacs. Instead of opening to shower their pollen on visiting insects, the sacs stay closed and get attached whole to the face or eyes of the visiting insect by a specialized sticky pad. The last detail of this transaction occurs when our insect visits the next bog-orchid flower: when it presses its face into the flower to reach the nectar reward, the sacs get scraped off, adhering exactly where the pollen is needed for fertilization.

Despite this clever adaptation, the Yosemite bog-



ANGELA SANDERS

Alison Colwell, U.S. Geological Survey botanist, with the wand like flowering stem of the Yosemite bog-orchid.

orchid remains quite rare. U.S. Geological Survey rare plant mapping efforts, funded by the National Park Service Inventory and Monitoring Program as well as The Yosemite Fund, have now located ten populations of the orchid in the park. Its distribution coincides with a number of other species known only from the central and southern Sierra Nevada, including Bolander's clover, Clark's groundsel, Yosemite ivesia, short-leaved hulsea and the Yosemite woolly sunflower. Much of the area inhabited by these species remained free of ice during the glacial events of the last two million years. The similarity of modern-day Yosemite bog-orchid habitat to cold, wet, unforested arctic environments indicates these plants may have had a more extensive habitat during glacial times. Today, however, they appear to be limited to a few sites that act as refuges.

The soft ground where Yosemite bog-orchids live is particularly vulnerable to trampling. Several populations number fewer than ten plants and are at risk of being extirpated inadvertently by careless feet or natural events. Visitors and park employees alike are asked to avoid seeking out the plants to protect them.

"What the discovery of this species symbolizes to me," said Alison, "is that following a passion for expanding scientific knowledge through field biology is still possible today. The wildlands of the West still hold the promise of botanical adventure and discovery if you just go looking."

Peggy Moore is a Plant Ecologist with the U.S. Geological Survey at Yosemite National Park.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Yosemite Art and Education Center

Come and celebrate the 25th anniversary of free art classes for Yosemite visitors. We open our NPS/DNC/YA facility at the end of March this year and run free programs through October. Center coordinator Gretchen Mominee has the full schedule of each week's visiting artists (both new and familiar) on the YA website. If you haven't been to our building in Yosemite Village, this would be a terrific time to come by and take a free class, pick up art supplies, or bring your family for one of our walk-in natural history hikes (come birding with me!) The YAEC is located at lower end of Yosemite Village, downhill from the Village Store; the ATM is located in the same building.

Planning Another Season for Interns

YA and NPS will start recruiting another multicultural intern cadre of students soon. Now more integrated with UC Merced student functions, our program has been renamed the **Yosemite Leadership Program Internships**. This year we'll grow to ten interns and I am pleased to play a larger role in the group's May training. They'll spend the summer learning with NPS Interpretation, Wilderness Operations and Wildlife Management. Look for these fine young people on the trail or by the campfire.

If YA members are interested in contributing to the support of this valuable program, we could truly use your help. Please consider earmarking your usual donation toward our interns.

**YOSEMITE
ASSOCIATION
PARTNERS WITH
LEAVE NO TRACE**



To support the National Park Service in promoting sensitive use of Yosemite's popular wilderness and frontcountry, we've joined with the nonprofit Leave No Trace, Inc. to help spread the word about the practices and philosophy of traveling gently on the land. Look in our bookstores for literature that addresses LNT issues.



LEIF RUSSELL

Outdoor Adventures

I am excited about the great mix of field programs in store for 2008. The lineup includes natural history walks, backpack trips, photography courses and more, led by a combination of new faces and veteran instructors. To encourage more of you to partake, we've frozen tuitions for the third year in a row.

As our winter courses transition into spring, YA members can maximize their learning at the March 29 **Spring Forum**. We'll be featuring several one-day courses the day before and the day after the event.

Summer promises even more exciting outdoor opportunities. The authors of the two best Sierra Nevada field guides, **Jack Laws** and **David Lukas**, will be teaching a natural history course for us in late July. And Dave Wyman will be hosting **Family Camping Jamborees** in Tuolumne Meadows again. Other highlights include a series on the heritage of **people of color** in Yosemite, a **women's backpack trip**, and more great experiences with author/outdoorswoman **Suzanne Swedo** and naturalist **Michael Ross** (including another course on **writing for children**).

YA members will be visiting Yosemite's sister parks in **China** and in **Chile** next fall and winter; see our website for those details. And don't forget that I love arranging **Custom Adventures** for people seeking something special for colleagues, family or friends.

2008 FIELD SEMINARS SCHEDULE

The full catalog of our 2008 Outdoor Adventures can be found in the center of this journal. A digital version can be downloaded from our website—it's an easy way to send the information to interested friends and family. Additional details on each course plus instructor biographies can be found online as well on YA's "Seminars" page.

Yosemite Outdoor Adventures

April–December 2008

YOSEMITE OUTDOOR ADVENTURES invites you to explore Yosemite National Park through one of our fun, educational field seminars. Find much more information on course content, instructors, and other logistical questions on our website, www.yosemite.org/seminars, where you can register for programs, too. You can also sign up by calling Corrie or Pete at 209/379-2321.

TUITION is discounted by 15% if you're a member of the Yosemite Association. It covers instruction, the park entrance fee, and camping for most courses. Meals, lodging, equipment and transportation aren't included unless specifically noted.

STAY in a shared campsite for free for most of our courses. We'll also send you reservation information for the hotel rooms we have set aside during most (but not all) courses; these are available at extra cost. These rooms are held for us until six weeks before a program.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS vary between courses. Look at each course description on the website regarding daily mileage, elevation and overall difficulty. **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, not properly equipped for mountain weather or terrain, or otherwise unprepared for the course.

BACKPACK TRIPS are a great way to experience the Yosemite Wilderness. YA provides the NPS permit, campsites the night before and after most trips, and bear-resistant food containers. Participants are responsible for food and all other equipment; we'll send you a packing list when you enroll.

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, **we cannot issue refunds for any reason.** If YA cancels a course, we will refund your full tuition, but we aren't responsible for other travel or lodging plans you've made. We recommend that you consider travel insurance.

