

# Yosemite

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YOSEMITE ASSOCIATION

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## YOSEMITE'S PIONEER LOWER HOTEL



# A Message from the President

New year's greetings, Yosemite friends! Thanks to you, 2005 proved to be successful for the Yosemite Association on many levels, and the coming year looks to be a promising one. We've finally got snow in the park, there are a number of new YA initiatives in the works, our relationships with our esteemed park partners have never been better, and the vacancies in some key staff positions have been filled. We're very optimistic about 2006.

On page 19 we've included an article about some of the talented new employees who have joined our organization. They range from a lacrosse-playing membership coordinator to a Japanese-speaking administrative coordinator to a just-married-in-Mexico sales operations manager. We say a reluctant goodbye to former Valley Visitor Center store manager Jeanne Andrew, who after nearly thirteen years of employment with YA has moved to Vancouver, Washington with her retired spouse, and to former membership coordinator Chrissy Knight, who's off to pursue new opportunities. We send profuse thanks to them both, and wish them all the best.

If, like me, you'd rather look at pictures than read, we've got a couple of new opportunities for you. Check out our new web cam view of Half Dome from the Ahwahnee Meadow by visiting [www.yosemite.org/vryos/AhwahneeMeadowCam.htm](http://www.yosemite.org/vryos/AhwahneeMeadowCam.htm). It's a great shot, and we thank Dave Stone for hosting the camera and StarDot Technologies for providing it. We've also posted photographs of the YA staff at [www.yosemite.org/aboutya/leadership.html](http://www.yosemite.org/aboutya/leadership.html), so if you've ever wondered if those crazies at YA are actually human, now you can find out!

What's coming up in this new year we're so excited about? With this issue of the journal is the new Yosemite Outdoor Adventures catalog filled with an array of fantastic field courses with something to appeal to just about everyone. We encourage you to enroll in a class today. We've got new publications in the works, including a collection of about 300 of Phil Frank's "Farley" cartoon strips entitled *Eat, Drink & Be Hairy*, and a joint publication with The Yosemite Fund celebrating the completion of the falls project called *Yosemite Falls—An American Icon*.

This spring we'll be hosting our annual Spring Forum (March 25), and the list of speakers and presenters is better than ever. Among them will be Bob Madgic, author of *Shattered Air!*, the story of the visitors struck by lightning on Half Dome in 1985. An excerpt from the book appears in this journal. And this summer we hope to host as many as twelve ethnically-diverse young people from UC Merced as part of our Yosemite Cooperative Student Intern Program. We very much appreciate the financial support that so many of you have provided for this key initiative.

Speaking of money, your response to our year-end appeal was remarkable. Not only did we exceed our targeted goal for the year, but we also continue to receive donations well into 2006. If you haven't sent a gift, why not use the envelope in this journal to help us with the interns and our other important educational programs in Yosemite?

In the meantime, watch for changes at the Yosemite Art Center, improvements to our stores throughout the park, and enhancements of our web site. It's a privilege to have your support as we grow and evolve, and we extend to you our appreciation for that. Best wishes to all for a happy, peaceful, and rewarding new year.



Steven P. Medley, President



*Cover: Alexander Black's Lower Hotel as it appeared in the mid-1870s after being rebuilt and added to over the years.*

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE YOSEMITE RESEARCH LIBRARY. BACKGROUND PHOTO BY BILL BECHER



# YOSEMITE'S PIONEER LOWER HOTEL



The first permanent structure erected by white men in Yosemite, the so-called “Lower Hotel,” played an important role during the first thirty years of tourist visitation to the Valley.<sup>1</sup> Between 1857 and 1887, the rustic, often-remodeled hostelry provided a welcome stopping place for those venturesome travelers who endured the fatiguing and expensive journey required to reach the new scenic wonder during that early period.

In May, 1856, five years after Yosemite Valley was effectively discovered and first entered by non-Indians, “four gentlemen—Judge B. S. Walworth, of New York; John C. Anderson, of Illinois; W. C. Walling, of Pennsylvania; and I. A. Epperson, of Indiana; all single—took up a claim in Yosemite Valley and began living there.”<sup>2</sup> The men were most likely miners from the surrounding area who saw an opportunity to capitalize on Yosemite’s potential as a tourist attraction. They soon began construction of an 18-by-20-foot building made from riven pine boards.

A visitor in July, 1856, described the activity: “We rode slowly along the base of El Capitan, and fording the river beyond, reached the camp of Judge Walworth, directly opposite the ‘High Fall,’ where we remained during our sojourn in the Yohemity. The Judge and his companions,

Messrs. Anderson, Walling, and Epperson, have located lands and partially completed a frame house, which is to be enlarged and opened for the accommodation of visitors early next season. Looking from the edge of the grove in the rear of the house, we obtain a full view of the High Falls, which are the great feature of the valley as far as waterfalls are concerned.”<sup>3</sup>

J. C. Simmons, a Methodist preacher, provided another report of the hotel undertaking in an October 15, 1856, account in the Mariposa Gazette: “Entering the valley on the morning of September 24,” Simmons said, “I found four men engaged in sawing lumber with a whip-saw for a house they intended erecting next spring for the accommodation of visitors—a very good and wise arrangement. All who go there now have to sleep in the open air—ladies and all. We enjoyed the hospitality of Judge Wallworth [sic] and companions today at dinner. They treated us to a fine mess of turnips grown in the valley.”

On August 23, 1856, Ben S. Walworth, who seems to have been the leader of the foursome of Yosemite settlers, filed a 160-acre claim with Mariposa County on a location “nearly opposite the falls.”<sup>4</sup> The tract surrounded the impending hotel structure, which was situated about

*The original Lower Hotel building had been enlarged and improved when this photograph was taken about 1863.*





**Top:** This view of the two-building Lower Hotel was taken in the late 1860s during the period that Fred and Isabella Leidig operated the hotel on a lease from Alexander Black.

**Bottom:** Everything in the parlor of Black's Hotel had to be carried in on the backs of mules over rugged terrain.

700 yards east of Sentinel Creek on the south side of the Merced River below Sentinel Rock.

By the summer of 1857, Walworth's box-like building was sufficiently completed to be opened for business, although who operated the primitive facility is uncertain. Galen Clark, who later served twenty-four years as the Yosemite Guardian in two separate terms, said that the place functioned mainly as a saloon "for that class of visitors who loved whiskey and the sport of gambling." Sometime before the following season (1858), Stephen Cunningham, a Mariposa County miner of "good intelligence," apparently bought into the Walworth claim,

perhaps in partnership with John Anderson, the only one of the original foursome who seems to have remained involved. John Neal and his wife Jean Francis were hired to manage the operation. John had recently lost his Mariposa jewelry store to fire; Jean Francis was the second Euro-American woman to enter Yosemite Valley.

One early visitor described his stop with the Neals as follows: "I secured a bed, such as it was, for my wife, in a rough board shanty occupied by a family that had arrived a few days before to keep a sort of tavern, the woman being the only one within fifty or sixty miles of the place. For myself, a bed of shavings and a blanket under the branches of some trees formed my resting place."

Another 1858 Yosemite tourist told the *Tuolumne Courier* of Columbia that he arrived at "Neal's Hotel" at two o'clock in the afternoon of July 17 and was given a "bower tent" to sleep in, prepared by the hospitality of the "accommodating host, John Neal."

By the spring of 1859, Cunningham and Anderson had made some improvements to their facilities (the Neals lasted only one season as managers). On June 25, 1859, the *Tuolumne Courier* reported:

"Yo-Semite House—This splendid establishment under the management of Messrs. Cunningham and Anderson is now a full tide of success. The visitors at the falls are larger in number than in any previous season, attracted by the scenery in the neighborhood. All of the fashion and all of the nobilities of the state, and of other states, are seen there from time to time. Col. Fremont and Jessie will be there next week. Every accommodation possible is given to visitors, and all the appointments of a first-rate hotel are found in Yo-Semite House."

The *Courier's* laudatory review of the "Yo-Semite House" facilities may have been a bit overstated, as witness this account from a visitor a year later: "Our bedroom consisted of a quarter of a shed screened off by split planks, which rose about eight or ten feet from the ground, and enabled us to hear everything that went on in the other 'rooms,' which were simply stalls in the same shed. Ours had no window, but we could see the stars through the roof. The door, opening out into the forest, was fastened with cow-hinges of skin with the hair on, and a little leather strap which hooked to a nail."

Cunningham seems to have operated the barn-like Lower Hotel alone in 1860.<sup>5</sup> Sometime in the summer of 1861, he sold his interest to Alexander Gordon Black, a Coulterville-area entrepreneur who owned a store and stopping place known as Black's Ranch near the head of the Coulterville Trail to Yosemite at Bull Creek. During the ensuing five years, Black leased the hotel intermittently to Peter Longhurst, a weather-beaten ex-miner turned Yosemite pioneer, and perhaps others. The premises were reported "unoccupied" by a Valley visitor in July, 1861, and J. D. Whitney said the building stood



vacant for “several seasons.”<sup>6</sup> Longhurst was definitely the manager in 1864, however, when Clarence King arrived with the California Geological Survey. King’s account in *Mountaineering in the Sierra Nevada* eloquently describes Longhurst’s performance as a flapjack fryer at breakfast.

In the spring of 1866, German-born George Frederick Leidig, a twenty-eight-year-old former hoist operator at the Princeton Mine near Mount Bullion, arrived in Yosemite Valley with his nineteen-year-old wife, Isabella Dobbie, a “pretty dark-eyed Scotch maid,” who was an excellent cook and housekeeper, and their infant son, George Frederick, Jr. For the next four summers—1866 through 1870—the Leidigs ran the Lower Hotel as managers for Alexander Black. The Leidigs spent the first two winters in Coulterville, becoming full-time Yosemite residents in April, 1868. During this period, Leidig built a rough log house, 14-by-22-feet, facing west, in a sunny area north of the Merced River at the edge of what is now called Leidig Meadow. Here the family passed the winter months until the tourist business resumed, usually sometime in March. The cabin burned to the ground about 1883.

