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# Contaminants May Play an Important Role in Yosemite Amphibian Declines

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## USGS RESEARCH SHOWS WIND MAY BLOW AGRICULTURAL CONTAMINANTS TO SIERRA

Scientists have confirmed that agricultural contaminants may be an important factor in amphibian declines in California, particularly at Yosemite National Park. According to an article recently accepted by the journal *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry*, a study by scientists of the U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Department of Agriculture indicates that organophosphorus pesticides from agricultural areas, which are transported to the Sierra Nevada on prevailing summer winds, may be affecting populations of amphibians that breed in mountain ponds and streams.

Dramatic population declines in red-legged frogs, foothills yellow-legged frogs, mountain yellow-legged frogs, and Yosemite toads have occurred in California over the last 10-15 years, but no single cause for these declines has been positively identified. Scientists and managers have been especially concerned because many of these declines occurred in some of the state's most seemingly pristine areas.

Declines have been particularly drastic in the Sierra Nevada, which lie east of the intensely agricultural San Joaquin Valley. The red-legged frog is listed as threatened under the U.S. Endangered Species Act, and the mountain yellow-legged frog and Yosemite toad have been proposed for listing.

"While crucial to the agriculture industry, pesticide by their very nature can result in serious harm to wildlin both by directly killing animals and through more subtle effects on reproduction, development, and behavior," san Dr. Donald Sparling, a research biologist and contamnants specialist at the USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Maryland, "Unfortunately, now there appear to be a close correlation between declining population of amphibians in the Sierra Nevada and exposure to agcultural pesticides."

The scientists found proof that pesticides are bein absorbed by frogs in both aquatic and terrestrial system and are suppressing an enzyme called cholinesterawhich is essential for the proper functioning of the nervous system. Modern-day pesticides function by bindin with this enzyme in animals and disrupting nervous stem activity, usually causing death by respiratory failur Decreased cholinesterase activity can indicate exposuto certain commonly used pesticides and can be harm to animals.

The scientists collected 170 tadpole and 117 ada

Researcher at a mountain lake in Sierra.



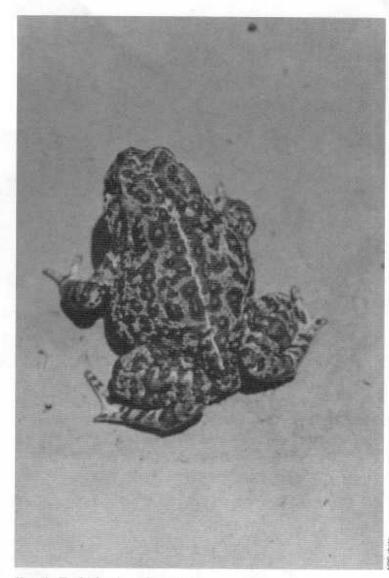
Scific treefrogs, a species that still is fairly abundant in
Sierra Nevada, from a total of twenty-three sites in six
Scations including coastal, foothill, Lake Tahoe Basin,
Semite and Sequoia national parks; adult frogs were
Collected from Lassen National Park.

They found that cholinesterase activity levels in tadtes were significantly lower in the mountains east of San Joaquin Valley compared with similar sites farnorth and east of the Sacramento Valley where agriural activity is less intense. Moreover, cholinesterase ity became decreasingly lower in tadpoles from both thern and southern sample sites as the sites moved in adient from the coast to the higher elevations. Thus, pole populations in the mountains had lower inesterase values than those along the coast. Similar less significant trends were seen in adult frogs.

The researchers also measured concentrations of parlar pesticides in the bodies of tadpoles and adults. The than 50 percent of the adult frogs and tadpoles at mite National Park had measurable levels of chlortifos or diazinon, compared to only 9 percent at the stal reference sites. Frogs at Yosemite National Park had a higher frequency of detection for chlorpyrifos those on the coast.

Both diazinon and chlorpyrifos degrade very rapidly ganisms, and the detection of either compound indirecent exposure to the chemicals. Of the pesticides ed in related lab studies, chlorpyrifos and diazinon, monly used organophosphates, suppressed nervous em activity and, along with endosulfan, a frequently d organochlorine pesticide, proved the most highly to frogs. Diazinon has recently been targeted for a e-year phaseout by the U.S. Environmental action Agency.

The presence of pesticides and the decrease in inesterase activity in Pacific treefrogs suggest that r species, which are more closely associated with r could be even more affected, said Dr. Gary Fellers, earch biologist and amphibian specialist at the USGS ern Ecological Research Center in California. Intain yellow-legged frogs, for example, spend two ree years as tadpoles before they metamorphose and spend considerable time in the water as adults. Ing of pesticide-contaminated snow could provide a e of toxic chemicals at a critical time in the life hisof these frogs."



Yosemite Toad (also pictured on cover).

## NON-NATIVE FISH MAY ALSO ENDANGER FROGS

Reacting to the dwindling population of yellowlegged frogs, the California Department of Fish and Game has decided to seriously curtail its trout stocking program in the Sierra Nevada. For decades, the agency has dumped thousands of fingerlings in high country lakes to provide sport fishing for recreationists.

Many scientists believe that, besides airborne pesticides from the Central Valley, the non-native brook, German brown, and rainbow trout contribute to the amphibian decline by eating the tadpoles that can take two to three years to mature into frogs.

