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PHOTOGRAPHS FROM ON HIGH Arthur C. Pillsbury's Yosemite



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A JOURNAL FOR MEMBERS OF THE YOSEMITE ASSOCIATION

Summer 1996 Volume 58

Number 3

PHOTOGRAPHS FROM ON HIGH Arthur C. Pillsbury's Yosemite

Author's note: While working in Yosemite in the 1970s, I became interested in Yosemite history and the work of early photographer Arthur C. Pillsbury. Although he produced images prolifically, disastrous fires consumed his San Francisco studio in 1906, his Yosemite studio in 1927, and much of his work. However, many of his prints have survived in scattered public and private collections. In 1978, Virginia Best Adams alerted me to the largest collection of Pillsbury material. That collection had just been donated to Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. In my correspondence with photo archivists, it quickly became apparent that I would have to travel to Utah to look at the prints, negatives and papers. I eventually applied for a grant from the Yosemite Association to pay the travel costs from my home in Georgia to BYU. The resulting description of the collection and a complete listing of the Yosemite images it contains are now available in the Yosemite Research Library. I am indebted to the Yosemite Association for the grant. Most of the Pillsbury photographs that illustrate this article are from the BYU collection.

A timely thunderstorm cleared the air over Yosemite on June 25, 1922. On that day, Arthur C. Pillsbury was not in Yosemite Valley attending to business at his photography studio. Instead he was in Merced awaiting the arrival of pilot C. E. Pangborn who was flying in from San Francisco. The Merced Evening Sun reported that Pillsbury "is delighted with the prospect of getting won-

derful cloud effects" as a result of the storm. The pair too off from Merced at 8:30 a.m. on June 27 hoping to cap ture the beauty of Yosemite Valley for the first time or motion picture film. The biplane flew east over the golden foothills bound by air for the Yosemite Valley. The newspaper report continued; "The plane came in flyin very low over Nevada and Vernal Falls making a success."



all landing on Leidig Meadows. Unfortunately Pillsbury's can to make a set of moving pictures failed because of a roken oil line which completely covered the camera man and his equipment [with oil]. Thus his investment of 150, the cost of the flight, failed to pay dividends." All as not lost however; Pillsbury claimed a record time of seconds "from the top of Nevada Falls to Happy Isles kimming down the Merced Canyon just over the tree ps." Phil Gutleben, a resident of the Valley, witnessed beir arrival and concluded that "Pillsbury again had lived to his reputation as a Dare Devil."

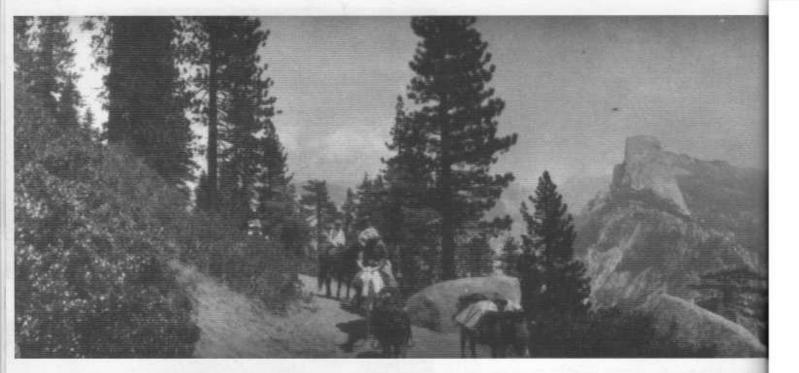
Arthur C. Pillsbury was perhaps an adventurer first, a motographer second, and a businessman last. In fact, his est trip to Yosemite was an adventure; he rode his bicyle from Palo Alto to Yosemite Valley in the summer of 195. During his career, Pillsbury photographed the 196. During his career, Pillsbury photographed the 196. Evaluation of 196. Pacific Coast and had several different studios; his 196. It was a procession from 1967-1927. He took over the Hallett-



Pillsbury at Glacier Point with Half Dome in background (Source: BYU)

Panoramic photo from front seat of airplane with Tenaya Lake in background (BYU)





Panoramic photo from the Pohono Trail (BYU)

Taylor "Studio of the Three Arrows" in the Old Village in 1907 and soon renamed it Pillsbury's Studio. In 1925, he was the first concessionaire to build in the New Village. His large, rustic studio on the site of the current Yosemite Valley Visitor Center included a 100-seat motion picture theater in addition to the sales area and dark room. His excitement and dreams for business in the New Village were short lived; a fire on November 3, 1927 consumed the theater as well as the work and storage rooms which contained more than two decades' accumulations of negatives and films. He made a sad final trip to the Valley to gather his belongings, sold what was left of his studio to the Yosemite Park & Curry Co., and left his beloved Yosemite never to return.

PILLSBURY'S EARLY CAREER

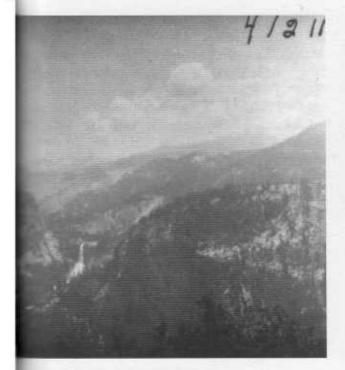
Pillsbury's photographic drive, ingenuity, and sense of adventure resulted in a body of work which sets him apart from his Yosemite contemporaries: George Fiske, D.J. Foley, and Julius Boysen. The competition tended to take and sell photographs of familiar Yosemite sights and scenes as well as the obligatory shots of visitors posing at various locales such as Mirror Lake, Pillsbury took and sold those same bread-and-butter images, but his photographic energy was not constrained by the walls of the Valley. In fact, those towering walls lured the adventurer to their heights from which he photographed the entire Yosemite region in an attempt to capture its wondrous beauty.

Pillsbury's aerial images of Yosemite were not his first experiences in taking pictures from high places. In 1898, and again in 1899, he traveled from his Palo Alto home to Alaska and the Yukon to photograph the excitement of the Klondike Gold Rush. The young photographer hamany adventures during his two summer seasons Alaska. Pillsbury recalled in an unpublished manuscrip now at UC Berkeley that at Chilkoot Pass near Skagway.

In fact, his first trip to Yosemite was an adventure; he rode his bicycle from Palo Alto to Yosemite Valley in the summer of 1895.

wanted to get some pictures from the air looking down of those tiny figures of men struggling over the pass." The was an aerial tram to get supplies over the pass. Pillsbu got a permit from the tram owners and "was the fifth at last passenger to ride over the aireal [sic] tram from Dy to the Summit of the Chilkoot." It must have been a hear stopping ride over the tree tops in a box which Pillsbu described as "just big enough to hold two sacks of grain He later recalled that "the line of men toiling up over the snow clad summit with heavy packs looked like ants from y swaying perch." Safely back on the ground, returned to Skagway, and eventually California.

Pillsbury's mechanical genius and creativity were challenged by flight. Upon his return to California, he experimented with a camera mounted on a kite. When the failed, he bought a 25-foot diameter gas balloon which christened "The Fairy." Taking photographs from the balloon was successful but accompanied by misadventure such as the time he was photographing above the September of the property o





An early photo jaunt to the summit of Half Dome (BYU)

helplessly across the Bay, finally landing in mud flats near Newark.

