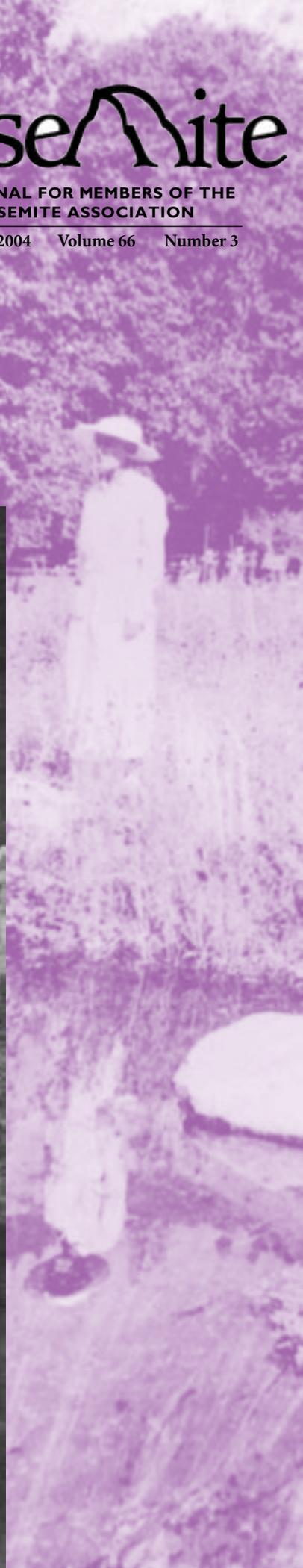


Enid Michael:
Yosemite's First Woman
Ranger Naturalist

Yosemite

A JOURNAL FOR MEMBERS OF THE
YOSEMITE ASSOCIATION

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A Message from the President

It's the height of summer here in Yosemite, with typically hot weather, a number of very smoky fires, and plenty of curious and appreciative visitors. This time of year YA and the National Park Service really rely on the dedicated member volunteers who play such an important role in helping those visitors enjoy the park.

Our volunteers assist thousands of people each day, staffing facilities such as Parsons Lodge, Happy Isles Nature Center, and the Yosemite Museum Gallery, and assisting visitors all over the park as they work to recruit new members. During 2003 those volunteers contributed over 12,000 hours of service to Yosemite, and were responsible for enrolling over one-quarter of all those who joined our organization last year. It's an impressive and important gift they are providing the park, and greatly appreciated by all of us at YA.

If you'd like to become personally involved at Yosemite, please consider joining our upcoming restoration service project that is offered through the Yosemite Outdoor Adventures program. Members will have the opportunity to learn about and help with the National Park Service's efforts to restore fragile wetland environments in Yosemite Valley from September 21 to 24. Participants will gain hands-on experience using a variety of methods, while learning basic concepts of wetlands ecology, ornithology, and aquatic biology from trip leader Michael Ross. This service trip, offered for a fee of \$225, is a great way to make a difference through direct action in Yosemite.

Summer is also the season for vacations. This year I'll be taking off the entire month of August to deliver my youngest son and his belongings to Cornell University, where he'll start as a freshman this fall. My wife and I will visit a number of national parks along the way, attend parent orientation, and help Andy get settled in his new dorm. If you can't seem to find me in August, you'll know why. Rest assured that the office will be in the good (better?) hands of Beth, Pat, Laurel, and the rest of the talented YA staff.

I'll be back in plenty of time for several YA events this fall. Saturday, September 18th is our 29th Annual Members Meeting in Wawona, where climbing legend Royal Robbins will be our guest speaker. The evening before we will host a reception with Royal and his wife Liz for YA members and donors of \$250 or more. Members should have received information about the meeting in the mail; we look forward to seeing a big crowd of friends in Wawona.

This year we will again be holding a special barbecue at the home of Kevin Kelly on the Ahwahnee Meadow for our Benefactor Members and \$1,000 donors. The October 2nd event will be catered by chefs at The Ahwahnee, and we'll also offer special walks and programs during the day. If your means allow, we encourage you to consider upgrading your membership or making a donation so that you can join the park superintendent, NPS employees, and YA board members and staff for an unforgettable day this October.

In the meantime, please accept our thanks for your ongoing support of YA's work through your membership dues and gifts. We've returned student interns to the park, made plans to go forward with the Valley Visitor Center store remodel, and developed a number of new educational programs and products through the generosity, encouragement, and assistance of each of you.

Sending best wishes for a terrific summer.



Steven P. Medley, President



Cover:
Enid Michael
silhouetted
against a
waterfall.

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ENID MICHAEL: YOSEMITE'S FIRST WOMAN RANGER-NATURALIST

Enid Michael is probably the most prolific author ever to write on Yosemite, and it is inexplicable that her work has remained in such obscurity over the years. She was born Enid Reeve in Gilroy, California, on May 27, 1883, but her family moved to Los Angeles in 1897, and about ten years later to Pasadena. Enid attended the State Normal School in Los Angeles, and, like her mother, became a third-grade teacher.

Enid met Charles Michael, Assistant Postmaster of Yosemite, on a Sierra Club outing of unspecified date. She married him and moved to the park in May 1919. Both Charles and Enid had long been acquainted with Yosemite, and they were avid hikers and climbers. Charles was a famous climber in his day, and his accomplishments, including three first ascents, are still honored by present-day climbers.

The Michaels often took small groups of friends on difficult and dangerous excursions. Many of the hikes and climbs were repeated, and the Michaels were known for being better informed about Yosemite's backcountry than anybody else in the park. In a sense, Enid and Charles did not have separate careers, even though they had different "day jobs." They were a team, and this was emphasized by those who knew them. While it is difficult to discuss one without the other, the focus of this article is Enid.

Settling in the valley, Enid continued her interest in botany, which had begun about ten years earlier as a member of the California Botanical Club, headed by Alice Eastwood, renowned California botanist. She developed a long-term relationship and collaboration with Eastwood, and made at least one trip a year to San Francisco for assistance in identifying Yosemite specimens.

Enid Michael was one of four in the first group to be named Yosemite's Nature Guide Service under the direction of Ansel F. Hall. Normally employed for only two months, as were the other ranger-naturalists, she volunteered her time during the rest of the year. Oddly, she was never issued a uniform as were women rangers in the other national parks. Whether this was a decision of the National Park Service or her own choice is not known. She did wear a badge.

It is not clear how she obtained this position, for most of the other nature guides had graduate degrees and she had only a two-year normal-school certificate. At that time it was still fairly common for naturalists to become

qualified by apprenticing to a recognized naturalist, rather than through formal education. Alice Eastwood and Enid Michael were both products of this system.

Yosemite in the 1920s, when she wrote most of her articles, was a very different place than it is today. Predators such as mountain lions and coyotes were routinely hunted, and feeding wildlife was a common practice. The Michaels and some of their neighbors regularly maintained feeding tables for the birds. They felt they were doing the birds a big favor, especially during the winter when food would otherwise be scarce.

The bird feeding table that the Michaels maintained was an aid to observation, and Enid published many interesting descriptions of bird eating habits and disputes over the spoils. She also was a superb observer of mammals, able to look at tracks on the trail and discern what kind of animal and how many had passed that way.

Enid herself fed animals from the hand and commented favorably on others doing the same. She noted: "Who can forget the wild animal that has taken bread from his hand? In all the world there is no other joy like this."

Enid Michael.



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PHOTO COURTESY OF YOSEMITE RESEARCH LIBRARY.

Enid Michael with students from the Yosemite School of Field Natural History.

Birds, deer, bears, and small mammals were given names by Enid and other residents, almost as if they were pets, and some of them, including deer or ring-tailed cats, were adopted as pets. Two of her most entertaining articles tell the stories of Jiggs the pampered deer and Maggie the grouse.

Enid created and maintained a very popular display of wildflowers at the old Administration Building, later behind the Museum, and at a few other locations, where hundreds of flowers in metal vases were kept fresh by constant running water. These displays allowed visitors to observe and learn the names of the fresh flowers.

In 1931, philanthropist Marjorie Montgomery Ward made a donation of \$4,000 for the development of a garden in the sandy, dry area behind the Yosemite Museum. Enid Michael was hired to direct the work of selecting and planting the flora. The creation and maintenance of this wildflower garden was perhaps her most significant single accomplishment. She combed the cliffs and canyons of Yosemite Valley as well as the high country in search of specimens to be planted. In its heyday the garden boasted more than one thousand plants.

The wildflower garden was a wonderful place to visit and study the plants, or to simply sit on a bench to meditate or read. There was a spring, and a little stream ran through the garden, where plants often bloomed beyond their normal season. It was a place to learn and to be inspired.

Enid wrote down much of what she observed in Yosemite. She was more a field naturalist than a scientific researcher, and wrote for the general public. Her output is outstanding, both in quantity and quality. She published 195 articles in *Yosemite Nature Notes*, 357 in the *Stockton Record*, and nineteen in other publications.

Her writings are rich in the details of her surroundings, and describe interesting local characters and the Michaels' way of life, in addition to the fauna, flora and other natural features. She was a talented writer; most of her articles are entertaining as well as informative, and quite a few are charming in their understated humor. They include some of the most extensive and intensive descriptions of bird behavior ever written, based on extremely detailed field notes.

The picture of Enid's life in Yosemite which emerges from her writings is that of an idyllic existence. Her lifestyle was simplified and leisure time to pursue her interests increased by the absence of children. Regardless of season she started off each day with her own personal nature walk, usually in the company of Charles. They were often followed by a little band of devotees. Charles accompanied Enid on all her reported climbs, and most of her reported hikes.

Enid Michael made many discoveries of birds and plants not previously sighted in Yosemite. She felt very close to the fauna and flora, and often described animal behavior in human terms and characterized the flowers as having "faces," "bravely" flourishing under adverse conditions, etc. Enid made many drawings and took many photographs to document her studies and illustrate her articles, but unfortunately none of the originals have survived.

The Michaels' happiness was not at all diminished by the fact that during most of their time in Yosemite they were housed in conditions that most of us today would consider primitive. As was the custom in the early decades of the twentieth century, most government and concessionaire employees lived in tents or cabins with wooden or cement floors. Enid seemed especially fond of their tent on the long-gone Roe Island, a large sandbar up river from Sentinel Bridge that could be reached only in low water, where they lived from 1920 to 1927.