The effect of this new policy will be closely monitored to determine if it has resulted in growth and a re-establishment of a healthy frog population.

## YOSEMITE'S FIRST ART EXHIBITION

Yosemite owes much of its fame as one of our nation's premier parks to the artists, authors, and early pioneers who made it known.

James Hutchings, Albert Bierstadt, Thomas Hill, William Moran, John Muir, Clarence King, and Ansel Adams represent only a handful of the many creative titans who used their talents to spread the gospel of Yosemite.

Yet these great talents can't match the artistic accomplishment of a little-known, adventurous, Englishwoman who came to California in the late 1870s, and, in the course of her stay, presented what most believe was the first art show in Yosemite.

Constance F. Gordon-Cumming reached Yosemite Valley in April, 1878, planning to spend just a few days. But after viewing the great natural wonder, she canceled her travel plans and remained in the Yosemite region for three months. During this period she wrote, sketched, and painted, roaming far and wide to know and capture the spirit of Yosemite.



The three examples of the work of Constance Gordon-Cumming shown here, are from the collection of the Yosemite Research Library.

Gordon-Cumming had arrived earlier at San Francisco by way of Tahiti. She found San Francisco vibrant and active, "but overrun by hoodlums and young ner'do-wells." After a brief stay she made the late spring five-day trip to Yosemite. It was a trip that touched her life. The jolting stage ride was seldom a pleasing experience; most people considered it something of a rite of pasage for those who wanted to view the heart of the Sierra

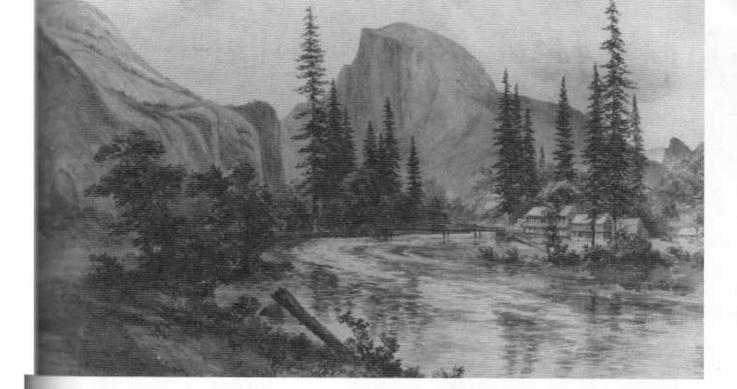
"I am bound to say, however, that this season has one terrible disadvantage in the clouds of dust. The wretches travelers arrive half suffocated, and looking over much as if they had walked out of flour-bags; but the flour finely sifted granite-dust, most cutting to the eyes. As the coach draws up, out rush the waiters and other attendants armed with feather brushes, which they apply vigorously to the heads of the new-comers and then help pull of their large dust-coats—most necessary garmen in this country."

She traveled extensively during her extended Yosema stay, venturing into the high country and down its Hetch Hetchy. In some ways, she found Yosemite out this world.

"And then the stillness of the great Sierras and the solemn gloom of the forest, canopied by the wondroug blue scarlet heavens, have an indescribable fascination which often tempts me to go and camp out myself. Be then comes the one grand argument which counterage all romance, and decides me in favor of this pleasant lime room upstairs; and the argument is summed up in on word—RATTLESNAKES."

She also met many of the movers and shakers of the early days. More important, she acquired an amazin-depth knowledge of the Sierra area, exploring malocations around Yosemite, making drawings and pair ings as she went. In her Yosemite travels, Gordo Cumming learned of current events and controversincluding the great debate raging between a young traherder by the name of John Muir and the highly esteen scientist Josiah Whitney over the creation of Yosem-Valley.

Not unexpectedly, Gordon-Cumming knew her omind. In her Sierra travels, she rode side-saddle—in proper English tradition—using a saddle that she just happened to bring along. She claimed that approach was much less tiring than rice "straddled-legs" or western style. However, her Yosen guides insisted that the western saddle would be m safer on mountain trails, as it ensures better balance



where they are right, but nevertheless, I have no intenon of taking their advice!" she wrote.

Cumming concluded her Yosemite visit by hanging ketches and paintings on the side of a valley building bably somewhere at Hutching's Hotel), and exhibither art. "I fastened each sketch with small pins, so that we randah became a famous picture-gallery."

was a fairly extensive display. Gordon-Cumming te: "I certainly have got through a good deal of work he last three months, having twenty-five finished ings, and as many more very carefully drawn and coloured. Most of these are large, for water-colour thes—about thirty by twenty inches—as I find it far troublesome to express such vast subjects on a ler scale."

"It was probably the first art exhibition in Yosemite "noted Maymie Kimes, a long-time Yosemite enver.

Her surviving sketches reflect a high degree of compeenter and discipline based on European tradition. A samof her work is held in both the Yosemite and Museums.

Gordon-Cumming's detailed letters home were pubend in 1886 as her memorable book, *Granite Crags of Communa*, the source of the quotes in this article.

be was a wonderful artist, an exceptional individual, ber book provides a glimpse of her many talents," times.

doubtedly, Gordon-Cumming was a woman before time, traveling around the world, often alone and ded, writing and sketching as she went. In her wake, she left an impressive written trail (including the books At Home in Fuji, Fire Fountain, A Lady's Cruise in a French Man-of-War, In the Hebrides, and Wandering in China) and a remarkable artistic legacy. And at the park, she will always be remembered for her original Yosemite art exhibition.

