

David Robertson

October 3, 1986. Gary came from Kitkitdizze, along with Paul Noel and Tom Lyons. I brought with me from Davis Vince Crockenberg, Mark Wheelis, Bruce Hammond, and Hal Faulkner. We gathered on the Sierra Nevada's sharp eastern side to celebrate thirty-one years later the climb of Matterhorn Peak by three Dharma Burns: Jack Kerouac, Gary Snyder, and John Montgomery.

The Davis five arrived in Bridgeport at 1:30. We had sandwiches in the Sportsman's Inn, where Jack, Gary, and John ate after their Matterhorn climb in 1955. I ordered a grilled cheese sandwich, chips and coke, my usual junk food before a hike in the mountains. The meal was mediocre, but afterwards I led an expedition across the street to the local bakery for dessert: the tastiest fruit bars east of Berkeley. We then cruised the sidewalks, checked out the Court House, and peered through the windows of the closed Mono County Museum until Gary, Paul, and Tom arrived at 3:00.

We left the Twin Lakes trailhead at 4:30, crossed Horse Creek, and took a broad path along the lake. At the point where it forked, Gary thought we should head up. I thought we should continue on the level, even though a sign announcing the need for a wilderness permit was posted up the hill. I felt sure that I had taken the lower route back in the spring of 1985, the only other time I had been in the area. Confidently, I led straight ahead. After several hundred yards, however, the path did not gradually begin the ascent I thought it would. We got out the topo and sure enough the trail not taken was the right one. We turned around, and now I was the tail. I wondered why I had been so insistent when the sign told me, iFI had only listened, that I was wrong. Whatever the reason, my karma had found me out.

Where the trail from Cattle Canyon intersected Horse Creek trail, we discussed stopping. Mark, who had been up Matterhorn twice before, Gary, and I knew that not many good camping places lay ahead. But we decided to push on, wishing to make the climb the next day as short as possible. After another mile, where the trail disappears Gary Snyder indulges in the Matterhorn view.

in a maze of shrubbery, Mark, Gary, and Bruce decided to explore ahead for a site, while the rest of us waited. If they didn't find anything, we would return to the intersection of Cattle Canyon and Horse Creek trails, which no one wanted to do. While they were gone, Tom found a great site just down the hill by the creek. We called the others back and set up camp.

The old pro Gary located a cozy bivouac under the trunk of a tree that had fallen over but was caught by another tree before it hit the ground. It provided excellent protection from dew and was snow free. After a lengthy survey of the area I finally decided to put my sleeping bag out in the "The idea was to walk 50 steps before stopping; that way I could pace myself. But the idea didn't work. I could make it no more than 29 steps before stopping, gasping for breath."

create his route with Kerouac. He pointed out the big, huge boulder where the 1955 party had spent the night. In addition, he transcribed the tracks in the snow, measuring them with his pencil. I found out later his surmises: look over into Yosemite, but we were to go on ahead. Actually once freed from the responsibility of keeping up, he kept up remarkably well until lunch, which was eaten just below the pass. At the head of the pass was, apat my stomach — like I was very hungry without wanting anything to eat. I tried to eat more Coffee Nips for stimulus and energy, but found them more and more disagreeable. In desperation I began to count the steps to the



TAVATI BORFRT

open, in a small snow field, where it would be soft. Not a smart move, as I should have known from adopting the same strategy on Mt. Shasta the previous spring. The snow melted on the end of the bag, the part extending beyond the foam pad, and by morning my feet were freezing.

While eating we stood around the fire and talked. Gary reminisced about his trip with Kerouac and Montgomery. Kerouac had liked the idea of rucksacks because he did a lot of hitchhiking and train hopping. He had seen how Philip Whalen and Gary used them, so Gary gave him one for a present. Then one night he and Montgomery pulled Kerouac out of some bar in San Francisco and headed up over Sonora pass. They got all the way up into Horse Creek Canyon before Jack "woke up." "It's so quiet," he said. "What's going one" He hardly realized he had been taken out of the city until everything was so still. Gary confessed that the trip was the product of his own times Jack's craziness.

I fell asleep rather quickly for me, but then woke up about midnight. I had no watch, and so estimated the time by the position of the stars and by the gauge in my bladder. Much of the remainder of the night I spent awake, getting ever colder, and watching Taurus and Orion, two of the most uncanny creatures in the universe, stride across the night.

We started up Horse Canyon at 8:15, after my favorite backpack breakfast of Familia and bagels loaded with cream cheese and jelly. More appropriately in light of what lay ahead, Snyder had gruel with nuts. Soon we were strung out — Tom way out in front (in my next life I want a wiry body like his), Vince and Mark an athletic twosome, then a more rickety threesome of Hal, Gary, and me. Paul brought up a distant rear. I was happy to have Paul along.

Gary stopped often to take notes. Partly he was trying to retwo bear cubs playing some distance from mother; two coyotes that had preceded us over the pass: a badger; and lots of deer. Seeing him take notes made me wish I had brought my notebook to record every word spoken for posterity, of course, and fame. I comforted myself with my standard line: I too was taking notes, but with silver instead of lead. The first two miles were up a steep glacial cirque. At the top of it Tom and the other front runners waited for the rest of us. The next section was fairly level, across Horse Creek and small shrubs, easy walking. Then we began to climb more steeply up the right side of the canyon. Paul at this point said he was holding us back and was surely not going to make it to the top. Maybe he would try to reach the pass and

parently, a marvelously well-preserved terminal moraine, about a quarter of a mile long. The area immediately above it was hollowed out, an act that we figured only a glacier could perform. Above and off to the left was a large expanse of white. The map indicated no glacier here, so probably it was a snow field. We crossed into Yosemite National Park, looked down into rockbound Spiller canyon and peered up at Matterhorn peak, our first view of it since leaving camp. From there the very top arete was visible, beautifully lit by the afternoon sun. It seemed a long way off. It was a long way off. I figured we had about 1000-2000 feet left to go.

By this time I had already gone past the point of exhaustion. I was also beginning to feel sick The hardy Matterhorn expeditionary force.

top. I figured that I was proceeding upward at about nine inches per step, minus a three inch slide in the sand back toward sea level. We were led by the indefatigable Tom straight up the scree slope, about one-half covered with snow, which actually gave a little firmer footing than the gravel. I calculated that it would take me 2000 steps to reach the top.

So I started to count . . . 10– 20–30. The idea was to walk 50 steps before stopping; that way I could pace myself. But the idea didn't work, I could make it no more than 29 steps before stopping, gasping for breath. Tom and Vince quickly became a far away twosome, Mark, Bruce, Hal, and Gary in the middle, in that order,

"... and in that flash I realized it's impossible to fall off mountains you fool and with a yodel of my own I suddenly got up and began running down the mountain ... " –Jack Kerouae

and me as usual at the tip of the tail, not ingloriously far behind, but losing ground all the time. At step 1200 or so things improved. Though sicker than I had ever been before while climbing a mountain, I now knew that my fifteen minutes ahead of me.