For all intents and purposes, they camped out. Housekeeping was minimal. How long does it take to sweep out a tent? But there were no laundrettes, and water was heated on a wood stove and the clothes scrubbed on a washboard in a tub. Dishes were washed by hand, with the dirty dishwater tossed out on the ground "to settle the dust," of which there was plenty.

At least there was no bathroom to clean. In fact, there was no bathroom at all, just a pit toilet, or park service restrooms at a greater distance. And the couple seemed to have enjoyed their daily dip in the Merced River, or any other icy stream that happened to be available when they were out hiking or climbing.

Enid's articles include vignettes of colorful Yosemite figures such as Herbert Sonn, the "Birdman of Yosemite," as well as assorted neighbors, rangers, and other residents. Many of the local residents first learned about

the flora and fauna of Yosemite Valley by going on nature walks with the Michaels, and there are those who remember them with gratitude and affection to this day. Enid was also very popular with the tourists, and had quite a following, which benefited her when her reappointment was under consideration.

Enid Michael's career was not without serious controversy. In 1923, Enid mobilized the California Federation of Women's Clubs and other groups to pressure the NPS to change her appointment from seasonal to permanent. Superintendent Lewis appears to have resented the move, saying she had "propagandized" the federation; he recommended against her reappointment, but he was apparently overruled or changed his mind, for she was rehired.

What is clear is that her status was resented by some of her male colleagues, who believed that no woman should occupy such a position. Each year her seasonal reappointment seems to have become an issue. Matters worsened with the appointment of C. A. "Bert" Harwell as Park Naturalist in 1929. With Harwell's arrival, an annual crisis seems to have become routine. Harwell had been Michael's student in the Yosemite School of Field Natural History in 1926, and perhaps it was difficult for her to take orders from a former student.

Harwell, on the other hand, was not tolerant of

woman rangers. In a memo to Superintendent Thomson dated March 5, 1937 Harwell included a handwritten notation initialed "JBW" indicating that: "It would be better if the [CCC] boys worked under the direction of a male naturalist." The word "male" is underlined four times!

Much of the friction stemmed from Enid's management of the wildflower garden. At times the controversy reached the highest levels of the National Park Service. In 1934, Harwell wrote to Assistant Director Harold C. Bryant saying, "the situation regarding Enid Michael and the garden has come to a crisis." Superintendents were put into an uncomfortable position between Harwell, who was Enid's supervisor, and Enid, who was admired for her achievements and enjoyed popular support.

In early 1935, Superintendent Thomson reluctantly informed her: "unless Mr. Harwell asks for your service I can't recommend appointment. Certainly I hope that you want to come back and that you really will convince Mr. Harwell that you and he can work shoulder to shoulder, as I know of no person who has a finer background or feeling for our work than Enid Michael and I should miss you and Charles personally, more than either of you realize."

Mrs. Michael, in turn, wrote to Harwell saying: "in case of my return I shall do my utmost to work in har-

Enid's flower show in front of the old Administration Building, circa 1924.



PHOTO COURTESY OF YOSEMITE RESEARCH LIBRARY.

mony with you. Shoulder to shoulder with you I should like to work to the glory of our Wildflower Garden and the success of the Ranger Naturalist Service. I should like to work in the Wildflower Garden just a few years more. To the end that the wildflowers really become naturalized in this spot. It is not for myself that I wish to return, but for the thousands of visitors that look with hope upon the Garden. Whether I return or not I wish you every success with the garden and with the Ranger Naturalist work. Charles joins me in best wishes.”

Harwell’s reply was equally cordial, complimenting her on her work: “I realize, I think, better than anyone else, the unremitting care you give to the program of planting and nurturing every single bit of growth out there and how carefully you guard your project.” Nevertheless, he issued the notification that, “it seems to be in the best interest of the Service and harmony in the staff that you may not be invited to return this summer. . . I hope you will believe me when I say that I hold both you and Charlie in the highest regard.”

Two days later, however, Harwell sent a memo to the superintendent listing a long series of reasons for refusing to nominate her for reappointment that summer. The list seems more than a bit exaggerated in light of Enid Michael’s twenty-one seasonal reappointments!

The sensitivity of the matter is made clear by the fact that the superintendent took the extraordinary step of forwarding it to the Director of the National Park Service. He wrote:

“Mrs. Michael is not alone a vivid personality, but she has been part of the ranger-naturalist program here so many years that she is something of an institution. She has probably an unrivalled intimate knowledge of the flowers and birds of Yosemite, and her knowledge of the out-of-the-way places seems almost too valuable to be lost. With her husband, she has accumulated the

best series of 16 mm film extant on Yosemite, a series which they are constantly augmenting.” (Three reels of the films have survived, and have been preserved in DVD format.)

Enid’s ordeal ended when Harwell accepted an appointment to be California Representative to the National Association of Audubon Societies and resigned as Chief Naturalist on September 7, 1940.

Enid’s beloved husband Charles died December 30, 1941 at their home in Pasadena. Charles’ death was a great loss to all who had known him. With the onset of World War II, the positions of Enid Michael and the other seasonal ranger-naturalists became endangered. Enid’s last day of service was September 30, 1942. In 1943, all seasonal ranger-naturalist positions were abolished for the duration of the war, and she never returned to her job.

She remained in her home in Pasadena, and married Herbert H. Benson in the early 1950s. She continued to spend part of each summer in Yosemite with her new husband, and to take an interest in the wildflower garden and in the well-being of the park as a whole. She served as custodian of the Sierra

Club’s LeConte Memorial Lodge for several summers in the forties and fifties.

During the last three years of her life, Enid Michael suffered the tragedy of Alzheimer’s disease, and was faithfully cared for by Mr. Benson. She died in their home in Pasadena on February 11, 1966 at the age of 82.



Enid displays sugar pine cones.

PHOTO COURTESY OF YOSEMITE RESEARCH LIBRARY.

Fernando Peñalosa, a Life member of the Yosemite Association, is the author of Yosemite in the 1930s (Quaking Aspen Books, 2002). He is currently preparing a selection of Enid Michael’s articles for publication.

A NEW WAY TO EXPERIENCE YOSEMITE: GEOCACHING

People come to Yosemite from all over the world to hike, paint, climb, photograph, ski . . . the list is almost endless. Now there's a new activity taking place in the park – and you probably don't even know it.

This new adventure game is called “geocaching.” Although it bears some similarity to orienteering, geocaching is less than five years old. Despite the game's relative youth, the primary gathering place for its players (www.geocaching.com) reports that there are already caches in more than 200 countries.

Geocaching is sometimes described as a “high-tech treasure hunt.” In the basic game, one person hides a small container filled with prizes and posts its geographic coordinates (latitude and longitude) on the Internet. When a player wants to look for a cache, he or she enters its coordinates into a handheld Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver and then uses the GPS readouts to zero in on the cache location. (A few intrepid souls search for caches using only a compass and maps.) Players prove they've found the site by signing a log in the cache. They also might leave appropriate objects, or trade for one of the items left by the original cache placer or other finders.

Sounds simple, doesn't it? Not always! Sometimes you have to solve a puzzle to determine the coordinates, or find information at one place that helps you determine the final location. Even when you do have the correct coordinates, the cache container may be very tiny. Or it may be disguised as something else, such as a piece of wood, a sprinkler, or a rock.

Sometimes the terrain in which the cache is hidden requires specialized skills such as technical climbing or SCUBA diving. However, there are also plenty of easy caches available, which makes geocaching a wonderful family activity.

On lands managed by the National Park Service and some other agencies, a variation on the basic game known as “virtual geocaching” is used. (Even in areas that don't demand virtual caches, the sport's rules prohibit placing a cache in a way that would require any destructive activity such as digging.)

Virtual geocaching means that instead of a physical container, you're looking for a place of particular historical or natural interest. At the time this article was written, the virtual caches in Yosemite covered such topics as the story of Joseph LeConte, high-water marks of the 1997 flood, the importance of El Capitan and Camp 4

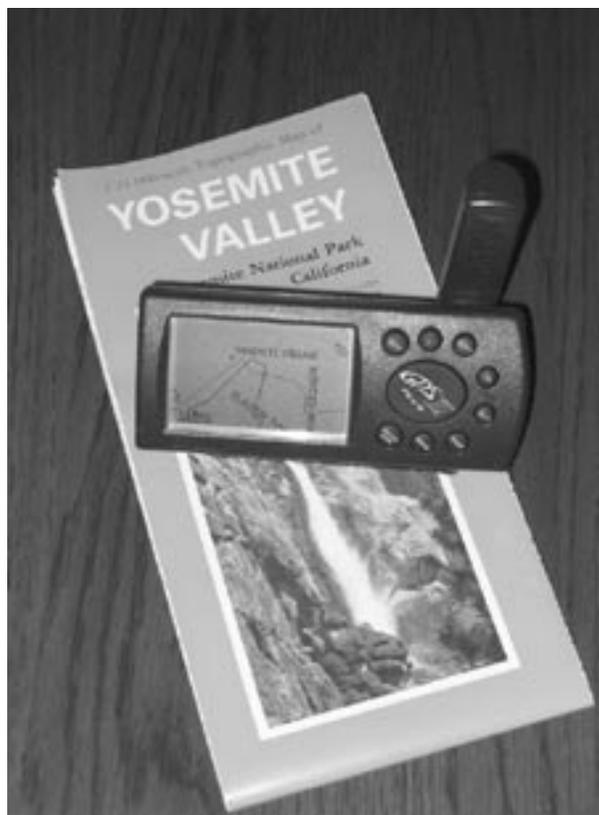
in rock-climbing history, and overlooked geological features in Yosemite Valley.

Because there's no log in a virtual cache, the cache owner must devise another way for people to prove that they've completed the challenge. The two most common methods are taking a photo of yourself at the appointed site, or responding to questions, the answers to which can only be found at the proper location.

Geocaching is a natural complement to other activities at Yosemite because many hikers already carry GPS receivers. Ben Thomas, who lives in Belmont, California, bought a GPS unit after briefly getting lost in the Mono Basin a couple of years ago.