Gene Rose, a retired journalist, covered Yosemite for the Fresno Bee for many years. He is the author of several Sierra-related history books, and a regular contributor to this journal. He can be reached by email at: gorose@aol.com.



## BERTRAND RUSSELL VISITS YOSEMITE



Wherever the British philosopher, Bertrand Russell, lived, he preferred a place with a wide, panoramic vista, an expanse of nature to match his ranging, towering intellectual achievements. There is scant record of his personal transactions with nature in his formal and technical writings, though he does wax eloquent in occa-

sional letters from his massive correspondence.

It is a strange fact that Russell left no written reference of his 1939 visit to Yosemite Valley and Tuolumne Meadows, where he and his family stayed in the Tuolumne Meadows Lodge. The fourteen volumes of his literary remains collected at McMaster University contain no reference to Yosemite at all. There is no doubt, however, about the fact that he visited Yosemite for several days.

The facts of that trip, as can best be assembled, are as follows. In August, 1939, when Britain was facing the imminent probability of World War II, Russell and his wife, "Peter," their son, Conrad, and Russell's children (by his first wife Dora), John and Katharine, all traveled from Oakland (San Francisco?) to Yosemite. They stayed in Yosemite Valley for a brief, hot visit, then drove to 'Tuolumne Meadows on the old Tioga Road to spend a few days in Tuolumne Meadows and the high country.

Daughter Katharine Russell Tait, currently a resident of Cornwall, England, in the old Russell family home, "Carn Voel," made reference to the Yosemite visit in her brilliantly charming biography of Russell, *My Father Bertrand Russell:* 

"[My father and Peter] had bought a car, a second-hand two-door Chevrolet, which looked to me like a luxury limousine, and we set off for a holiday at Yosemite.

"Yosemite was lovely, but it was HOT, a new experience and one I didn't much like. We stayed in a hotel [The Ahwahnee?] in the park surrounded by pine trees, where we were roused early in the morning by the sun blazing in our windows, bringing with it the powerful aroma of hot resin and pine needles. I drooped around all day, damp and prickling, looking for sympathy from Peter in my discomfort, But things had changed.... "I sulked. But Yosemite was too magnificent to be sacri ficed to hurt feelings. We drove to a mountain camp so high that our breath came short at first, and it was a day or two before we could join an all-day hiking party, to be guided up the most accessible peak by a charming and well-informed young ranger. Though my father wa sixty-seven, we took it for granted that he would go with us walking uphill all morning and down over rough rocks in the afternoon. If he ever got tired, he never showed it." (pp 134-35)

Ronald W. Clark, biographer of Russell, omitting the Valley stay, adds corroborative evidence of the family' brief visit in his work *The Life of Bertrand Russell* (New York: Knopf, 1976).

"A few weeks later John and Kate arrived from Englan for a visit that the coming war, and the danger of returnin to Britain across the Atlantic, transformed into a year-lon migration. Without delay, Russell took them for a brief tri to the High Sierra Camps [sic], 9,000 feet up in Yosemii National Park, relishing their company after a year absence. Then it was back to Santa Barbara and the new that the Second World War had started." (p. 464)

Russell rented a cabin at Fallen Leaf Lake (near Lak Tahoe) in 1940, while waiting to teach and lecture at th University of California, Berkeley. Many faculty owne cabins at Fallen Leaf Lake, including members of the ph losophy department, but it is not a matter of recorwhose cabin the family used.

In 1996, during a telephone conversation will Katharine Tait, I asked if she could recognize or recall the name of the ranger-naturalist who led her party Tuolumne. "No, I'm afraid not. I was 15 years old and d not recall very much at all about our stay in Tuolumn Meadows. The ranger was young, handsome, and knew great deal about the area." [not verbatim]

The ranger-naturalist most likely to have been on de in Tuolumne in 1939 was Lowell Adams. Records sho that he was working in the park from April to Septem 6, 1939. Where he was actually stationed is not record Elizabeth Stone O'Neill, in her book *Meadow in the* s at page 126, includes a picture of him with a group of h ers at Waterwheel Falls in 1938, suggesting that he was duty in Tuolumne.

1.00



when the seadows from Lembert Dome.

That young ranger-naturalist in 1939 could not have on Carl Sharsmith. Carl was not on duty at all in semite in 1939, for he was moving from Washington the College, Pullman, Washington, to Berkeley where he of his wife, Helen, were to continue their doctoral stud-(Their son, John Dana Sharsmith, was born sember 24, 1939.)

Russell's daughter stated that the all-day hike with the ger was up "the most accessible peak" in Tuolumne. The it took a full day, the hikes up Lembert Dome and iper Ridge can be ruled out. The most accessible peak in the Tuolumne Meadows Lodge and the campund would likely be the saddle and "rump" of Unicorn ik reached over a popular route by way of Elizabeth ic. Other peaks, such as Mt. Dana, Mt. Hoffmann, or in the Kuna Crest, are possible but cannot really be racterized as "readily accessible."