Pillsbury was fortunate and excited to watch the first ublic air show in California. It was 1910. A crowd of 0,000 Californians packed the grandstands at Dominguez Field near Los Angeles to marvel at the flying machines. The unconventional photographer did not mend simply to watch from the grandstands or photograph the airplanes from the infield. No, Pillsbury atched "from a seat on a few sandbags in the basket of the balloon" tethered at a height of three hundred feet. Ilsbury described the historic event in an article he stote and illustrated for the March 1910 issue of Sunset.

HE PHOTOGRAPHER AS AERONAUT

dvancements in aviation brought increased opportunity or adventure to Pillsbury. Two months before the first simplane landed in Yosemite Valley on May 27, 1919, arthur Pillsbury was imagining the view of Yosemite from the sky. He wrote NPS Director Stephen Mather roposing a flight into Yosemite. Mather replied: "I have ours of March 14 [1919] and note the suggestion for a possible flight into the Valley this summer with Lieut. Don Tresidder as pilot and yourself as cameraman. I hink your suggestion is a very good one, and if anyone is poing to make the flight, I think you are entitled to have the first call." Mather, always eager to publicize the sational parks, hoped they "could make something of an event of it."

Unfortunately, A.C. Pillsbury was not on one of the lirst airplane flights into Yosemite Valley. As noted at the beginning of this article, his 1922 flight failed its photographic mission due to leaking oil. However, Pillsbury was intrepid and did not give up easily in any of his photographic efforts. He eventually photographed Yosemite Valley and the surrounding area from an airplane. The airplane flight over Yosemite is documented with motion pictures, as well as still pictures, taken by the photographer sitting in the front seat of the airplane. The Pillsbury Collection at BYU contains some motion picture film from this trip as well as numerous still photographs taken from the airplane.

Pillsbury obviously loved the view down into Yosemite Valley. In May 1926, he reported to Superintendent W. B. Lewis: "In planning my next year's work, I wish to get an entirely new set of Yosemite scenic views especially emphasizing the views from all points on both rims looking down into the Valley."

THE VIEW FROM GLACIER POINT

Judging by the number of photographs taken of and from Glacier Point, Pillsbury was especially fond of that location. He was never satisfied with his pictures, and was always taking new ones throughout all the seasons. For example, in both 1914 and 1915, Pillsbury made winter trips to Glacier Point and Sentinel Dome. The Mariposa Gazette reported "Mr. Pillsbury . . . performed an unusual feat by ascending to the summit of Sentinel Dome 6200 feet above the floor of the valley with deep snow everywhere to contend with. Over ten hours were occupied in making the trip up." Pillsbury later reported to park officials that they "found the snow very deep at Glacier Point, could walk up on the roof of the hotel. Am afraid you will find the trail below Union Point badly taken out. From Glacier [Point] to Nevada Falls it took 6 hours & we left a furrow three feet deep in the soft snow."



(BYU)

They fell about fifty feet on an 80 percent incline and landed on a small shelf of earth. Mr. Pillsbury sustained bruises on his head and face but was able to get back on the trail and continue to the village.

His trips to the higher locations were not without danger. Following his winter trip to Sentinel Dome, he again went to Glacier Point in May 1915. A mishap on the return trip to the Valley was reported by the Maripos Gazette: "A miraculous escape from serious injury was experienced by A.C. Pillsbury last Wednesday while coming from Glacier Point. At a part of the trail called the "Railroad," his horse took fright and backed off the grad with its rider. They fell about fifty feet on an 80 percentincline and landed on a small shelf of earth. Mr. Pillsbur sustained bruises on his head and face but was able to ge back on the trail and continue to the village. The anima was so badly injured that it was necessary to shoot him."

"When it is a question of originality and nerve, A.C. Pillsbury is just the man." So reported the *Maripos Gazette* when Pillsbury drove a Studebaker onto the Overhanging Rock at Glacier Point. This was to be higreatest publicity stunt. It was September 1916, and the new Glacier Point Hotel was under construction. Using men from the hotel construction crew, a ramp was builting.



Yosemite Falls from an early airplane flight. (BYU)

out to the Overhanging Rock. Pillsbury then drove the Studebaker out on the platform. Of course several dramatic photographs of the crew in and around the automobile were taken. The San Francisco Examiner ran a arge photo of the stunt with an article headed: "Risks if e on Rocky Ledge at Glacier Point." The San Francisco Ouronicle proclaimed: "Arthur Pillsbury Thrills Visitors in alley by Daring Act to Obtain Unique Photo." Pillsbury's in insurance company promptly canceled his policy!

While it may have been popular with visitors and the ablic, the stunt on the Overhanging Rock "very much sturbed Steven Mather resulting in a vigorous dressing own of the stuntster by the National Park Director," cording to Yosemite resident Phil Gutleben. Years later, perintendent W.B. Lewis politely reminded Pillsbury: You have a picture taken some years ago showing an atomobile on Overhanging Rock at Glacier Point. You recall that it brought up considerable objection from Mather. I notice that you have distributed that quite adely for sale. I think as a matter of policy it would be all to withdraw it from sale."

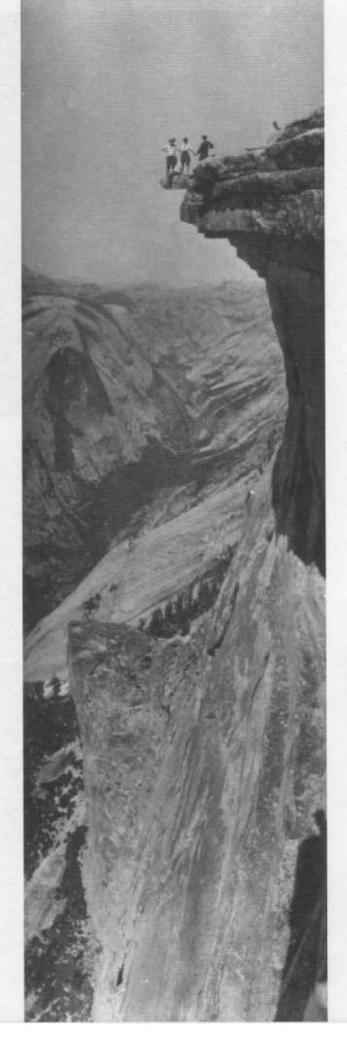
CLIMBING HALF DOME

erthur Pillsbury hauled his camera equipment to the mmit of Half Dome several times before the Sierra bi installed cables in 1919. In 1915, "A.C. Pillsbury ended an interesting group of climbers who made an cent of Half Dome. In the party of seventeen were six dies. A ladder of spikes was their means of accomplishing this dangerous and difficult feat. Mr. Pillsbury took otion pictures of the scene."

The 1915 Half Dome trip was apparently such fun and productive that Pillsbury returned the following year: New iron pegs, soldered with melted sulphur, have placed the old and a new half-inch Manila rope has een stretched from top to bottom. Headed by A. C. Ilsbury, a party of sixteen went to the summit of the ome after completing the safety measures." Pillsbury's phew Art, a frequent companion on such trips, recalled first time he ascended Half Dome: "Uncle had orgazed a hike to get pictures. We and the others went up and down hanging onto a ¼ inch rope. Uncle would be at the side taking his pictures. I would not have venered out where he did, but he was most sure footed, and new what he was doing."