“It turned out I was only off by 100 feet, but I decided a GPS would be a good thing to carry. Within the week, I found there was a game in which you could log having been in places – and I do like going places! Many geocaches are like travel suggestions from a friend.”

Thomas has now created his own cache to honor a world-famous Yosemite campground. “My Camp 4



A GPS receiver and a sense of adventure are all you need to start geocaching in Yosemite.





PHOTO COURTESY OF PATTY WINTER.

John Winslow checks his GPS readings at the LeConte Memorial for a two-stage virtual geocache called "Geo Joe's Traveling Show."

geocache commemorates fond memories of camping in the valley during high school and college. It's my way of sharing a place with geo-friends."

San Diego resident Don Endicott and his family are frequent visitors to Yosemite and have devised four virtual caches in the park. Endicott echoes the sentiments of many geocachers when he says he enjoys "the pleasure of seeing new and often very special places, even in my own community. There is also the challenge, of course."

"If I can combine a physical challenge such as running up a mountain that features a remarkable view – which I tend to do frequently anyway – with the thrill of a treasure hunt, it's an easy activity to become addicted to. These days, I receive numerous emails from other cachers who report they started on their own adventures after being inspired by some of my logs to explore more of our beautiful country. So I get added satisfaction from promoting outdoors adventure and preservation."

Endicott has a particular motivation for the caches he creates. "I really enjoy sharing special spots of my own with other cachers. I like to research the history or other significant aspects of the sites I choose, and spice up the cache descriptions with this information so visitors learn while they play."

Yosemite provides Endicott with a perfect place for that combination of fun and education. "I'm convinced Yosemite is the most beautiful place on this earth. My

first visit, as a 13-year-old in 1963, was a family camping trip in Curry Village. Many years later, my wife and I spent our honeymoon in the Valley, and we have been taking our two children (now ages 18 and 13) to Yosemite since they were barely able to walk."

"After years of hiking, running, ski touring, skiing at Badger Pass, and tubing and kayaking in the Merced River, I wanted to give something back by way of sharing awareness of my personal favorite sites with others who might otherwise only have visited the better known locations."

For example, Endicott's "100 Year Flood" cache was inspired by the signs marking the high-water levels of the 1997 flood. "We were in the valley over Christmas break the year of that storm, and happened to leave just as the rains were hitting. On a subsequent trip to Yosemite, I noticed the signs were nicely positioned to mark out a 'heart of the valley' walking tour."

"I had the idea to lay out a virtual multicache circuit that would provide a wonderful sampling of valley



PHOTO COURTESY OF PATTY WINTER.

A visit to a classic Yosemite Falls viewing area can also lead a geocacher one step closer to completing a virtual cache.

scenes, provide a little history, and showcase evidence of the unbelievable natural event that occurred that January. The cache also seemed to provide a good excuse for future visitors to get out of their cars and see, hear,



PHOTO COURTESY OF PATTY WINTER.

Most people pass by this unassuming hill in Yosemite Valley without even noticing it, but a virtual geocache reveals its fascinating history.

and breathe Yosemite in a way they could always remember. And from their logs, I could be there again, too!”

Another of Endicott’s virtual caches is more challenging physically, but it takes finders back to the time when stagecoaches traveled to Yosemite. “For years,” he explains, “I had gone by the Tunnel View trailhead of the Pohono Trail. After reviewing my maps and personal library of books featuring old photos of Yosemite, I wanted to search for several of the historic Inspiration Points.”

“From the topographic maps I had uploaded to my GPS receiver, I noticed one day that I was close to a feature referred to as Fort Monroe. I swung by and discovered this beautiful and rarely visited location. I knew I had to place a virtual in the area as an enticement to walk back in time to long-ago popular viewpoints. To leave behind the hubbub of the village—if only for a day—and experience Yosemite up close and personal.”

Those of us who visit the magnificent region that is Yosemite are always interested in finding ways to experience the park more fully. For many people, geocaching brings that new perspective on the park. Maybe for you, too?

HOW DID GEOCACHING GET STARTED?

Geocaching began after the U.S. Department of Defense determined that it no longer needed an electronic “fuzzing” signal (called selective availability) that was making civilian and commercial GPS receivers less precise. On May 1, 2000, President Bill Clinton signed an order to stop the use of selective availability. Two days later, an appreciative GPS user hid a container of prizes near Portland, Oregon and posted its coordinates to a GPS users’ group on the Internet. Within days, two people had found the cache, and the “GPS Stash Hunt” – now usually called geocaching – was off and running.

Patty Winter is a freelance writer in the San Francisco Bay Area. She’s also the owner of the virtual geocache, “Stories in the Rocks: Yosemite Valley Geology.” For more information about geocaching, visit www.geocaching.com.

CELEBRATING WILDNES

BY KEN WATSON

The wind whistles through my helmet high on Cathedral Peak. The summit block is no more than a square meter and peak sweeps rapidly downward in all directions. I hear my partner's voice carried away on the stiff breeze: "that's me!" I fold the rope into the belay and call down, "Trish, belay on!" I now have a few moments of true solitude and solace to absorb the wilderness world around me as I wait for her to clean the anchor. I think of Muir and his first summer in the Sierra. "No feature, however, of all the noble landscape as seen from here seems more wonderful than Cathedral itself, a temple displaying Nature's best masonry and sermons in stones," he states. I think back to the first time I climbed Cathedral seven years ago and my first summer in the Sierra. The adventure-bound peaks and the turquoise tarns tucked in cirques beneath sheer granite. Purple moonlit nights wandering through the white granite wildness. Yosemite called me in to her. The ancient landscape, protected only recently to forever remain in its primal state.



For this September marks the 40th anniversary of the Wilderness Act. Signed on September 3, 1964 by President Lyndon Johnson, the act brought long sought after legislative protection and definition to America's wilderness. The act initially protected fifty-four areas and created a pathway for further protection by establishing the Wilderness Preservation System. During the past forty years, Congress reinforced the Wilderness Preservation System by passing another 114 laws establishing an additional 596 Wilderness areas, including the California Wilderness Act (signed on September 28, 1984) which officially designated the Yosemite Wilderness. 105,851,912 acres of wild landscapes are now protected by the Wilderness Act, and many more are being considered for formal designation. This acreage totals about 4.7% of the United States. But beyond all the numbers, dates, and locations lies an idea: that Wilderness holds an intrinsic value and provides a place where the primitive landscape remains in control.

Howard Zahniser, the father of the Wilderness Act, help set this idea into federal law. He chose his words carefully and deliberately to convey this idea. Words such as "untrammled" and "primeval" along with phrases such as "where man is only a visitor" and "self-willed landscape" convey the larger meaning behind the act. Wilderness provides an opportunity to connect with a landscape that has not been shaped by people. It is in

these wild places that people often go to find a sense of self or renewal.

The purity of the landscape allows us to shed our modern worries and become a part of another time. By encouraging us to shed our modern devices, the spirit of wilderness allows us to live more simply and find what it is that is truly important to us.

I often thank Howard Zahniser, John Muir, Bob Marshall and their companions for the endeavoring to their final days to protect such wild places in a way more meaningful than just a geographic location. As populations continue to increase and the demand for natural resources continues to climb, we will find wilderness of even greater value and thank those who had the forethought to protect it while it was still possible. In 1900, 76% of the US was considered rural; now only 3% is. In 1900, wilderness was considered by most as something to be conquered or tamed. Now we struggle to keep it wild. Recent surveys indicate that the majority of Americans are in favor of more wilderness designation and protection, yet understand little about the legal definitions or how Wilderness differs from other backcountry. I consider my role in this wilderness as a visitor and manager. I ask myself how wild a place might be, how deep does the mountain go? I look for ways to broaden wilderness support and understanding. I wish to share the feeling of Cathedral with everyone and let them feel the depth of power wilderness possesses.

"Climbing!"

The rope in my hand goes slack and I pull it in. The Sierra peaks reach up and I wish them all a Happy Birthday. As my partner reaches the summit, I watch the expression on her face grow in purity and into joy. These intangibles along with the bare granite and all the life harbored by invisible boundaries are why wilderness holds us. This season as you venture into the wilderness, think not only of the primitive beauty and the solace afforded you; also think of those people who came before us and worked so diligently to preserve these great places and contemplate what you might be able to do to help protect and expand these untrammled areas.

Ken Watson is the National Park Service Wilderness Permits Supervisor in Yosemite. For a copy of the Wilderness Act, locations of wilderness in your area, and for more information on how you can become involved, check out wilderness.org, wilderness.net and volunteer.gov.

PARK PROFILE

DEAN SHENK

Name: Dean Shenk

Title: Supervisory Park Ranger: Branch Field Operations

Hometown: Oakland, CA

Education: Associates of Arts in Fine Arts from Laney College, Oakland

Years worked in Yosemite: 33

Early memory of Yosemite: At age five, I got lost for fifteen minutes in the Lower River Campground. I had just snuggled into my sleeping bag when I realized I needed to use the restroom. Since the rest of my family was asleep, or nearly so, I was allowed to make the trip myself. When I came out of the brightly lit bathroom, my vision had not adjusted to the night and everything became dark. I took a wrong turn and couldn't remember where our campsite was. I began crying. A nearby camper advised that I check down at a campsite near the river where he had seen children. Fearing that I would have to spend my life with the wrong family, I began to cry some more. Out of the night I heard the comforting voice of my mother, "Quiet, Dean, you're waking up the campground."

What do you do in Yosemite? I oversee interpretation in the Wawona area, including the Mariposa Grove, Pioneer Yosemite History Center, and the campfire programs in the Wawona Campground.

What was your first job in the park? In 1971, I was an undocumented volunteer assisting with the interpretive programs in Yosemite Valley. In 1972, I became a documented volunteer.

Why did you become a park ranger? Like so many people, my deep love of Yosemite drew me to this place. As kids, my two brothers and I spent a fair amount of time camping in Yosemite Valley. Two of us became park rangers; one went into real estate. Guess who drives the Toyota and who drives the Mercedes?