What is clear from Katharine Russell Tait's tantalizby brief account is that Bertrand Russell, at age 67, with the if any physical preparation, completed the trip withtrip visible exhaustion. He went on to live to be 97, a diant curmudgeon to the end.

#### POST NOTE

John and Katharine Russell became students at UCLA in 1939. Katharine and Yosemite ranger-naturalist Will Neely became friends in 1939 or early 1940, when Will enrolled as a freshman. Their friendship flourished until they were separated by the war and Katharine's enrollment at Radcliffe College (Harvard), where she ultimately earned her doctorate. The correspondence between Will and "Kate" was continuous during the war years. They met once more briefly in Vermont at war's end when Will was working for a ski resort at Smuggler's Gap. Katharine has generously placed her letters in the Yosemite Museum Research Library, where Will's can also be found.

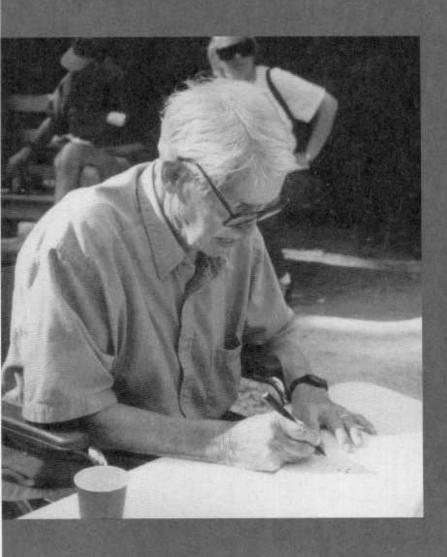
Allan Shields is a retired philosophy professor and a former naturalist at Yosemite. He now writes and publishes from his home in Clovis, CA. His most recent book tells the story of Rin Tin Tin, the dog star of television and screen.

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## In Memory of David Brower, 1912-2000

Celebrated environmentalist David Brower died of cancer last November, less than two months after speaking to members of the Yosemite Association at their annual meeting in Wawona. Despite his deteriorating health, Mr. Brower was upbeat, humorous, and quick with the outspoken comments for which he became famous.

At the meeting (and until his death), he voiced his opposition to the damming of Hetch Hetchy Valley, and called for the restoration of



the area to its original beauty. Members who enjoyed one of Brower's last public appearances were shocked at the swiftness with which his health declined.

In a recent tribute to Mr. Brower, *Earth Island Journal* included his personal credo, "written in the 1950s, then pruned, chiseled, and polished hundreds of times thereafter." It is reprinted below in his memory and as a reminder of his lifelong work to protect Yosemite and the global environment.

## Credo

There is but one ocean though its coves have many names; a single sea of atmosphere with no coves at all; the miracle of soil, alive and giving life, lying thin on the only earth. for which there is no spare.

We seek a renewed stirring of love for the earth. We plead that what we are capable of doing to it is often what we ought not to do. We urge that all people now determine that an untrammeled wildness shall remain here to testify that this generation had love for the next.

We would celebrate a new renaissance. The old one found a way to exploit. The new one has discovered the earth's limits. Knowing them, we may learn anew what compassion and beauty are, and pause to listen to the earth's music.

We may see that progress is not the accelerating speed with which we multiply and subdue the earth nor the growing number of things we possess and cling to. It is a way along which to search for truth, to find serenity and love and reverence for life. to be part of an enduring harmony, celebrating the wildness within us.

—David R. Brower

# YA HAS A VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU!

## Many New Options for Summer 2001

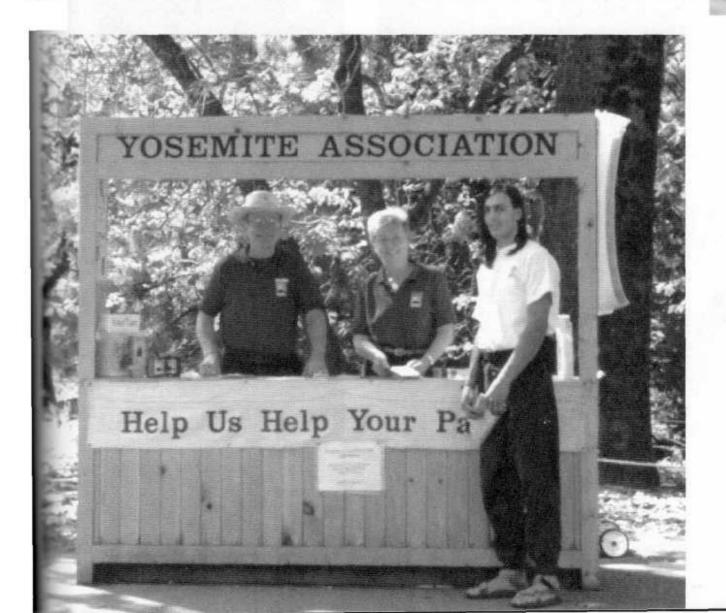
Do you love spending time in Yosemite? Would you like to share your enthusiasm for the park with others? Then consider becoming a Yosemite Association volunteer!