Photographs taken in the late 1860s show that the Lower Hotel eventually consisted of two main buildings, each of which was patched and added to over the years. Galen Clark gave this account of the premises in 1869: “It was a good house—this of Leidig’s—or rather there were two of them. They hadn’t mansard roofs, to be sure, and were only one-story high, but they were comfortable. One contained kitchen, dining room, and barroom; the other had a parlor and several sleeping rooms. Some of the rooms were floored and had nails to hang clothes on. There were candles and a barrel of water with tin basins, and a long towel on a roller at the corner of the house, and fragments of a looking glass. A Digger Indian brought water from the river for the use of guests.

“The table was first-rate, with the juiciest and tenderest of mutton from Leidig’s own flock, fine fresh trout from the Merced, excellent vegetables, plenty of fruit and berries, and the richest of cream, with good cooking and neat service.”

In the summer of 1869, Leidig tried to lease the Lower Hotel directly from the Yosemite Board of Commissioners, but was turned down. At this point, Leidig said, “Black kicked me out.” The commissioners then granted Leidig a lease on a hotel site of his own about 400 yards southwest of Black’s near the start of the present Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point. “I built my own place in 1869-70,” Leidig said, “and occupied it for the next eighteen years.”

Early in the spring of 1870, Alexander Black and his wife Catherine moved from Bull Creek to Yosemite Valley and took over their hotel in person. The expectation of a surge in Yosemite travel following the completion of

the transcontinental railroad the previous year may have played a part in their decision.

Black immediately began the erection of an L-shaped addition to the end of the newer of these two existing buildings (the other was razed). The longer part of the L, which adjoined the old structure, was single-story; each room opened onto a wood-planked porch. The shorter section, about thirty feet in length, had two stories and contained the kitchen, dining area, and parlor. Sometime later, Black doubled the length of this two-story wing, which increased his capacity to about seventy guests. One unfeeling critic likened the architectural style of the hotel to that of a bowling alley.

Further construction details are uncertain. It seems likely that Black hired carpenters and possibly bought rough lumber from James Hutchings, whose Valley sawmill was in operation at the time. The rustic, shake-roofed, clapboard-sided hotel opened during the summer of 1870.

*Bancroft’s Tourist Guide* for 1871 called Black’s “a new house having excellent bath and other accommodations, with well-finished and furnished rooms.” A visitor a year later reported that “two women and one man receive guests in their long wooden inn and dispose them separately in rooms, although attempt is made to utilize the second bed in each room. You eat in the long room on a table, the kitchen adjoining.” The *Mariposa Gazette* in 1874 described the virtues of the “New Sentinel Hotel of Mr. and Mrs. Black. Bathrooms are attached to the hotel itself, and there is a bar.”

After the state of California bought out all Valley claims in the fall of 1874, the Blacks obtained a lease to their premises and continued to serve Yosemite visitors at their “New Sentinel Hotel” until the close of the 1880 season. At that time, after twenty years as Yosemite Valley entrepreneurs, the Blacks sold their hotel lease to Walter B. Cooke and George M. Wright of San Francisco and moved back to Bull Creek.

On May 19, 1881, the *Mariposa Gazette* reported that “Messrs. Wright and Cooke have purchased Black’s Hotel in Yosemite Valley, changed the name to the Yosemite Valley Hotel, and are now open for business.” George Wright was a son-in-law of John Jay Cook, Henry Washburn’s brother-in-law and close business associate. Washburn, the principal owner of the Yosemite Stage & Turnpike Company and the Wawona Hotel, was the most influential man in the county during this period. Perhaps Wright’s family relationship helped him obtain the lease to Black’s property.

Wright and Cooke endured only a single season as proprietors of the Yosemite Valley Hotel, and little is known of their affairs. In December, 1881, the *Mariposa Gazette* carried the following brief notice: “J. J. Cook, formerly of Mariposa, is reported to have taken charge of the



Wright & Cooke's Hotel in 1881, the only season that Wright and Cooke endured as owners.

Wright and Cooke Hotel in Yosemite Valley and will give it his attention in the coming season.”

John Jay Cook was an affluent businessman from New York who came to Mariposa in 1862, opened a drug and variety store, and acquired the Wells Fargo agency. He later owned similar stores in Merced and San Francisco, as well as oil wells near Santa Barbara. In 1865, Henry Washburn married Jean Lindsay Bruce, a sister of Cook's wife Fannie. Soon after, Cook became actively involved in his brother-in-law's many ventures and remained so for the rest of his life.

Cook, a quiet, efficient man with a dry wit, operated his Yosemite Valley Hotel (more commonly called “Cook's”) through the season of 1887. In January, 1888, he was granted a ten-year lease to the Stoneman House, the state's capacious new hotel that had been newly erected at the east end of the Valley at a cost of \$45,000. The vastly increased guest capacity provided by the grand new facility enabled the commissioners to raze Cook's ramshackle old building—one member of the board described it as “about to fall down”—and return the site to its natural condition. By the fall of 1888, hardly a trace remained of Yosemite Valley's pioneer Lower Hotel.

#### NOTES AND REFERENCES

1. The year after the Lower Hotel was erected, others undertook a second establishment about seven-tenths of a mile east, so the first, understandably, became the Lower Hotel, and the second, the Upper Hotel. Later, the Upper Hotel was known as the Hutchings House, Coulter and Murphy's Hotel, Barnard's

Yosemite Falls Hotel, and the Sentinel Hotel. The last building in the hotel group, Cedar Cottage, was razed in 1941.

2. The quotation about the quartet of settlers appeared in *The Country Gentleman* (Albany, NY), October 9, 1856.

3. Thomas Ayres, quoted in the *Daily Alta California*, August 6, 1856.

4. The claim was filed under the Pre-emption Law of 1841, which technically applied only to surveyed areas of the public domain. Nine pre-emption claims of a quarter-section each on acreage within Yosemite Valley were filed with Mariposa County between August 23, 1856, and May 28, 1862, even though the Valley had not been surveyed and thus opened to claims. The filers hoped that their entries on the county records would give them some guarantee of title when the land was eventually surveyed.

5. In the March, 1860, edition of his *California Magazine*, James Hutchings named Cunningham as the proprietor of the Lower Hotel.

6. Josiah D. Whitney, California State Geologist, the *Yosemite Guide-Book* (1869).

**Hank Johnston is the author of sixteen books and more than a hundred articles on California history. All photos are courtesy of the Yosemite Research Library.**

# COMBATING YELLOW STAR-THISTLE

Most visitors to Yosemite National Park rush through its lowest reaches to view the waterfalls and scenic vistas of Yosemite Valley. However, slower paced travelers who perhaps stopped to take in the wildflowers on the slopes above the Merced River may notice something out of place. If they look hard enough, high above the small gateway community of El Portal they may notice Yosemite Association volunteers and National Park Service restoration crews scrambling across the steep hillsides. For the past eight years, a hardy and dedicated group of YA volunteers who call themselves the “Weed Warriors” donate a week of their time to help the National Park Service eradicate yellow star-thistle from Yosemite. The National Park Service and Yosemite Association together are determined to prevent yellow star-thistle from inflicting further damage to Yosemite’s resources.

The grasslands and blue oak savannah of Yosemite’s El Portal Administrative Site contain a diverse assemblage of plant and animal species unlike any other place in the park. This becomes most apparent during the spring months when the hillsides shimmer with the colors of native wildflowers. However, these grasslands are now seriously threatened by the rapid spread of yellow star-thistle. Fifty acres around El Portal are now covered with yellow star-thistle and thousands of additional acres are threatened by its continued spread.

You can often learn quite a bit about the nature of a plant by its name. *Centaurea solstitialis*, the scientific name of yellow star-thistle, is particularly informative. *Centaurea* is derived from the Greek word “centaur” that means spearman or piercer. Those who have encountered this plant will agree that this name fits rather well. The nearly one-inch long stiff spines that cover each of the flower heads will easily poke through the thickest pair of blue jeans. For the casual hiker, yellow star-thistle will ruin an otherwise pleasant walk by replacing a favorite wildflower spot with an impenetrable thicket of pain-inducing weeds. Throughout California, horse owners must worry about their animals eating the plant because it causes the often fatal “chewing disease.” Cattle ranchers and farmers despise the plant because it significantly reduces the productivity of their land by displacing the more nutrient-rich plants with yellow star-thistle.

Early in the spring, while other plants are rapidly expending their stored resources by producing showy flowers and growing skyward, yellow star-thistle’s strategy

is to grow in the opposite direction. Belowground, the invader is rapidly sending a taproot deep into the soil to access water sources far below, where the shallow root systems of other grasses and forbs cannot reach (Sheley et al.1983, 1993, Roché et al.1994). On the surface, the tiny yellow star-thistle rosette appears innocuous. However, once the wildflowers begin to fade and the emerald grasses turn to gold, yellow star-thistle quickly emerges through the fading spring. Yellow star-thistle then overshadows the withering skeletons of the other flowers and grasses. A single yellow star-thistle plant can produce up to 100,000 seeds (Benfield et al. 2001, Maddox 1981). Each of these seeds can easily hitch a ride over long distances by clinging to animal fur, muddy shoes and tires, or clothing. Additionally, millions of seeds can easily be transported great distances into uninfested areas by a single truck carrying contaminated materials such as dirt, gravel, or hay.

Yellow star-thistle did not always grow in Yosemite. Its native range is an area in Eurasia with a strikingly similar climate to California. Interestingly, yellow star-thistle does not form extensive thickets in Eurasia like it does here in California. This is most likely due to California’s lack of predators and pathogens that keep it in check in its native range. Yellow star-thistle took a circuitous path through South America on its journey from Eurasia to

*Yellow star-thistle* (*Centaurea solstitialis* L.)



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NPS Restoration staff John Leonard is using a mower to control yellow star-thistle in El Portal.



Timed mowing is an effective technique the National Park Service uses to control yellow star-thistle from Yosemite National Park. This technique is especially challenging on the steep slopes above El Portal.

California. It was introduced into North America in the late 1800's as a seed contaminant in alfalfa seed grown in Chile (Gerlach et al. 1998). Between 1800 and 1940, yellow star-thistle was restricted in its distribution to areas near alfalfa fields and adjacent road corridors in northern California. However, its rate of spread increased dramatically after 1940 with extensive road building and suburban growth (Gerlach et al. 1998). By 1958, yellow star-thistle had infested over 1 million acres in California (Maddox and Mayfield 1985). The number had reached 8 million acres by 1985, and by 1998, yellow star-thistle covered over 15 million acres in California (Pitcairn et al. 1998).