What is your favorite place in Yosemite? I have two favorite places: sitting aside Burrel Maier, the stage driver, while riding in a horse-drawn wagon around Wawona, and walking through the upper portion of the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

It allows me to protect the park that I love so well, help visitors enjoy Yosemite, and affords me the opportunity to spend time in my favorite place.

What is your favorite Yosemite book?

The 1868 Yosemite Guidebook by Whitney with original photographs by Watkins and Harris.

What is your favorite non-Yosemite book? Anything by Edward Abbey.

What is your favorite movie? *The Searchers*. Not so much because of John Wayne, but because it captures the magical scenery of Monument Valley.

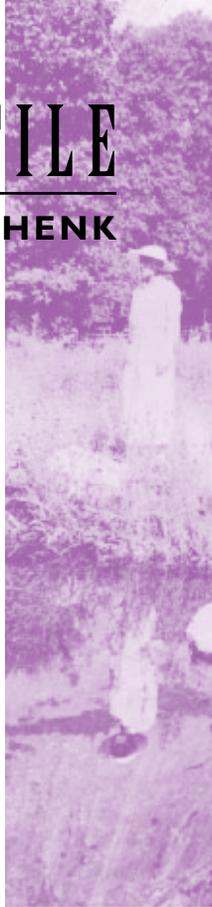
What do you do when you're not being a ranger?

Being with my family is very important to me. I also like spending time on Ebay searching for Yosemite memorabilia, cursing people who outbid me, and probably being cursed by those I outbid.

What advice would you have for someone who wants to get into this field?

Explore an internship in a park. It will give you a great overview of what it means to be a park ranger. By the end of the internship you'll be performing all the duties of an entry-level ranger, and you'll be able to see if the work is for you.

What do you think YA's most important role is? In the thirty plus years I've worked in Yosemite, I've been impressed with the depth and the breadth of support that YA provides the National Park Service. In Wawona, you built our replica horse-drawn "mud-wagon," and currently provide interns, volunteers, and staffing at the Mariposa Grove Museum and Wawona Information Station. Your total support of educational services is in tune with the goals of the NPS. It's a joy and a blessing to work with YA. And your staff is always anxious to please and is very supportive. *continued on page 27*



OUTDOOR ADVENTURE NEWS

Fall Upcoming Offerings

Here's a sampling of some of our September courses. For a complete list or to enroll, call 209-379-2321 or visit www.yosemite.org/seminars. Tuition varies by course and includes free camping.

Spend the Weekend in Tuolumne! September 4 & 5

We can't think of a better way to spend your Labor Day weekend than strolling through Tuolumne Meadows with our wonderful instructor, Michael Ross. On Saturday, you'll explore the geology of the Tuolumne Meadow region in "The Story Behind the Scenery (#23)." On Sunday, Michael will lead the group on a bird-watching excursion in his "Fall Birding in Tuolumne Meadows (#33)." Take one or both of these fine courses.

For Families: A Dome in a Day September 11

Join Kristina Rylands on this fun hike to Sentinel Dome and the Taft Point

Fissures (#102). You'll gaze upon the spectacular view of the valley and marvel over the deep cracks in the granite. A great family outing.

Help us Help Yosemite September 21-24

Would you like to help Yosemite while learning about the National Park Service's efforts to restore fragile wetland environments? In the course "Wetlands Restoration & Ecology (#108)," You'll observe and get some hands-on experience using a variety of methods, and learn the principles behind the practice.

Got Massage? September 25

In "Massage for Hikers and Backpackers (#91)," you'll learn an on-the-trail remedy for those tired feet, sore shoulders, and aching necks that seem to accompany backpacking trips. Julie Miller will lead you on a hike to the splendid scenic basin of Gaylor Lakes, then help you relax by teaching massage techniques.

Coming Soon: New 2005 Catalog

Look for the new catalog in your journal in the fall issue, which will be mailed to all members in November 2004. Here's a sneak preview of some of the highlights:

Natalie Goldberg to Teach in Yosemite

We're excited to announce that Natalie Goldberg, author of the *Writing Down the Bones: Freeing the Writer Within*, will appear in Yosemite April 12-14, 2005 at The Ahwahnee as part of our Outdoor Adventure Program. Her work has inspired millions of people to explore their creativity, and her workshops have been described as "life-changing." Watch for more details in the 2005 catalog.

Yosemite Birding Festival

"Great," "wonderful" and "excellent" were just some of the words used to describe the first Yosemite Birding Festival. And we had so much fun this year that we decided to do it again. So mark you calendars for June 19-21, 2005—we hope to see you there!



Half Dome: A Unique Perspective

In her class, "A Writer's Walk in Yosemite," Beth Pratt cited the overused clichés employed to describe Half Dome—majestic, grand—and challenged her students to depict Half Dome using at least two of the following words: chicken, artichoke, null, knot, garrulous, monkey-bars, tropical, allergic, sleaze-ball, dill pickle, bayonet, and waxy. Here's a sampling of their creative results:

"Sitting here with the almost tropical breeze blowing my hair, I stare at that monstrosity big rock. I have a knot in my stomach just thinking of how chicken I am to climb its heights again when what I really want is to scale its surface like the monkey-bars I used to climb on in school."

—*Laura Hennessee-Smith*

"Half Dome in all its glorious grandeur appears to be an artichoke cut in half—a knot of granite tied by the hands of the Goddess." —*Anonymous*

"It is so much fun to see Half Dome again with the Indian's face. What a profile with the nose of a dill pickle, weeping eyes, and a knot of hair at the back of the neck. It almost seems as though the Indian maiden has chicken wings for shoulder blades." — *Anne Mingus*

"You would have to be allergic to nature's best work not to be instantly enamored with Half Dome's beauty, even though its face was as cold and hard as the monkey-bars we played on in school. Nothing lush or tropical about it, yet the heat it generated in your heart was as real and sharp as a platinum bayonet." —*Anonymous*

JOHN HAWKSWORTH: A GIANT AMONG THE BIG TREES

When it comes to tree huggers, there have been very few who could compare with John Hawksworth of North Fork. By many measurements, the long-time Yosemite Association member may have been the biggest of them all. John (William J.) Hawksworth died on February 15, 2004 after a brief illness – and after a quarter century of stewardship of the giant sequoias.

Up until a few months before his passing, Hawksworth continued to work in the Mariposa Grove, volunteering his time and devoting his talents to inventorying and protecting the sequoias of Yosemite's famed Mariposa Grove. John was on the phone with his NPS supervisor just a few days before he died, sharing his concerns and thoughts about his beloved trees. His labor of love was identifying, measuring, and photographing all but one of the 479 mature giant sequoias in the grove.

Once he started, his "sequoia-sized" project proved to be much like a piece of bear meat; the more he chewed on it, the bigger it got. He once acknowledged that the inventory of the grove was a bit more than he expected. "It was a big job, much bigger than I realized, but the park service really didn't know how many trees they have in the grove."

The process was a rigorous one. To begin, Hawksworth plotted the precise location of each tree by taking a compass reading to a known, stable, refer-

ence point, such as the Grizzly Giant or the chimney of the Mariposa Grove Museum. Then he began the actual measurements – no simple task for one person. The job required determining the height, based on distance and angle and some high school geometry.

After determining the height, Hawksworth measured the circumference at ground level and the width and height of any fire scars. Other pertinent information, such as lean, twist, unusual limbs, and the condition of the crown were also noted. Finally, he turned photographer, capturing the tree on film.

Working by himself, Hawksworth was able to measure and inventory several trees a day. In addition to the 479 mature giant sequoias, John documented 102 fallen sequoias, fifteen sequoia snags, seven sequoia stumps, and innumerable sequoia seedlings.

Among his findings is that sequoia re-generation has improved markedly under the park's prescribed burning program. In one twenty-five-foot-square plot, he counted 600 thriving seedlings. Hawksworth also discovered that the big trees are "big drinkers." A typical sequoia requires from 800 to 1,000 gallons of water a day. To establish how they are supplied, he traced the water strata for each tree. "It's the water. That's why they are there."

Somehow his "one-year" survey took a little longer than originally planned, stretching to seven years. "The best part about this is that I get to be around the

sequoias. The worst part is the arrival of the fall weather each year, that puts a damper on the project," John said in 2001. "I've really enjoyed it. Since I am a volunteer, I can take my time. That's allowed me to enjoy the visitors to the grove."

Dr. Jan van Wagendonk, Yosemite's research scientist, said Hawksworth's study represents the most comprehensive record ever made of the Mariposa Grove. The survey should help future dendrochronologists and researchers by providing complete baseline information for the sequoia resources within the grove.

John noticed that in the Mariposa

John Hawksworth, center, in deep discussion with Burrel Maier (right) and fellow volunteer Bill Krause (left) in Wawona.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JEFF LAHR.

Grove, as in the Tuolumne Grove (to the north) and the Nelder Grove (nearby to the south), there appear to be distinct age classes of sequoias. One would expect to find sequoias of all sizes, but that's not the case.

During the twenty summers he lived in the Nelder Grove, John counted the rings of many of the 277 stumps that were cut there in the late nineteenth century. John discovered that there are distinct age classes and gaps in age groups in the Nelder Grove, too. Similarly, in the Tuolumne Grove, the "Dead Giant" and the living "Patriarch" or "Granddad Tree" are much larger and certainly much older than any of the other sequoias around them.

John's findings revealed the existence of distinct age classes in the sequoia groves, but no study has addressed the issue. The questions of why these age classes develop and why there are gaps in the ages of sequoias growing within the same grove remain unanswered.

Ray Warren, a long-time Yosemite-ophile and member of the Yosemite Historical Collectors Association, believes no one knew more about sequoias than John Hawksworth.

In a letter to John dated just five weeks before Hawksworth's death, Yosemite National Park Superintendent Michael J. Tollefson wrote: "Your knowledge and perspective have helped to guide policy and allow us to better protect Yosemite National Park. The in-depth study of the Mariposa Grove that you have accomplished over the past seven years greatly increases



PHOTO COURTESY OF DWIGHT BARNES/FRESNO FLATS RESEARCH LIBRARY.