First things first, "Bless you Gary. I mean it." Then I shook hands with everyone else, and began taking pictures. It was a struggle. I was thinking like a muddy, meandering Mississippi quarter of an hour. On the third class part of the descent, I very nearly fell. The result would not have been death, probably not even broken bones, but for sure some hand scratches and bruised knees. I held on with cupped



stomach was going to hold its contents. But it was after 2:00 and I had to pick up the pace.

At the foot of a third class scramble of some 50 feet, still about 100 feet from the summit, I came upon Hal. He said he was pulling a Kerouac. The exposure had gotten to him. He showed me the direction the others took, and off I went. I like feet over hands climbing - at least it adds interest-and moved with more agility than I had all day. At the top of this cliff I came out on a jagged shelf, maybe six feet wide, and looked virtually straight down the other side. My stomach bounced against my throat. It was the moment that mountain climbing is made for. In another two minutes I was on the summit with the others - 1828, 1829, 1830. Gary had arrived there only

while all about were the jagged aretes of a glacier-made landscape. Yet I couldn't afford to rest. It was already 3:15 and the sun set at 6:30. We had five miles and 4000 feet to go down boulder hopping and sliding in the snow. No way was I going to make it back to camp before 7:30. Kind for kind, as I snapped the shutter, Gary composed this poem:

> On Climbing the Sierra Matterhorn again after Thirty-one years

Range after range of mountains year after year after year I am still in love

Too soon we gathered our gear and began the descent. I had been on the summit crag for a The scenery as it appears some thirty-one years later, largely unchanged.

fingers while feet searched for secure footing. Mark guided me down past the most difficult section, maybe ten feet vertical.

I had counted on being able to glissade down the snow fields, gaining time and saving energy, but they were too mushy. Next I tried a run, jump, and slide on the gravel, Kerouac style, but the boulders were too big and my knees too weak. I settled reluctantly on taking each step at a time. It's not funny how your mind foreshortens the distance home; I expected to see camp a full two miles before it actually came into view, still a disgustingly long way off. By this time I was slurring every third word. I could



TAVID BOI

PAGETHREE

speak coherently only by pausing to collect the sentence and mouthing it word by word. Mark stayed with me as I fell a mile or more behind the leaders.

By the time I reached camp there was barely enough light left to avoid the crosscountry trees. A fire was going and Gary had fixed me some tea. After a few sips, I dragged my sleeping bag over next to the people. I felt like a little kid, not afraid of the black, but wanting to be close. I was not hungry, nor even tired any more. The calm of empty space settled into stomach and bones. I lay down and listened. Gary proposed a round of toasts, one to me the organizer. I smiled to myself in the darkness. One to Kerouac. "A great writer though not as appreciated as he ought to be." "To Jack" went the round and I thought my yes in silence.

Then suddenly everything was just like jazz: it happened in one insane second or so: I looked up and saw Japhy running down the mountain in huge twenty-foot leaps, running, leaping, landing with a great drive of his booted heels, bouncing five feet or so, running, then taking another long crazy velling vodelaying sail down the sides of the world and in that flash I realized it's impossible to fall off mountains you fool and with a yodel of my own I suddenly got up and began running down the mountain after him doing exactly the same huge leaps, the same fantastic runs and jumps, and in the space of about five minutes I guess Japhy Ryder and came leaping and yelling like mountain goats or I'd say like lunatics of a thousand years ago With one of my greatest leaps and loudest screams of joy I came flying down to the edge of the lake and dug my sneakered heels into the mud and just fell sitting there, glad I took

The Hutchings-Sovulewski Homesite, 1864–1936

Robert C Pavlik

The recent installation of new water lines and hydrants in Yosemite Valley will not only provide residents, employees, and guests with an improved and safe water source, it has allowed a fresh glimpse into the past by way of excavation work for the laying of the pipeline.

Along Northside Drive between the shuttlebus intersection and Yosemite Creek, to the north of the road one can see a portion of an historic apple orchard adjacent to some majestic California Black Oaks. Across the road and in the meadow stands a lone exotic, an American elm. These trees are among the most visible remains of the early historic occupation of Yosemite Valley, circa 1860.

Beneath the surface and recently revealed by the trenching activity, lies the foundation of a residence which dates back to 1910 and which bears a relation to the apple trees and the American elm. This area was occupied successively by two of Yosemite's best known personalities—James M Hutchings and Gabriel Sovulewski, and the remnants of their occupation tell a story not only of their lives and work in Yosemite but of the nature of change that altered the human landscape of the Valley over a seventy-year period.

James Mason Hutchings was born in Towchester, Northamptonshire, England, on February 10, 1824. He left England in 1848 and journeyed to California in search of "the elephant." It didn't take him long to find out that it was easier to make a living writing than it was panning for gold, but the experience served him well. He authored "The Miner's Ten Commandments" and later wrote and published a fine periodical, Hutchings' California Magazine. Like so many of the immigrants to the Golden State, he was enamored with the diversity and beauty of the landscape. In 1855, Hutchings led the



first tourist party to Yosemite Valley, a remarkable occasion if one considers that the Valley had been breached for the first time only four years earlier by the Mariposa Battalion, the initial whites to enter the Valley while on a punitive mission against the Indians.

Hutchings would return to the Valley in 1862, and one year later purchased the "Upper House" hotel on the south side of Yosemite Valley, near the present Sentinel Bridge. A daughter, Florence, was born into the Hutchings family in 1864, the first white child to be born in Yosemite Valley.

Upon their arrival in Yosemite Valley, the family occupied the Upper House, later renamed Hutchings House, on the south side of the river. While suitably located for summertime occupation, the shadowy side of the Valley proved to be too cold and uncomfortable for winter habitation, and sometime after their first year in the Valley they elected to move to the north side of the river. Hutchings wrote



in his book, In the Heart of the Sierras:

"A site possessing the qualities deemed most desirable was accordingly selected, and a log cabin, in all its symmetrical proportions and artistical surroundings, began to stand out upon the landscape.... By degrees, and with the assistance of our neighbor, Mr. Lamon, and his cattle, it was finished. One rock formed the mantel, and another the hearthstone, of our broad and cheery open fire-place."

The cabin grew incrementally with the addition of lean-tos for a workshop/woodshed, kitchen and pantry, and a bedroom. Although Hutchings does not give us an exact date of construction of his cabin, he does state that the year following the completion of the residence that the family planted a garden and 150-tree apple orchard, much of which is still in existence after 120 years. Later, a strawberry patch was also cultivated, its fruit a rare and delicious addition to the early hotel fare.