HOTOGRAPHING THE HIGH SIERRA

he grand Sierra views repeatedly enticed Arthur allsbury to the rim of the Valley and into the high country. During these trips, a strong fascination and love for alldflowers developed. He grew to know them well, and bey, too, lured him to the high places of Yosemite. His me-lapse motion pictures of the flowers growing and dooming were a huge success everywhere they were



A Pillsbury stunt photo on the tip of Half Dome. (BYU)



Panoramic photo of a Sierra Club outing to the summit of Mt. Lyell, 1914. (BYU) shown. His nephew Art recalled: "There were rather frequent trips over the Pohono Trail, because different wild flowers were in bloom at different times of the year. Uncle's picture taking went on every summer, spring, and fall, always getting something new and different."

Arthur Pillsbury made numerous trips into the High

There were rather frequent trips over the Pohono Trail, because different wild flowers were in bloom at different times of the year. Uncle's picture taking went on every summer, spring, and fall, always getting something new and different.

Sierra. He accompanied several Sierra Club outings to document their adventures with both panoramic and motion cameras. In 1914 for example, he photographed the ascent of Mount Lyell by seventy-eight club members. A series of panoramic photographs of this trip is in the BYU collection. In July, he accompanied yet another group of adventurers down the Tuolumne Canyon to Waterwheel Falls.

His energy certainly seemed limitless. During the following summer of 1915, Pillsbury took a trip through the southern section of the national park and adjacent areas formerly included within the park boundaries. He later reported that "the scenery in this section as a whole is the finest I have seen in traveling over six hundred miles this summer, covering almost every trail in the Park."

Indeed, few photographers have photographer Yosemite as widely and profusely as Pillsbury. From Hetch Hetchy to Tioga Pass, from the summit of Mt. Lyc to the Mariposa Grove, Arthur Pillsbury hiked, rod horseback, drove automobiles, and flew in airplanes during all seasons of the year in his relentless search for ne scenes to capture on film.

Photographer Arthur C. Pillsbury left behind stories of many adventures, illustrated by his voluminous but scattered photographs. He also left one physical reminder of his presence. Next time you walk from the Yosemite Valle Visitor Center toward the Ansel Adams Gallery, notice the small rock to your left; chiseled in its surface is "Pillsbury Pictures, Inc. 1924." The rock, chiseled by the industrious Pillsbury himself, was the cornerstone for his new studie it is all that remains in the Valley of Pillsbury's coloratementy year association with Yosemite.

Steve Harrison is presently Museum Curator for the Cal Hatteras Group (Cape Hatteras National Seashore, Wrig Bros. National Memorial, Ft. Raleigh National Histor Site). He worked in Yosemite in the 1970s in a variety positions, including interpreter at the Pioneer Histo Center in Wawona. For this article, which appears with footnotes, he drew material from local newspapers, Pillsbu family letters, and unpublished manuscripts. (© Steven 1 Harrison, 1996)





reparations for the famous Studebaker on Overhanging Rock photo. (Author's collection)

PLUMMETING BIGHORN SHEEP POPULATIONS PROMPT CONCERN

Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep populations have been declining rapidly over the past few years. The Sierra Nevada Bighorn Sheep Foundation conducts an annual census of the five Sierra bighorn populations, and according to a 1995 report on the status of three of the five herds, their numbers are decreasing.

There are three subspecies of bighorn sheep in California: the California (Sierra Nevada) bighorn, the peninsular bighorn, and the Nelson (desert) bighorn. In 1995, the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) estimated their numbers at 350, 650, and 3,650 respectively. The California bighorn and peninsular bighorn are protected as threatened species, but the desert bighorn has been game for hunting since 1987.

Historically, the California bighorn ranged from Modoc County to the southern Sierra. They vanished with the influx of settlers into California in the late 1800s and the early part of this century. Domestic sheep grazing on the bighorn winter ranges in spring, summer, and fall diminished forage and affected the quantity and quality of food available. The domestic sheep introduced fatal diseases to the wild bighorn. Increased human presence also affected bighorn sheep by encroachment and overhunting.

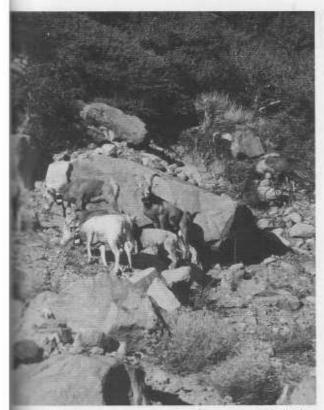
Bighorn sheep usually inhabit rocky, high-elevation terrain where they can find forage and avoid predators. They winter at lower elevations, usually below snowline. Bighorn sheep, being very social animals, learn from older ewes and rams the home ranges and migration corridors they tend to use their entire lives. They are no known to emigrate, even when unoccupied areas are accessible. For this reason, the DFG decided to expansion bighorn sheep distribution in the state by relocating som of the sheep.

In 1971, ten California bighorns from population in British Columbia were placed in an enclosure at Law Beds National Monument. They did well, and in 198 four of the bighorns were relocated to the Warne Mountains to establish a herd there. Ten more sheep were moved to the Warner Mountains from Mt. Baxter in the southern Sierra Nevada to supplement the herd with native sheep. That same year, the Lava Beds herd experienced a devastating die-off after contact with domestal sheep. The Warner Mountains herd met with the same fate in 1988.

The first relocation involving Sierra Nevada bighorn took place in 1979. Nine sheep from the Mt. Baxter her were moved to Wheeler Ridge in the John Muir Wilderness in the Inyo National Forest. The following year, to more sheep were moved from Mt. Baxter to wheele Ridge. Since then, ninety-one sheep have been moved re-establish herds in Wheeler Ridge, Lee Vining Canyo and Mt. Langley. Until recently, these herds appeared, for the most part, to be doing well and increasing.



Leslie C



Leslie Chow

But a 1995 census of the Wheeler Ridge, Lee Vining myon, and Mt. Baxter herds found all three populations imatically smaller that they had been two years before, he unusually severe and long winter of 1994–95 is artially responsible. On Wheeler Ridge researchers unted twenty sheep in January 1995, but by summer by five sheep were found. An avalanche killed twelve teep, a perennial problem for sheep in this steep area. The area only nine or ten in this herd.

In Lee Vining Canyon adjacent to Yosemite National brk, researchers saw no sheep on the lower elevation inter range. In summer, they found a total of thirty-bree sheep. This is a drastic difference from the seventy-bree sheep counted in 1993—a decline of 60 percent in two years. No carcasses were found to provide clues what happened, but because no sheep were seen in inter, questions of winter survivorship were raised. The beep seen in late spring were in poor physical condition. The decline of this herd is of special concern because it ad been considered a good potential source of sheep for ture reintroductions.

The Mt. Baxter population is actually two separate ends: one at Sand Mountain and one at Sawmill Canyon. Then the Sand Mountain herd was counted in winter, searchers spotted ten sheep. In the summer, they found the Based on evidence of flower consumption and other trage species utilization from this area, researchers estimated that the population has declined 40–50 percent er the past two years and 80 percent since the late

1970s. The Sawmill Canyon herd was not sighted in the winter; the summer count found nine sheep. This total of eighteen sheep for Mt. Baxter is a decline of over 80 percent. This herd totalled over 108 in 1978, before it was winnowed to establish the Wheeler Ridge and Lee Vining herds.