John with the model he made by hand of California Mill No. 4, which was located in the Nelder Grove of Giant Sequoias in the late 1800's. John constructed models of this and auxiliary buildings over a two-year period, using old photos of the area and a magnifying glass. He carefully measured building sizes, counted boards and shakes and recreated each building and structure to scale.

our knowledge of that grand forest. Thank you for your years of dedicated volunteer service and thank you, John, for all that you do to help protect and preserve Yosemite National Park."

A career employee of the U.S. Forest Service, Hawksworth retired from that agency after twenty-four years of service. He had been the "institutional memory" for the Sierra National Forest, having begun working for the agency before World War II, when its headquarters were at North Fork. After his retirement, Hawksworth and his wife Marge spent twenty summers as volunteer caretakers at the Nelder Grove of Sequoias, located in the Sierra National Forest about nine miles south of the Mariposa Grove.

During that period, Hawksworth stumbled upon a downed and partially-buried sequoia. Studies of samples from the tree showed the wood fibers to be 10,000 years old – some of the oldest known organic material.

Following his wife's death in 1997, Hawksworth realized that the Nelder Grove was filled with too many memories. He looked for other opportunities to work with and serve his sequoia friends, and landed as a volunteer in Yosemite's Mariposa Grove.

"In addition to accomplishing his survey, John readily shared his vast knowledge with park rangers, other NPS staff, tram drivers in the Mariposa Grove, and any visitor who was fortunate enough to meet him," says Dean Shenk, NPS Supervisory Interpreter at the Mariposa Grove. "John taught the rest of us what it really is to be a ranger, and what it really means to be a steward of the land."

Hawksworth quickly proved to be a strong advocate for his new grove and its trees. His observations about visitor impacts to the trees prompted the NPS to install new barriers and other controls.

Visitors were damaging some of the mammoth trees by seeing how high they could climb up the trunks, and it was showing. In addition, heavy foot traffic around some of the more popular trees has exposed the roots.

"The park service needs to consider fencing for some of these trees," he said. In response, Yosemite's NPS Division of Resources Management and Science provided John with the materials to create several hundred fence posts which sit on top of the ground, in contrast to traditional fence posts that need to be put in a post hole. John spent his last days in the Mariposa Grove installing this novel fence to help protect the Columbia Tree and other trees near the museum.

His inventory has paid dividends in still other ways. In his efforts to assist Hawksworth, park historian James Snyder uncovered a forgotten map of the grove, completed in 1868 by Yosemite's premier mapmaker, Charles Hoffmann, in the University of California's Bancroft Library.

In a eulogy prepared for Hawksworth's memorial service, Superintendent Tollefson wrote: "John was a valuable advisor to Yosemite's resource managers, fire technicians, historians, and interpreters. He was loved and admired by all who met him. I know that my staff, the millions of visitors to Yosemite, and the precious resources of Yosemite National Park have benefited from the life and efforts of John Hawksworth. He will be missed."

Gene Rose is a long-time YA member, the author of a number of Sierra-related books including Magic Yosemite Winters, and a retired journalist living in Fresno. His history of the Tioga high country will be published by YA this year.

A YA Family Celebrates a Special Day

*The Ahwahnee
A special place
A special lady
Becomes eighty*

is how the invitation read for the 80th Birthday celebration for Sotiria Knoblich and fifteen "crazy adult" children and grandchildren, all members of YA. Hosted by Paul and June Knoblich of Castro Valley, CA for Paul's mother Sotiria, the April 16 – 18, 2004, family gathering proved to be a fabulous time to reconnect with one another and with Yosemite National Park where, forty years ago, the Knoblich parents and their teenage children vacationed for many summers.

The Ahwahnee hotel was quite a step up from the Housekeeping Units where the Knoblich's used to vacation. It was the first time ever that Sotiria and her husband Chester (who turned 80 the following month) stayed at the historic hotel. The surprise birthday celebration began with Sotiria's children and grandchildren entering slowly, one by one, into the hotel dining room to join the Knoblich couple for lunch. Shortly afterwards, everyone was given a bright blue Yosemite Association 80th Anniversary Logo Vest to wear, which made the group hard to miss as they paraded about the hotel on their private tour. "We couldn't resist getting everyone an 80th Anniversary vest to wear for this 80th Birthday celebration," said son Paul. "How nice of the Yosemite Association to time their 80th year around my mother's birthday!" he smiled.

That evening, everyone dressed up for a lovely reception in the JFK Suite. Personal tributes were given by the eight grandchildren, their goddaughter (who traveled from Wyoming) and their three children and spouses. Sotiria glowed as her praises were sung and was amazed by the early memories shared and their impact on the lives of her family during those tender young years. The group was also treated to a surprise visit from Park Superintendent Mike Tollefson, who upon arriving in uniform, was asked by son Greg Knoblich "Oh, oh, what did we do wrong now?" The evening concluded with a marriage blessing by Sotiria and Chester's parish priest Fr. Chris Flesoras, who along with his wife Crissy, shared the weekend celebration.

The remainder of the weekend included watching a DVD of highlights of fifty years of home movies edited by their grandson David, a photographer and filmmaker in New York; posing for portraits on the grounds of The Ahwahnee (which were compiled into



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID NICHOLAS KNOBLICH PHOTOGRAPHY.

The Knoblich Family in one of many lighthearted moments during the weekend. Front row, left to right: goddaughter Terry Santoni, June and son Paul Knoblich, Sotiria and Chester Knoblich, daughter Patti Knoblich Gonzales, son Greg Knoblich and his wife Geri Bray. Back row, left to right: grandchildren Sara and Kristi Knoblich, Weston Walker Knoblich, Lauren Herrera, and Nick, Jenny, and Katie Gonzales.

a beautiful portrait album given to Grandpa Chet on his 80th birthday the following month); hiking in the rain from The Ahwahnee to Yosemite Falls with local artist, naturalist and resident Penny Otwell; and viewing up close and personal many prints made by Ansel Adams as gallery curator Glenn Crosby imparted the legacy of the master photographer.

The Knoblich family thanks the National Park Service, DNC at Yosemite, The Ansel Adams Gallery, and the Yosemite Association for helping to make this gathering a joyous and truly memorable experience.

FAREWELL GOOD FRIEND: A REMEMBRANCE OF BILL KRAUSE

BY KIMBERLY
CUNNINGHAM-SUMMERFIELD

Spring, summer, and fall always bring flowers, bird, wildlife, and curious individuals to Wawona, Bridalveil, and McGurk Meadows. For the past forty-five years, Bill Krause guided the curious to share his “love of all things nature” in these regions. On March 13, 2004, after a lengthy battle with cancer, long-time Yosemite Association member and park resident William “Bill” Krause took another path, one we cannot yet follow.

Bill was born in 1921 in Los Angeles, California. He attended local schools there including Loyola University, before joining the United States Air Force during World War II. He served as a bombardier stationed primarily in England. When the war ended Bill enrolled at USC, obtained his degree, and became a teacher. Bill took a position teaching English and history at Roosevelt High School in Fresno, California.

Things weren’t much different back then; teachers still needed summer employment to help make ends meet. During one of his initial searches for such work, he found a seasonal job in Yellowstone National Park as a bartender in the Canyon House. It was there that he met and fell in love with his soul mate Pat, and they later married. She too had found summer employment at the Canyon House, as a waitress. Pat likes to think that their



Bill Krause discusses the significance of Mewuk artifacts.

marriage was the beginning of the best years of Bill’s life and Bill would likely agree with her on this point.

Both applied early on in their marriage for summer

work in Yosemite. In 1953 they were hired by the concessioner and worked for several summers. They lived in the “little white cabin” behind the Wawona Hotel. Eventually they purchased a small cabin nearby to use as their summer home. Their three children were born between 1954 and 1960, and together the family began exploring Yosemite.

These family excursions led Bill to start taking Yosemite Natural History Association Field Seminars



PHOTO COURTESY OF NANCY ROBBINS.

Bill Krause.

(now called Outdoor Adventures). One of his first seminars was “A Walk and Overnight to Ostrander Lake with Carl Sharsmith.” Both Bill and Pat attended this outing and became “amazed with [Carl’s] ability to remember each tiny little sprout in the ground.” And so began Bill’s lifelong enthrallment with “all things nature.” He began to study and study.

In the 1970s Bill worked as an announcer for the local Fresno station broadcasting PBS’s *Sesame Street*, and helped as a YA volunteer in the Wawona information station and kiosks.

By the 1980s Bill’s ability to ascertain need led him to begin giving interpretive walks on a weekly basis. His love of meeting people and eagerness to share, combined with support and encouragement from the NPS, allowed him to develop several programs and nature walks. All this combined with his great sense of diplomacy drew his appreciative audiences in.

One of his favorite walks was to McGurk Meadow from the Bridalveil Creek Campground. He often encouraged visitors to wake up in the morning so they wouldn't miss a once-in-a-lifetime view or some other special opportunity, each time receiving thanks from those who heeded his call.

Junior ranger-type classes sponsored by the library in Wawona were a joy for Bill. Watching the faces of young children scrunch up with thought, or brighten with a sudden understanding or discovery, always delighted him, because he knew then that he had shared something special with them.

Historical structures, forgotten graveyards, pioneer and Indian sites, life ways, and unique and little-known aspects of history, all became integral parts of his walks by the end of the '80s. Bill found wonderment in his interaction with people, teaching and learning along the way.

I remember one of our first encounters, outside the Indian Cultural Museum lobby in Yosemite Valley. I was rushing about, not paying much mind to anything, when I heard a voice behind me say, "Hey umm, Kimberly, you probably don't remember me but could you answer a few questions for me?" Oh what a beginning that was; Bill had an unquenchable thirst for learning.

I learned much along the way from Bill regarding the drive and commitment necessary to make a project a reality. In the late 1990s Bill wanted to develop a Wawona Mewuk interpretive program. He began to research his topic and question any possible source that he could find. Bill's passion was contagious to anyone who spent time with him. At the same time, he was sincerely sensitive to his subject matter as well as to individuals.

It is with laughter that I remember how excited Bill got when he watched a little Indian boy chew alder bark to dye dogbane string a beautiful orange color. He hadn't ever imagined such a thing, and he bounced up and down like a small child himself.