For over ten years, the National Park Service has been working to stop the spread of yellow star-thistle in Yosemite. The most commonly used tool to reduce the spread and control of yellow star-thistle in the park has been to mow the dense populations with “weed whackers.” However, this is a slow, costly process that takes many years to get yellow star-thistle under control. The goal of mowing is to reduce the number of seeds that the plant produces so that there will be fewer plants coming up the following year. In order for mowing to work, it must occur within a narrow window of the plant's life cycle. If mowing occurs too early, the plant will continue to make seed-producing flowers. If mowing occurs too late, the flowers will already have dropped viable seeds. Therefore, the ideal time to mow yellow star-thistle is just when the first few flowers have begun to show.

Vegetation monitoring has shown that timed mowing has been highly effective in reducing yellow star-thistle in Yosemite and in restoring native plant diversity. In one site that has been monitored, the number of yellow star-thistle individuals decreased 85% while the number of native species tripled after four years of mowing. These results clearly show that the National Park Service's

efforts to restore Yosemite's grasslands have been successful in reducing yellow star-thistle and more importantly, allowing native plants to return soon after treatment has begun.

Another effective tool often used to halt the spread of invasive plants such as yellow star-thistle is the use of biological controls. This is done by introducing an insect or pathogen that consumes the target plant species in its native range. In 1994 and 1995, two species of insects were intentionally released in El Portal to control yellow star-thistle infestations. The peacock fly (*Chaetorellia australis*) was released in El Portal in 1994. A second insect, the hairy weevil (*Eustonopus villosus*), was introduced in 1995 in two locations near Rancheria Flat in El Portal. A third insect, the false peacock fly (*Chaetorellia succinea*), was unintentionally introduced in El Portal and elsewhere throughout California. Fortunately, the false peacock fly appears to target only yellow star-thistle and remains quite effective at controlling it throughout the state. All three species oviposit into yellow star-thistle inflorescences where the developing larvae then consume the immature seeds. There is evidence that these insects continue to reduce yellow star-thistle populations in the park.

The National Park Service is now working on a Parkwide Invasive Plant Management Plan & Environmental Assessment for Yosemite. The environmental assessment process for this plan will explore alternatives for a comprehensive program to manage all non-native invasive plants in the park, including yellow star-thistle, and will include options for prevention and control, systematic monitoring, and research. The National Park Service, with the invaluable assistance from the Yosemite Association, hopes that in the future, visitors on their way to Yosemite Valley will be welcomed not by yellow star-thistle, but by the plants and animals that have made Yosemite their home for thousands of years.



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PHOTOS COURTESY OF TONY DEWAIO



*The June 2005 Yosemite Association volunteer "Weed Warriors" helped battle yellow star-thistle as part of the Cooperative Work Weeks Program. At left, Jerry Nuding holds up a large specimen as Mona Knight looks on. At right, James Rolf (left), Betty Mae Locke (center), and Jerry Nuding (background) search for plants to target.*

# LEARNING ABOUT YOSEMITE'S PAST... IN THE PRESENT TENSE

## TWENTY-FOUR HOURS IN YOSEMITE'S ENVIRONMENTAL LIVING PROGRAM

With the hiss of air brakes, a school bus pulls into the parking lot of the Pioneer Yosemite History Center (PYHC). The door opens and a jumble of students pile out. These preteens look as you might expect. The guys wear blue jeans and baseball caps with the bills askew in every direction. The girls wear retro tee shirts and colorful "LiveStrong" bracelets.

This outing to the History Center is more than a brief stop on a field trip to Yosemite. It is the culmination of months of preparation, research, and study. Their visit to the PYHC will become a twenty-four hour expedition back in time. This trip will be both a challenge and a reward. It will create memories to last a lifetime.

Left in the bus are the accessories of the twenty-first century: iPods, Gameboys, and cell phones. The students leave these treasured possessions behind as they spend the next 24 hours living life much as their predecessors in Yosemite did over one hundred years ago. Instead of heating their next meal in a microwave oven, they will cook it over a wood stove, which is fed with wood they've chopped and split. Rather than turning on a faucet, the young pioneers will carry buckets of water from the hand pump a hundred yards from the cabin in which they will live. The bathroom is across the bridge... a long distance when the dark of night is broken only by the kerosene lamp you carry. The next journey they take will not be by bus but on a stage powered by two large draft horses. During the course of the day, they will spend time working in the blacksmith shop, sweating in the heat of the

coal-fed forge. This is life as experienced in Yosemite National Park's Environmental Living Program.

The students shed more than their possessions as they cross the covered bridge to the History Center. They also abandon their own identity as they assume the character of one of Yosemite's many early settlers. The ball cap is replaced by the floppy brimmed hat of a pioneer. The girls trade their modern attire for the full dress popular a hundred years ago. Some students will finalize their costume with wigs and false beards, but identifying with their historical alter ego is more than simply dressing the part. After months of research, they know more about their character than do nearly any other visitors to the park. They will know the biography of the person, as well as the contributions that individual made to Yosemite. In some cases, they will have learned how their character



PHOTO COURTESY OF MAREA ORTIZ, NPS.

*ELP students weave good-luck charms out of sticks and wool yarn.*



PHOTO COURTESY OF SUSAN MICHAEL

*John Pansarosa interprets his surroundings through painting.*

helped shaped the concept of a national park system. Some of the historical figures are well known, such as John Muir or Teddy Roosevelt. Others played an important, if less well-known role in the development of the park: Galen Clark, the first Guardian of the Grant; Lizzy Hodgdon, an early California rancher; George Anderson, the first person to ascend Half Dome; and Tabuce, a native Miwok with extraordinary basketry skills.

The Environmental Living Program (usually referred to as ELP) began in the early 1970s as a component of the National Park Service's education and interpretation division. Students participating in ELP undergo an amazing learning experience that utilizes the resources found



in the Yosemite Pioneer History Center. The program's purpose is not only to teach the students pioneer skills, but also to introduce them to important decision-making skills needed in managing wilderness and national parks. Using a variety of hands-on learning techniques including role-playing and problem solving, students deal with many practical and philosophical issues that confronted people at the time when the national parks were first conceived.

During the twenty-four hours spent at the PYHC, the teacher is responsible for implementing the program with oversight by Susan Michael, volunteer ELP Coordinator, and Kristine Hutchinson, ELP Supervisor and Park



Volunteer ELP coordinator Susan Michael, in period dress, enters the historic Wells Fargo building at the Pioneer Yosemite History Center.

Ranger. The teacher is also assisted by parent volunteers, all who have spent a previous weekend learning how to make the most of the students' short stay.

Susan says, "the Yosemite ELP program provides students a unique opportunity to experience some of the successes and struggles from throughout Yosemite's history in a way no textbook can provide."

The students are divided into small groups depending on the perspective from which their historical character might have viewed the park. There are groups of early settlers, artists, road builders, innkeepers and conservationists. The format of the program involves a series of learning stations through which the groups rotate. The stations include: cooking/wood chopping, blacksmithing, arts and skills, transportation, and the role task station. The educational philosophy is the same at all stations: learn by doing. This is an experiential learning environment with an emphasis on cooperative problem solving. Much to the frustration of some students who are used to traditional teaching practices, the adults will intervene only to ask a probing question or to make sure safety rules are never forgotten. Some of the lessons learned will affect the entire group. One class of apprentice pioneers



An ELP student chops wood, which will bring warmth to the cabin and put hot food on the table.

ate a supper of runny "stew" when the ratio of flour to water was not carefully followed.

At each learning station, students practice skills that would have been common one hundred years ago, but are all but forgotten today.

At the wood chopping station, it doesn't take many logs until students are carefully selecting the best wood for splitting. At the kitchen, students learn that keeping the temperature constant in a wood burning stove requires knowledge of the stove and the wood fuel, along with a careful eye to the woodbox.

At the transportation station, students learn that horses, like cars, require fuel (in this case, hay); and like cars, they produce their own unique type of pollution (to be raked up daily). With the demeanor of a drill sergeant, stage driver Burrell "Buckshot" Maier quizzes the students in the name and purpose of each piece of equipment (don't ever make the mistake of referring to the leather strips with which the driver directs the horses as "reins" instead of the correct term, "lines").

At the role task station, located in a nearby meadow, students are subtly directed to consider what to do with a "newly discovered" piece of land, The Meadow, which sits next to the national park. The land is tangible; the scenario is fictional. Each group arrives at the station after an imaginary two-day walk. The Indians and settlers are the first to arrive. Not surprisingly, included in their job are the tasks to map the meadow and name the features. The artists draw, paint and write about what they have found. The innkeepers consider ways to develop this area to provide services for future visitors. The transportation group plans the best location for roads, trails and stage stops. The guardians develop a set of rules that will help protect this piece of property. All of this information will be used the next day at the culminating event of their stay, the Town Meeting.

As the day progresses and the sun travels to the western horizon, the students gather around the Hodgdon Cabin in the History Center. This cabin, the cooking station, will be the gathering spot for the evening meal. Throughout the day, each student has contributed to the community meal and can take due credit—for better or worse.

After dinner, students cross the bridge to the Gray Barn, where they will spend the evening brushing up on their folk dancing skills. When bedtime finally arrives, students wearily return to their cabins.

The next morning is filled with packing, preparations for leaving, and, of course, breakfast; again cooked on the wood burning stove, prepared by a group of students who rose at 5:00 a.m. After breakfast, the students join in the final event of their stay: the Town Meeting. At the meeting, each group of pioneers reveals their decisions regarding the best use of The Meadow. After the presentations (complete with hand-drawn maps, artifacts and other homemade visuals), the groups take part in a vigorous discussion on the best way to use (or not use) The Meadow. Within minutes, the group is struggling with issues of land management that have challenged Yosemite and the National Park Service since their inception. More often than not, the conclusions that these young land managers devise show a strong similarity to the intent of the Organic Act, the original legislation that created the National Park Service in 1916, and which continues to provide the guiding framework for land use in the National Parks:

The purpose of the National Park Service “is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.” These young conservationists are able to discuss intelligently the mission of the Park Service as they tackle complicated land management issues. At the close of the Town Meeting, the group soon realizes that if the area is to be set aside for enjoyment and preservation, they must adhere to a careful balance of compromises. The students are encouraged to take an active part in future decisions concerning the park. Perhaps as their bus pulls out of

the parking lot and drives through the park, some of the students will gaze out the windows at the passing scenery, contemplating issues facing Yosemite today.