Although the winter of 1994–95 certainly contributed to the recent decline in bighorn populations, there are other problems as well: fragmentation of their ranges by roads and other developments, a lack of migration corridors, little to no emigration or genetic exchange between populations, and mountain lion predation.



Leslie Chow

In the future these populations need to be carefully monitored. John Wehausen and Karl Chang, authors of the Sierra Nevada Bighorn Sheep Foundation report on recent population changes recommend that the 1984 interagency recovery and conservation plan, which guides management decisions regarding the Sierra bighorn, be updated to address these problems.

Kathleen Brennan is an intern at the California Wilderness Coalition. The article is reprinted with permission from their newsletter, Wilderness Record.

ON THE TRAIL OF GOURMET DELIGHTS

ILO GASSOWAT



Fuel, I need some fuel. It was fourteen miles today, more than half of them uphill. My pack seems heavier with every step. Finally, we arrive at the campsite for the night. I change shoes, set up the tent, fluff the sleeping bag, filter water, and now it's time for fuel. I light the stove and put the water on to boil. Tonight's fuel is ramen and an energy bar. I munch on the bar as I watch the water boil with the noodles. When the noodles are done and my packet of spice has been added, I force myself to eat it all as I know I will need this fuel tomorrow.

As I finish up the last of the broth, a wonderful aroma hits me. The air is redolent with cinnamon, apples and fruits. I look at my neighbors for the night for the first time since arriving at camp. There is steam flowing out of a covered pot on their stove. There are smiles on all the faces around the pot. This isn't fair. They have walked as far with as much weight as I have, and they are smiling. They catch my glance and invite me to join them. It seems that they are about to share a backpacker's cobbler. As the cover is lifted, a fog of cooking fruit and cinnamon envelops us all. The pot is bubbling. There are apple cinnamon dumplings on top and abundant fruit in a bubbling sauce below. This is food, not fuel. I find out that it is light, delicious and easy to prepare. It is time for a change.

Ever had a similar experience? Backpacking food can be dull and monotonous or it can be diverse and flavorful. It takes only a little planning and packaging. Many store-bought items can be combined into light-weight, easy to prepare gourmet meals. Take the backpacker's cobbler mentioned above. It is very easy to prepare, and many times folks will offer to add something to the pot so that they can be invited to participate in the final product. And someone will always volunteer to clean up if they can lick the serving spoon and pot. At home prior to departure, prepare two self sealing bags with the following ingredients:

In camp, after dinner, while your stove is still going empty Bag #1 in a pot with enough water to generous? cover the fruit. Cover and bring to a boil, then turn to simmer if your stove allows. If not, add a little more water and continue to boil. Meanwhile add enough water to Ba #2 to make a dough. It is better to be too thick than to runny, as you can always add more water if needed. See the bag and mix the ingredients well. Continue smashin the bag to mix until the fruit in the pot is slightly tende Snip one corner of your bag and squeeze out the doug mixture onto the top of the bubbling fruit. Once the to of the fruit mixture is completely covered, put the lid bac on and simmer (or add more water if you're just boiling and cook for about 5 minutes until the dumplings at done. This simple cobbler is sure to gather the cam around your stove and bring you many compliments.

Simple pleasures are often not expensive. Here is good starter for breakfast, and it's light, tasty, and fair inexpensive. Either tortillas or bagels can be use. Tortillas are great because they pack well on the bottor of your bear box, and they are easy to heat on the lid your pot set. Spread warmed tortillas with cream chees and lay a slab of fruit leather over the cream cheese. Ro it up like a burrito and enjoy. Cream cheese packs well small resealable containers or in refillable tubes. Bage are fairly sturdy for the trail, and since they don't need be heated, they can be used like this throughout the day

A dehydrator can really add variety to your meals an help reduce both weight and cost. Marinara sauce can be dried to a leather consistency in a dehydrator. While you pasta is cooking in camp, add dried onions, pepper mushrooms, tomatoes, etc., to water to reconstitute them. Then when the pasta is nearly done, add in strips of dries auce. It will dissolve in the boiling water and return the consistency it had been before drying. Add a bit of fresh grated parmesan, and you will have a feast. It will be filling and flavorful.



BAG #

about 2 cups of dried fruit: apples, apricots, figs, strawberries, blackberries, pears, peaches, bananas, etc. 2 tablespoons of brown sugar ¼ teaspoon of cinnamon a note to add enough water to cover fruit BAG #2

2 cups Krusteaz Apple Cinnamon Pancake Mix a note to add enough water to form a dough (about 1½ cups) There are a great many "cup of soups" available these days. Simply empty the whole container in a resealable ag, with instructions of how much water to add. This was packing space and the amount of trash you have to tack out. Most of these are fine as they are, but some varties can be enhanced by adding ingredients to increase amount of protein. Jerky cut up into small pieces will often and add flavor to any of these soups. It will never tender, but it is a bit easier to eat when heated with hot later for ten minutes. Also, some food stores, and especially Asian markets, have dried shrimp that can add a we taste and give them entree status.

Lunch should always be something which can be hared with others. This will add variety to your lunch and theirs. Most waxed cheeses keep well in a pack as does ring cheese. Hard sausages, turkey sticks, salami also old well on the trail, but some are rather high in sodium.

Lagels and tortillas make great breads for the trail.

Lackers are also great. Pack an empty Pringles box with und crackers, and they won't get crushed in the pack.

Learn cheese and peanut butter are always good additions to a lunch. Unroll a fruit roll-up and spread with the sam cheese or peanut butter, reroll and enjoy a jelly roll mack, high in protein.

Okay, one more dessert. At home in a heavy duty sealable bag, put a package of chocolate pudding mix with the appropriate amount of powdered milk to equal required amount of milk. Include a note of how much sater to add. In another bag, place a handful of Oreo okies. No need to crush them as that will happen in the sack. Finally, if you choose, bring along a small bottle of seme de menthe or Kahlua, about ¼ cup at most. In mp, prior to dinner, line everyone's cups with crushed

Oreos, saving a little to garnish the tops. Add the appro-



Ilo Gassoway

priate amount of water to the bag of pudding mix, the liqueur (if desired) and reseal. Shake and mix the bag,until all ingredients are well mixed. To speed up the setting process, place the bag in a pot of ice cold stream

water. After about 20 minutes, pour or squeeze the pudding mixture over the cookie crumbs and garnish with another sprinkle of crumbs. This is another recipe that will get you invited on many backpacking trips.

Tasting your creations prior to backpacking is a key to successful food on the trail. At the end of a long day on the trail, you deserve a dinner that's more than just fuel. Out in the wilderness if your meal isn't pleasant, you are really out of luck. So once a week before the trip, try out new possibilities. See how long it really takes to prepare a dish and how it tastes. This is especially true with the prepackaged, freeze-dried foods. There are some that I really enjoy, and others I wouldn't eat even in an emergency. If you are going backpacking with a group of people, share the expense and make testing meals part of your planning process.