To connect the house on the north side of the river to the village and hotel on the south, an elm-lined causeway was con-



structed to a bridge crossing the Merced River. The elm tree seeds had been sent to Hutchings by the Reverend Joseph Worcester of Waltham, Massachusetts; Hutchings lamented their loss due to "some thoughtless young men" who cut the saplings for walking sticks while Hutchings was absent from the Valley. The party of young men must not have been too large, though, for at least one towering elm still stands in the meadow, shading the memory of Hutchings' path.

1864 proved to be the beginning of James Hutchings's problems in Yosemite Valley. On July 1st of that year, President Abraham Lincoln signed a bill that granted to the State of California two tracts of land to be held as a public trust, to be enjoyed and maintained for the benefit of the public for all times. The grant included Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove of Big Trees. The state's governor soon appointed a Board of Commissioners to oversee the management and administration of the grant. In 1866 the board invited the occupants of private holdings in Yosemite Valley to extinguish their claims, and that is when the trouble began. While other residents of the valley bartered with the state for the highest price on their land and improvements, Hutchings and James Lamon (first permanent white resident in Yosemite Valley) held out, refusing to give up their property. A court battle ensued that eventually made its way to the United States Supreme Court, where the Chief Justices concurred in the decision of the California Supreme Court, that the state had the right to evict Hutchings. After this lengthy series of court battles, the state agreed to compensate four of the claimants, induding Hutchings, who received the lion's share of the \$60,000 appropriation-\$24,000.

After the settlement, the property (which included Hutchings commercial developments on the south side of the river) was acquired by Coulter and Murphy,



who built the Sentinel Hotel in 1876. They in turn relinquished their lease to John K. Barnard in 1877, who took up residence in Hutchings's log cabin. In 1880, when the incumbent board of commissioners was replaced with a new board, Hutchings was appointed Guardian of the grant and Barnard graciously vacated the cabin for occupation by its original owner and builder.

A grave sadness descended on the Hutchings cabin in 1881 when daughter Florence died at the age of 17, and her stepmother Augusta passed away a few weeks later. They were buried in the cemetery in Yosemite Valley.

After his tenure as guardian ended, Hutchings returned to San Francisco where he operated a tourist's agency. James Mason Hutchings' life ended disastrously on a visit to Yosemite Valley in October, 1902, when his horse was startled while descending the Big Oak Flat Road zig-zags and Hutchings was thrown from the carriage. He was buried in the Yosemite cemetery, alongside his wife and daughter.

When the state of California receded the Yosemite grant to the federal government in 1905, and the government formally ac-



James Mason Hutchings, above, and Gabriel Sovulewski, Park Supervisor, in 1931.

cepted the grant a year later, the US Army established its first camp in Yosemite Valley, 1/4 mile southwest of the base of Yosemite Falls. Because the Army employees were only seasonal occupants of the national park, it was necessary to employ a civilian who could not only work with the troops but also tend to the management, operations, upkeep and maintenance of the park's roads, trails, buildings and utilities while the Army was away in the winter months. Those important and diverse tasks fell to Gabriel Sovulewski, appointed Park Supervisor in 1906. As Supervisor, he was responsible for a number of duties. but as he said in his own words, "the title did not prevent my being stable boy, plumber, packer, fire guard, ranger, forester, locator, builder, superintendent, etc, etc."

Sovulewski was born in Poland in 1866 and emigrated to the United States when he was 16. He enlisted in the US Army in 1888, and was with the first Army troops assigned to guard the new Sequoia National Park in 1891. Later, as a Quartermaster Sergeant under the leadership of Captain Alexander Rogers, Sovulewski arrived at Camp AE Wood in the spring of 1895. He returned to Yosemite in the years 1896, 1897, and 1899.

When the Army arrived in the Valley in 1906, there were no residences available for the troops to occupy, so they erected canvas tents for their summer use. As a



Little History

After several attempts on the part of the acting Superintendents to secure funds for a suitable residence for the Park Supervisor, an appropriation of \$2,800 was received in 1909 for the construction of a cottage to replace the old log cabin, which stood nearby, and which was torn down in 1909 or 1910. An additional allotment was granted in 1910 for the completion of the cottage, although it was still not enough to properly outfit the new residence.

Sovulewski himself supplied an additional \$700 to \$800 for the installation of plumbing, electrical wiring and fixtures, and other miscellaneous features. According to Sovulewski, it was the first residence built in Yosemite Valley by the Department of the Interior. The house occupied a prominent place in the viewshed of Yosemite Valley, standing in front of Yosemite Falls and being surrounded by the graceful black oaks.

According to an engineer's report dated October 23, 1936, the house measured 34'4" by 42'4" and "is of extremely light construction, and its total estimated weight is 35 tons only." The six bedroom two story house was an impressive, inexpensive, and obtrusive building. It was for that very obtrusiveness that the Yosemite Advisory Board recommended its removal, along with three other residences deemed obstructions on the landscape, in the late 1920s.

Before plans for the removal of the house were ever even discussed, a dark cloud had descended on the Sovulewski resi-

A Lively Meeting on a Balmy Weekend



Holly Warner

The sun shone brightly on the 13th Annual Members Meeting held in Wawona on September 10. Approximately 275 people turned out to enjoy the balmy fall weather and partake in the many activities. Beginning Saturday morning and extending through the weekend, there was a series of walks and talks scheduled for members: tours of the Pioneer History Center, a look at Wawona as the largest stage stop in the Park, and several excursions among the redwoods of Mariposa Grove. At noon, everyone assembled at the Pioneer History Center for a light lunch of cheese and crackers, followed by the Members' Meeting. Tom Shephard, Chairman of the Board, presided over the gathering.

This year's featured speaker was Patricia Schifferle who is the California/Nevada Regional Director of The Wilderness Society: Echoing her group's recent report on "America's Ten Most Endangered Parks" she cautioned that we are "loving Yosemite to death." Quoting the 1980 Park Master Plan, she contrasted the "march of man-made development in the Valley . . . more than 1000 buildings ... and 30 miles of roadway" with the charge to the National Park Service to "perpetuate the natural splendor of Yosemite and its exceedingly special Valley."

Ms Schifferle further challenged the traditional modes of use that are made of the Park. She asked:

Is it our goal to continually pave the way for passive tourisms' Is it the mandate of the Park Service to ensure that everyone who wants to should be able to drive into Yosemite Valley, stop for hinch at the Ahwahnee Hotel and then leaves' The average stay in the Valley today is 32 hours. The recreational engineer is fond of diluting the wilderness and artificializing its trophies in the fond belief that he is rendering a public service. I do not believe this is a public service. We

would do better to preserve the sense





of discovery and wonderment that our ancestors first felt as they entered the Valley. I urge all of us to tilt our goals toward preservation of this natural system.