As the students climb on board the bus and reconnect to their twenty-first century toys, they will soon return to the classroom where concerns for state standards and national testing will dictate their curriculum. As they study, filling their heads with the facts that ensure success on the multiple-choice tests, perhaps memories of their time at the History Center will overtake their senses. The smell of the stew simmering on the wood burning stove, the sound of the horse traveling across the bridge, the satisfying *thwack* as their axe sinks deep into the wood they are splitting. These are treasured memories, remembered long after test scores are forgotten.

***Author’s note: Teachers or individuals interested in learning more about Yosemite’s Environmental Living Program are encouraged to visit [www.nps.gov/yose/learn/visits.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/learn/visits.htm), or to contact Susan Michael at (559) 221-4182 or [smm66@cvip.net](mailto:smm66@cvip.net).***

***If you want to have an ELP experience for yourself and your family, YA will be offering a day-long Outdoor Adventure on Saturday, June 10, 2006. See our 2006 Outdoor Adventures catalog, which was mailed with this journal, or visit [yosemite.org/seminars](http://yosemite.org/seminars) for details and to sign up.***

***Jeff Lahr has worked in Yosemite for over fifteen seasons as a ranger naturalist. Nearly all of this time has been spent in Wawona and the Mariposa Grove. Jeff also works as a guide on the popular seven-day High Sierra Camp Loop, and he has authored, edited, and illustrated numerous articles and books about Yosemite.***

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## Camping Fees Increase in Yosemite National Park

The National Park Service announced in November that camping fees in Yosemite National Park would be increased beginning January 1, 2006.

Campgrounds affected by the rate increase are Upper Pines, Lower Pines, and North Pines in Yosemite Valley, Hodgdon Meadows, Crane Flat, Tuolumne Meadows, and Wawona. Rates in these campgrounds increased from \$18/night to \$20/night.

Additionally, first-come, first-served sites at Bridalveil Creek and White Wolf increased from \$12/night to \$14/night

and Tamarack Flat, Yosemite Creek, and Porcupine Flat increased from \$8/night to \$10/night.

Prices at Camp 4 in Yosemite Valley and at the Backpackers camps in Yosemite Valley, Tuolumne Meadows, and Hetch Hetchy remain at \$5/night. Stock camps, (\$25/night) and group camps (\$40/night) are also unaffected by the rate increase.

Most campsites in Yosemite National Park are on a reservation system. The National Park Reservations Service is currently taking reservations five months

in advance. The toll-free reservation number is (800) 436-7275. Reservations can also be made online at <http://reservations.nps.gov>. Reservations are always recommended in Yosemite National Park, especially during the peak season.

A complete list of campground locations and opening/closing dates may be found at <http://www.nps.gov/yose/pphtml/camping.html>.

The increase in camping fees resulted from a comparative study of area campgrounds. Rates were last increased in February, 2001.



# PARK PROFILE

TORI SEHER



PHOTO COURTESY OF KRISTIN RAMSEY, NPS

**Name:** Tori  
(Victoria) Seher

**Job Title:**  
Wildlife  
Biologist

**Hometown:**  
Tempe, Arizona

**Education:** Degree in Wildlife Conservation Biology from Arizona State University

**Years worked in Yosemite:** 13

**What do you do in Yosemite?** I oversee the park's Human-Bear Management Program and respond to various wildlife issues in the park such as people feeding or approaching animals.

**What was your first job in the park?** When I was 17 years old I spent a summer working for the Youth Conservation Corps in Yosemite. We installed food lockers in campgrounds, helped reconstruct the Round House in the Indian Village, and did trail work at May Lake.

**Why did you want to work in Yosemite?** I had the choice of working in a beautiful national park, living in the mountains, and backpacking on the weekends, or finding a summer job in Phoenix. The choice seemed obvious.

**Have you worked in other parks?** No. I've thought about taking jobs in other parks, but Yosemite is a hard place to leave.

**What do you enjoy most about your job?** I enjoy the educational aspect of my job, whether it be training new employees on animal captures or educating visitors about park wildlife.

**What is your most memorable experience at work?** **There are so many!** Anytime I get to "rescue" wildlife – such as entanglement situations like a bird in fishing line or deer in Christmas lights. Last summer I removed a snake that had somehow gotten into a vehicle belonging to a park visitor. I'm not sure who was happier about the release, the snake or the visitor.

**What do you see as the future of Yosemite's bear management program?** Bear management is challenging because bears are extremely intelligent, curious, relentless, and motivated animals. In order to preserve successfully a wild and healthy bear population, I think it's important that we remain open to new ideas, and continue to develop innovative management strategies. Also, California's population of bears is increasing so we need to work more closely with other agencies and gateway communities. Public education will always play an important role in bear management.

**What is your favorite place in Yosemite?** Mono/Parker Pass. An easy hike, few people, lots of wildlife, and great views.

**What is your favorite Yosemite book?** *Yosemite: The Embattled Wilderness* by Al Runte, because of my interest in the debate over preservation and use in the national parks. The book also addresses the history of bear management in the park. It's interesting to compare management practices now and then.

**What is your favorite non-Yosemite book?** *Red-Tails in Love* by Marie Winn. It's a true story about red-tailed hawks nesting in Central Park. My friends and I were so enthralled with the book that we took a trip to NYC to see the hawks and go birding in Central Park.

**What is your favorite movie?** I'm not a big movie person but I recently saw *March of the Penguins* and really enjoyed it.

**Where do you like to go for a vacation?** Anywhere that includes warm weather, a beach, ocean waves, and great snorkeling.

**What do you think YA's most important role is?** Public education through books, merchandise, seminars, Nature Notes, and visitor services.

**What do you hope to do in your life that you haven't done yet?**  
Travel the world and start a family.



# RE-WALKING JOHN MUIR'S 1868 TRIP TO YOSEMITE: CALIFORNIA AT A HUMAN PACE

In 1868 John Muir arrived by steamer in California from New York. He wanted to see Yosemite. From San Francisco, the typical traveler took a ferry to Stockton and then completed the trip by stage and horse. John Muir chose to walk. He wanted to see the plant life, to “botanize” and experience the landscape at a human pace. Muir took a ferry to Oakland and then walked, via the Santa Clara Valley, over the Pacheco Pass, across the San Joaquin Valley to Snelling, and up the foothills through Coulterville to the Yosemite Valley. Yosemite proved to be his spiritual home and his life work became to promote and protect such places of natural beauty. Most of Muir’s travels are well documented by his letters and journals or later research, but there is little documentation of this walk to Yosemite. His diaries from this period are lost and no Muir scholar has thoroughly documented this trip.

My wife Donna has walked the John Muir trail, from Yosemite Valley to Mt. Whitney, twice and I have joined her on sections of the trail. There is a glory in long walking trips through the Sierra that inspire one to want more. Everyone on the John Muir trail has heard, or told,

the story of John Muir grabbing a loaf of French bread, putting some tea in his pocket, throwing his coat over his back and setting off for Yosemite. This is a powerful archetypal image for the California hiker or outdoor enthusiast. Muir walked across California so that he could see and appreciate its beauty.

Muir’s choice to walk inspired Donna to conceive of a project to devise and pioneer a route that others can follow, a “Trans-California Ramble,” for walking across California. Muir often used the word “ramble” to describe his walks, for it implies traveling slowly, taking in the surroundings with all of the senses. We hope that this Trans-California Ramble will become, like Spain’s Santiago de Compostela pilgrimage, a path from the urban Bay Area, through the coast range ranchlands, the central valley farmlands and up to the Sierra foothill communities, that will bring California’s communities together. We hope that these communities will support the trail with signage, better walkways, hostels for the travelers and with enthusiasm for enjoying California’s outdoor treasures.

The first step has been research in historical archives, like the Holt-Atherton Library at University of the Pacific, to document the details of John Muir’s trip. We have read his letters to get a sense of who he was and what he might have done. We are using historic and contemporary maps to locate roads that existed in 1868 and to determine his most likely route. We have read many diary accounts and travel books from the 1860-1870s to get a sense of what travelling was like then. It was the year before the Golden Spike was nailed, and once the transcontinental railroad was complete things changed quickly as the railroad reached out into all of California.

We have decided that for the most part Muir would have used roads, rather than walking cross-country. Those roads were dirt and often dusty, but as his trip was in spring, the roads would have been at their finest. There was the Oakland-San Jose road (which is now sandwiched between Highways 880 and 680) and there was the San Jose-Monterey road that is now Highway 101. We have decided that we will walk a route that parallels Muir’s, using walkways, bike paths and open spaces, as much as possible, so that we will be walking through a California that is similar to the one Muir experienced. We have been very excited to find that least two-thirds of the trip will be on this type of trail. For example, the San Francisco Bay

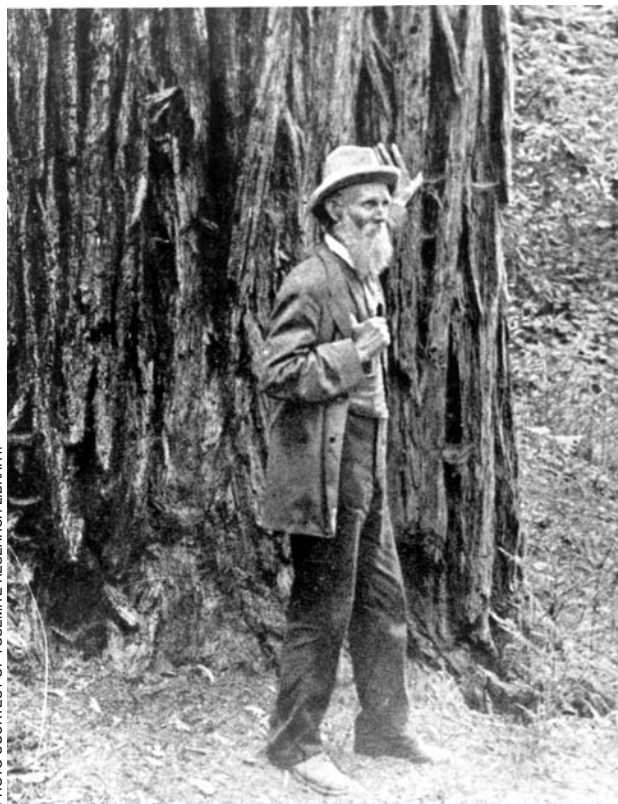


PHOTO COURTESY OF YOSEMITE RESEARCH LIBRARY.



trail goes from Oakland to Alviso, the Guadalupe River trail essentially goes from Alviso to San Jose, and then the Coyote River Parkway trail from San Jose to Morgan Hill. From Morgan Hill we can enter Henry Coe State Park to get to Pacheco Pass. We are still planning the route, talking with rangers in the various parks, and it is very exciting when we find new possibilities.