As a true adventurer, it is my belief that every trip deserves an exceptional repast to complement it. Whether it be tagging polar bears, hot air ballooning, night scuba diving, watching a sunrise on Denali, or hiking the Sierra Crest, the food should match the experience!

Ilo Gassoway has hiked much of the western

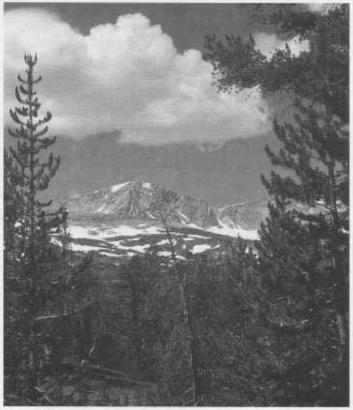
United States, as well as Alaska and Hawaii. As a resort catering and conference manager for the past sixteen years, he has experience with many delicious recipes and unique menus. He will teach a YA seminar by the same

name, "On the Trail of Gourmet Delights," August 15–18 in Tuolumne Meadows.

A WRONG TURN IN TUOLUMNE

For a dozen years I have spent a few days each summer in a tent cabin at Tuolumne Meadows Lodge taking photographic day hikes on a series of trails to the backcountry. One of my favorite hikes is on the Mono Pass Trail which begins on the Tioga Pass highway, traverses Parker Pass Meadow, and ends (for me) at the edge of the Sierra Nevada overlooking Mono Lake and the surrounding high desert country. The outing takes me about seven hours for the round trip, with the lunchtime spent at the overlook — a spectacular view restaurant.

On one of my last excursions on this trail, my easy day hike took an unexpected turn, and the whole tenor of my day changed in a flash. On the return trip back down the Mono Pass Trail, I crossed the Dana Fork of the Tuolumne River (using a single log bridge) about one mile from the trailhead. Although I had hiked this trail before, I mistakenly chose to follow a false trail beyond the river. I continued for about 10–15 minutes before sensing all was not well. Slowly it dawned on me that the trail was not as defined as it should be and, in fact, was narrowing into nothingness.

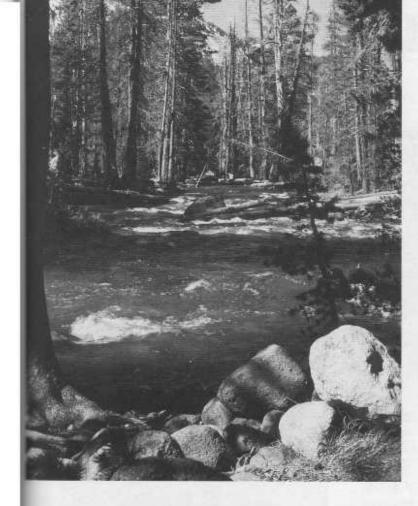


Kuna Crest

I later realized that I should have simply turned around and reversed my route, but I believed that I could find the trail without "wasting time" by going back. decided that the real trail must be off somewhere to meleft, so I veered off in that direction. Now I was travelling cross-country, crashing through the undergrowth to make my own trail. When I stopped to look for familia landmarks, I was pleased to see a moving object up the slope ahead of me and immediately decided it was the head of a bicyclist on Tioga Road. A check with my binoculars revealed the object to be the head of a deer walking through the underbrush. I also remembered that the highway is bordered by trees, so a bicyclist could not be seen from a distance, especially looking uphill.

At this point a touch of panic set in, and a strange feel ing ran down my spine. I now reasoned that the trail mus be off to my right. After checking with the map I carried the logic of my decision seemed correct. I thought Mt Dana was where it should be, and I took off cross-coun try again. But I soon knew that I was still lost, and m mind began to imagine all sorts of grim scenarios and frightening consequences. I felt increasingly anxious. Un to this point I had felt sure that this was a minor diversion, and I had no doubt that the trail would reappear momentarily. Now the doubts were large and getting larger. In my twenty years of hiking mountains in the west, I had certainly "misplaced" trails for a few minutes Yet I was confident that I could never get lost-I was too intelligent for that to happen! I was wearing shorts and polo shirt. I had my camera equipment and film, a light jacket, food, matches, a small first aid kit and a space blanket in my pack. But at an altitude of 9500 feet and the nighttime temperature dropping into the 30s, the senousness of my situation began to weigh very heavily or my emotions.

Again my last decision had not produced the trail, as I stopped to determine the next plan of action. I decide to test the old Boy Scout theory that if you are lost in the woods, find a creek or river and follow it downstream until you come to human occupation. Although I had no been a Boy Scout in my youth, this theory sounded wis enough to test. Since the Dana Fork of the Tuolumn River flowed right past my tent cabin, I knew that finding that river was the solution to my situation. Because could identify Mt. Dana, I hoped I knew in which directions.





Left: The Tuolumne River viewed from the steps of the tent cabin. Above: Mono Pass Trail.

on the river lay (with the aid of a map) so I took off in that direction. This time my decision was correct.

Upon finding the river I began to follow it downtream, a journey made very difficult by the abundance
growth along its banks and by dead limbs left by high
uters. At one point I stepped on a good-sized dead
anch which broke in two. I fell, cutting a long gash in
two leg on the splintered log. I was not aware of pain, but
be bleeding was serious enough to warrant attention.
The the first aid kit I carry in my pack, I cleaned the
ound and applied a bandage. Then I continued my anxty-driven saga downstream. At one point I spotted an
bandoned log cabin across the river. Although the roof
as missing, I reasoned that it would provide at least
inimal protection against the wind and cold if nightme should overtake me,

For what seemed like ages, I continued my stumbling ask along the riverbank. Suddenly I came upon the log-rossing of the river at exactly the point at which I had riginally become lost. The Boy Scouts were right! While ting on a rock taking a much-valued rest and cleaning my gashed leg, two female hikers came across the log. They saw my condition and asked if I was O.K. I replied that I was "...feeling great," so they smiled and disap-

peared down the trail in the correct direction. And at last, I was feeling great. I looked at my watch. I had been lost for about an hour. But that was the measurement in real time — it had been an eternity in emotional time.

After a number of minutes spent enjoying the quiet beauty of the mountains (when only moments earlier they had been a fearful threat), I regained my strength. I headed down the trail to my car and returned to the tent cabin along the same river I had eagerly followed to safety. That night at the Lodge dining room, I happily treated myself to a steak dinner with wine. Later, I sat on the steps of my tent cabin watching the river and listening to the night sounds of the high country. When I retired for the night, I could hear the river rushing over boulders outside my doorstep. As I replayed the day's events in the VCR of my mind, I was grateful that the terror and excitement melted away into the dreamy warmth of sleep.

Rex Butler, a retired college administrator, lives in the Bay Area. An enthusiatic photographer by avocation, his high country images illustrate this article and appear elsewhere in this journal

A CEREMONIAL HEADBAND RETURNS HOME

In May the Yosemite Museum received a significant donation: a ceremonial headband and pair of hairpins that were once the property of Chris "Chief Lemee" Brown (c. 1900–1956). Brown, pictured in the large photo mural in the Museum lobby, was a Miwok resident of Yosemite who, from the 1920s until shortly before his death, performed dances for park visitors behind the Yosemite Museum. The donation was made by Mr. Gene Quintana, a collector of American Indian art and long-time friend of the Yosemite Museum.