The Yosemite Association offers its members unique volunteer opportunities in Yosemite National Park. Last rear YA work groups performed rare plant surveys and restored wilderness areas on week-long service trips. Some of our volunteers spent a month greeting visitors at the Museum Gallery, introducing the visitor center orientation slide show, and helping visitors plan their trips at YA's new information station.

Whether you plan to take an extended vacation or just have a week available, volunteering for YA enables you to two something back to Yosemite while experiencing the prandeur of the park. Last year, YA volunteers contributed over 6,000 hours of service to crucial projects and programs. With the decline of visitation and sales revenues in the park, Y.A. needs, more than ever before, to expand the role of volunteers in order to keep our important work alive.

Month-long and long-term volunteers enjoy free camping at shared sites in either Yosemite Valley or Tuolumne Meadows, and receive a \$10 stipend per day, a 30% discount on visitor center items such as books and other educational materials, and discount cards from the concessionaire. Most volunteers work a four or five day week, depending on scheduling needs. Assignments in Yosemite Valley, Mariposa, and Wawona run from May through September; Tuolumne Meadows volunteers work from June to September.

On the next page are the varied situations for which YA needs volunteers in the coming year.



## Membership Information Booth

Yosemite Valley & Tuolumne Meadows Help visitors while promoting YA's membership program.



## Seminar Campground Hosting

Tuolumne Meadows

Camp in beautiful Tuolumne Meadows and welcome and orient seminar students.

## Parsons Lodge

Tuolumne Meadows

Greet and orient visitors in this historic building in Tuolumne Meadows.

## Mariposa Store & Visitor Center

Mariposa, CA

Assist visitors and sell merchandise in YA's new visitor center in the historic part of downtown Mariposa.

### Happy Isles

Yosemite Valley

Assist with sales and information in the newly renovated Happy Isles Nature Center.

## Yosemite Valley YURT

Yosemite Valley

Direct visitors to their destinations, answer questions, and sell merchandise in YA's unique new visitor information and sales station.

## Orientation film

Yosemite Valley Greet visitors and introduce the new orientation film.

## **Yosemite Theater**

Yosemite Valley

Spend your days hiking or relaxing and take tickets in the evenings for the John Muir theater shows.

## Wawona Information Station

Wawona

Help answer visitor questions and assist with sales in Wawona.

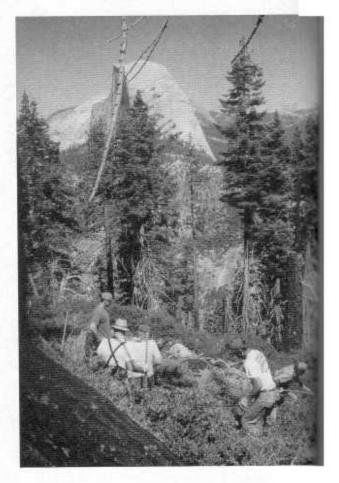
## Yosemite Museum Gallery

Yosemite Valley Act as docent, opening exhibits and greeting visitors at

the Yosemite Museum Gallery.

## **Big Oak Flat Visitor Center**

Highway 120 Entrance Help answer visitor questions and assist with sales.





## Work Weeks

## Various Locations

Work week volunteers assist the NPS resource management division with restoration and revegetation projects. Participants put in four eight-hour days, with a day off mid-week. The work can be hard and dirty, but the payoff is immediate as you see your efforts erase a scar in a meadow or rehabilitate a riverbank. Teams of fifteen hare a group camp and are served three hearty meals a day. The National Park Service, Yosemite Institute, Tosemite Concession Services, and the Yosemite Association cooperatively sponsor these work weeks.

June 3-9	Weed Warriors (El Portal and Yosemite Valley)
hune 24-30	Valley Summer Work Week (Yosemite Valley)
August 5-11	Backpack Work Week (location to be determined)
lugust 19-25	Tuolumne Work Week (Tuolumne Meadows)
October 14-20	Valley Fall Work Week (Yosemite Valley)

you would like to further explore the possibility of volinteering in Yosemite, request a volunteer application by ing Laurel or Connie a call at (209) 379-2317.



## **Tuolumne Summer**

## by Krista Holt

"Baptized in Nature's warm heart" reads a new Tuolumne Meadows display, quoting John Muir and his magnificent ability to put into words the magic of Yosemite I passed that and smiled everyday I "commuted" to Parsons Lodge this summer, walking the mile and a half from my campsite. I have volunteered three summers in Tuolumne Meadows and worked in the valley as a teacher intern for two summers. Coming to Yosemite is always like starting something new, fresh and altogether inspiring!

This year I arrived in Tuolumne Meadows to begin my six-week volunteer position in mid-June. The campground was quiet, the creeks were full and snow still covered the peaks and ridges. As I was moving into my campsite something in the meadow behind my bear box caught my eye. A bird flew out of the tall grass and I saw it had been sitting on a nest and three speckled eggs! The bird returned quickly so I retreated, leaving her to do her job in peace. I checked the nest regularly and a couple of days later, after returning from a morning hike, I noticed her eggs had hatched!

The joy in that meadow as the mama bird worked on feeding and protecting her babies was unbelievable! There were two birds constantly present and in steady dialogue as they parented. This was life force I was witnessing and I was mesmerized! I could not tear myself away. I positioned my chair where I could watch the miracle of the mother's energy and the miracle of new life. The baby birds instantly opened their tiny beaks and made high, shrill sounds until their mother returned with their food.