LIABILITY forms must be signed by all participants before attending a program, and backpackers need to complete a medical form.

INSPIRATION is part of the National Park Service mission, so it's part of the Yosemite Association's, too. Whether for journaling, geology, art or a stout hike, our instructors are the best at sharing the details of your national park with you.

Yosemite has something to tell you...



P.O. Box 230,
El Portal CA 95318

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Yosemite has something to tell you.

13 LNT Trainer Course

April 11–12 **Pete Devine**
\$100, or \$85 for YA members **Moderate**
 Leave No Trace training is becoming a requirement in many outdoor jobs; get yours on this short backpack trip to teach others about minimum impact backcountry use.

15 Yosemite Waterfalls Grand Tour

May 10 **Suzanne Swedo**
\$82, or \$70 for YA members **Easy**
 Experience the Valley's best, in peak flow, with an accomplished naturalist to guide you.

16 Hetch Hetchy Photography Backpack

June 16–18 **John Senser**
\$246, or 209 for YA members **Moderate**
 The hidden falls of Yosemite, running at their fullest, are some of the photography subjects accessible to those who'll hike out to see them.

17 To the Top of Yosemite Falls

June 17 **Karen Amstutz**
\$82, or \$70 for YA members **Challenging**
 A learning trek for mind and body, geology, history, and ecology a step at a time.

18 Hetch Hetchy Wildflower Explorations

May 30 (eve)–June 1 **Suzanne Swedo**
\$180, or \$153 for YA members **Easy**
 Spring moisture and summer warmth meet here in a diverse floral display for your enjoyment.

19 Yosemite's Hawks and Owls

June 5 (eve)–8 **Jeff Maurer**
\$246, or \$209 for YA members **Moderate**
 Jeff's years of raptor research in the park can bring you peregrines, great grays and more.

20 Half Dome in a Day 1

June 7 **Pete Devine**
\$82, or \$70 for YA members **Very challenging**
 The dawn chorus, two huge waterfalls, the forest, the cables...the sky.

21 Birding Yosemite Valley

June 14 **Michael Ross**
\$82, or \$70 for YA members **Easy**
 With Michael's 31 years of leading birding courses here, you're guaranteed a great day.

22 Foresta Birds

June 15 **Michael Ross**
\$82, or \$70 for YA members **Easy**
 Share one of Michael's favored places for exploring the most diverse park birdlife.

23 North Dome Moonrise Photography Backpack

June 16–18 **John Senser**
\$246, or \$209 for YA members **Moderate**
 This backpack trip provides a unique opportunity to photograph a mid-summer's full moon coming up over Half Dome.

24 Get Lost with a Ranger

June 21 **Dick Ewart**
\$82, or \$70 for YA members **Easy**
 Map and compass navigation is the focus of the fun on this day "lost" in the woods.

25 Glacier Point Birding

June 28 **Michael Ross**
\$82, or \$70 for YA members **Easy**
 Sooty Grouse, Townsend's Solitaire, Williamson's Sapsucker and Michael Ross.

26 Glen Aulin and Waterwheel Falls Backpack

July 10 (eve)–13 **Tuolumne Meadows**
Suzanne Swedo
\$254, or \$216 for YA members **Moderate**
 Run-off will make the mighty Tuolumne sing night and day, and Suzanne is the perfect guide to some of the most impressive aquatic phenomena you'll ever see.

27 Yosemite Flyfishing

July 11–13 **Tim Hutchings**
\$721, or \$613 for YA members **Moderately challenging**
 An introduction to the art of working local streams with the park's pro fishing guide.

28 Pastel Painting in Tuolumne

July 11–13 **Moira Donohoe**
\$254, or \$216 for YA members **Easy**
 Here's a high country studio, for experienced or beginning artists in a forgiving medium, that helps you capture the light and color of the summer mountains.

29 Glacier Point Wildflowers

July 12 **Michael Ross**
\$82, or \$70 for YA members **Easy**
 Michael's three decades of naturalizing in the park come together today for you.

30 Half Dome Overnight

July 18 (eve)–20 **Pete Devine**
\$181, or \$154 for YA members **Challenging**
 The backpacker's classic: camp up in LYV Saturday night, and on Sunday summit the cables and descend to the Valley floor.

31 Family Camping Jamboree 1

July 19–22 **Dave Wyman**
\$290 for adults, \$125 for kids under 20;
\$247 and \$106 for YA members **Easy**
 With activities to fill the days and evenings, and all the cooking and cleaning done for you, this is a terrific family vacation in the summertime cool of Tuolumne Meadows.

32 Family Camping Jamboree 2

July 24–27 **Dave Wyman**
 The same as above. Families can stay through both sessions for an additional fee.

33 Introduction to Sierra Natural History

July 25–July 27 **David Lukas and Jack Laws**
\$290, or \$246 for YA members **Easy**
 A naturalist dream team: the authors of THE two Sierra field guides will share the Tuolumne Meadows region they know so well.

34 Women's Backpack Trip

July 27 (eve)–31 **Danah Woodruff**
\$343, or \$293 for YA members **Moderate**
 Want to get out in the backcountry with a fun group and improve your backpacking skills? Join other adventurous women in this unique opportunity to enjoy the Glen Aulin region.

35 Alpine Botany Basecamp Backpack

July 28–August 1 **Steve Botti**
\$465, or \$395 for YA members **Moderate**
 A special chance for high country field time with the author of the landmark *Yosemite Flora*.

36 Stars over the High Country

August 1–2 **Rick Combs**
\$164, or \$139 for YA members **Easy**
 Summer constellations, clear, dark skies, a high perch in the mountains: perfection!

37 The Nature of Writing Children's Books

August 1(eve)-3 Michael Ross
\$172, or \$146 for YA members Easy

The author of over 40 children's books will share his strengths in the Tuolumne Meadows setting that's inspired him and others in their craft. This is a very special opportunity.

38 Young Lakes and Marvelous Mt. Conness

August 2 (eve)-5 Suzanne Swedo
\$254, or \$216 for YA members
Moderate-challenging

Backpack north from the Meadows to treeline at the Young Lakes basin, with an optional, though not for everyone, summit of Yosemite's northeastern ramparts.