Miwok ceremonial regalia is very rare. It was never made in great quantities, and it was often destroyed upon the death of the owner. Also, as most regalia was made of feathers, over the long term it was often damaged or destroyed by insects. The Yosemite Museum has the largest collection of Miwok ceremonial regalia in existence; the addition of the headband and accompanying hairpins increases the research value of the museum's collection.

The museum staff has located historic photographs showing Chief Lemee wearing the hairpins and the head-band in the 1930s (see inset), in addition to photographs of Lemee's nephew, Jackie Oliver, wearing the headband during the same time period. These photographs help to document the items and place them precisely in Yosemite Valley.

The headband and hairpins are consistent with other regalia made by Lemee, who was a prolific craftsman. The headband is made of stripped tail and wing feathers from the common flicker (Colaptus cafer). These orange quills were sewn together to form an elongated mat. Since the center tail feathers of the common flicker show a distinctive quill coloration, it is possible to count the feather quills in the headband and determine that at least twenty birds were required for the band's manufacture. The band also includes a few feather quills from other birds, apparently a jay (Cyanocitta stelleri or Aphelocoma coerulescens) and some domestic fowl. It is ornamented with abalone (Haliotis rufscens) shell pendants, as well as glass beads (probably produced in Italy between 1918 and 1930).

The flicker band represents not only a tangible link with Chief Lemee, but also invites an opportunity to learn how headbands made by Lemee differ from those made by Miwok dancers before him. It will also inspire and instruct dancers and craftspeople today who wish to replicate such items for use in contemporary ceremonies. Through study of the band, insight can be gained into historic hunting and use of local birds by the indigenous



Miwok residents of Yosemite. The ongoing use of marin resources (abalone), which were acquired by the Miwo in trade, is also documented. Shell ornaments have bee found in archeological deposits in the Yosemite area the may be several thousand years old. Glass trade bead manufactured in Europe and used by the Miwok since the beginning of the 19th century, are also evident on the band, showing their continuing importance.

The Yosemite Museum collection continues to grolargely through the generosity of donors such as M Quintana. With careful study, ethnographic materials ca provide us with insight not only to Native American his tory and culture, but also to the changing dynamics an relationships between human beings and animals in th Yosemite region.

CELEBRATE FALL BY TAKING A SEMINAR

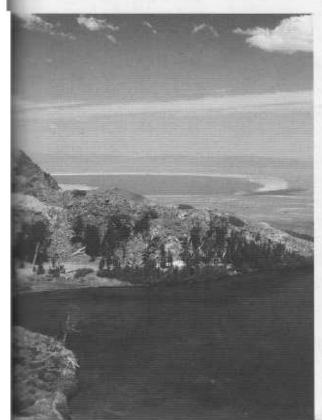
all starts in August and September th a gradual change in color along Merced River in Yosemite Valley, pically, warm days and cool nights evail, making fall one of the most casant times of the year to visit both Valley and the High Country.

Some of the seminars that might terest you are Fall Botany In semite Valley taught by Dr. Glenn ator. The fruits of summer are still ident at this time of year in the tries, pods and samaras. Then as ants prepare for winter, they start eir dormancy by sending food to the roots. All of this makes for good tanizing! The dates of this fascinate class are October 25–27.

Two photo workshops are planned

capture the fall color. The Autumn Light Photo Workshop, signed for beginner to intermediate photographers, will be ght by Dave Wyman on October 4–6 in Yosemite Valley. Sign early for this popular seminar for photography students. The of Autumn in Yosemite Valley, November 2–3, is geared for remediate to advanced students, and is taught by two well-ablished photographers who also love to teach—Annette taro-Walklet and Keith Walklet.

Kristina Rylands, poet-naturalist, teaches Landscape and anguage: A Poetry Workshop on October 11–13 in Yosemite





trath Bren

Valley. This course is planned for both budding poets and those who are already published. Short day hikes and precise writing lessons will be interspersed throughout these three days in Yosemite Valley.

HIKERS—Celebrate fall with The Wawona Women's Fall Backpack, September 6–9. Two delightful leaders are in charge of this group, Lisa Strong-Aufhauser and Annette Bottaro-Walklet, and they have planned a great outdoor trip for intermediate-level backpackers. Another great trip is planned for October 4–6, the Ostrander Fall Intermediate Backpack. Mike Ross is a long-time YA trip leader who will help you explore the exquisite Ostrander Lake area and enjoy beautiful gold and orange aspen groves along these trails.

Rooms have been reserved for participants of these courses at an extra charge, or you can camp for free both the night before and after the seminar, as well as during the class.

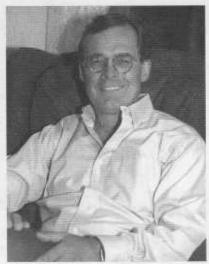
Call Penny or Lou in the seminar office for more information about these and other late summer and fall seminars at 209/379-2321. You can also e-mail us at YOSE_Yosemite_ Association@nps.gov. and we will give you a quick reply!

Members To Meet in Wawona

Charles Wilkinson from the University of Colorado Law School will be the featured speaker at the 21st Annual Members' Meeting to be held in Wawona on Saturday, September 7, 1996. Awarded the National Wildlife Federation's National Conservation Achievement Award in 1990, Wilkerson is ranked by the Denver Post with "Aldo Leopold and Wallace Stegner in the handful of writers who have usefully shaped the environmental/developmental dialogue on the Western future." One of his most recent works, The Eagle Bird: Mapping the New West, is a series of essays on both the history and the diminishing resources of the West. He is currently co-chair of the board of directors of The Center of the American West and serves on the Governing Council of the Wilderness Society and the board of directors of Northern Lights Institute.

Hank Johnston, well-known Yosemite author and historian, will also speak at the members' meeting. Johnston will share stories of local lore and be available to sign copies of his new book, *The* Yosemite Grant 1864-1906, A Pictorial History, published by YA.

The day's events will begin with a lunch at noon served on the lawn outside the Wawona Hotel. Members can check in for name tags and lunch tickets anytime after 9:30 a.m. The meeting itself will take place outside at the Pioneer History Center beginning at 2:00 p.m. Since seating for the meeting is on the ground, people should bring lawn chairs or blankets for comfort. After the meeting, refreshments will be served while members take part in a raffle and an auction of Yosemite memorabilia.



Charles Wilkinson

For people interested in spending the weekend in Wawona, details on room reservations at the Wawona Hotel were mailed to all members in July. There is always a greater demand for accommodations than there is space available, Other lodging is available in Wawona, the Valley, and outside the park. For people spending the weekend, there will be several naturalist walks on Saturday and Sunday.

If you have any questions about the meeting or the weekend, call Holly or Connie at the YA office (209/379-2646).

YA Volunteers Charm Visitors

"Hi! My name is Ethel Davis, and I'm Yosemite Association volunteer. We'n happy to have you as a visitor. I'd like tell you a little about what you are to see So begins another introduction of th Orientation Slide Show ("O-Show") the Visitor Center in Yosemite Valle Ethel and her husband Eston are just two f more than 35 YA volunteers workin in Yosemite this summer.