Over the next couple of weeks I watched as their feathers turned from fluffy down to a sleek layer. I observed the attack of another bird, in search of a meal, and the parents' expert job in defending their family. Then, one day I returned from my afternoon at Parsons Lodge to find the nest empty. I was at once sad and overjoyed. These tiny babies were gone from my Tuolumne home but they were strong and capable enough to step into the world on their own. It was a grand event to witness. I was pretty certain I spotted the family by the stream near my campsite, but I let them go with gratitude for allowing me the gift of observing their miracle!

## MEMBERS PAGE



## YA Says Goodbye to Holly Warner...

Members will soon be noticing that a familiar signature is missing from their Yosemite Association membership communications. Long-time membership coordinator, Holly Warner, retired from YA this past December after over fourteen years of organizing spring forums and editing journals. During Holly's tenure, our member total increased from 2,000 to over 8,000, and her fine work has been evident in the quality of the events she organized for our members.

In recognizing her dedication to the organization, President Steven Medley noted, "Holly was responsible for making our membership program larger, more professional, and extremely responsive. Her caring demeanor and her ability to establish friendships with so many of our members have been at the heart of our success. Her contributions to our organization and Yosemite are greatly appreciated."

During her retirement celebration, staff members related many highlights of her work at YA. Members might recall the infamous "roadkill dinner" at the Southwest Museum in Los Angeles or Holly keeping her calm during a downpour that threatened to completely disrupt the last member's meeting in Tuolumne Meadows. Staff members will miss the aroma of her gourmet lunches, her cat and wildlife stories, and her friendship.



Laurel Rematore and Holly Warner

Don't assume that Holly will disappear from YA—she'll still be a presence at member events but "is looking forward to being able to finally enjoy all those great programs at the spring forum as a member."

## ... And Welcomes A New Membership Director

Recently hired to fill the membership position is Laurel Rematore, a long-time YA member and work trip participant. With her previous involvement in association activities at the park in addition to her impressive qualifications, she should get up to speed quickly and bring a wealth of experience to the job.

Laurel comes to us from Cadence Design Systems in San Jose, where she worked as their University Relations Manager. Lured away from the conveniences of Silicon Valley, she is slowly adjusting to life in the wilderness. Although she is searching for a Trader Joe's, she already seen a mountain lion near Portal and is trying to identify the mals responsible for the scurrying nomin the walls of her new home.

Laurel has a lengthy connection with Yosemite; she attended the Yosemite Institute as a high school student in 19 and 1977, and has been an active member since 1995, attending numerican volunteer work trips and member even She enjoys hiking and exploring Yosemite and is looking forward improving her snowboarding skills a Badger Pass.

"Ever since my first visit to Yosemite." felt a strong sense of stewardship to this place," Laurel shares. "Joining turned out to be a great way to meet minded people, and I've developed che ished friendships on the work trips excited to now be a part of the team makes it all happen!"

Laurel's twenty years of diverse expense ence in recruitment, human resource and project management will benefit membership program and YA as a who She's already begun work on expande volunteer recruitment and will focus efforts in the coming year on member ship acquisition and the development new programs.

## Sign Up for a 2001 Seminar!

Make your plans now for one of the great YA seminars, There are still many openings, so pull out your catalog and take a closer look. The listings are also available at www.yosemite.org. You can even download all or part of the catalog. Here are a few sample classes offered:

## Earth Works: Essentials of Ecology April 26-29

Observe and discuss the components of a naturally functioning ecosystem with instructor Joe Medeiros.

## Hetch Hetchy Backpack

May 11-14

Celebrate the spring wildflowers at Hetch Hetch with trip leader Suzanne Swedo.

## Wawona Photography Workshop May 18-20

Capture the juxtapositions of light, shadow, form, and texture in Wawona, with instructor Dave Wyman.

## Raptors: Yosemite's Aerial Predators

June 7-10 - Learn about the biology and conservation of peregrine falcons, great gray owls, and northern goshawks with leader Jeff Maurer.

## Frank Elected to Y.A. Board

 be joining the board of trustees of Yosemite Association in 2001.
inated by the board, Mr. Frank ran posed in last fall's election and was used the winner without balloting as
the organization's by-laws. He will

ctive supporter of Yosemite and the clation for some time, Frank is best in for his "Farley" cartoon strip that are daily in the *San Francisco* nicle. The bears who inhabit the (Bruinhilda, Alphonse, Franklin, Floyd) spend every summer in mite, and cantankerous Velma nac, a hard-core camper from teca, has become a favorite of read-The cartoon has chronicled events in mite since 1986, and presents topical in an always-humorous manner.

to bear auto break-ins and other

problems. He is the author of Fur and Loafing in Yosemite, a collection of his cartoons published by the Yosemite Association, and the illustrator of The Yosemite Handbook, written by his wife, Susan.

The Franks live in a 1914 Craftsman-style home in Sausalito, and Phil maintains a studio on a nearby houseboat. They have two grown children, two grandchildren, two Maltese-cross dogs, and two cats. Everyone at the Yosemite Association welcomes Phil and Susan, and is pleased that we will enjoy the benefits of their participation on the board.