39 Half Dome the Easy Way

August 7 (eve)-10 Suzanne Swedo
\$254, or \$216 for YA members Challenging

Having two leisurely basecamp nights spreads out the intensity demanded by a Half Dome summit attempt.

40 Photographing High Country Habitats

August 1-3 Howard Weamer
\$246, or \$209 for YA members Moderate

Intermediate to advanced digital and film photographers will find rich material in the landscape of the Sierra crest with this veteran artist.

42 Tuolumne Meadows en Plein Air

August 7 (eve)-10 Chuck Waldman
\$254, or \$216 for YA members Easy

Chuck brings you the "language of painting" in an involving and supportive subalpine setting for novices and experienced artists.

43 Half Dome in a Day 2

August 16 Pete Devine
\$82, or \$70 for YA members
Very challenging

A dawn ascent to the roof of the Valley, learning all the way.

44 Advanced Backpack into the North Park

August 16-22 Dick Ewart
\$430, or \$366 for YA members
Very challenging

Only the hardest, most experienced backcountry travelers go with Ranger Ewart into the glorious wilderness found north from Tuolumne.

45 Tuolumne Elite Summits

August 21 (eve)-24 YA naturalist staff
\$254, or \$216 for YA members Challenging

Dayhikes up three choice peaks (Sharsmith, Tenaya, Tuolumne) with learning and enjoying for mind and body.

46 Into the Gaylor Basin

August 30 Suzanne Swedo
\$82, or \$70 for YA members Moderate

Start your Labor Day weekend with geology, history and flowers; a natural reward.

47 Birding Tuolumne Meadows

August 30 Michael Ross
\$82, or \$70 for YA members Easy

Mountain Bluebirds, Prairie Falcons, Cassin's Finches and one outstanding naturalist.

48 Clouds Rest Dayhike

August 31 Suzanne Swedo
\$82, or \$70 for YA members Moderate

With Suzanne is the best way to gain the view from Half Dome's bigger neighbor.

49 Tenaya Peak Climb

September 1 Suzanne Swedo
\$82, or \$70 for YA members Moderate

Join a small group to 'labor' this day to a well-earned summit.

56 Ice, Wind and Fire

September 12-14 Dick Ewart
\$262, or \$223 for YA members Challenging

Meet the dynamic elements that compose the landscape on three great day hikes as autumn closes down the Tuolumne Meadows area.

57 Yosemite with an Artist's Eye: Quick Sketching in Watercolor

September 15 (eve)-19 Chris van Winkle
\$336, or \$286 for YA members Easy

The light of the autumnal equinox bathes the Wawona basin, engaging beginning to advanced watercolorists in a fine field exercise with a dedicated instructor.

58 Lyell Glacier Survey

September 17-21 Greg Stock, Pete Devine
\$360, or \$306 for YA members

Very challenging

This alpine backpack expedition will measure the retreat of the park's largest glacier.

59 Miwok-Paiute Burden Basketry

September 26-28 Lucy Parker
\$351, or \$298 for YA members Easy

We are very pleased to have Lucy, her mother and her daughter share this traditional practice. All materials (tule, willow, etc.) are included.

60 Forest Illuminations

October 17-19 Andie Thrans
\$250, or \$213 for YA members Easy

The great forests of Yosemite are the inspiration and subject matter for this course for all artists seeking deeper explorations of visual and verbal language.

61 Autumn Light Photography

October 20-2 Dave Wyman and Ken Rockwell
\$330, or \$281 for YA members Easy

Designed for all formats and abilities, this fall course gets you to the best of Valley subjects with two acknowledged masters of the craft.

62 Focusing on Nature; Autumn Photography in Yosemite

November 13 (eve)-16 Keith Walklet
\$254, or \$216 for YA members Easy

Join this long-time local photographer for the low-angled light of fall in our canyon to learn his best spots and techniques.

63 Woodpeckers: the Quest for Eleven

December 6 Pete Devine
\$82, or \$70 for YA members Easy

There are good reasons for our park to have more woodpecker species than anywhere; we'll drive to several elevations to see how many we can find.

64 Sister Parks of the Middle Kingdom

Find details on our website for YA's October trip to explore Yosemite's two sister national parks in China.



YA arranges Custom Adventures for groups and families, too. Call 209/379-2321.

A PARK FOR ALL PEOPLE, a special series of courses that bring to light the lesser known contributions of people of color to making Yosemite what it is today, and what it will become tomorrow.

9 A Hard Road in Gold Mountain
March 28 **Yenyen Chan**
\$82, or \$70 for YA members **Moderate**
 Go back to 1875 to experience a portion of the amazing contributions immigrants from China have made to Yosemite.

54 Buffalo Soldiers in Yosemite
September 14 **Shelton Johnson**
\$20, or \$17 for YA members **Easy**
 Experience the unsung but vital African-American heritage of Yosemite in this morning course based where the Ninth Cavalry was headquartered.

41 Yosemite's First People
August 2 **Ben Cunningham-Summerfield**
\$41, or \$35 for YA members **Easy**
 Yosemite's Indians have lived successful and sustainable lives on this land for thousands of years. How did they do it, and what can we learn from them?

55 Latinos in the Landscape
September 14
\$20, or \$17 for YA members **Easy**
 An afternoon course to acknowledge the past, present and future influence of Latino people in Yosemite.

YA MEMBERS' MEETING ADVENTURES
 Everyone is welcome on these easy courses, but we hope that members coming to Saturday's meeting in Wawona will round out their weekend with one or two of these natural history opportunities. More details on these programs can be found on our website, www.yosemite.org/seminars.

ON FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 5
50 The Rim Walk
\$82, or \$70 for YA members **Michael Ross**
 The Sentinel Dome area flies its autumn colors for naturalists.

ON SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 6
52 Autumn Birding in Wawona
\$50, or \$43 for YA members **Michael Ross**
 Meet the fall residents and migrants with Michael.

51 Wawona Meadow Botany Stroll
\$50, or \$43 for YA members **Steve Botti**
 The author of the *Yosemite Flora* shares an afternoon walk.