These dedicated members spend month or more working in the part They furnish their own food and living quarters (a tent or RV) for their month stay. YA and the National Park Service provide the work which includes operaing the "O-Show", answering visite inquiries at the Information/Membe ship Booth, staffing the Museum Galler and welcoming YA seminar participant Last year their enthusiastic work broug in over 500 new or renewing member ships, enabled over 67,000 visitors view the Gallery exhibit, and allowed over 33,000 visitors to experience the Orientation Slide Show.

Ethel and Eston are two key players this popular program. Longtime YA supporters and Life Members of the Association, their interest in volunteering began in 1986 when friends convince them to give it a try. They haven't misse a summer since. On May 10th of this yethe Davises even spent their sixtieth werding anniversary working in Yosem Valley. They celebrated the happy occasion with a special meal, "home-cooker

Association Dates

August 4–10, 1996: YA Member Work Trip, Tuolumne Meadows

August 25–31, 1996: YA Member Work Trip, Backcountry/Sunrise Lakes

September 7, 1996: 21st Annual Members' Meeting, Wawona September 22–28, 1996: YA Member Work Trip, Yosemite Valley*

October 6–12, 1996: YA Member Work Trip, Yosemite Valley*

March 22, 1997: YA Spring Forum, Yosemite Valley

* Space still available, call (209) 379-2646

209/379-2317

If you're planning a trip to Yosemite and have questions, give our phone line a call between the hours of 9:00 a.m. am 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. them by their fellow volunteers.

On their days off, this active couple ends time trekking to some of their porite areas of the park. Three years at the age of 83, they hiked up the tire Four Mile Trail. According to one, they had planned to walk partway to a place with a lovely view. Having the that goal they decided to conse all the way to the top, arriving at scier Point at 5:00 p.m. Since they had planned on hiking the entire trail, were unprepared to pay for a bust back down. But luck was with them, at they found a kind person who gave the money for the return trip.

addition to their other volunteer
this year, Ethel and Eston served as
psite coordinators for the month of
This turned out to be no small feat.
May 16, flooding in Yosemite Valley
to the emergency evacuation of all
pgrounds and the closure of the



in spite of rushing water that rose from ankle-deep to hip-deep in only 20 minutes. Undaunted, Eston was at the Park Service's Public Information Office the next day, offering to help where he could. Less than a week later a tree fell in the volunteers' campsite; luckily it caused no injuries or damage. May was indeed an unusual month. Fortunately, not every month is as hazardous as May.

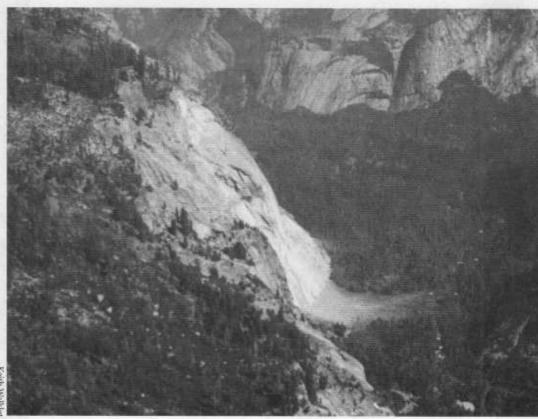
YA members who serve the Association and the park on a voluntary basis are a dedicated group of people. We are grateful to the Davises and to all our volunteers, past and present, for their personal contributions to the visits of millions of visitors each year. We hope to see Ethel and Eston and the rest of the crew back in Yosemite next summer and for many more summers to come.

k Slide Shakes Valley

p.m. on Wednesday, July 10, a masrock slide occurred in the Happy area of Yosemite Valley. As part of matural process of exfoliation, a 200 arch of granite (estimated to weigh sout 31,500 tons) fell from below hburn Point at the southeast edge of er point. The slab of granite plunged feet to pulverize on the Valley floor muting a blast of air which felled hunand of trees in the Happy Isles area and ered the surrounding terrain with of gray dust. One person was led by a falling tree and several others ere injured. The small snack stand at py Isles was destroyed by falling trees, al the Nature Center also sustained damage.

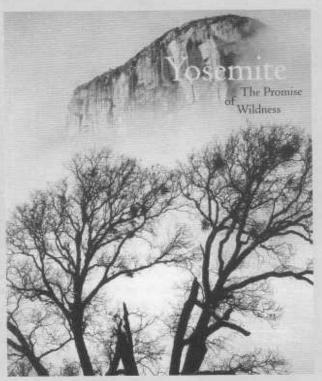
The Vernal-Nevada Falls (John Muir)

If has reopened to hikers and backckers, but the Happy Isles area will
main closed while the damage is
essed and priorities are set for clean up
d repair.



DENTEM UTCH

YOSEMITE CATALOG



02456 Yosemite - The Promise of Wildness

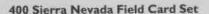
with photographs by William Neill and an essay by Tim Palme This is a paperback edition of the award-winning pictorial book that combines the breath-taking and inimitable image of William Neill with the insightful optimism of essayist Tin Palmer. The handsome volume was presented the National Service's highest honor, the "Director's Award" for interpret excellence, earlier this year. The selection of photographs (a of 70 in full color) includes a variety of striking images, from close-up renderings of details of natural objects to monume portraits of Yosemite's world-famous landmarks. The image faithfully reproduced on rich Japanese matte art paper, man them in very large format. To enhance the reader's apprecian of his work. Neill has contributed lengthy "Photographic Ne providing fascinating observations and technical data. Tim-Palmer visited the park during all seasons of the year to bet understand the many faces that Yosemite assumes. In two pa his essay comprises an appreciation of the park's uniquenes as well as a plea for the continued well-being of this amazin natural wonderland. The blending of Palmer's words with N photographs has resulted in a work that has strong impact that evokes a powerful personal response. 120 pages with 7 color photographs, Yosemite Association, 1996. Paper, \$19.5

04280 Colors of Twilight

by Stephen Lyman

This special print of Stephen Lyman's rendering of Mt. Clark is available only from the Yosemite Association. The artist, who was recently killed in a tragic park accident, donated the prints to Y.A. in 1986 in support of our efforts. Published by the Greenwich Workshop, the full-color work depicts Mt. Clark in colors of gold, blue, and pink, with an ascending full moon. The image is 6½° x 11 " printed on a 11 " x 16" sheet. A thin gray border surrounds the printed area, which is slightly debossed. Only 250 copies (approximately) of "Colors of Twilight" are available, and though not numbered, each has been signed in pencil by the artist. A remarkably beautiful and affordable piece, the print is the perfect way to remember Stephen Lyman while including his art in your collection.

Greenwich Workshop. 1986. \$19.95.