Mr. Frank replaces Dan Wolfus, who served the organization for fifteen years, first as a representative of the Yosemite Fund and later as an elected board member. Mr. Wolfus made numerous contributions to Y.A. during that time, including a long stint as Treasurer. He is the publisher of *Estylo* magazine and resides in Los Angeles. Because he owns a



vacation home in Wawona, we are hopeful he will continue to stay in touch. The board of the Yosemite Association recently passed a resolution commending Mr. Wolfus for his service, and thanking him for his unswerving support during his tenure.

## a Benefits from bur Online Shopping

the Yosemite Association when you online. Access your favorite mertal, like Amazon and JC Penney ogh www.yosemite.greatergood.com 5% of your purchase will go directly at no extra cost to you.



## **Essociation** Dates

Fortum, Yosemite Valley

Marrior Work Week

ene 24–30 Semite Valley Summer Work Week

logust 5-11 lockcountry Work Week to be determined)

## Leaving a Yosemite Legacy

Since 1920, thousands of individuals and families have helped the Yosemite Association undertake its important educational, scientific, and research programs, with gifts of time, services, and money. Each year we receive critical support for Yosemite in the form of charitable bequests from wills and estate plans. Such bequests play a vital role in our future funding. We encourage you to consider including a gift to the Yosemite Association in your will or estate plan. It's a way to ensure that others will enjoy Yosemite far beyond your lifetime.

For information about leaving a Yosemite legacy, call (209) 379-2317, or write to P.O. Box 230, El Portal, CA 95318

August 19–25 Tuolumne Meadows Work Week

September 15 26th Annual Members' Meeting, Tuolumne Meadows

October 14–20 Yosemite Valley Fall Work Week

### 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. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. We don't make reservations, but we can give appropriate phone numbers and usually lots of helpful advice.

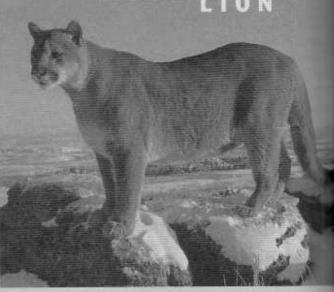
## YOSEMITE CATALOG

## MOUNTAINION

#### Mountain Lion

with text by Rebecca L. Grambo and photographs by Daniel J. Cox. This extraordinary photographic book offers an unprecedented portrait of the mountain lion in its natural habitat. Photographer Daniel Cox spent more than ten years closely observing these elusive felines, creating a comprehensive and revealing visual document of their life cycle and behavior.

An accompanying text by Rebecca Grambo provides further insight into the moutain lion and discusses its often troubled relationship with humans. More than 90 magnificent color photos capture the intelligence and



grace of these mysterious cats as they hunt for prey, traverse their extensive ranges, and raise their cubs.

Here is a unique and beautiful look at this intriguing member of the big cat family. The paperback book is 120 pages long, 11 x 9.5 inches in size, and illustrated in full color. Copyright 1999, Chronicle Books. \$18.95



## Easy Day Hikes in Yosemite-Twenty Enjoyable Trails

by Deborah Durkee, illustrated by Fiona King.

This title from the Yosemite Association has been completely revised and updated. In its new, smaller size, it is a convenient, packable guide for persons hoping to find moderately easy hikes in Yosemite National Park. The book describes twenty different trips, providing information on distance, route, time required, and sights to see for each.

The guide divides the park into five different hiking areas: Hikes from the Wawona Road; Hikes from the Glacier Point Road; Hikes in Yosemite Valley; Hikes from the Big Oak Flat and Tioga Roads; and Hikes in Tuolumne Meadows. Maps are included for each area, and there are sections on trip planning, recommended gear, and guidelines for hiking with children.

This is a great handbook for those who prefer their hiking on the gentler side, as well as for families hiking with children. It is 54 pages long, 4.5 x 7.5 inches in size, and has a paperback cover. Copyright 2000, Yosemite Association. \$6.95 To see an expanded list of the Yosemite-related books, maps, and products we offer for sale, visit our new, secure **Yosemite Store** on the internet at: http://yosemitestore.com



California's

**Backcountry Skiing** 

**High Sierra** 

## Backcountry Skiing California's High Sierra by John Moynier.

The High Sierra of California may well be the world's consummate mountain range for backcountry skiing and snowboarding. This book provides in-depth information on a variety of day tours and multi-day journeys, including the Sierra Crest tour and the popular Mammoth to Yosemite route.

Over 60 challenging peak descents are also described. Chapter titles include History, Sierra Crest Tours, Trans-Sierra Tours, Selected Short Tours, and Classic Peak Descents.

This is the perfect sourcebook for planning your next winter trip to the Range of Light. It is 216 pages long, 6 x 9 inches in size, and has a paperback cover. Copyright 1999, Falcon Publishing.

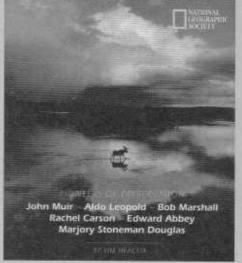
### Visions of a Wild America—Pioneers of Preservation by Kim Heacox.

This is the story of the human voices that have told Americans about our country's wild landscape and the value it has for our society. Complemented by more than 100 photographs, the remarkable adventures and experiences of a number of these great conservationists are recounted.