53 Mariposa Grove Botanists Hike
\$75, or \$62 for YA members **Steve Botti**
 There's much more to this grove than just big trees.

2008 OUTDOOR ADVENTURES ENROLLMENT FORM

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

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?

YOSEMITE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS

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

Enter membership total at right

FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING FOR EACH ADVENTURE:

Qty.	Class No.	Class Name	Date	Course Fee

Yosemite Association fax: 209/379-2486
 P.O. Box 230 phone: 209/379-2321
 El Portal, California 95318 e-mail: info@yosemite.org
 website: www.yosemite.org

Total Course Fees:	\$
Membership or Renewal Fee:	\$
GRAND TOTAL:	\$

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



COURTESY ANN HARDEMAN

Name: Ann Hardeman

Volunteer assignments in Yosemite: restoration work week volunteer, visitor information (month-long) volunteer

Hometown: I was born in Portland, Maine, but moved to San Francisco when I was ten years old and have lived here ever since.

Education: I have a BA and MA from San Francisco State University. I finished my MA in U.S. history in 2000; being a Yosemite volunteer helped me complete that goal. I worked with a wonderful professor who suggested I write my thesis on a subject that I was interested in, so I did a comparison of the women who went on the Sierra Club's first High Country Trips in the early 1900s and the women who were currently volunteering with YA in the work trips and the month-long programs.

Total number of years volunteering in Yosemite: 15

What first brought you to Yosemite? I visited Yosemite for the first time in the 1950s on my honeymoon. We camped there as a family once in the 1960s and started doing the High Sierra Camps in the 1980s and 1990s.

What do you enjoy most about your volunteer assignments? In the month-long program, I enjoy the idea that I am helping visitors get the most enjoyment out of their time in the park by giving them helpful information. On the work trips, it is knowing that my restoration work will help the physical beauty of Yosemite. It is always fun to return and look at the trees you planted or an area you helped rid of invasive species.

What is the most unusual question you've been asked as a Visitor Information volunteer? This is not exactly a question, but a few years ago during a very dry summer, a visitor at the Yurt shook her finger in my face and said, "Shame on you—there is no water in the falls!" I tried to explain that it really wasn't my fault.

What are some of your most cherished memories from your volunteer assignments? That has definitely been the other volunteers I have worked with. During my first work trip in 1991, I met three fellow new volunteers. We became very close friends and still enjoy annual get-togethers in San Francisco. Returning each year for the month-long assignments is almost like "going home," as so many folks come back each year and it is an opportunity to renew friendships. We are truly a "family" during the month.

What are your favorite places in Yosemite? My favorite place in the Tuolumne area is Volgelsang High Sierra Camp. The scenery is so beautiful that it is well worth the hike to get there. In the valley, it's Lower Pines Campground. Not only is it my home for a month, but you have the wonderful view of Royal Arches, North Dome and Washington Column right above you and you can watch the alpenglow on Half Dome every evening. It doesn't get much better than that.

What is your favorite Yosemite book? John Muir's *My First Summer in the Sierra*. His descriptions of the nature he encounters are magical. The birds, flowers, trees and even the rocks come alive in his writings. I especially love his words about the water ouzel and the "plant people."

What is your favorite non-Yosemite book? Whatever I am reading at the time often becomes my favorite. I just finished *Atonement* and *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, which were both great reads. I also enjoy biographies.

What do you think YA's most important role is? I think YA's most important role is just what they are doing now. The help they give to NPS financially, educationally and in service makes Yosemite a better place for all to enjoy.

If you could invite three people to dinner, who would you invite, and where would you go to eat? I would invite Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau and John Muir. Emerson started the Nature and Wilderness idea in everyday life, Thoreau practiced it and Muir took it to a higher level, which we can all be thankful for. I think a picnic somewhere in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area would be appropriate and that they would all be pleased to see so much nature preserved in an urban area.



MEMBERS PAGES

Celebrate Spring in Yosemite

It's snowing in Yosemite, but our thoughts are of spring—the rushing waterfalls, the blooming flowers, and the chance to spend some time with you in the park. On March 29, 2008, join us and other YA members and their families in Yosemite Valley as we welcome the changing seasons at the annual Spring Forum.

The Spring Forum is a great opportunity for young and old to connect with our remarkable valley, and gain insight to the natural and cultural aspects that continue to shape this land. Highlights for 2008 include a park update with Superintendent Mike Tollefson, a discussion with author and photographer Tim Palmer about his forthcoming photo study *Luminous Mountains: The Sierra Nevada of California* and more than 25 investigative walks with expert interpreters and local naturalists. We've planned an exceptional day for kids and families, too, and we encourage parents and grandparents to bring the younger



COURTESY OF THE YOSEMITE ASSOCIATION

generation along for a memorable visit to the park. At the end of the day, wind down at the wine and cheese reception where members have a chance to meet our esteemed presenters, trustees and staff. Registration and lodging information were sent to all members in early January. Space is limited to the first 500 participants. We hope to see you there!

The evening before the Forum, our high level donors as well as our Sustaining, Patron and Benefactor members are invited to join us for a private reception



COURTESY OF THE YOSEMITE ASSOCIATION

honoring our featured speakers. If you would like to attend, there is still time to make a donation or upgrade your membership!

The morning after the Forum we are planning a special tribute to the late Phil Frank, former YA board member and creator of the beloved “Farley” comic strip. Details about this Sunday event will be available soon.

If you have questions regarding these events, please contact the membership department at 209-379-2317.

Add a little adventure to your weekend with an Outdoor Adventure course the day before and/or after the Spring Forum. On March 28, uncover some of the park's hidden history with ranger Yenyan Chen on A Hard Road on Gold Mountain. On Sunday, March 30, join Michael Ross for birding in Yosemite Valley or Discover the Winter World with ranger Dick Ewart. Outdoor Adventures are available for an additional fee, and, as always, YA members receive 15% off tuition. For more information or to register, call 209-379-2321 or visit www.yosemite.org/seminars for more information.