John Muir left San Francisco on April 1, and so on April 2, 2006, after attending the John Muir in Global Perspective Conference at the University of the Pacific, we will begin our walk. We are still trying to determine the logistics, like, how far will we walk a day, and where will we sleep? Will we want to camp out and carry a backpack? As we walk we will paint the flowers, take pictures and note what we see and experience. Of the 1868 trip, John Muir wrote: "This San Jose sky was not simply pure and bright, and mixed with plenty of well tempered sunshine, but it possessed a positive flavor,—a taste, that thrilled from the lungs throughout every tissue of the body; every inspiration yielded a corresponding well-defined piece of pleasure, that awakened thousands of new palates everywhere." We will compare what we find in 2006 to what John Muir found in 1868. We will give programs in public libraries in the communities we walk through, showing "now and then" photographs, talking about John Muir and telling the story of our trip. We will set up a web site ([muir.org/walk](http://muir.org/walk)) and will post accounts of these events and what we find, so that others can follow along with us. We thank Yosemite Association for offering us the opportunity to tell you about the project and we promise a full report after we have arrived in Yosemite and the trip is complete.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE AUTHOR.

*Donna and Peter Thomas look forward to their walk across California.*

### **JOHN MUIR IN GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE CONFERENCE, March 30–April 1, 2006**

The John Muir Center at University of the Pacific in Stockton will host "John Muir in Global Perspective" the weekend following the Yosemite Association's Spring Forum in Yosemite Valley. Highlights will include an optional field trip by bus from Stockton on Thursday, March 30 to Martinez, John Muir's home.

The formal conference begins on Friday morning, March 31 with presentations in the morning and the opening of an exhibition curated by Steve Pauly on "John Muir, William Keith, and Joseph LeConte" in the after-

noon at The Haggin Art Museum. Books and manuscripts from the John Muir collection assembled by Shan Sutton, Director of the University of the Pacific's Holt Atherton Special Collections, will be featured along with William Keith's original paintings, several once owned by Muir.

On Friday and Saturday, presentations on campus will be given by scholars, museum directors, and Muir specialists. Sessions include Muir in Scotland, Canada, India, Finland and Russia, South America, and his global impact on environmental ethics. A luncheon keynote

on Friday spotlights Robert Righter on "Hetch Hetchy in Global Context," and on Saturday, Garrett and Michelle Burke, California John Muir quarter concept designers, will update the "International Reception of the John Muir Quarter."

For more information or to learn how to register for the conference, send an e-mail to [johnmuir@pacific.edu](mailto:johnmuir@pacific.edu) and reference John Muir Conference in the subject line. You may also call the Muir Center at (209) 946-2527 or Marilyn Norton at (209) 946-2145.



# SHATTERED AIR

BY BOB MADGIC

Excerpt from *Shattered Air—A True Account of Catastrophe and Courage on Yosemite's Half Dome*

*Editor's note: Bob Madgic will be one of our featured presenters at the Spring Forum on Saturday, March 25, 2006 in Yosemite Valley. He will speak about the true story he tells in his book Shattered Air, which documents the fateful choice five hikers made to climb Half Dome on the evening of July 27, 1985 even as the sky darkened and thunder rolled. See the Spring Forum announcement on page 19 if you'd like to attend and meet the author.*

Bill Pippey and Bruce Jordan were setting a furious pace, hoping to outrace the burgeoning storm. Close behind, Tom Rice and Adrian Esteban made a quick stop at their secret spring. Brian Jordan soon joined them. Meanwhile, Mike Hoog's party leapfrogged ahead. The hikers weren't unfriendly with each other, but neither did they mingle or banter back and forth in good spirits, as hikers often do. Those with Hoog still viewed Rice's band as rowdy and crude. Back at Nevada Fall, someone – maybe Pippey – had jokingly referred to Hoog's party as a "bunch of weenies."

Leaving Nevada Fall, Weiner felt encouraged that the remaining distance wouldn't be as steep. Still, he and Frith plodded. The pair fell behind again, in part because they stopped every ten to fifteen minutes to trade off carrying the forty-five-pound backpack but also because Weiner was fast becoming exhausted, especially his leg muscles, which were cramping up due to dehydration. They gulped down the last of their water. Esteban had told them about the secret spring, but Weiner and Frith couldn't locate it. Other hikers they asked didn't know its whereabouts, either. Though Weiner wanted to take a longer rest, Frith, gung-ho as ever, urged that they push on and catch up with the others.

Pippey and Bruce Jordan were shooting to reach the top first. For Pippey, it was more than a competitive thing; he was proud to be in good physical shape. So, despite the intimidating weather, the two hikers plowed ahead, never stopping. They ignored the danger warning at the base of Sub Dome and never once pondered the potential hazards as they scrambled up the cables on Half Dome.

But a hundred feet up, Pippey's stomach suddenly became bloated.

Pippey: "One minute, I'm fine. The next, I can barely keep my bowels from exploding."

In a voice loud enough for Jordan to hear, he uttered, Yes, God, I understand.

Clearly, Pippey thought, a very powerful force was trying to discourage him from going up there. He and Jordan retreated down the cables so Pippey could relieve himself.

\* \* \*

Esteban and Rice, with Brian Jordan not far behind, were putting on steam to reach the summit ahead of the storm. Two wild-eyed young climbers – Ken Bokelund and Rob Foster – scampering down the trail advised Esteban and Rice, Don't go up there – it's too dangerous, then continued on down toward the Valley, obviously in a rush to get off the mountain.

The warning sparked rather than doused Esteban's and Rice's motivation to pick up the pace.

Esteban: "If there was one trait that set Rice apart from everyone else, it was his strong will. When he committed himself to something, it was all or nothing."

Esteban, of course, was Rice's alter ego – just as tough mentally, just as unswerving in grit and determination. Neither was likely to cower when he faced a physical challenge or risky situation on his own. Together, such a response was unthinkable.

Buchner and Ellner still poked along somewhere far behind. A fearful Ellner wanted no part of a lightning storm. His snail's pace and constant complaining angered Buchner, who didn't like being held back. When the two were about halfway between Nevada Fall and Sub Dome, lightning flashed ahead and thunder growled. A shaken Ellner slowed even more. The next lightning burst prompted him to turn around abruptly and pound back down the trail.

Buchner dropped his pack and ran after him, arguing, It's crazy to go back down now!

He persuaded Ellner to hike toward Half Dome. If necessary, Buchner said, they would camp at the base.

\* \* \*

Hoog's group methodically clawed away at the miles between them and Half Dome. In addition to all of his camping gear and supplies, Hoog hauled a three-gallon water container weighing more than twenty-five pounds. The five hikers arrived at the camping area beneath Sub Dome soon after the retreating Pippey and Jordan. Although dark clouds were moving in, the blue sky directly above still glistened.

Without hesitation, Hoog led his group up Sub Dome but didn't get far before he encountered a gentleman descending the granite stairs. The older hiker, who was fiftyish and carried a staff, said a storm was about to hit and strongly advised



Hoog and his companions not to continue up.

Heed the sign, he said, referring to the public warning that Pippey and Bruce Jordan had ignored.

Hoog badly wanted to spend the night on Half Dome. Initially, he dismissed the man's cautionary words and was about to press on. On second thought, however, the advice seemed wise. Hoog stared at the stairs for several long seconds, deliberating. Then he and his four cohorts turned around and retraced their steps. The gentleman had already disappeared from view.

The third party back was Cage's, which held a steady pace. All members of his troupe were experienced backpackers, so they didn't think much about the oncoming storm, a familiar phenomenon in the Sierra Nevada. They would continue hiking through the forest, and if the weather got nasty, the group would simply stop, wait, and decide what to do next.

Esteban and Rice charged up the trail. Just below Sub Dome, they encountered Hoog's group in retreat. Dan Crozier repeated the gentleman hiker's precaution.

Rice brushed by Crozier, muttering, Someone's gotta do it.

He and Esteban pushed on.

\* \* \*

Well ahead of their companions, Esteban and Rice reached the bottom of the cables at 5:40 P.M. and appraised the impending storm. Heavy dark clouds in multihued layers already blanketed the sky and sagged into the mountain cavities. Lightning continued playing over the ridges and spires, and thunder rumbled like battleship guns nearby.

They stared up at the top of Half Dome six hundred feet away, shrouded in mist. Nobody else was in sight. Their take-no-prisoners pace had put them ahead of the pack when Bill Pippey forfeited the lead due to a bilious stomach.

Rice and Esteban now had to weigh their next move. A

strong climber could ascend in less than fifteen minutes; they had done it themselves many times. Their thirty-five-pound backpacks would be a hindrance, but the threat of lightning would spur them on. At the top, they'd reach the cave's shelter in less than five minutes.

Roughly twenty minutes in all, then. Risk it or not?

While a lightning bolt might possibly strike the granite slope near them or even hit the cables they would be clinging to, a strike higher up, on or near the summit, was far more likely. The trouble was, even if lightning struck

at the top, a potent charge could streak anywhere on wet surfaces. Anyplace on the mountain would be dangerous if Half Dome were coated with water.