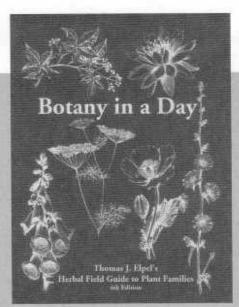
John Moynier

Among those profiled in the book are John Muir, Aldo Leopold, Bob Marshall, Rachel Carson, Edward Abbey, and Marjory Stoneman Douglas. The images highlight the places they worked to protect and the work that they did in defense of the environment. Inspirational quotes are sprinkled throughout the work.

This is a finely-illustrated study of remarkable people whose lives reflected Edward Abbey's belief that "It is not enough to understand the natural world, the point is to defend and preserve it." The book is 200 pages long, 7 x 10 inches in size, and printed in paperback. Copyright 1996, National Geographic Society, \$15



WILDDAME



## Botany in a Day—A Herbal Field Guide to Plant Families by Thomas J. Elpel.

This is a botany primer that will benefit botanists of all levels—from beginner to advanced. It covers more than 100 plant families and over 700 genera—including their edible and medicinal uses—applicable to many thousands of species. Users trying to identify a plant can use the book to determine if they have reached the correct family by referring to its detailed descriptions and pictures.

The guide covers such topics as the evolutions of plants, how to use the keys, and the properties of plants. It also includes a glossary of flower terms, a bibliography, and an extensive index, and is thoroughly illustrated in black and white.

Called by one reviewer "one of the most useful botany and herbal primers. ever written," this is a great way to better become acquainted with the characteristics, constituents, medicinal uses, and patterns of our plant families. The book is 196 pages long, 8.5 x 11 inches in size, and printed in paperback. Fourth edition, copyright 2000, HOPS Press, \$19.95

## SPECIAL FOR YOSEMITE BOOK COLLECTORS Yosemite and the Mariposa Grove: A Preliminary Report, 1865

by Frederick Law Olmsted; introduction by Victoria Post Ranney; illustrated by Wayne Thiebaud. This is a limited edition, finely printed collector's version of this classic and seminal Yosemite work. Frederick Law Olmsted, the famed landscape architect, wrote the first management plan for Yosemite that was not published as a book before this volume was issued.

The book, the work of the One Heart Press in San Francisco, was printed letterpress on Rives Heavyweight paper, illustrated with three specially-commissioned drawings by Wayne Thiebaud, and hand bound in paper over boards with a linen spine. The edition was limited to 400 copies, 150 of which were signed by Ms. Ranney and Mr. Thiebaud. Only



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unsigned copies remain, and they are now being offered at a remarkable price for this elegant collector's edition.

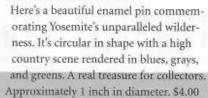
Originally selling for \$85, the volume has been reduced to \$30. No membership discount applies. The book is 54 pages long, 5 x 9 inches in size, illustrated in color, and casebound. Copyright 1993, Yosemite Association. \$30

### Pajaro Field Bag

This newly developed waist pack features seven pockets for everything you'll need when you're hiking or enjoying time in the outdoors. The main pocket is sized to accommodate field guides, travel books, or binoculars. There are smaller pockets (including one with a zipper) for note pads and maps, and specialized pockets for pencils, pens, and sunglasses. Best of all, a secret pocket scaled with Velcro keeps keys, credit cards, and other valuables safe. It's the best such pack we've found.

> Made in the U.S.A. of durable Cordura in navy blue, forest green or black by Pajaro. (please specify color) \$29.95

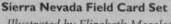
## Yosemite Wilderness Pin



## **Yosemite Association Mug**

This distinctive and functional heavy ceramic mug feels good with your hand wrapped around it. Available in two colors (green or 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)





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

#### **Yosemite Bookstore Book Bag**

Conserve resources with 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. Approximately 17 x 16 inches, \$8,95



Openment by the Your

### Yosemite Association Baseball-Style Cap

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, forest green or maroon. 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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Student Intern Fund Grows Member response to our request for support of this year's Yosemite Student Intern Program has been very positive, Through February 15, a total of \$29,240 has been raised. We extend our gratitude to all those who contributed to this important program.

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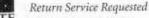
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The Yosemite Association initiates and supports interpretive, educational, research, scientific, and environmental programs in Yosemite National

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Service. Authorized by Congress, the Association

provides services and direct financial support in

order to promote park stewardship and enrich the

Besides publishing and selling books, maps, and

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### MEMBER BENEFITS

As a member of the Yosemite Association, you will enjoy the following benefits:

- \* Yosemite, the Association journal, published on a quarterly basis;
- \* A 15% discount on all books, maps, posters, calendars, publications stocked for sale by the Association;
- \* 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;
- \* A Yosemite Association decal.

When you join at one of the following levels, you will receive a special membership gift:

Supporting: the award-winning video, "Yosemite: The Fate of Heaven."

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Sustaining: Tradition and Innovation, A Basket History of the Indians of the Yosemite/Mono Lake Area, a beautifully illustrated, finely printed book.

Patron: a matted color photograph by Howard Weamer, "Half Dome-Storm Light."

Benefactor or Dual Benefactor: an Ansel Adams Special Edition print, "Yosemite Valley-Thunderstorm."

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