She concluded her talk by calling for restrictions on visitation to Yosemite Valley. "We need to place some limits on our use of this beautiful valley. The American people will accept these limits if there is fair access and they can see that the Valley and its natural ecosystem are being preserved."

In the second part of the meeting, the podium was opened up for a lively session of questions and answers. Park Superintendent Jack Morehead, Tom Shephard, and YA President Steve Medley fielded inquiries on a wide range of topics: the CBS Top: Wilderness Society spokesperson Patricia Schifferle was the guest speaker at the 13th Members' Meeting. Among those who spoke were (left to right) Steve Medley, Patricia Schifferle, NPS Superintendent Jack Morehead, Board Member Dan Wolfus, and Board Chairman Tom Shephard. Right: YA President Steve Medley answers some of the many questions from the membership.

48 Hours production on Yosemite, the separation of the Fund from the Association, bearproof containers for the backcountry, and the environmental impact of the local GoldenBell Mine.

Following the business meeting, members enjoyed wine and refreshments while waiting in suspense for the outcome of the raffle. As always, some great prizes were awarded: lavish gift baskets of epicurean delights, a weekend stay at the Ahwahnee Hotel, a river raft trip for 2, a rare railroad poster of Yosemite, plus many other gems. In the early evening, a steak barbeque dinner was held on the lawn of the Wawona Hotel, and afterwards those with energy to burn met in the gray barn for the Old Time Barn Dance.

The following is a summary of the business report delivered at the September Members' Meeting.

Membership: Current membership of the Association stands at 4,300. New 1988 programs include members' work trips and volunteer projects to recruit new members and to staff the Museum Gallery.

Seminars: Following a healthy 1987, the program is strong with a wide variety of course offerings. The use of overnight facilities at Crane Flat has enhanced the participants' experience.

Sales/Publications: Sales for 1988 are already ahead of those for 1987 which was the best year ever. The Valley Visitor Center bookstore was expanded and the operation streamlined. New pub-



lications include Such A Landscape which was recognized as one of the "Best Western Books of 1987," a number of reprints, and the biography of Carl Sharsmith which is being printed now.

Other Programs: A variety of other programs have been continued including:

Grants — Almost \$20,000 in research grants were funded in 1988.

Aid-to-NPS — A budget of over \$100,000 has been approved as a base of donations to the National Park Service in 1988.

Yosemite Theater - The offering of presentations was expanded.

Ostrander Lake Ski Hut - The hut was operated by YA for the eighth consecutive year.

Film Assistance Program — YA has begun a new program to aid film and video makers in the Park. We provide liaison and logistical assistance.

Art Activity Center — A cooperative program run by YA, NPS, and Yosemite Park & Curry Co provides art classes taught by noted artists.

Yosemite Fund: In early 1988, the Fund was transferred to the independent Yosemite Foundation at the request of the NPS. It still operates from its headquarters in San Francisco and has continued to raise funds and implement projects.

The Yosemite Association would like to express its appreciation to the following individuals and companies who generously donated prizes for the Members Meeting raffle this year:

Ansel Adams Gallery, Califor-

Important Dates and Deadlines

December 1, 1988 Deadline for submission of grant proposals to YA for 1989 funding consideration.

April 8, 1989 Members' Open House in Yosemite Valley.

September 15, 1989 14th Annual Members' Meeting at Tuolumne Meadows.

nia Data Marketing, Copy Center, Crown Printing, Dumont Printing, El Portal Market, Erna's Elderberry House, Jon Goodchild/ Triad, Louis Lanzer Books & Prints, Mono Lake Committee, Bob Roney, Savage's Trading Post, Scope Enterprises, Techniprint, Neil Tuthill/ANCAL, Unisource, Val-Print, Yosemite Institute, Yosemite Park & Curry Co, Zephyr River Expeditions.

Holly Warner is Membership Coordinator for the Association and resides in Midpines, California.



David Gaines Award Established

A new award to encourage protection of the greater Yosemite environment to the standards set by Mono Lake defender David Gaines was announced at the YA annual members' meeting. Cosponsored by the Yosemite Association, the Yosemite Park & Curry Co., and the Ansel Adams Gallery, the award will be known as the David Gaines Award in honor of his contributions to the understanding and appreciation of both Yosemite and Mono Lake, and of his efforts to protect their ecosystems.

The award in the sum of \$1,250 is made half to the named recipient and half, in the form of a donation, to an environmental group he or she may designate. The first award recipient is David Gaines, and his widow, Sally, has asked that half the award be contributed to the Mono Lake Committee.

Intended to encourage others to emulate David's accomplishments, the award will be made when appropriate as determined by a committee consisting of representatives of the sponsoring organizations as well as the National Park Service. A perpetual plaque will be placed at the Mono Lake Visitor Center bearing the names of every recipient.

Not only did David Gaines fight valiantly for the life of Mono Lake, he was the leading expert on the birds of the Yosemite region. His books and YA field seminars were favorites with birders and natural history buffs, and his reputation as an interpreter was legendary. The Association is pleased to have the opportunity to support this small attempt to permanently recognize the tireless efforts of this inspiring environmentalist.

Homesite

continued from page 5

dence. Gabriel's wife, Rose, died in August, 1928. National Park Service Associate Director Arno B Cammerer granted Mrs Sovulewski's last wish, to be buried in the Yosemite Valley Cernetery within view of her residence and in the valley she and her family so dearly loved.

After his wife's death, Mr Sovulewski continued to work on trail construction and road maintenance projects, and served with pride and dedication until his retirement in the late summer of 1936 at the age of 70. After his retirement, Superintendent CG Thomson also retired the position of "Park Supervisor," stating that with Sovulewski's departure, "it is not conceivable that anyone else could take the place that he has filled for so many years."

Sovulewski was required by the National Park Service to vacate his residence after his retirement, an emotional and difficult move to make. Mr Sovulewski preferred that the house be relocated rather than immediately occupied by another family. The Park Service found that, given its large size and lightweight construction, the structure could not be moved without danger of its collapse or removal of many of the surrounding oak trees. The NPS even explored the option of cutting the building in two or three pieces and reassembling it

on another site, but ruled out that option on the grounds that it was still too large for a single family residence and the cost of refurnishing the house too excessive. Park Service officials finally decided that the only course of action was to dismantle the house and reconstruct a smaller residence in another area from the salvaged material. The house was torn down in October and November of 1936.