YA thanks the National Park Service, DNC Parks and Resorts at Yosemite, Balanced Rock Foundation, Yosemite Institute and many other friends for their vital assistance with the Spring Forum.

YA Board Election of Candidates

Several members of YA's board of trustees have reached their term limits or are not seeking reelection in 2008. The Association's bylaws state that candidates for the office of elected trustee will be selected by a nominating committee which is appointed from the membership of the Association by the Chairperson, with the concurrence of the board. Giving consideration to the knowledge and experience most needed to guide the Association's strategic direction, the nominating committee prepares a list of candidates for each seat on the board. The nominating committee presents its candidates to the members at the annual meeting, which will be held on September 6, 2008, in Wawona.

The members may, by petition, nominate additional candidates that are different from those selected by the nominating committee. Petitions nominating candidates must be on the forms available from the Association office. The petitions must be signed by 4% of the members, whose signatures may be collected throughout the year. Such petitions, to be valid, must be filed with the board Chairperson or the CEO by 5:00 p.m. on the day of the annual meeting, or by the close of the annual meeting, whichever time is later. Upon request, the Association will mail nominating materials to the membership on behalf of the petitioner and at the petitioner's expense.

If in a given year there are only as many candidates as there are openings, the board generally votes to approve the slate without incurring the expense of an election mailing to the membership. Please contact the YA office if you have any questions about this process.

MEMBER INFO LINE

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. Call us at 209-379-2317.

Beth Pratt Moves On

The Yosemite Association bids a fond yet frenetic farewell to Beth Pratt, who has served as our Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for nearly nine years. Those titles, though, don't begin to scratch the surface of Beth's broad responsibilities and tremendous achievements. While members likely met Beth as she led Outdoor Adventures as well as Spring Forum and Members' Meeting interpretive walks, behind the scenes

she guided all facets of our operations from budgeting to strategic planning, integrated software systems, information technology and Human Resources. She ably served as YA's Acting President through the extremely difficult period after Steve Medley's untimely death. Beth was also a founding member of the Association of Partners for Public Lands Training Corps, facilitating numerous educational sessions and strategic planning retreats for public lands partners nationwide.

While Beth introduced many innovations and improved the efficiency our operations, she also injected a healthy dose of humor into the office. The frequent target of teasing whenever her Boston accent slipped out, she could dish it out

equally well, parrying our taunts with flawless pronunciations of tongue-twisting Northeastern town and street names. Many may recall her prank engaging 300 Members' Meeting attendees to tease President Steve Medley on the occasion of his twentieth anniversary with YA. Through flood, fire and rockslide, Beth gently reminded us that a positive outlook and a good sense of humor can get us through the most challenging of times.

Beth's infectious energy and playful spirit buoyed us, and her love for Yosemite and the Sierra Nevada inspired us. Though we've subjected her to endless quips about going to work for "that other Y-park," we are in truth very excited about her next big adventure. At Yellowstone National Park, she will be the Director of Environmental Affairs for Xanterra Parks and Resorts. She leaves YA with a tremendous legacy and with our deepest appreciation for her accomplishments and leadership. And we'd like to remind her that even if Yellowstone was the first national park, Yosemite is where the national park idea was born!



COURTESY BETH PRATT

Beth in Yellowstone.

YA Comes to the Central Valley

We hope you'll join the Yosemite Association board and staff at a special reception on Friday evening, February 29, 2008, in Fresno. Plans were not yet finalized as of press time, but the event will likely be held at the Fresno Art Museum. A variety of speakers will be featured, including award-winning author Gerald Haslam, who will give a talk and be available for book signing. Haslam is the author and editor of numerous books of fiction and nonfiction, including *The Great Central Valley: California's Heartland* and *Workin' Man Blues: Country Music in California*. He was a professor of English at California State University, Sonoma, until his retirement in 1997.

Watch your mailbox or the YA e-newsletter for event details coming soon!

2008 Discount Coupons Are In The Mail

Enclosed with your Spring Forum event invitation was a very special item: your 2008 Member Benefits booklet. This contains valuable coupons and a complete list of all YA member benefits, including an unprecedented variety of discounts. Inside you'll find instructions or coupons for discounts at twenty different lodging properties in and around Yosemite (including the newly added Sequoia High Sierra Camp and Evergreen Lodge, as well as a special offer for Asilomar in Pacific Grove, CA), three merchandise offers and six in-park activities for everything from ski lift tickets to bicycle rentals to stable rides. Use just one or two of these discounts during your next trip to the park and your basic YA membership will have paid for itself!

YA members are entitled to one coupon booklet per calendar year. But because most lodging properties do not require a coupon, you can use your discount as often as you like. You must state that you are a Yosemite Association member when making your reservation and show your valid membership card (and coupon if applicable) upon arrival to obtain your discounts.

We are grateful to DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite, The Ansel Adams Gallery and our many other discount program partners for bringing even greater value to your YA membership. When you stay or shop at their facilities, be sure to thank them for their generous support of YA and the park!

For additional information, please call the Member Information phone line at 209-379-2317.



What are You Doing this Summer?

Take a vacation and give something back as a YA volunteer. Each year, a dedicated group of YA members show their love of the park by donating their time, knowledge and labor while visiting Yosemite. You can join them by volunteering in 2008.

Visitor Information Volunteers Do you enjoy working with others? Ever wish that the park's fourteen-day camping limit could be extended for a few weeks or months? See that wish come true by becoming a YA Visitor Information (Month-long) Volunteer.



LAURA BEARDSLEY

Volunteer Dawn Sherertz assists a visitor at the Yurt.

Volunteers greet thousands of visitors at high traffic information stations and interpretive facilities to share their knowledge of the park and introduce new members to YA's mission of stewardship and education in Yosemite. Volunteers also enjoy a month of free camping in group sites at Yosemite Valley, Wawona or Tuolumne Meadows, a 30% discount at YA Bookstores, a free Outdoor Adventure and discount cards from the park concessionaire. Most volunteers work 30 hours per week with time off to relax and enjoy the park. Volunteers are needed May through September in Yosemite Valley and Wawona, and mid-June through September in Tuolumne Meadows.