Just as the boy finished dyeing the string, Bill asked if he could have it. Mouth still full of bark, saliva, and string, the boy nodded permission. As Bill pulled the string from the boy's mouth, he giggled and gently removed the excess bark. "Oh this is so beautiful. I can really have it?" I believe this string is still a part of the Mewuk program Bill developed.

To give a program, Bill would write, rewrite, and rewrite again the many drafts until he felt that it met all his expectations. His standards were very high. His passion for Yosemite remains never-ending, as does his desire to learn and to share.

The last week of February Bill called and left a mes-

sage for me – he had a favor to ask. When we spoke, he told me things weren't so good, but quickly changed the subject. "You know the flutes Ben [my husband] makes? Do you think he could make one for Pat to play for me?" Sure, I responded. "I need it pretty soon," he said.

We started to make the flute; we had time, or so we thought. Bill called back and told us that plans had changed, and they were going to Texas to visit family and were leaving in just a few days; could the flute be done by then? When we delivered it to him before his departure, Ben offered both Pat and Bill a lesson in playing the flute. It sang deep and melancholy just like the sun rising or setting. "Oh another thing," Bill said, "I found a young man to take over my [Mewuk] programs. Can you meet him next week? I really don't want them to end with me."

Days later my co-worker called me into his office. "I think this message is really for you – listen." Bill's voice came out of the machine, "Ahh Kimberly and Ben, I need to tell you that this morning Pat and I walked up to this little knoll early with the sun and my flute sang the morning in. Oh, it was wonderful. I just thought you should know I got it to sing."

On June 18, 2004, Bill and his flute came home to Yosemite, home to Wawona. The flute's melancholy voice joined the sounds of the breeze through the few wildflowers, of the birds' lilt, and of the voices of family and friends remembering their good friend's "love for all things nature."

Farewell good friend, you shall be missed and remembered in the meadows here.



Bill (at right) with an appreciative youthful audience.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MRS. PAT KRAUSE.

Kimberly Cunningham-Summerfield is an Interpretive Park Ranger in Yosemite's Indian Cultural Program. She gratefully acknowledges the generous assistance of Mrs. Pat Krause in preparing this tribute.

MEMBERS PAGES

Royal Robbins to Address YA Members

Internationally acclaimed climber Royal Robbins will speak at the Yosemite Association's 29th Annual Members' Meeting, to be held at Wawona on Saturday, September 18, 2004. Among dozens of first ascents Royal has made in Yosemite are three new routes on El Capitan and five on the face of Half Dome.

After marrying fellow climber Elizabeth (Liz) Burkner (the first woman to climb the face of Half Dome), the two opened a successful climbing school called Rockcraft located in Modesto, California. Later, they founded Mountain

Paraphernalia, which we all now know as "Royal Robbins." The Royal Robbins company supports many environmental causes and has an exemplary recycling program. Each employee is required to devote at least one hour a week to community service. Royal Robbins himself is a dynamic example, by contributing countless volunteer hours to local Boy Scout troops, serving on the board of directors for the Yosemite Fund, and introducing programs with the American Alpine Club. When not volunteering, Robbins is working on his autobiography.

Royal, in addition to being the keynote speaker for Saturday's Members' Meeting, will join Liz Robbins as honored guests at a special reception on Friday night for members who have paid membership dues or have donated \$250 or more to YA in the last year.

Members were mailed details about the meeting and the room lottery for lodging in July. In addition to keynote speaker Royal Robbins, the day will include an address by Park Superintendent Mike Tollefson, naturalist walks, lunch on the hotel lawn, a wine and cheese reception after the meeting, our popular fundraising raffle, and an old-fashioned evening barn dance. Royal Robbins will be available to talk with members during the reception.

There is always a greater demand for accommodations than there is space at the Wawona Hotel. Alternative lodging is available inside and out of the park. For suggestions or to upgrade your membership for Friday's special reception with the Robbins, please call the membership department at (209) 379-2317. We look forward to seeing you at Wawona in September!



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROYAL ROBBINS.

Royal and Liz Robbins sitting after Royal's first solo ascent of El Capitan.

Spend \$100 Online and YA Receives Up To \$15!

What's the catch? There is none! GreaterGood.com has gathered together scores of merchants who want to support nonprofit causes such as the Yosemite Association; those merchants will donate up to 15% of your purchase back to YA. You pay exactly the same price you'd pay if you shopped with the merchant directly, but if you shop through the Yosemite Association's GreaterGood.com site, up to 15% of each purchase will go back to your favorite cause—YA!

More than 140 online retailers participate in this program, including many recognizable names such as: Avon, Barnes&Noble.com, Gateway, Hickory Farms, JC Penney, Lands' End, L.L. Bean, Nordstrom, Priceline.com, REI, Target, Tom's of Maine, and Yankee Candle. Access the complete list of participating companies at www.yosemite.greatergood.com and please remember to "Start at Greater Good When You Shop Online!"

GreaterGood.com
Shop where it matters.

Member Info Line 209/379-2317

If you're planning a trip to Yosemite and have questions, give our phone line a call between the hours of 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.

YA Student Interns Return!

PROGRAM A JOINT OFFERING WITH NPS, UC MERCED

PHOTO COURTESY OF RAYE SANTOS, NPS.



Thanks to the support of Yosemite Association members, YA and the National Park Service's Education Branch were able to reinstitute the student intern program this summer. Because the program had been suspended for several years due to financial constraints, the talented students who contribute so much at the park have been sorely missed.

Hoping to strengthen ties with the recently-established UC Merced (UCM), YA and the NPS recruited interns from among graduates of the Environmental Science Academy (the award winning UCM/Merced Union High School District/Yosemite outreach program) and through UCM's community college to UC program. Donny Munshower, Transfer/Concurrent Admissions Program Coordinator at UCM, assisted with recruiting. After the UC Merced campus opens in 2005, interns will be recruited directly from undergraduate departments there.

YA allocated \$10,000 in 2004 for the intern program; that sum covers a small stipend and scholarships for four students. Recently, the NPS assigned a government-owned house in Wawona to YA for housing the interns, which will save on rent costs and allow for more to be allocated to scholarships.

As the new intern house has been empty for four years and needs work, Tom Medema (branch chief for NPS interpretive field operations) and Steve Medley (YA's president) applied for and received a grant in the amount of \$6,000 from the NPS Pacific West Regional Office to allow for repairs and furnishings. The grant, which must be matched by YA, will fund furniture, appliances, and household items, along with new wiring to be installed this fall.

The four student interns selected for the summer are Mario Dominguez, Aubrie Piland, Ramona Sedillo, and Jeovani Ortega. Mario, a graduate of the Environmental Science Academy, is

The YA student interns for 2004 are, front row, left to right: Mario Dominguez, Aubrie Piland, Jeovani Ortega, and Ramona Sedillo. Behind them from left are Chris Stein, NPS Chief of Interpretation, Keith Alley, Vice-Chancellor at UC Merced and YA board member, Steve Medley, YA president, and Dean Shenk, NPS interpretive ranger in Wawona.

a student at UC Riverside majoring in Environmental Science. He plans to work full time in the park one day. Aubrie is studying to become a registered nurse at Merced Junior College and hopes to work in pediatrics.

When Ramona Sedillo finishes her psychology studies at Merced College she intends to transfer to UC Merced and earn a master's degree in psychology (for work with children). Jeovani Ortega is attending Merced College and majoring in architecture. He hopes to design and construct sustainable buildings.

This summer, the foursome will be working in the Wawona area, staffing the visitor information station at Hill's Studio, guiding walks in the Mariposa Grove, and offering interpretive programs in the Wawona Campground. They are supplying invaluable help to the park staff, and providing services that visitors might not otherwise receive.

YA Thanks the Help Desk Gurus

At some time during the day here at YA, we look at all the machines around us and think of the staff running this operation eighty years ago with pen and paper. For keeping us from this fate, we would like to thank the able people at the National Park Service Information Technology Help Desk in Yosemite for their generous assistance and occasional rescue: Kevin Bowman, Rita McMurdy, Vince Miele, Chuck Pribyl, Dan Sohn, Ron Watson, and Jon Youngblood. We are deeply grateful for your continuous support!

May We Share Your Address with Other Nonprofits?

Occasionally we have the opportunity to trade our mailing list with other nonprofit organizations, so that both entities may increase our membership rosters and enhance our ability to support our respective parks or institutions. List trades are invaluable to nonprofits because they introduce us to new potential members while helping us minimize our operational costs. Although we have rarely capitalized on such opportunities, we would like to be able to do so in the future when we know the other organizations to be reputable and to have

something of value to offer to our members. If you would prefer not to have us share your name and address, please notify the Membership department by calling us Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at 209-379-2317, by sending an e-mail to info@yosemite.org, or by mailing a note to us at P.O. Box 230, El Portal, CA 95318. All "do not share" requests will be acknowledged and will be honored in perpetuity. Note that telephone numbers and e-mail addresses are not released or traded for any reason.