Sovulewski lived with his children for two more years, then passed away on November 29, 1938 at Cottage Hospital in San Rafael, California. He was buried in the Yosemite Pioneer Cemetery, alongside his wife, with special permission from the third Director of the National Park Service, Arno Cammerer.

Periodic flooding of Yosemite Valley has deposited silt and debris on the valley floor, covering the concrete foundations of Sovulewski's house to a depth of two feet. It seems appropriate that an engineering project would once again reveal the site of his former home, and give us an opportunity to re-examine the life of a man who made important contributions to Yosemite, and whose life work is still evident in the roads and trails that traverse the Park.

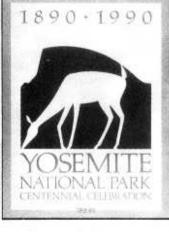
Robert Pavlik is an historian for the California State Parks at Hearst Castle. He was formerly employed at Yosemite's Research Center.

Coming Soon: Yosemite's 100th Birthday

YOSEMIT

A Yosemite Centennial Committee was recently established by Park Superintendent Jack Morehead to help with the planning for the celebration of Yosemite's 100th year as a national park in 1990. Made up of employees, residents and friends of Yosemite, the group has already met several times to begin its work. NPS Assistant Superintendent B] Griffin was elected to serve as Chairman of the committee. Congressman Tony Coelho has agreed to serve as the honorary chairman for the group.

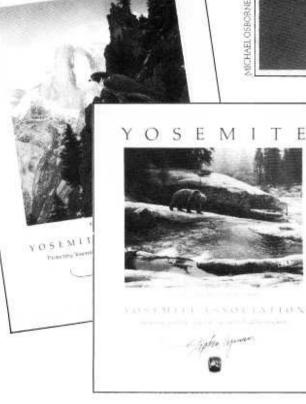
The role of the Centennial Committee is meant to encompass a number of responsibilities including planning and coordinating park-sponsored events for the Centennial year, serving as an information clearinghouse for cen-



tennial projects and activities, and arranging for promotion, publicity, and media coverage in concert with the park's Public Affairs Office.

At the same time, a Centennial Advisory Committee was also created to provide additional expertise and resources for the planning effort. The advisory group features former Park Superintendents, historians, long-time visitors, and others with special affiliations with Yosemite.

Members of both the centennial and advisory committees are encouraging persons with ideas, proposals or recommendations



for the Centennial Celebration to submit their thoughts. There is a strong desire to make 1990 a special year in Yosemite and to present a meaningful series of events. Association members with ideas for the centennial should send them to YA's President, Steve Medley, who serves on the committee.

New Lyman Posters

Noted wildlife artist, Stephen Lyman, has recently completed the first two of a series of four "endangered species" posters for Yosemite. In conjunction with his publisher, the Greenwich Workshop of Trumbull, Connecticut, Lyman has donated 1,000 copies of each poster to the Yosemite Association.

The first poster entitled "Return of the Falcon" depicts a peregrine falcon at rest on the rocks below Glacier Point with Half Dome in full sunlight in the background. The companion poster showcases the now extinct grizzly bear and is called "Uzumati — The Great Bear of Yosemite." Set in the Grand Canyon of the Tuolumne, the painting shows an enormous grizzly striding towards the river over the granite.

Both posters are reproduced in full color and carry the following message: "Yosemite Association—Protecting Yosemite National Park and its Wildlife Residents." Printed on heavyweight coated paper, the posters are 29" x 24" (bear) and 37" x 24"

YOSEMITE ASSOCIATION, FALL 1988

NATIONAL PARK

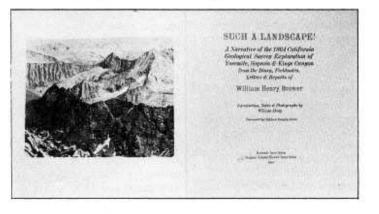
(falcon). Each is available from the Association for \$14.95. To order, please use the mail order form at the back of the bulletin.

Brewer Book Nearly Sells Out

Since its publication, Such A Landscape! has been selected as one of the "Best Western Books of 1987" by the Rounce & Coffin Club and is included in an exhibition which travels to over 40 public and private libraries throughout the United States during its two-year tour. The Rounce & Coffin Club is an association of individuals with a common interest in fine printing, the art of the book, and printing as a graphic art.

Such recognition is indicative of the rich quality of the book that was printed letterpress on archive grade paper at The Feathered Serpent Press in San Rafael. The casebound, 124 page volume, 10½" x 11½", features the masterful duotone printing of the photographs by Phelps-Schaefer Litho-Graphics, Inc. Each book is numbered and signed by the editor/ photographer, William Alsup.

Such A Landscape! is priced at \$125, and Yosemite Association members qualify for a 15% discount. Only 500 copies were printed and to purchase one of the remaining 100 copies, please use the order form at the end of this journal.



Mystery at Mono Pass

Susan Guhm

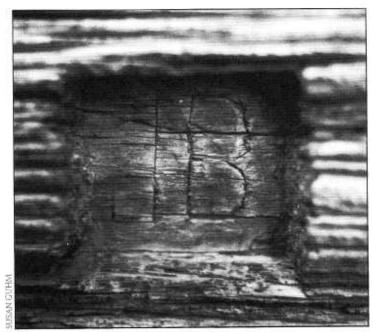
Gold. Gold is what they were after. It attracted them from across the continent in the mid-1800s. In the 1870s it drew them through Mono Pass to Eastern California's gold and silver strikes. Gold in one form or another, be it the metal or sheep or timber, also called to the man known only as JB. He carved his initials in a stillgreen log when he stopped over 100 years ago at Mono Pass near what is now the eastern border of Yosemite National Park.

JB may have been Jesse Bundy, John Bagby, John Berry, or J Bohn. All were miners who worked the lodes at Mono Pass. There were others who were not miners, like Jerome Bardanare ("JB") LaBraque who herded sheep around Mono Basin and almost certainly came up to the meadows of Mono Pass through Bloody Canyon.

After an easy day hike into Mono Pass from the Tioga Road, my husband and I discovered the initials when we sat down to rest next to a felled tree. The tree's bark had long ago peeled off and rotted away. A large branch from a nearby tree had grown over the log, almost completely hiding the initials. At an altitude of 10,600 feet, this protective branch had taken many years to grow. The log had been carved while still green - the fibers cut by the knife had dried irregularly giving the wood edges a ragged appearance.

We began to wonder who JB might have been and about other events that had occurred in this historic pass. We began a search, which continues, through record books and newspapers. What follows is a sampling of what we found.

No one knows what JB's log was intended for. He might have planned to use it for one of the cabin walls, for firewood, or for timber in a mine or tunnel. In the late 1800s it was untouched until JB laid down to rest after a long spell of work. As he reclined he pred at the log, studied its bark deventually started to carve.