For more information and an application, visit our website, www.yosemite.org, or contact Laura Beardsley at 209-379-2317 or lbeardsley@yosemite.org.



TONY DENAIO

YA volunteers enjoy a beautiful day working in Yosemite Valley.

2008 WORK WEEKS: A VACATION WITH A PURPOSE

Even if you don't have a lot of time, you can make a world of difference in Yosemite. In 2008, YA will once again partner with the National Park Service, the Yosemite Institute and Delaware North Parks & Resorts at Yosemite to complete a series of restoration projects throughout the park.

2008 Trip Dates

June 15-21: Weed Warriors and More (Yosemite Valley)

July 13-19: Plant Protectors (Wawona)

August 10-16: Tuolumne Restoration (Tuolumne Meadows)

September 14-20: Valley Fall Restoration (Yosemite Valley)

October 5-11: Leader's Choice (TBD)

Join fellow volunteers to work four days on with a day off in the middle of the week to rejuvenate and enjoy the park. Full descriptions of each project and applications will be available in late January on our website at www.yosemite.org/helpus/volunteer.html or by calling Laura Beardsley at 209-379-2317. Work Weeks fill quickly. Applications received by March 31 will be entered into a lottery to determine volunteer assignments.

2008 Tuolumne High Sierra Camp Restoration Planned

Hardy volunteers are needed to help DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite with restoration efforts at their facilities at Tuolumne Lodge this summer. Stay for one week or two and help rejuvenate and restore landscaping at this historic facility. There are many projects planned, so the work promises to be challenging and rewarding.

Session 1: July 26 – August 2

Session 2: August 2 – August 9

Further details will be available at www.yosemite.org/helpus/volunteer.html in February or by calling Laura Beardsley at 209-379-2317.

Ostrander Lake Ski Hut

Enjoy the warm fire and rustic atmosphere of the Ostrander Lake Ski Hut after a ten-mile ski through Yosemite's backcountry. As part of our commitment to promote stewardship in Yosemite, the Yosemite Association operates the Ostrander Lake Ski Hut each winter to encourage ski touring and snowshoeing in Yosemite. The hut provides a warm fire, bunks and kitchen facilities to backcountry users from December 21, 2007 to April 6, 2008.

Overnight rates:

Weeknights (Monday–Thursday)—\$30/person/night (\$25 for YA Members);

Weekend nights (Friday–Sunday)—\$45/person/night (\$38 for YA Members).

We still have space available this winter. Please call the Yosemite Association at 209-372-0740 Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. to make a reservation.

Interns on Wheels

When the call went out for donations of furniture and supplies for the intern houses in Wawona, all kinds of people responded and all manner of things were offered. Among the contributions were furniture, appliances, kitchenware and household items. Several people also offered old bicycles. Thinking the six cycles would be useful someday, we parked them in the garage of one of the houses. Unfortunately, none were in good repair. No one had the expertise to fix them, and money for the operation simply wasn't available.

Jim and Pete take to their task with relish!



KRISTINE HUTCHINSON

May We Share Your Address With Other Nonprofits?

Occasionally we have the opportunity to trade our mailing list with other nonprofit organizations, to increase our respective membership rosters and enhance our ability to support our 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, 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 honored in perpetuity. Note that telephone numbers and e-mail addresses are not released or traded for any reason.

Then, Jim Ebright arrived. Having just graduated from UC Merced in 2007, Jim was thrilled by the opportunity to work in Yosemite, and said he wanted somehow to leave a lasting legacy in the park. He was frustrated by the fact that getting around Wawona often seemed to require a car. Seeing the wasted potential of the bikes, Jim asked if YA would pay for parts if he did repairs on his days off.

Some of you probably know that he asked in just the right place. Pete Devine, the same guy who agonizes over the budget for the houses and who fusses when confronted with the need for new curtains or another faucet, *instantly* approved the expense for the bike parts. Pete's yellow “LiveStrong” bracelet isn't just decoration, you know.

Now our interns are getting around on recycled bikes that'll be useful for many years. It's good, healthy exercise, it's good for the environment and we've saved the bicycles from the landfill. Jim, you left a lasting legacy to the park. And Lance would be so proud of you, Pete!

You Can Help Yosemite in So Many Ways

Your dues and donations make possible vital educational programs and services in Yosemite. Did you know there are even more ways you can make a real difference? We invite you to consider these other giving mechanisms. For more information, visit our website at yosemite.org/helpus/donations.html or call the Member Information phone line at 209-379-2317.

• Double Your Contribution

Enclose your employer's matching gift form with your member dues or donations, and we'll take care of the rest.

• Donate Your Car, Boat, or RV

Visit Donationline.com or call Donation Line toll-free at 877-227-7487, ext. 1967.

• Use GoodSearch

GoodSearch.com is an Internet search engine that gives 50% of its revenue to the charity you designate, at no cost to you or us. Choose YA when you search the web!

• Leave a Legacy

Make a bequest to YA in your will or estate plan, or designate YA as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy.

• Donate from Your IRA

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 allows individuals over 70½ years old to transfer all or a portion of an IRA to YA and not have that money count as income for the year of the donation.

• Shop and Learn with YA

Shop at YA stores and our Internet store, or take an Outdoor Adventure. Proceeds from all YA programs and services benefit Yosemite!

The Yosemite Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation (Federal ID No. 94-6050143). Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law.



ASSOCIATION DATES

Legend:

OA = Outdoor Adventure

YAEC = Yosemite Art & Education Center free courses

FEB.