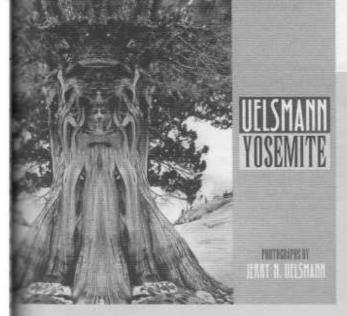


Illustrated by Elizabeth Morales

These handy field identification cards depict the most commonly seen birds, mammals, trees, and wildflowers from the Sierra Nevada region. Illustrated with color drawings and including information about the size, habitat, and other field marks of each, the cards are unbreakable, waterproof vinyl plastic and fit conveniently in one's daypack or glove compartment. Particularly helpful for newcomers to

the Sierra as regularly observed flora and fauna can be quickly identified. Four plastic cards printed on both sides, Yosemite Association, 1991 and 1995. \$11.00

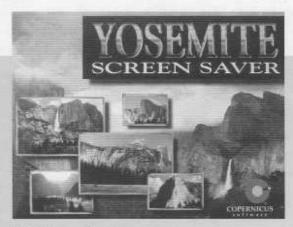




4040 Uelsmann/Yosemite —

tographs by Jerry N. Uelsmann is collection of "photomontages" is perplexing, morous, outrageous, startling, and intriguing. milizing Yosemite as his setting and theme, Uelsmann, mous for his ability to compose amazing images from miltiple negatives, challenges our traditional concepts the park landscape. Whether it's a covered motor out set down mysteriously in the woods, a waterfall morphing" into the roots of a tree, or an erratic boulequipped with a wooden door, the views are atypito say the least. Fellow photographers David bertson and Ted Orland have provided short essays introduce the collection, but they are more appreciaans than interpretations. How does one explain why mann has created what he has, or translate his mbols? That is best left to the viewer, 68 pages, inversity of Florida Press, 1996. Paper, \$24.95





13870 Yosemite Screen Saver

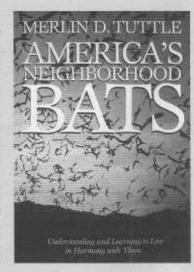
by Copernicus Software

If you would like to be reminded of Yosemite each time your computer is idle, the Yosemite Screen Saver is just the ticket. Twelve full-color images have been combined in this program that will help prevent screen burn-in and work burn-out! Reject those flying toasters, streaming computer logos, and starry skies; you can feast your eyes on Half Dome, El Capitan, the Royal Arches, Yosemite Falls, and Tunnel View, instead. For the PC-based screen saver to work properly your system must include Microsoft Windows 3.1 or greater, a 3.5 inch floppy drive, and a 256 color monitor. The program is Microsoft Windows 95 compatible. Copernicus Software, 1995, \$16,95

14365 America's Neighborhood Bats

by Merlin D. Tuttle

This introduction to bats is designed to help people understand and learn to live in harmony with them. Filled with plenty of color photographs, it provides a wealth of information about bat behavior and biology, identification keys, maps, and a glossary. The goal is to cultivate an appreciation of bats in all readers, and to dispel many of the fears and misconceptions about these winged mammals. Topics covered include echolocation and hunting, rabies, removing unwanted bats, and the value of bats in various ecosystems. There's even plans for making bat roosting boxes and shelters. This is an invaluable resource for bat lovers as well as for those who might be squeamish about these fascinating creatures. 96 pages, University of Texas Press, 1988. Paper, #9.95



14445 Ansel Adams - A Biography

by Mary Street Alinder

This new biography adds many of the personal and emotional details missing from Adams's autobiography. Alinder, who worked with Adams on his memoirs and was his assistant for many years, delves into the photographer's childhood, his relationship with Yosemite, and his connections with the many artists and photographers who passed in and out of his life. Because of her intimate knowledge of Adams's affairs, the author has included much information about what went on behind-the-scenes in the photographer's life, and chronicles several controversial episodes both before and following his death. From his stand on the Tioga Pass Road to the machinations of the Ansel Adams Publishing Rights Trust, it's all included. This is a compelling and enlightening biography, 489 pages, Henry Holt, 1996. Cloth, \$30.00

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07800 Yosemite Wilderness Pin.

Here's a beautiful enamel pin commemorating Yosemite's unparalleled wilderness. The latest in the series of pins for all of California's wilderness areas, it's circular in shape with a beautiful high country scene rendered in blues, grays, and greens. A real treasure for collectors.

Approximately 1 inch in diameter. \$4.00



07516 Yosemite Association Patch.

Our Association logo is embroidered on colorful, sturdy fabric for placement on daypacks, shirts, blue jeans, jackets, or wherever! The newly-designed patch is available in three attractive colors: dark blue, forest green, and maroon. \$3.00 (please specify color)

07510

Yosemite Association Mug.

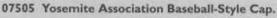
This distinctive and functional heavy ceramic mug feels good with your hand wrapped around it. Available in two colors (green and maroon), it's imprinted with our logo and name in black and white. Holds 12 ounces of your favorite beverage, \$6.50 (please specify color)



07720 Yosemite Bookstore Book Bag.

Here's YA's handy book bag made from durable 100% cotton fabric with a sturdy web handle. Cream-colored, it's imprinted in blue with the Yosemite Bookstore logo. Fine craftsmanship and generous oversized design make this a bag you'll want to take everywhere. Conserve resources with a reusable

book bag. Approximately 17 x 16 inches. \$8.95



Our YA caps are made of corduroy with an adjustable strap at the back so that one size fits all. The cap is adorned with a YA logo patch, and comes in dark blue, foest green and maroon colors. The cap is stylish and comfortable, and wearing it is a good way to demonstrate your support for Yosemite. \$9.95 (please specify color)

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In memory of Mary Jardine Granis: Eleanor Jardine

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In memory of Jon Kinney: Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Kinney

In memory of Stephen Lyman: Drummond Gallery, Sally Greene, Mr. & Mrs. Ron Nicklas, Mr. & Mrs. Donald Turnbaugh

In memory of Irma Manfredi: Billy & Shirley Martin

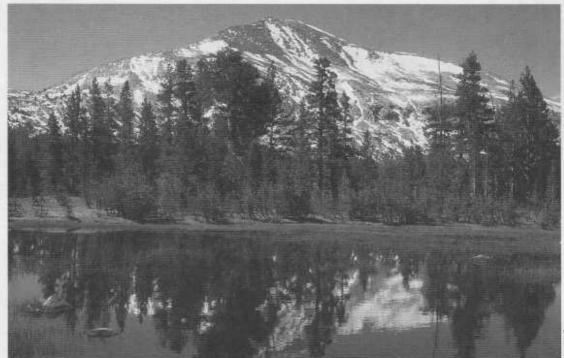
In memory of Connie Rogers: C. Scott & Lauriel Anderson, Ms. Nina Magilligan, Ruth Huckett McCotter, B. L. Swanson, Betty Strong

In memory of Stephen B. Ross: California Institute of Technology-Physics, Math & Astronomy Dept., John Clarke, Mark Ferrari, Daniel Ruderman

In memory of Vivian Shively: Jayne Bihr & family, Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Barber, Amy Campbell, Mr. & Mrs. Larry Hart & family, Dean Huster family, Mr. & Mrs. Harold Huster, Mike Huster & family, Gene, Bev & Julie Kai, Mr. & Mrs. Doug Kluesner, Mr. & Mrs. Billy Martin, Mr. & Mrs. Lee Raber, Mr. & Mrs. Marvin

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In memory of Dorr Yeager: Ruth



Mammoth Peak

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A critical element in the success of the Association is its membership. Individuals and families throughout the country have long supported the Yosemite Association through their personal commitments. Won't you join us in our efforts to make Yosemite an even better place?

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- A 10% discount on most of the field seminars conducted by the Association in Yosemite National Park;
- The opportunity to participate in members' meetings and volunteer activities held throughout the year;
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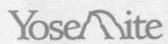
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