He lightly outlined a frame for his initials first—2 inches square and then cut through several thin growth rings. In this country with a short growing season the average tree has 30 rings per inch. He was slicing through wood laid on in dry years and wet years. He was slicing through the tree's record of growth, going back into history with each cut of his knife. The knife sliced cleanly down to the ring added in 1882.

1882. Because the Mono Pass mines were being worked seriously, warm quarters where a crew of men could dry off after a day of work breaking rock in a dripping tunnel or warm themselves in front of a fireplace or portable stove were needed. Solid walls were essential to block out that infernal wind. For three years, miners had worked here, some living in tents, others bedded down on the ground in scrubby shelters enduring the regular blasting gusts of wind. By 1882 cabins were built and predictions were made of a Mono Pass town with thousands of inhabitants (a common forecast for any of the illusive rich strikes).

During the same year, in the *meadows west of the cathins, a* conflict erupted between a sheep"JB" left his mark on this aged tree trunk at Mono Pass.

man and a cattleman. It could have been Tim Carlon or one of many other cattlemen that Robert Leonard Bright met up with occasionally, but when they met they feuded. Bright was a few hours ahead of his herd of sheep and located a good place for a camp. As he was about to settle in to prepare the evening meal, the cattleman opened fire. Bright dropped to the ground immediately and did the thing considered best in those days-he fired back furiously. This open grazing land was guarded jealously by the first to arrive. Latecomers were frequently shot at and scared off, but Bright was not easily intimidated. He lived to tell the story.

JB carefully eyed his outline to be sure of the perfection of the rectangle. Again he drew the knife lightly along one side, then another. Two more growth rings were cut and he was back to the ring for 1880.

1880. The Homer Mining Index of September 7 stated, "John J Curry and Robert A Cameron have returned from adei: anj as Blosaly Canyon where they went two weeks ago. to work on a large ledge they had discovered. They started a tunnel on the vein, which they ran in several feet. The claim was first located, though not recorded, as the 'Enchantment.'"

Bloody Canyon was the popular name then for the rugged canyon which opens below what we now call Mono Pass—one of the many areas attracting the wandering miners who would swarm to any place declared rich in gold or ' silver. Robert A Cameron was one who wandered far and wide staking claims in several mining districts. He was colorful enough to have a town named after him.

John J Curry was more newspaperman than miner. Like most mine owners, he held a somewhat regular job to finance the mine he worked. Newspapers of the day were established and folded up as quickly as their owners could travel. Curry moved around with the presses. The famous newspaperman, Lying Jim Townsend, arrived in Lundy in June 1880 to find John Curry and Ioe Baker "in shirt sleeves preparing the first number of their paper (the Homer Mining Index) to be issued the following Saturday." Both Baker and Curry were formerly with the Bodie Standard. Later, Curry would begin the Bodie Evening Miner in partnership with a former circus clown.

If one stands near the cabins at Mono Pass today and looks southeast just upslope, a tunnel opening can be seen with a large pile of tailings in front. This was formerly the Enchantment, renamed the Picton and finally sold as the Bulwark. It was here that Cameron, Curry and later owners sweated, picked, shoveled, blasted, heaved rock, and moved timbers.

JB next peeled off the bark inside the rectangle and carefully sliced out the wood below. Again, he cut around the rectangle, incising one more ring.

1879 was a banner year for Mono Pass mining. On June 26 *Charley Humphoys Orlando* Fuller and Stephen Crane staked



"JB may have been Jesse Bundy, John Bagby, John Berry, J Bohn or Jerome Bardanare (JB) LaBraque."

a claim called the Golden Crown. It was the first officially filed claim in Mono Pass. The next day Brady, Bohn and Geseke staked the Ella Bloss claim, the claim upon which the cabins were later built. Thousands of prospectors traveled by foot, mule and horse through Mono Pass eastward to the rapidly growing town of Bodie. A few prospectors stopped at the Pass and staked claims wherever there was room. Most of the locators barely scratched the ground, mainly wanting to make a claim, brag about its riches and sell it quickly. Just a handful of claims were worked for more than 8 years by men hired to do annual "assessment" work required in order for the owners to keep title to the claim. The Golden Crown, the Ella Bloss 1 and 2, the Bulwark and the Bunker Hill each eventually had shafts at least 50 feet in depth.

JB continued to carve and peel back the layers this tree had slowly laid on with ease in gentle years and with difficulty in years of dry, cold winds. He peeled away the years of wandering miners going through Mono Pass to the gold fields of eastern California—Aurora, Bodie, Mono Diggings, Mammoth, Benton. Ten more layers were cut away, ten years farther back into history.

1869 was the year a young adventurer became eager to wander wild country. His elder friend, a weathered mountaineer and shepherd, advised him to explore Bloody Canyon. "I have never seen it myself," he warned, "for I never was so unfortunate as to pass that way. But I have heard many a strange story about it, and I warrant you will at least find it wild enough." And with that the young John Muir "made haste to see it."

As he entered the Pass where he could finally see the "huge rocks...in all their wild, mysterious impressiveness," a group of "gray hairy beings came into sight." They lumbered toward Muir "with a kind of boneless, wallowing motion like bears." But these erect walking creatures

Lower Sardine Lake

were not bears-they were furwearing Mono Indians from the shores of Mono Lake, heading for Yosemite Valley along the millennia-old Mono Trail. This was Muir's first encounter with the Mono Indians and his reaction was one of disgust. They begged for whiskey and tobacco, and the "dirt on their faces was fairly stratified." Fortunately, Muir would later meet up with other Monos bearing a "good countenance," thus saving him from considering this first group of Monos the standard.

Near one of the Pass's ponds Muir bedded down for the night and experienced the incredible stillness of a windless evening in Mono Pass. Then, as now, a moonlit evening can have an eerie effect in this high place. The wind picked up after sunset and blasted through the canyon, calming awhile only to roar again with a fury. "The night was full of strange sounds, and I gladly welcomed the morning," Muir wrote.

Again JB trimmed out the

wood inside the deepening rectangle. He put more weight into the knife and cut through 9 rings to the ring of 1860.

1860 was a notable year for Bloody Canyon, for it was the year when one of its lakes acquired a name through a bizarre accident.

Several men with a string of mules laden with goods came out of Tuolumne County bent on making their fortune in the silver strikes around Aurora. While attempting a shortcut across the Sierra, they became lost in the deep chasm of the Grand Canyon of the Tuolumne River. In that abyss they lost several mules to the steep slopes and the springtime river before they were found and lead out by Judge Michael M Magee, Justice of the Peace in Big Oak Flat, and Captain Allen S Crocker of Crocker's Station.