As Esteban measured the sky, he felt drizzle on his upturned face and blinked. Hard rain, he sensed, wasn't far off.

Neither of them spoke as they peered up the cables. Rice was the undisputed leader, and Esteban, ever the good soldier, would accept

his decision. If Rice expressed doubts or caution, Esteban would mull them, but he didn't really expect dialogue. When the pair faced challenges, they seldom resorted to reasoned deliberation and judgment. Instead, they trusted their guts and seized opportunities for adventure. From that standpoint, this storm was no different from past hazards. Together they would improvise to meet all threats. The two exchanged a glance and Esteban knew the decision had been made.



***Bob Madgic has retired from a career in public education and now writes about conservation issues and the outdoors. A Half Dome hiking veteran and YA member, Bob lives on the banks of the Sacramento River in Anderson, California, with his wife, Diane. Excerpt from Shattered Air copyright 2005 by Bob Madgic. Reprinted by permission of Burford Books, Inc., [www.burfordbooks.com](http://www.burfordbooks.com).***

# MEMBERS PAGES

## Volunteer in Yosemite

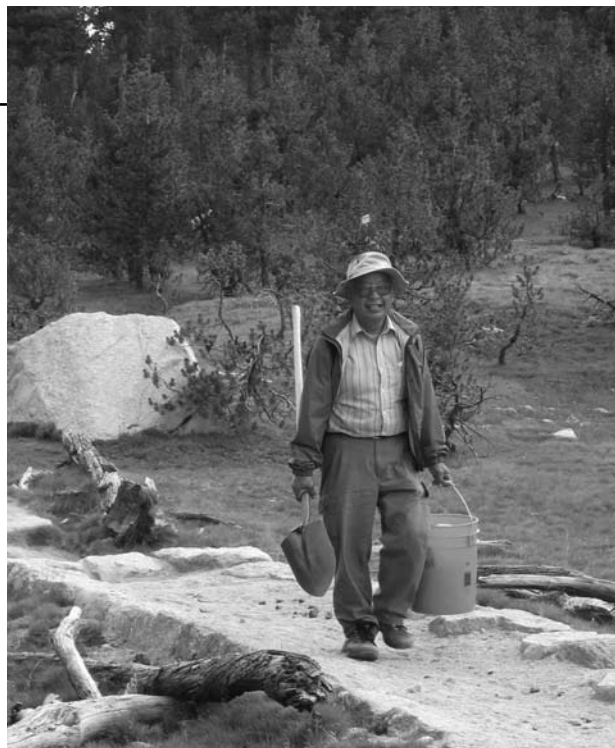
Imagine waking up each morning to the sights and sounds of Yosemite. As a YA member, you can – by volunteering in the park this summer!

## Month-long Volunteers Needed

Each spring and summer, month-long volunteers assist Yosemite visitors from around the world providing information and answering questions while fulfilling YA's educational mission and enrolling new members. Members can apply to live and work in Yosemite Valley, Wawona, or Tuolumne Meadows. In Yosemite Valley, volunteers greet visitors and answer questions in a variety of locations including the membership booth on the village mall, at the "Yurt" at Camp 6, and the Yosemite Museum Gallery. In Wawona, members assist guests at historic Hill's Studio Information Station and in the Mariposa Grove Museum. Tuolumne Meadows volunteers work at historic Parsons Lodge near Soda Springs and at the Tuolumne Visitor Center membership booth, and greet participants in our Outdoor Adventures program.

Volunteers receive free camping in group sites at Yosemite Valley, Wawona, or Tuolumne Meadows, a 30% discount at the YA bookstore, a free Outdoor Adventure, and discount cards from the concessionaire. Most volunteers work four or five days a week. Volunteers are needed May through September in Yosemite Valley and Wawona, and mid-June through September in Tuolumne Meadows.

For more information and an application, visit our website, [www.yosemite.org/helpus/volunteer.html](http://www.yosemite.org/helpus/volunteer.html), or contact Laura Beardsley at 209-379-2317 or [lbeardsley@yosemite.org](mailto:lbeardsley@yosemite.org).



*14-year work week veteran Russell Morimoto volunteered for a backcountry restoration project in August of 2005.*

## 2006 Work Weeks Announced

Cooperative Work Weeks are a collaboration between YA, Yosemite Institute, the National Park Service, and DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite. With funding from DNC, YA volunteers join an NPS project leader and a Yosemite Institute naturalist for a week of restoration and revegetation work in locations throughout the park.

### 2006 Trip Dates:

June 18–24: Weed Warriors (Yosemite Valley)

July 16–22: Plant Protectors (Crane Flat)

July 30–August 5: Tuolumne Meadows Front Country (Tuolumne Meadows)

August 13–19: High Sierra Camp Restoration (Backcountry)

September 24–30: Yosemite Valley Fall Restoration (Yosemite Valley)

These volunteers work on various projects for four days with a day off in the middle of the week to rejuvenate and explore. Each trip accommodates up to fifteen volunteers at group camp sites from Sunday afternoon to the following Saturday morning. Volunteers contribute \$60 to help cover the cost of meals served during their stay. Full descriptions of each project and applications will be available in early February on the YA website at [www.yosemite.org/helpus/volunteer.html](http://www.yosemite.org/helpus/volunteer.html) or by calling Laura Beardsley at 209-379-2317. Work weeks fill quickly. Applications received by March 30, 2006, will be entered into a lottery to determine volunteer assignments.



*YA month-long volunteer Lois Orr helps a visitor get oriented at the busy Valley Visitor Center.*



## Spring Forum News

Settling snow in the valley means more than just crisp days of skiing and snowshoeing ahead – it means the Spring Forum is just around the corner. On Saturday, March 25, 2006, celebrate the coming spring by joining other members for an inspiring and informative day in Yosemite Valley.

At the 2006 Spring Forum, members can explore the park with a naturalist on one of dozens of offered walks, or discover hidden wonders of Yosemite by joining renowned experts for a variety of auditorium programs. Some highlights of this year's programs will include an insider's view of Yosemite with Superintendent Mike Tollefson, a slide discussion with Bob Madgic, author of *Shattered Air: A True Account of Catastrophe and Courage on Yosemite's Half Dome*, and an exploration of the forthcoming exhibition and publication *Yosemite: Art of an American Icon* with curator Amy Scott. Special offerings for children aged 12 and under and their parents or guardians are also planned. The day will conclude with a special members' reception with the speakers, and the staff and board of YA. Complete details of the day's events will be sent to registered participants in mid-February.

Registration materials and lodging information for the Spring Forum were sent to members in early January. Space is limited to the first 500 participants. If you have questions regarding this event, please contact the Membership Department at 209-379-2317.

If you are joining us for the Spring Forum, why not round out your weekend with an Outdoor Adventure in the park! Choose either "The Unknown West End" with Pete Devine on Friday or "Snowshoe Explorations with a Naturalist" led by Julie Miller on Sunday. Outdoor Adventures are available for an additional fee, and as always, YA members receive 15% off tuition. For more information or to register call (209) 379-2321, or visit [www.yosemite.org](http://www.yosemite.org).

YA thanks the National Park Service, The Ansel Adams Gallery, DNC Parks and Resorts at Yosemite, and many other friends for their vital assistance with the Spring Forum.

## Meet YA's Newest Staff!

**Megan Pardini**, our new **Administrative Coordinator**, began work on Halloween and endeared herself to the staff by bringing a bag of Snickers bars on her first day. Originally from Salt Lake City, she has lived all over the western United States and spent a year abroad teaching English in Japan. Her most recent work experience involved college admissions and financial aid counseling. Her degree in English from Colorado State University will come in handy with all of our member correspondence.



**Michelle Hansen** has brought an enormous amount of retail merchandising experience to our association and she has begun to transform our stores. Before coming to Yosemite to manage the Curry Village Gift Shop and Grocery Store, she worked as a visual merchandiser for DNC at Yellowstone, and also held positions with Busch Gardens, MGM Grand and Disney. She began work as our new **Sales Operations Manager** on November 28, after returning from her honeymoon in Mexico.



**Laura Beardsley** began work as our new **Membership Coordinator** on December 1. She relocated from the Philadelphia area, where she served as Outward Bound's Mid-Atlantic Development Manager. Her stint as an event coordinator with Bryn Mawr College and her degree in Communication Studies should help with all those member events! She is proficient in French, studied ancient Greek, and spent a year of college in Australia. She also likes to ski and hike, and plays lacrosse.



**Holly Kuehn** joined us in the summer of 2005 as our **Shipping/Receiving Assistant** in our El Portal warehouse. Along with her jovial manner



and love of practical jokes, the office appreciates her talents as a massage therapist. An avid outdoorswoman, she runs, kayaks, and hikes. She hails from Madison, Wisconsin, and has worked as a drug and alcohol counselor for adolescents and adults, and as a program manager working with the developmentally disabled.

## Leaving a Yosemite Legacy

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

### 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 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. We don't make reservations, but we can give appropriate phone numbers and usually lots of helpful advice.