Early Feb: Winter 2008 issue of quarterly members' journal *Yosemite* sent out

Feb 2: OA #3 Snowshoe Explorations with a Naturalist, Emily Jacobs

Feb 16: OA #4 Dewey Point Snowshoe Trek with Pete Devine

Feb 18: YA Administrative Office closed for Presidents' Day holiday

Feb 23: OA #5 Discovering the Winter World with Dick Ewart

Feb 29: Yosemite Renaissance XXIII exhibit opening reception, Yosemite Museum Gallery

Feb 29: Members Gathering, Fresno

MARCH

Mar 1: OA #6 Peregoy Snow Survey with Mark Fincher and Chuck Carter

Mar 8: OA #7 Dewey Point Snowshoe Trek with Karen Amstutz

Mar 22: OA #8 Full Moon Equinox Snowshoe with Emily Jacobs

Mar 24-29: YAEC: Landscapes the Easy Way with Carol Earle

Mar 28: OA #9 A Hard Road on Gold Mountain with Yenyen Chan

Mar 28: Evening Reception for Donors of \$250 or more, Yosemite Valley

Mar 29: Members' Spring Forum, Yosemite Valley

Mar 30: OA #10 Birding Yosemite Valley with Michael Ross

Mar 30: OA #11 Discovering the Winter World with Dick Ewart

Mar 30-Apr 5: YAEC: Outdoors with Watercolor with Douglas Castleman

APRIL

April 2008

Apr 5: OA #12 Wildflowers of the Merced Canyon with Michael Ross

Apr 6: Ostrander Ski Hut closes for the season

Apr 7-12: YAEC: Watercolor with Steve Curl

Apr 11-12: OA #13 Leave No Trace (LNT) Trainer Course with Pete Devine

Apr 14-19: YAEC: Sketching/Drawing with Bob Magneson

Apr 21-26: YAEC: Travel Journaling: Sketching, Drawing and Painting with Donna Naes

Apr 26: OA #14 To the Top of Yosemite Falls with Karen Amstutz

Apr 28-May 3: YAEC: Adventures in Sumi-E Painting (Ink Painting) with Carolyn Fitz

MAY

Early May: Spring 2008 issue of quarterly members' journal *Yosemite* sent out

May 4: Last day to view Yosemite Renaissance XXIII exhibit, Yosemite Museum Gallery

May 5-10: YAEC: Drawing in Nature with Catherine Crandall

May 10: OA #15 Yosemite Waterfalls Grand Tour—Suzanne Swedo

May 12-17: YAEC: The Magic of Watercolor with Robert Dvorak

May 16-18: OA #16 Hetch Hetchy Photography Backpack with John Senser

May 17: OA #17 To the Top of Yosemite Falls with Karen Amstutz

May 19-24: YAEC: Painting Yosemite's Hidden Treasures with Fealing Lin

May 25-31: YAEC: Learn to Paint Water, Trees, Rocks and More with Roger Folk

May 31-June 1: OA #18 Hetch Hetchy Wildflower Explorations with Suzanne Swedo

JUNE

June 1-7: YAEC: Pen & Watercolor with John McClary

June 5-8: OA #19 Yosemite's Hawks and Owls with Jeff Maurer

June 7: OA #20 Half Dome in a Day 1 with Pete Devine

June 9-14: YAEC: Watercolor Workshop with Janice Powell Shedd

June 14: OA #21 Birding Yosemite Valley with Michael Ross

June 15: OA #22 Foresta Birds with Michael Ross

June 15-21: Weed Warriors and More Work Week, Yosemite Valley

June 16-18: OA #23 North Dome Moonrise Photography Backpack with John Senser

June 16-21: YAEC: Watercolor—Bold & Free! with Tom Fong

June 21: OA #24 Get Lost with a Ranger with Dick Ewart

June 23-28: YAEC: Watercolor for Landscape with Don Fay

June 28: OA #25 Glacier Point Birding with Michael Ross

June 30-July 5: YAEC: Watercolor with Pat Hunter

For an expanded events calendar, visit 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. Proceeds from all YA programs help support Yosemite!

YOSEMITE CATALOG

BOOKS

Fur and Loafing in Yosemite

by Phil Frank

This book gathers nearly 200 hilarious Yosemite-based cartoon strips featuring do-good ranger Farley and a remarkably aberrant cast of characters. Veteran cartoonist Phil Frank has captured the day-to-day activities, politics, tourists and management complexities at Yosemite National Park with amazing insight and loads of humor. His eccentric characters include Farley, journalist and seasonal park ranger; four urbanized black bears; Chief Ranger Horace Malone; Velma Melmac (the camper who abhors dirt); and Stern Grove, Mr. Law Enforcement. This motley band of Yosemite-philes offers an amusing and slightly twisted view of life in California's most famous national park. The collection includes a cast description, a "Bear's Eye View Map of Yosemite Valley,"

biographies of all the characters and notes about the origins of a number of topical strips.

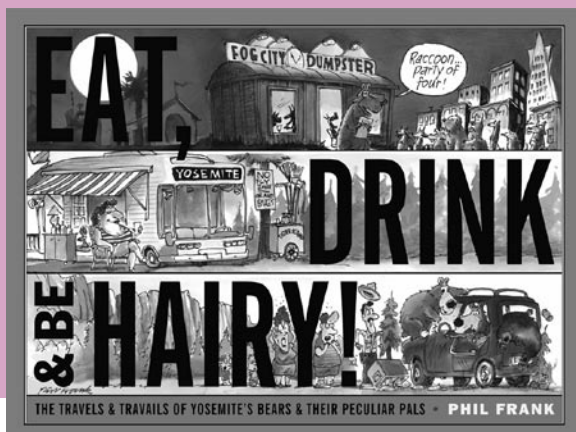
\$12.95; member price \$11.01



Eat, Drink and Be Hairy

by Phil Frank

Every year, four urbanized black bears make a summer-long visit to Yosemite from San Francisco in Phil Frank's daily *San Francisco Chronicle* cartoon strip "Farley." Known as Bruinhilda, Alphonse, Franklin and Floyd, the ursine quartet members wreak devious havoc in Yosemite Valley and have become a thorn in the side of the park rangers. Other Yosemite-related strips feature Velma Melmac (an RV-loving camper from Manteca who abhors dirt), her assistant in a campground cleaning business Lisa Ann, Velma's love interest Rhett, seasonal ranger Farley, Charbeaver (an employee at the Fog City Dumpster) and even former San Francisco mayor Willie Brown. This collection of nearly 300 hilarious cartoon strips, which originally appeared between 1999 and 2004, is the second "Farley" book to be published by the Yosemite Association. The first, *Fur and Loafing in Yosemite*, is a favorite among park visitors and Yosemite lovers alike. The book includes a cast of characters, a map of the annual migration route of *Ursus corruptus*, a wonderful schematic drawing of Velma's Ark-A-Lounger motor home, and an inside view of the bears in camp. \$13.95; member price \$11.86