Magee, an experienced wanderer of this country, lead the prospectors on to the summit of Mono Pass where he left them to find their way down Bloody Canyon. As they descended the trail through the canyon, one mule laden with barrels of whiskey lost its footing and crashed downslope, dragging with him another mule carrying a case of sardine cans. Both mules and their precious cargo disappeared into the depths of the lake described in the Homer Mining Index of January 5, 1884 as "round as a dollar." The lake was most likely the one known today as Lower Sardine Lake, which is surrounded by precipitous cliffs. It is likely that in the lake's deep waters, sardine

cans and whiskey bottles still lie scattered among the skeletons of two mules. JB continued to lazily carve away at his deepening frame, cut-

ting through one more ring. 1959. October has always been a tricky month for travel in the Sierra. In a sudden October snowstorm that swept in from

the west, one man died and another, several miles away, just barely escaped death's icy fingers. WS Body, the namesake of the ghost town of Bodie, California, and ES Taylor were turning to their mining claim roughly 30 miles northeast of Mono Pass when the storm struck. Body weakened and could go no further. Taylor survived and found his partner's remains the next spring.

JB's knife slowly peeled away more layers. He drew the knife through the four lines in the frame. Three years were sliced.

1856. Michael M Magee traveled through Mono Pass with the exploring/prospecting expedition of John Watts. Few Europeans had passed before, and there were no cabins, no mines, no sheep or cattle. But Magee was no stranger to the Sierra. He had traveled across it farther north in 1848 with 33 other adventurers in Colonel Fremont's fourth expedition to California. Also in the Watts expedition was LA Brown, a civil engineer and surveyor who, in 1860, worked with Joshua Clayton in surveying and mapping out the town of Aurora. Watts traveled west through Mono Pass to the Great Valley beyond and later headed back east through Walker Pass.

JB added the finishing touches to his frame, then smoothed the interior of his primitive palette. He carefully drew the knife around forming a J, then a B – the



two letters representing a name at least two people would ponder for many days some 100 years later. He cut through 4 more rings.

1852. The first documented white man passed through this historic and mythic land. Lieutenant Tredwell Moore entered the area in pursuit of Chief Tenaya of the Yosemite Miwok in an attempt to capture the chief and "subdue" the local Indians. The chase took Moore through the Pass and into Mono Basin, A search north and south of the Pass did not reveal his prey, but an important discovery of gold-bearing ore was made. Upon Moore's return to Mariposa the ore samples were exhibited. Among the most interested miners were Dick and Leroy Vining who later prospected and settled Lee Vining Canvon.

Before Moore there may have been others, fur trappers perhaps, but no one knows for sure. But for years previous there were only The vista at Mono Pass, and, below, the Mono Pass cabins.

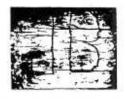
the Mono, the Paiute and the Miwok making the trip over Mono Pass.

JB's breath has long been still. He cannot tell us what he thought that day at Mono Pass when he rested beneath this tree. The log with JB's initials has lain beneath the snows of over 100 winters now. During that time the miners' numbers dwindled until the last working miner at Mono Pass gave up in the late 1890s. Sheepherders continued illegally entering the Park's meadows into the early 1900s. Now it is park visitors who travel through Mono Pass, each year in greater numbers. Despite a ban on woodburning above 9,600 feet, wood is still chopped and fires still burn at 10,600 foot Mono Pass. The miners' aged wood is slowly disappearing. Someday, JB's log may be consumed in the flames of

someone's evening fire.

Other evidence of the miners' work is also vanishing. In another 100 years, the Bulwark, Bunker Hill and other mines on the slopes will be filled in and the tailings covered by rockslides. On the flats below, geological change is much slower and the mine scars will remain for many human generations.

The Mono Pass cabins stand empty. They continue to disintegrate with the weight of each winter's snow, the force of the wind, the heat of the sun, and the wear of tourist curiosity. Their dark windows stare out to the northwest into the summer sunset. As the sun's last rays escape over the horizon's edge the cabins are illuminated in the brilliant glow. The mountain behind turns red as the cabins turn hues of brown and gold—the colors of treasures, adventures and JB's dreams



Susan Guhm is an Association member from Fresno who is an avid Yosemite lover and visitor. For the past six years, she and her husband have spent their summer vacation exploring the mountains between Tioga Hill and Parker Pass.

CHRISTMAS



A Yosemite 1989 Calendar Garden Press, the Yosemite calendar has become a favorite of YA members. 1989's version is the best yet. With 14 full color photographs in a 10° x 13° format (10° x 26° opened) and interesting Yosemite vignettes for each month. A gift that will be remembered year round. #4181. \$8.95.

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BB National Parks Videos by Reader's Digest. Both entertaining and informative, this set of three videos treats a trio of our most spectacular parks — Yosemite, Yellowstone and Grand Canyon. Thrill to breathtaking scenery as you enjoy a personal tour of each of these natural wonders. The videos feature original music scores and excellent narration recorded in stereo. #4595 (VHS), \$69.95. #4596 (VHS/PAL). \$69.95.

BB

CC Yosemite Note Cards. Some black and white note cards was just published by the Yosemite Association and showcases the photography of William Alsup. Printed on heavy paper stock and varnished, the cards capture the grand architecture of Yosemite with a new perspective. Boxed with eight white envelopes. #1460, \$6,75.

YOSEMITE

DD Notemite National Park – Stone by Pat O'Hara and David Robertson. Exquisitely designed, this is perhaps the finest color pictorial book about Yosemite. More than just a "coffee table" book, it features an intelligent, wellwritten text which complements the large format color photographs by O'Hara. Sure to please any Yosemite lover. #19725 (paper). \$19.95. #19730 (cloth). \$30.00.

1989 CALENDAR

EE Banling for the National Parks Written by a former Director of the National Park Service, this book recounts Hartzog's experiences over nearly a decade in Washington working to protect and expand the park system. A fascinating look at the "inside" with tales of infighting, compromise, and the politics of power. A meaningful contribution to the literature of the national parks. Moyer Bell Limited, 1988. #6010 (cloth), \$19.95.

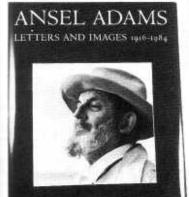


FF California: Magnificent Wilderness by Clifton Carr. Here is a visual celebration of the exhilaration of California's far-reaching landscapes. This brilliant portfolio of ninety-two full color images pays tribute to the bold diversity and remarkable beauty of the Golden State. Carr, a premier landscape photographer, has captured the essence of wilderness and the natural environment. Westcliffe Publishers, 1986. #6622 (paper). \$12.95. #6623 (cloth) \$25.00.