# ASSOCIATION DATES

Legend:

OA = Outdoor Adventure  
YAC = Yosemite Art Center

FEB. 2006

**Feb:** Winter 2006 issue of the members' journal *Yosemite* and 2006 Outdoor Adventures Catalog to be mailed this month

**Feb 4:** OA: A Writer's

Winter Walk in Yosemite

**Feb 11:** OA: Full Moon Snowshoe

**Feb 20:** YA Administrative Office closed for President's Day holiday

**Feb 24:** Yosemite Renaissance XXI opening reception and awards presentation at Yosemite Museum Gallery, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

**Feb 24–May 7:** Yosemite Renaissance XXI exhibit at Yosemite Museum Gallery

**Feb 25–26:** OA: Exploring the Winter World of Yosemite

MARCH

**Mar 24:** OA: The Unknown West End

**Mar 24:** Reception for member donors of \$250 or more

**Mar 25:** Spring Forum, Yosemite Valley

**Mar 26:** OA: Snowshoe Explorations with a Naturalist

APRIL

**Apr 1:** OA: Spring Wildflowers of the Merced Canyon

**Apr 7:** Ostrander Ski Hut closes for the season

**Apr 7–8:** OA: Leave No Trace Trainer Certification

**Apr 8:** OA: Hite's Cove Wildflower Photography

**April 10–15:** YAC: free art lessons with Carolyn Fitz

**Apr 15:** OA: To the Top of Yosemite Falls

**Mid-Apr:** Big Oak Flat Information Station & Bookstore opens for the season (tentative)

**April 17–22:** YAC: free art lessons with Donna Naes

**April 24–29:** YAC: free art lessons with Patrick Duffy

MAY

**May:** Spring 2006 issue of the members' journal *Yosemite* to be mailed this month

**Early May:** Camp 6 Yurt Information Station and Yosemite Valley Wilderness Information Center & Bookstore open for the season (tentative)

**May 1–6:** YAC: free art lessons with Bob Chapla

**May 5:** OA: Beginning Birding



**May 5–7:** OA: 3rd Annual Yosemite Birding Festival

**May 7:** Last day to view Yosemite Renaissance XXI exhibit at Yosemite Museum Gallery

**May 8–13:** YAC: free art lessons with Jim Burns

**May 12–14:** OA: Hetch Hetchy Wildflower Explorations

**May 12–14:** OA: Yosemite Valley Videography

**Mid-May:** Happy Isles Nature Center and Mariposa Grove Museum & Bookstore open for the season (tentative)

**May 15–20:** YAC: free art lessons with Thor Erickson

**May 20–21:** OA: Mine Your Own Business

**May 20–21:** OA: Emerson and Muir: Transcendentalists in the Sequoias

**May 22–27:** YAC: free art lessons with Carol Buss

**May 29–June 3:** YAC: free art lessons with Roger Folk

**Late May:** Tuolumne Visitor Center & Bookstore opens for the season (tentative)

JUNE

**June 2–3:** OA: Yosemite's Colors and Fragrances

**June 3:** OA: Hiking Poles: Techniques for All Ages

**June 4:** OA: Functional Fitness for the Trail

**June 5–10:** YAC: free art lessons with Don Fay

**June 8–11:** OA: Yosemite's Hawks and Owls

**June 9–11:** OA: Photography Backpack to the Unknown Falls of Hetch Hetchy

**June 10–11:** OA: Traditional Uses of Native Plants

**June 10:** OA: Yosemite Valley Birds

**June 10:** OA: Pioneer Living, Yosemite Style

**June 11:** OA: Birds of Big Meadow and Foresta

**June 11:** OA: Yosemite Waterfalls Grand Tour

**June 12–17:** YAC: free art lessons with Sonja Hamilton

**June 16–18:** OA: The Sierra's Wild Soundscapes

**June 16–18:** OA: For Teachers: Place-based Learning

**June 17:** OA: Get Lost with a Ranger

**June 18:** OA: Get Lost with a GPS

**June 17–18:** OA: Biological Illustration

**June 17–22:** OA: Granite Rock Café: a Couples' North Rim Backpack

**June 19–24:** YAC: free art lessons with Linda Mitchell

**June 23–25:** OA: For Teachers: Watershed Education

**June 23–25:** OA: Introduction to Fly-fishing

**June 24:** OA: Hetch Hetchy: Yosemite's Other Valley

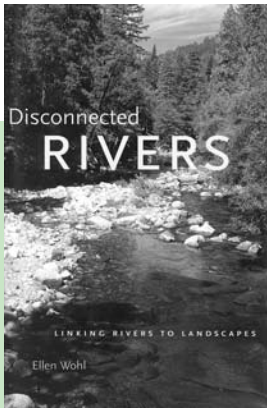
**June 24–25:** OA: Mountain Birding

**June 26–July 1:** YAC: free art lessons with Tom Fong

**June 30–July 2:** OA: Yosemite Natural History

For an expanded events calendar, visit: [www.yosemite.org/member/calendar.htm](http://www.yosemite.org/member/calendar.htm).





## Disconnected Rivers—Linking Rivers to Landscapes

by Ellen Wohl.

This important and accessible book surveys the history and present condition of river systems across the United States, showing how human activities have impoverished our rivers and impaired the connections

between river worlds and other ecosystems.

Ellen Wohl begins by introducing the basic physical, chemical, and biological processes operating in rivers. She then addresses changes in rivers resulting from settlement and expansion, describes the growth of federal involvement in managing rivers, and examines the recent efforts to rehabilitate and conserve river ecosystems.

In each chapter she focuses on a specific regional case study and describes what happens to a particular river organism—a bird, North America's largest salamander, the paddlefish, and the American alligator—when people interfere with natural processes.

The book is 302 pages long, illustrated in black and white, and casebound with a dust jacket. Copyright 2004, Yale University Press. \$35; **members price \$29.75**

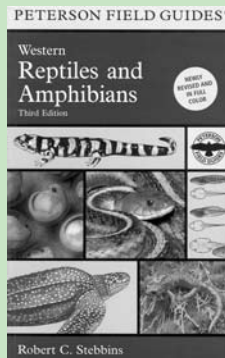
## Western Reptiles and Amphibians, Third Edition (A Peterson Field Guide)

by Robert C. Stebbins.

This third edition covers all the species of reptiles and amphibians found in western North America. More than 650 full-color paintings and photographs show key details

for making accurate identifications. The taxonomy of many species has been revised and this book includes many of the latest subspecies designations.

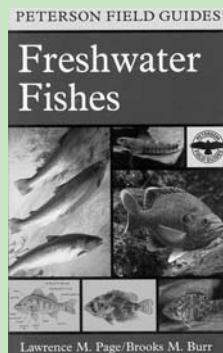
Up-to-date color range maps give species' distributions. Important information on conservation efforts and survival status rounds out the detailed species descriptions. This book is easy to use for the novice to the advanced and should be in any nature enthusiast's library. Robert C. Stebbins is professor emeritus of zoology at the University of California at Berkeley and curator emeritus of the University's Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. The book is 534 pages long, illustrated in color and black and white, and bound as a paperback with a sturdy, washable cover. Copyright 2003, Houghton Mifflin. \$22; **members price \$18.70**



## A Field Guide to Freshwater Fishes (A Peterson Field Guide)

by Lawrence M. Page and Brooks M. Burr.

This is the first comprehensive field guide to freshwater fishes, covering all 790 species known in the United States and Canada. More than 700 illustrations, most in color, show identifying marks. The guide also includes 377 distribution maps and additional drawings of key details.



The book is well organized, well written, all inclusive (of species), and informative. If you are curious about fishes in general or encounter fresh water fish with any kind of regularity, this is the volume for you. The book is 432 pages long, illustrated in color (plates) and black and white, and bound as a paperback with a sturdy, washable cover. Copyright 1991, Houghton Mifflin. \$19; **members price \$16.15**

## The Definitive Guide to the Waterfalls of Southern and Central California

by Chris Shaffer.

Over the last decade, author/adventurer Chris Shaffer has visited and documented more than 1,200 lakes, rivers, streams

and waterfalls throughout the Golden State. His findings have been remarkable. Shaffer reveals dozens of waterfalls you couldn't find on a map with a microscope.

For many of the undocumented waterfalls Shaffer has come up with names himself.

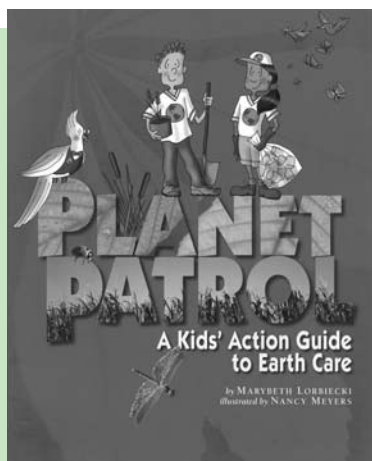
The full color, glossy, 416-page guide details more than 265 waterfalls, 65 of which you can drive to and others you need a boat to reach. All are located in Southern and Central California.

Illustrating both seasonal and year-round waterfalls this book, stuffed with more than 500 color photographs includes more than 100 waterfalls where people can catch fish in the pool below the actual waterfall.

Broken up into 16 regions spanning from the Pacific Ocean east along Highway 108 over Sonora Pass to Nevada and the Bay Area down south to Mexico, this book is a boon to hikers, describing more than 775 miles of hiking trails to waterfalls. The book is 402 pages, illustrated in full color, and paperbound. Copyright 2003, Shafdog Publications. \$24.95; **members price \$21.21**



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

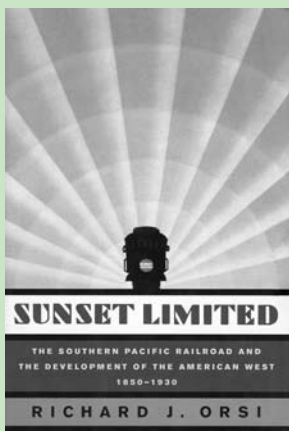


### **Planet Patrol—A Kid's Action Guide to Earth**

*by Marybeth Lorbiecki; illustrated by Nancy Meyers.*

With the *Planet Patrol*, readers will learn the basics of ecology and see how hard work and new technologies are reversing some of the problems facing our environment. Fun facts and action tips will help inspire kids to make a difference in their own homes, schools, and neighborhoods.

A great introduction to topics such as diversity and interdependence is contained in a fun, magazine-like layout that invites browsing. Whimsical illustrations and hundreds of photographs help to inspire and entertain. The message delivered is that if properly informed and motivated, individuals can help the challenges, however monumental, to be met. The children's book is 48 pages long, illustrated in full color, and paperbound. Copyright 2005, Two-Can Press. \$8.95; **members price \$7.61**



### **Sunset Limited —The Southern Pacific Railroad and the Development of the American West, 1850-1930**

*by Richard J. Orsi.*

The only major U.S. railroad to be operated by westerners and the only railroad built

from west to east, the Southern Pacific acquired a unique history and character. It also acquired a reputation, especially in California, as a railroad that people loved to hate.

This magisterial history tells the full story of the Southern Pacific for the first time, shattering myths about the company that have prevailed to this day. A landmark account, *Sunset Limited* explores the railroad's development and influence—especially as it affected land settlement, agriculture, water policy, and the environment—and offers a new perspective on the tremendous, often surprising, role the company played in shaping the American West.