ASSOCIATION DATES

Legend:
OA = Outdoor Adventure
YAC = Yosemite Art Center (formerly "Art Activity Center")

AUGUST

Aug: Summer 2004 issue of the members' journal *Yosemite* to be mailed this month

Aug 1: OA: Meadows, Forests, & Wildflowers Along Tioga Road

Aug 2 – 6: OA: Life at the Top of the Sierra

Aug 2 – 7: YAC: Free watercolor/mixed media art lessons with Carol Earle

Aug 7: OA: Yoga & Creative Writing In Yosemite

Aug 7: OA: A Dome in a Day

Aug 7 – 8: OA: The Explorer's Portal: Keeping a Journal in Yosemite

Aug 8: OA: Skywatching in Yosemite

Aug 9: OA: Panorama Trail Hike

Aug 9: OA: Junior Ranger Adventure

Aug 9 – 14: YAC: Free acrylic and acrylic ink art lessons with Al Setton

Aug 12 – 15: OA: Family Camping Jamboree

Aug 14 – 15: OA: Fire in Yosemite: Past & Present

Aug 14 – 17: OA: Tuolumne Meadows *en plein air*

Aug 15 – 21: OA: Into the North Park II: Advanced Backpack

Aug 15 – 21: Rafferty Creek Backcountry Restoration Work Week

Aug 16 – 21: YAC: Free watercolor art lessons with Chris Van Winkle

Aug 19 – 22: OA: Pastel Painting in Yosemite: Tuolumne

Aug 23 – 28: YAC: Free pen/ink/watercolor art lessons with Pam Pederson

Aug 26 – 29: OA: High Country Day Hikes

Aug 27 – 30: OA: Marvelous Mt. Conness

Aug 28 – 29: OA: Feeling the Earth: Opening to Nature with Breema

Aug 30 – Sep 4: YAC: Free watercolor lessons with Robert Dvorak

SEPTEMBER

Sep 4: OA: The Story Behind the Scenery: The Geology of the Tuolumne Meadows Region

Sep 5: OA: Fall Birding in Tuolumne Meadows

Sep 6: YA Administrative Office closed for Labor Day

Sep 6 – 11: YAC: Free basic drawing lessons with Pat Devitt

Sep 9 – 12: OA: Hawks in Flight: Raptor Migration

Sep 9 – 12: OA: Backpacking the Sawtooth Range

Sep 10 – 12: OA: Ice, Wind & Fire: Yosemite Landscapes

Sep 11: OA: A Dome in a Day

Sep 11: OA: Yoga & Creative Writing in Yosemite

Sep 13 – 18: YAC: Free watercolor lessons with Pat Hunter

Sep 17: OA: Skywatching in Yosemite

Sep 17: Reception with Royal and Liz Robbins in Wawona for donor members of \$250 or more

Sep 18: 29th Annual Members' Meeting, Wawona

Sep 20 – 25: YAC: Free watercolor lessons with Osamu Saito

Sep 21 – 24: OA: Wetlands Restoration & Ecology

Sep 25: OA: Massage for Hikers and Backpackers

Sep 26 – Oct 2: Yosemite Valley Ecological Restoration Projects Work Week

Sep 27 – Oct 2: YAC: Free watercolor lessons with Fealing Lin

Sep 30: Last day to view exhibit of Chris Jorgenson paintings at Yosemite Museum Gallery

Sep 30 – Oct 3: OA: Drawing & Pastel Painting in Yosemite

Late Sep: Happy Isles Nature Center and Tuolumne Visitor Center & Bookstore close for the season (tentative)

OCTOBER

Oct 1 – 3: OA: Tule Twined Basket Making

Oct 2: Reception and Dinner on Ahwahnee Meadow for member donors of \$1,000 or more

Oct 14 – 17: OA: Autumn Light: Photography in Yosemite Valley and Beyond

Mid-Oct: Wawona Information Station & Bookstore at Hill's Studio, Mariposa Grove Museum store, and Tuolumne

Wilderness Center & Bookstore close for the season (tentative)

Oct 16: OA: OA: Sentinel Dome & Taft Point

Oct 17: OA: McGurk Meadow & Dewey Point

Oct 28 – 31: OA: Focusing on Nature: Autumn Photography in Yosemite

Late Oct: Yosemite Valley Wilderness Center & Bookstore closes for the season (tentative)

NOV./
DEC.
2005
DATES

Nov: Fall 2004 issue of the members' journal *Yosemite* and 2005 Outdoor Adventure Catalog to be mailed this month

Nov: Big Oak Flat Information Station & Bookstore closes for the season (tentative)

Nov 25 – 26: YA Administrative Office closed for Thanksgiving

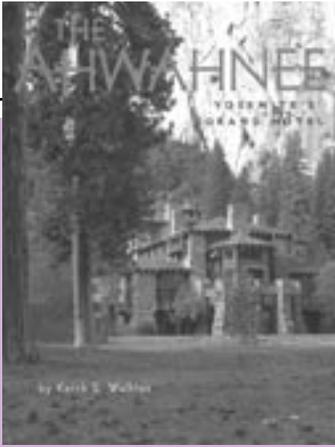
Dec 24: YA Administrative Office closed for Christmas

March 19, 2005: Members' Spring Forum, Yosemite Valley

September 10, 2005: 30th Annual Members' Meeting, Tuolumne Meadows

For an expanded events calendar, visit: www.yosemite.org/member/calendar.htm.

YOSEMITE CATALOG



The Ahwahnee – Yosemite’s Grand Hotel

by Keith S. Walklet.

It has been called the finest hotel in the national park system. Surrounded by three-thousand-foot granite cliffs and forests of immense pines in the heart of California’s Yosemite Valley, The Ahwahnee was built to attract visitors of wealth and means at a time when American society was developing a love affair with the automobile.

The Ahwahnee quickly emerged as the standard by which other national park lodges are measured. This monumental hotel of stone, timber, concrete, and steel remains a remarkable achievement, a rare convergence of art and vision, combining the talents of public servants, architects, engineers, designers, and craftsmen.

The dramatic story of this remarkable hotel, designated as a national historic monument, is detailed from conception to completion to contemporary times in a carefully researched narrative by author/photographer Keith S. Walklet.

The oversized volume is illustrated with some 50 historic photographs and over 70 new color images. It is 64 pages long, 9 inches x 12 inches in size, illustrated in full color, and case bound with a dust jacket. Copyright 2004, DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite and Yosemite Association. \$19.95; **member price \$16.96**

The Complete Guidebook to Yosemite National Park – 5th Revised Edition

by Steven P. Medley.

Here is the revised and expanded 5th edition of this comprehensive work by YA’s president that has become a standard reference for visitors to Yosemite; there are now over 100,000 copies of the guidebook in print. New to this edition are several jokes, updated and improved shaded relief maps, new phone numbers, addresses, and concessioner names, and a list of “curiously-named climbing routes.”

Informative and very useful, the guidebook features things to see and do, provides reservation information, lists hiking trails and backpacking tips, information about Yosemite’s history, place names, and coverage of its natural world. Even the off-beat is included, with fascinating lists of unusual facts and other information. Stay current on the state of Yosemite – buy this updated guidebook!

The book is 120 pages and 5 inches x 9.5 inches in size. It is illustrated in color and black-and-white, and perfect bound. Copyright 2004, Yosemite Association. \$11.95; **member price \$10.16**



Yosemite: Half a Century of Dynamic Rock Climbing

by Alexander Huber & Heinz Zak.

Yosemite Valley is the leading center for world rock climbing. Famous figures in the sport like John Salathe, Royal Robbins, and Warren Harding have immortalized their names in the granite of the valley. The giant walls of El Capitan and Half Dome retain a powerful appeal and climbers from around the world visit to pay homage to one of their many big wall climbs.



Alexander Huber, who is deeply involved in today’s dynamic Yosemite scene, has drawn from the key histories and other books and magazine accounts to produce a commentary on over 100 years of climbing history from the earlier pioneering epics to today’s super athletic big wall feats.

His fast-moving account is illustrated by Heinz Zak’s outstanding photographs and given luster by key accounts of major climbs from Warren Harding, Royal Robbins, Jim Bridwell, Mark Chapman, Jerry Moffatt, John Long, Peter Croft, Lynn Hill, Thomas Huber, Dean Potter, and Leo Houlding. The book is 176 pages and 9.5 inches x 12.5 inches in size. It is illustrated in color and black-and-white, and hard bound with a dust jacket. Copyright 2002, Menasha Ridge Press. \$45; **member price \$38.25**



To see an expanded list of the Yosemite-related books, maps, and products we offer for sale, visit the full-featured, secure **Yosemite Store** on the internet at: <http://yosemitestore.com>



IdentiFlyer Audio Bird Song Dictionary

by For the Birds.

With this handy, palm-sized device you can quickly identify bird songs with the press of a button. It utilizes song cards (each featuring ten different bird songs) which are activated by the use of buttons on the face of the device.

The package includes a song player with speaker, a single earbud for private listening, 2 song cards (20 bird songs), an IdentiFlyer Guide,

and 3 AAA batteries (already installed). The song cards are entitled “Yard Birds One” and “Yard Birds Two,” and include familiar birds such as the American robin, the mockingbird, the downy woodpecker, the red-winged blackbird, and the house finch.

You can create a library of birdsongs by adding more song cards to your collection. The IdentiFlyer is designed for birders from beginner to expert of all ages. Produced by For the Birds, Seneca, SC.

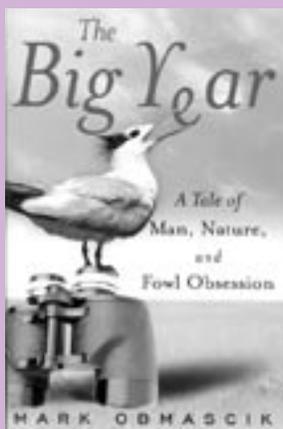
\$35.50; **member price \$30.18**



IdentiFlyer Song Cards for Birds of the Forest & Western Yardbirds

by For the Birds.

These cards are for use with the IdentiFlyer dictionary and supplement the two song cards that are provided with the device. “Birds of the Forest” includes species such as the great horned owl, the hermit thrush, and the pileated woodpecker, while “Western Yardbirds” features the Steller’s jay, northern oriole, dark-eyed junco, and more. Each card contains 10 different bird songs. Produced by For the Birds, Seneca, SC. \$10.50 each; **member price \$8.93 each**



The Big Year – A Tale of Man, Nature, and Fowl Obsession

by Mark Obmascik.

Every year on January 1, a quirky crowd of adventurers storms out across North America for a spectacularly competitive event called a Big Year – a grand, grueling, expensive, and occasionally vicious “extreme” 365-day marathon of birdwatching. This book chronicles the whirlwind battle waged by three men in 1998 to set a new North American birding record.

Prize-winning journalist Mark Obmascik creates a rollicking, dazzling narrative of the 275,000-mile odyssey of these three obsessives as they fight to finish the contest. It is a captivating tour of human and avian nature, passion and paranoia, honor and deceit, fear and loathing. This is a lark of a read for anyone with birds on the brain or not.