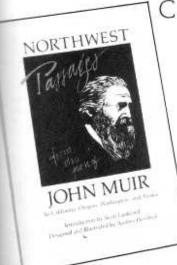
YOSEMITE ASSOCIATION, FALL 1988

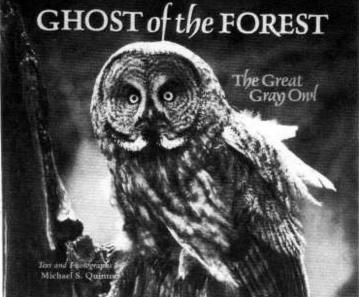
Ansel Adams - Letters and Almages 1916–1984, edited by Mary Alinder and Andrea Stillman. This is the long-awaited companion to Ansel Adam's bestselling autobiography. Handsomely produced, it combines the highlights of a lifetime of letter writing with his distinctive photographs. Wherever he went, Adams carried a portable typewriter, and during his life he wrote thousands of letters and postcards to family, friends, fellow photographers, environmentalists and politicians. From these pages emerges a rich vision of the celebrated photographer's passion and love for life. #5570 (cloth). \$50.00,



B Ansel Adams Christmas Cards. Send your holiday wishes on tasteful cards by Ansel Adams. Eight striking black and white images are boxed in each Christmas assortment. The inscription inside each card reads "Season's Greetings"; includes envelopes. #50110, \$8.50.

Northwest Passages – From the Pen of John Muir designed and illustrated by Andrea Hendrick, John Muir is remembered as America's most eloquent naturalist and conservationist, From





his pen flowed poetic prose capturing the natural beauty of the west. Northwest Passages contains selections of Muir's most inspirational and perceptive insights, with original wood-cut style drawings by Andrea Hendrick. An attractive keepsake for lovers of John Muir. #14280 (cloth). \$10.95.

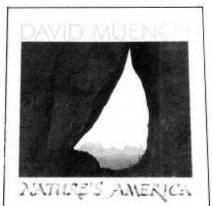
D Audubon Society's Master Guide to Binding Set, edited by John Farrand, Jr. This three volume set is a must for serious birders. These advanced field handbooks to the birds of North America were written by 61 experts who include their personal secrets for identifying particular species. Unlike most bird guides, this series is based on the new classification system developed by the American Ornithologists' Union. Hundreds of color photographs, paintings and maps. #5800 (laminated paper binding). \$44.85.

PAGE THIRTEEN

E Ghost of the Forest — The Great Gray Owl by Michael Quinton. For three nesting seasons, the author gained the trust of the great gray owls of the northwest Rockies and surrounding forests and farmlands. This is his story of his quest to capture the great gray owls on film. He has documented their lives like no one before him, and the result is a remarkable book. Beautiful color and black and white photographs of the elusive and mysterious bird. Northland Press, 1988. #10428 (paper) \$14.95.

F Nature's America by David Muench. This large format book of color photography is about one man's search for the essence of the American experience. Muench, America's master nature photographer, has put together his best work in one impressive volume which captures the magic of light and form. Included are 132 color photographs. Arpel Graphics, 1984. #14210 (cloth). \$29,95.

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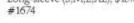






G Yosemite Association Cap. Complete your outdoor wardrobe with this trendy item from the Association collection! It's the perfect hat for a hot, sunny day in the great outdoors — mesh fabric to keep a cool head, a generous bill to shade your face, and adjustable strap in the back to insure a good fit for everyone. All of this plus the Yosemite Association patch to let everyone know what your favorite organization is! Brown with white accent. #1600, \$6.00. HYosemite Association Mug. This distinctive and functional white ceramic mug has our logo and name imprinted in brown. Holds eight ounces of your favorite beverage. #1625, \$5.00.

Ostrander Lake T-shirts. Become affiliated with an elite Yosemite ski club with one of our fashionable "Ostrander Lake Ski Club" t-shirts. Available in both longsleeve (light blue) and short-sleeve (white) models, the Ostrander shirts are heavyweight 100% cotton printed in four colors. Short-sleeve (S,M,L,XL), \$10.50. #1670 Long-sleeve (S,M,L,XL), \$15.00.





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K Pelican Pouch, Wildemess Beh Bag. The Pelican Pouch is not

only perfect for carrying field guides, but also offers instant access to all the small items that are usually buried in your packpocket camera, lenses, maps, or your favorite trail mix! The Pouch is designed with front snap fasteners on the straps. This allows comfortable positioning on your belt—even between belt loops; no need to take your belt off first. The material is high quality Cordura pack cloth with a waterproof coating on one side. Beige with the dark brown and white Yosemite Association patch, the Pelican Pouch measures 8×5×2½ inches. #1690, \$11.95

L Yosemite Association Decals and Patches. Our association logo, depicting Half Dome is offered to our members in these two useful forms. Help announce your affiliation with our organization to others by purchasing and using Yosemite Association patches and decals. Patch #1635, \$1.50; Decal #1636, \$1.00.

YOSEMITE ASSOCIATION, SUMMER 1988

J Yosemite Enamel Pin. Designed especially for the Association, our enamled metal pin is a work of art. Each of the 10 different glazes is hand placed and separately fired. The result, from William Spear Design, is an eyecatching and colorful piece. The metal enamel pins are relief engraved in a ½ × 2" size. #1695, \$11.95.



Mosemite Association T-Shirts. Comfortable, 100% cotton, light tan colored Hanes "Beefy-T" shirts are printed with the Association's Half Dome logo in brown.

Child sizes (short sleeve): small, #1650, medium #1651, and large #1652, \$7.05.

Adult sizes (short sleeve): small #1653, medium #1654, large #1655 and extra-large #1656, \$9.40; (long sleeve): small #1657, medium #1658, large #1659 and extra-large #1660, \$11.75.

Matterhorn Peak

communed from page 3

off my sneakers and poured out a couple of buckets of lava dust and said "Ah Japhy you taught me the final lesson of them all, you can't fall off a mountain." It may have been like that for Kerouac, but it wasn't like that for me. I had almost fallen, not off the mountain to be sure, but nevertheless down. I had not leaped but lead-footed it back. I could hardly talk much less shout.

How different was it really? Jack had learned the final lesson: the universe will sustain you without striving on your part; you need not be afraid. I didn't feel that I had learned anything so cosmic. But in my bag, by the fire, with friends, released from grasping by exhaustion, I was, for one of the few times in my goalreaching life, simply there. I slept eleven hours, without waking, without dreaming, without doing anything.

David Robertson, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Yosemite Association, is a professor of English at UC Davis. He is the author of several books including West of Eden which was published by YA. He also took the infrared photographs which illustrate his article.

New Members

We would like to welcome to the Yosemite Association the following fine persons who became members within the past three months. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Regular Members

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