Magic Yosemite Winters

by Gene Rose

This is the first book to thoroughly chronicle the story of winter sports in Yosemite National Park. The book is rich with never-before-told anecdotes and informative profiles of Yosemite's winter athletes, including Nic Fiore, Rusty Rust, Bill Janss, Charley Proctor, Mary Curry Tresidder, Ansel Adams, David

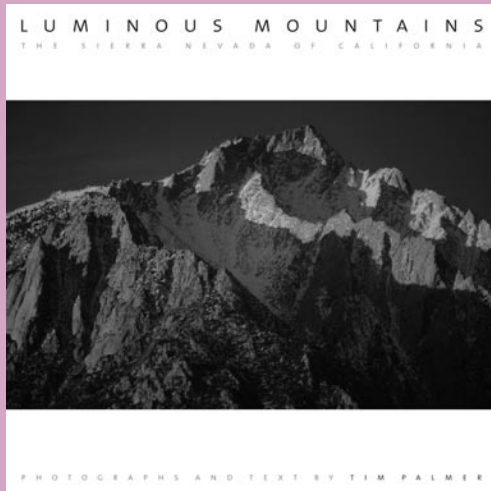


Brower and Howard Weamer. Author Gene Rose covers topics ranging from the establishment of Badger Pass Ski Area, to the backcountry exploits of early winter mountaineers, to the history of the Yosemite Winter Club. In this chronicle you will meet early winter sports pioneers and encounter other forerunners who are still yodeling their love and enthusiasm for the magic of Yosemite winters. Illustrated with the color photographs of Galen Rowell, Dewitt Jones and Keith Walklet, along with more than a hundred black-and-white historical images, this is a wonderful tribute to the people who have been involved in the winter sports scene at California's most famous national park.

\$19.95; member price \$16.96

To see an expanded list of the Yosemite Store's products, visit our secure online site at:
www.yosemitestore.com

BOOKS



YA SPRING FORUM SPEAKER

Luminous Mountains

by Tim Palmer

An extraordinary mountain range, the Sierra Nevada rises high over California. In *Luminous Mountains*, award-winning author and photographer Tim Palmer captures the dazzling variety and enchantment of this revered place. His images reveal the essence of the Sierra in a way that has never been done before, from its northern limit to its southernmost slope, from its rolling foothills in the west to its dramatic fault line at desert's edge.

With 135 stunning photographs and engaging text, veteran author Palmer guides us through the stormy white depths of winter and into ancient green forests suffused with life. With knowledge gleaned from decades of experience, he writes of the intricate workings of nature as well as the conflicts posed by the booming growth of the nation's most populous state. In all months of the year he shows us unmatched images of wonder—from icons of scenery such as Devils Postpile, Lake Tahoe, Mount Whitney and Yosemite's El Capitan, to remote and secret enclaves amid the peaks and canyons. Born of an intimate relationship with nature, *Luminous Mountains* takes readers on a spirited journey of discovery up the peaks and down the rivers of the great Sierra Nevada.

\$19.95; **member price \$16.96.** Available April 2008

GIFTS

1931 Yosemite Valley Poster

artwork by Jo Mora

This colorful poster is reprinted from the original in the collection of the Yosemite Museum. Jo Mora, a noted illustrator and cartoonist who moved to the U.S. from Uruguay, painted this whimsical map of Yosemite Valley with a number of clever representations of famous landmarks. For example, on Clouds Rest, a billowy cloud is depicted in an easy chair, a woman in wedding attire stands atop Bridalveil Fall and a single soldier stands at attention on the top of Sentinel Dome. Made in 1931, the map includes many sites that no longer exist, such as the elk paddock, the Indian Village, Glacier Point Hotel and more. Mora created a series of these cartoon maps for various national parks and other areas, including the Grand Canyon and 17-Mile Drive in Monterey. The map is also available in the form of a jigsaw puzzle. The map is printed on an 18 inch x 24 inch sheet in full color; the price includes a mailing tube. \$10.00; **member price \$8.50**

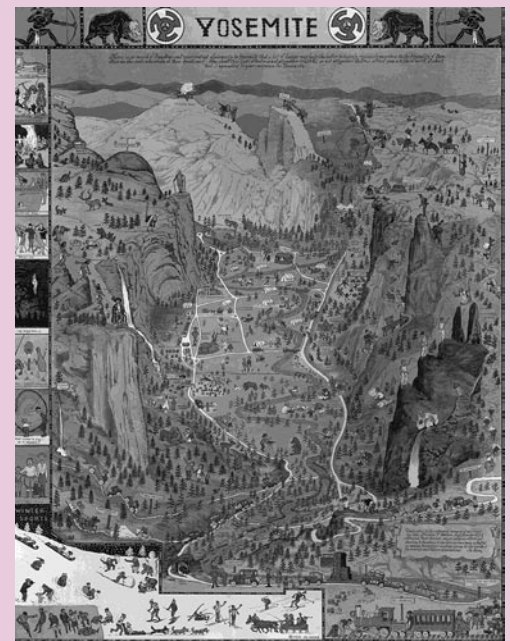
1931 Yosemite Valley Puzzle

artwork by Jo Mora

This 500-piece jigsaw puzzle was made using the cartoon-style map of Yosemite Valley painted by Jo Mora in 1931. Not only does it feature many humorous elements, it depicts many features in Yosemite Valley that are no longer to be found. These include the Old Village, the petting zoo at the Yosemite Museum, the Firefall, the bear feeding platform and the Glacier Point Hotel. For those who remember when the campgrounds had numbers instead of names, those designations are included, too.

18 x 24 inches

\$12.95; **member price \$11.01**



ART SUPPLIES

Many basic watercolor art supplies are also available at the Yosemite Art & Education Center in Yosemite Valley, including

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