The book is 268 pages long, and 5.75 inches x 8.75 inches in size. It is case bound with a dust jacket. Copyright 2004, The Free Press. \$25; **member price \$21.25**

GPS Made Easy (4th edition)

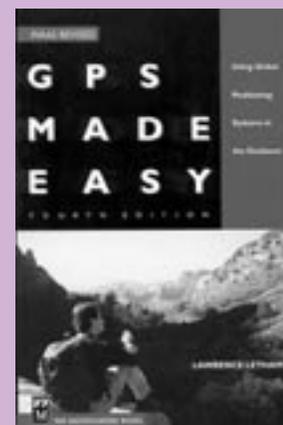
by Lawrence Letham.

This well-written introduction to Global Positioning Systems makes the complex topic easy to understand. Among the subjects covered are how GPS works, the features of all common receivers, and practical step-by-step examples of GPS use in the wilderness.

There’s also discussion of GPS use with maps and in rough terrain and varied conditions. The revised edition includes chapters on the use of GPS enhanced technology, such as PDAs, pocket PCs, and more.

The book is 208 pages long, and 5.5 inches x 8.5 inches in size.

It is illustrated in black-and-white and has a paperback binding. Copyright 2003, The Mountaineers Books. \$15.95; **member price \$13.56**

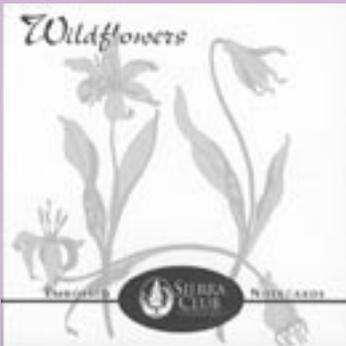


Sequoia – The Heralded Tree in American Art and Culture

by Lori Vermaas.

In this wide-ranging analysis of the cultural meaning of the California sequoias, the author reveals how Americans have seen nature as an inspiration, a natural resource, and a natural treasure. She looks at depictions of the trees over the years and how they reflect the often-fraught relationship between Americans and nature.

This thought-provoking work presents a timely perspective on both the environment and American culture, offering a new understanding of the contentious battles over nature today. The book is 272 pages and 6.25 inches x 9.25 inches in size. Illustrated with many black-and-white images, it is case bound with a dust jacket. Copyright 2003, Smithsonian Books. \$39.95; **member price \$33.96**



Sierra Club Embossed Notecards —Wildflowers and Animal Tracks

by Pomegranate Communications.



Each of these boxed sets of notecards includes four different embossed designs. The wildflowers box features the elegant forms of columbine, dogtooth violet, hepatica, and snowdrop, and scientific names and brief notes about the plants appear on the back of the cards.

The animal tracks box reproduces the tracks made by four different animals: the grizzly bear, gray wolf, raccoon, and barn owl. Information about the tracks appears

on the back of the notecards. Each box contains 12 notecards (3 each of 4 designs) with 12 envelopes. The embossings are made on ivory-colored, textured, recycled card stock. \$15 each box; **member price \$12.75 each box**



Yosemite in the 1930s—A Remembrance

by Fernando Peñalosa.

They are all gone: the Firefall, bear feeding, the life-zone dioramas in the old Museum, the Yosemite Junior Nature School, the Camp Curry Dance Hall, the Old Village, the Camp 14 campfire programs, Chief Lemee, Tabuce, the Ledge Trail, Ash Can Alley and more.

They were all part of the Yosemite that visitors experienced in the 1930s, gone but not forgotten by those who loved them. The author, who has been coming to Yosemite since 1930, makes this unique period of Yosemite's history come to life, as he shares his remembrances and his extensive research. The book is copiously illustrated with period photographs. The book is 220 pages long, 5.25 inches x 8 inches in size, illustrated in black and white, and printed with a paperback binding. Copyright 2002, Quaking Aspen Books. \$10; **member price \$8.50**

Yosemite Association Water Bottle

by Nalgene

This highly functional wide-mouth Nalgene bottle made of super-tough, lexan polycarbonate is now available with the Yosemite Association's new 80th Anniversary Logo in three colors: meadow green, violet, and glacier blue, with white caps.



The bottles are virtually leak-proof, won't conduct heat or cold, and don't affect the taste of water or other liquids. You'll never lose their easy-to-open, attached, screw tops.

Besides the YA logo, the bottles feature permanent gradation marks to make measuring powdered foods and drinks easy.

A bottle weighs 5.3 ounces including attached cap; from Nalgene. \$9.95; **member price \$8.46**

Bear Awareness T-Shirt

by the Yosemite Association.

These striking t-shirts are designed with a message to protect Yosemite black bears, and revenues from sales benefit Yosemite's "Keep Bears Wild" program. The stone-washed shirts are printed with the "Yosemite Wild Bear Project" logo on their fronts, and carry a full-color wood-block illustration of a black bear on their backs.

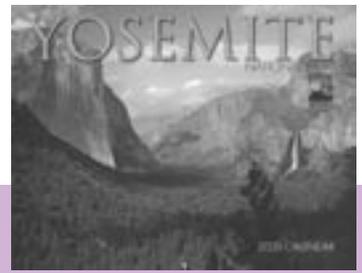


Developed from a poster with the same image, the print reads "A Wild Bear is a Beautiful Sight to See." The pre-shrunk, 100% cotton, garment-washed shirts, manufactured by Anvil, are available in three muted colors: green, tan, and gray. Please indicate your color preference and size (S, M, L, or XL). Sizes run slightly large. \$16; **member price \$13.60**

Yosemite National Park 2005 Calendar

by Tide-Mark Press.

This annual photographic wall calendar is as beautiful as ever for 2005! It features a variety of subjects, from lofty granite domes to snow-laden forests, and from sparkling waterfalls to granitic alpine expanses. Work is included by such renowned photographers as Keith S. Walklet, Dennis Flaherty, Tom and Sylvia Algire, and Douglas Steakley.



From icons in Yosemite Valley to high country landscapes and peaks, these photographers' images capture the spirit of awe John Muir felt so strongly when he made the park his home. Each month is laid out with thumbnails of the previous and following months, and is annotated with important dates and phases of the moon.

The 14 inch x 11 inch calendar unfolds to 14 inches x 22 inches, and is printed in full color. Copyright 2004, Tide-Mark Press. \$12.95; **member price \$11.01**

Yosemite Black Bear Stuffed Animal

This soft and fuzzy stuffed black bear (actually dark brown with a lighter muzzle) comes fitted with a yellow ear tag—just like those used by National Park Service rangers to research and track the bears in Yosemite.



The yellow ear tag is a replica of those actually used in Yosemite, and securely affixed. Washable with warm water and mild soap, the cuddly bear is a great gift for children and bear lovers alike. Available in two sizes: large (14 inches from tail to snout) and small (10.5 inches). Large bear, \$15.95; **member price \$13.56**; small bear, \$10.95; **member price \$9.31**

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NEW MEMBERS AND RECENT DONATIONS

NEW AND REJOINING MEMBERS

Welcome and welcome back to our new and rejoining members! You've connected with more than 10,000 like-minded individuals, families, and businesses helping the association make a Yosemite an even better place.

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Special thanks go to the following members. By recently upgrading your membership level, you've enhanced our ability to provide key educational and other programs in Yosemite.

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We extend our gratitude to our donors who have recently responded to our goal to raise \$100,000 this year. These contributions will support the renovation of the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center lobby and our many other programs and services that promote stewardship and education in Yosemite National Park.

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Since 1923, 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

Park Profile continued from page 11.

What is your most frequently asked question? In Wawona, "How do you get to the Mariposa Grove?" In the Mariposa Grove, "Where's the tree you can drive through?"

What would you tell a visitor to do if they had only one day in Yosemite?

Get up early (very early) and capture the sunrise at Glacier Point. Then head back to Wawona and feast on the breakfast at the Wawona Hotel. Take a tram to the Mariposa Grove Museum and spend the rest of the day walking around the upper portion of the grove until you collapse from the lack of sleep you experienced from viewing that early sunrise.

You've known our President, Steve Medley, for most of the time you've been in Yosemite. What's your favorite Steve story?

I first met Medley when he worked at the research library. I remember him telling me the true story of a park ranger who had gotten fired for lobbying visitors to fill out comment cards in his praise. The ranger would hand out pre-printed comment cards to visitors when they thanked him for a service and ask them if they minded sending them in. As a joke, Steve began sending letters to the Chief of Interpretation at the time [his boss], Len McKenzie, which detailed laughable accounts of Steve's "service" from fictional visitors.



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Join the Yosemite Association

The Yosemite Association initiates and supports interpretive, educational, research, scientific, and environmental programs in Yosemite National Park, in cooperation with the National Park Service. Authorized by Congress, the Association provides services and direct financial support in order to promote park stewardship and enrich the visitor experience.

Besides publishing and selling books, maps, and other materials, YA operates an outdoor adventure program, the Art Activity Center, the bear canister rental program, and the Wilderness Permit Reservation system. Revenues generated by these activities fund a variety of National Park Service programs in Yosemite.

You can help us be successful by becoming a member. Individuals, families, and businesses throughout the country have long supported the Yosemite Association with their dues and participation in our programs.

Won't you join us in our efforts to make Yosemite an even better place?

MOVING?

If you are moving or have recently moved, don't forget to notify us. You are a valued member of the Association, and we'd like to keep in touch with you.

MEMBER BENEFITS

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

- *Yosemite*, the quarterly Association journal;
- 15% discount on all books, products, and tuition for Outdoor Adventures offered by the Association;
- Discounts on lodging rates at properties in and around the park;
- 10% discount at The Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite Valley (some restrictions apply);
- Opportunity to attend member events and to volunteer in the park;
- Know that your support is helping us make a difference in Yosemite National Park.

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

Supporting: *Spirit of Yosemite*, the video version of the award-winning park orientation film

Contributing: *The Yosemite* by John Muir, with photographs and annotations by Galen Rowell

Sustaining: *Yosemite Once Removed—Portraits of the Backcountry*, a book of photos by Claude Fiddler paired with essays about Yosemite's wilderness, plus an invitation to a special gathering during the year

Patron: "Aspen Leaves and Half Dome," a matted 11" x 14" color photograph by Howard Weamer, plus invitations to special gatherings throughout the year

Benefactor: "El Capitan," a matted 8" x 10" Ansel Adams Special Edition Photograph, plus invitations to special gatherings throughout the year, including an elegant evening reception at the Ahwahnee Meadow

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