Meticulously researched, lucidly written, and judiciously balanced, this history opens a new window onto the American West in a crucial phase of its development and will forever change our perceptions of one of the largest and most important western corporations in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The book is 616 pages long, illustrated in black and white, and case-bound with a dust jacket. Copyright 2005, University of California Press. \$29.95; **members price \$25.46**

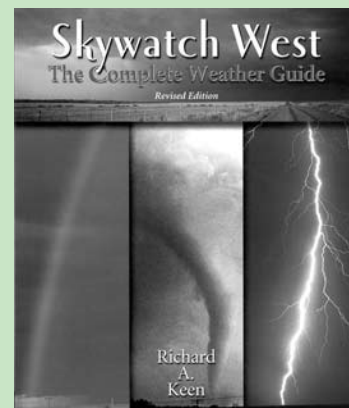
### **Skywatch West—The Complete Weather Guide**

*by Richard A. Keen.*

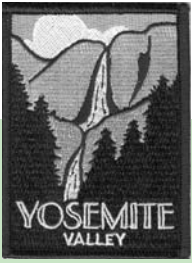
Revised and updated, this is a friendly, informative guide to the wide variety of weather the West has in store—from calm and predictable cycles to dramatic and unpredictable events. Through Richard A. Keen's lively descriptions and colorful photographs, you will discover all the joys of weather-watching in the always fascinating American West. You will also learn practical skills, such as how to “read” clouds, how to build a home weather station, and how to read weather maps.

This revised edition also features sidebar information, including weather tidbits and safety tips; updated lists of the West's most notable blizzards, floods, storms, winds, eruptions, etc.—from the nineteenth century to present; and an updated resources section.

Rounding out the volume are appendices with technical data for weather aficionados; exciting new photographs; and new information on such weather phenomena as El Niño. The book is 264 pages, illustrated in color, and paperbound. Copyright 2004, Fulcrum Publishing. \$24.95; **members price \$21.21**







### Yosemite Valley Logo Patch

by Yosemite Association.

The colorful Yosemite Valley logo is reproduced here in the form of an embroidered patch. The cloth patch is 2.5 inches by 3.5 inches, and can be sewn or ironed onto clothing, day packs, and other fabric objects.

The embroidery colors include green, light blue, white, grey, and yellow. \$4; **members price \$3.40**



### Yosemite Valley Logo Decal

by Yosemite Association.

The colorful Yosemite Valley logo is reproduced here as a heavy vinyl decal to be applied to your car, a window, or any other flat surface.

The decal is 3 inches by 4 inches and printed in light green, grey, blue, light blue, yellow, and white. The adhesive is on the back. Demonstrate your love for Yosemite Valley with this eye-catching logo decal. \$1.50; **members price \$1.28**

### Yosemite Valley Logo Pin

by Yosemite Association.

The colorful Yosemite Valley identity logo is here presented as a high-quality enamel pin. The pin is 7/8 inch wide by 1 and 3/8 inches high and uses green, grey, white, yellow, and blue enamel with gold highlights within a brass border.

The pin features a pointed prong on the reverse with a removable clip to hold it to clothing or a day pack. \$5; **members price \$4.25**



### Yosemite Valley Logo Cap (one-color)

by Yosemite Association.

This stylish baseball-style cap is embroidered with the Yosemite Valley logo that is a favorite of visitors. The hat is “unstructured” so that it conforms to the shape of the wearer’s head.

Besides the embroidered logo, there’s also the words “Experience Your Yosemite” embroidered on the back of the hat. The caps have a curved bill, and bill, cap, vent holes and buttons are all the same color. Manufactured of 100% cotton with an adjustable velcro sizing strap at the back.

Available in butterscotch and slate blue. One size fits all. \$16.95; **members price \$14.41**



### Yosemite Valley Logo Cap (sandwich bill)

by Yosemite Association.

This stylish baseball-style cap is embroidered with the Yosemite Valley logo that is a favorite of visitors. The hat is “unstructured” so that it conforms to the shape of the wearer’s head.

Besides the embroidered logo, there’s also the words “Experience Your Yosemite” embroidered on the back of the hat. The caps have a curved bill with a contrasting “sandwich” layer, while the cap, vent holes and buttons are all the same color. Manufactured by Port Authority of 100% cotton with an adjustable velcro sizing strap at the back. Available in dark gray and tan. One size fits all.

\$16.95; **members price \$14.41**



### Yosemite Valley Logo T-Shirt

by Yosemite Association.

These colorful shirts sport the new Yosemite Valley logo developed by Michael Osborne Design for YA’s park identity program. The stone-washed shirts are printed on the left chest with “Experience Your Yosemite,” and carry a full-color Yosemite Valley logo (about 7.5 inches by 10 inches) on their backs.

The adult-sized shirts are available in four colors: gulf blue, yam, mustard, and chrome in Small, Medium, Large, X-Large, and XX-Large. The shirt sizes run slightly large. The pre-shrunk, 100% cotton, garment-washed t-shirts are manufactured by Anvil and River’s End. \$16; **members price \$13.60**. Be sure to specify size and color when ordering.



**SPECIAL SALE! Order early—quantities are limited!**



**Yosemite Association Logo T-Shirt**

These comfortable short-sleeved t-shirts feature the colorful new Yosemite Association logo. Screen printed in four colors, the Hanes Beefy-T brand shirts are 100% cotton and available in two colors: natural and blue. Here's a perfect way to show your support of our work and look good at the same time! Available in Adult sizes S, M, L, XL, and XXL. Normally retails for \$16. **Special Price: \$10** (no member discount). Be sure to specify size and color when ordering.



**Yosemite Association 80th Anniversary Enamel Pin**

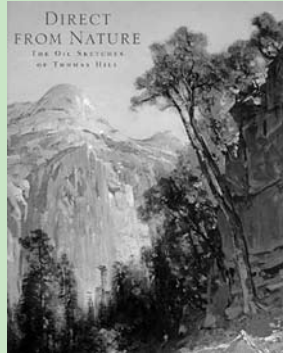
*by William Spear Design*  
This beautiful "cloisonné-style" enamel pin was developed to celebrate the association's

80th anniversary. With its rich primary colors and gold lettering and highlights, the pin is a real eyecatcher. The pin was developed for us by William Spear from the award-winning logo created by Michael Osborne Design. Made of heavy enamel, it is 1 inch wide and 1.375 inches tall. Normally retails for \$12.95. **Special Price: \$5** (no member discount).

**Direct from Nature: the Oil Sketches of Thomas Hill**

*by Janis T. Driesbach, with an essay by William H. Gerds.*

This is the first book to draw attention to the remarkable oil sketches of famed landscape artist Thomas Hill. These smaller pieces, painted in the field directly from nature, represent some of Hill's finest work. Driesbach's essay details Hill's production of the sketches while providing much valuable information about his life. Gerds writes about the role that oil sketches played in nineteenth-century American painting. The essays are illustrated with over 90 reproductions (most in full color) of work by Hill and other landscape artists. The book is 128 pages, 9 by 10.75 inches, and paperback. It is copyright 1997 by the Yosemite Association and the Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, CA. Normally retails for \$19.95. **Special Price: \$5** (no member discount).



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# NEW MEMBERS AND RECENT DONATIONS

ENROLLMENTS AND GIFTS PROCESSED BETWEEN OCTOBER 1, 2005 AND JANUARY 3, 2006

## NEW AND REJOINING MEMBERS

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

### Benefactor Members:

The Barton Family, The Boom Family, Jim & Barbara Pitblado

### Patron Members:

Karen Jo Miles, Megan Lillian More, Lloyd Runyan

### Sustaining Members:

Bob & Carmen Anne Delano, Margo & Jim Duffy, John Howard, Tom Morehouse, Judy Reilly, Ed Stevens, A. Turhollow & M. Perkins

### Contributing Members:

Merl Ashworth, Troy Barbee, Tom Bates, Janet Benschick, Jack Bertges, Marguerite Bourez, Jeff Brown, Anne W. Brown, Jeanne Bushra, Bob Chaffee, Roger & Linette Collins, Dan & Kathy Cooley, Caitlin Curtin, Joseph Davis, Susan Depolo, Janet Dixon, The Du Pont Family, Kristine Erving, Joan Evans, Gary W. & Peggy S. Fout, Richard Griffith, Beverly & Mark Hall, Jim & Mary Hamilton, Shirley Joe, Albert Kennel, John & Rita Lawson, Dr. & Mrs. R. Hewlett Lee, Mark McDonald, David McGinness, Barbara & Tom McKittrick, Carl Oberg, Frank Pajerski, Michael Radigan, Jim & Lori Richardson, Robert Rose, Linda Sanders, Barbara F. Schneider, Ron & Kate Scott, Susanne & Steve Shepard, Diane Sickmen, James C. Skelton, Carl Stankwitz, Hilda Stengard, Karen Sutton, Richard & Sally Tuttle, Lynn & Frank Ubhaus, Dorothy & Dan Votaw, John & Amy Warden, Albert & Sandra Way, Ela Wehrman, Sallie & Jay Whaley, Diane White, Richard & Billie Wiebe, Leslie Young

### Supporting Members:

David & Betsy Anstrand, Cynthia Bates, Carrie Bennett, Gordon & Maureen Boroditsky, Susan Brown, Todd Brownell, Jack & Julee Cade, William Carpenter, Marcia Chapman, Jennifer Clark, Bruce Clark, Jim & Valerie Craft, Eleanor Crary, Samuel & Sharee Cutler, James & Pamela Doman, Barbara Fagnano, Julia Fone, Angela Gettle, Susan Gutkind, David Guzzetta & Carolyn Aufer, Diane Hamilton, Russ Handsman & Saundra Hall, Sue & Jack Hansen, Dana & Nancy Hanson, Theresa Helm, L. Hill, Gary J. Hinze, Daniel Hurst, Chris Jensen, Ruth Johnston, Paul Jones, Sarah Kevin, Marjorie A. Kirk, Terry Kulka, Kathleen Landry, Christy Lemaster & Thalia Ferry, Marilyn Lingenfelder, Socorro & Joe Litehiser, John Luikart, Nora Magnusen, Philip & Carmen Martin, James & China Meier, Eric & Marlene Moon, Lee Ann Mullins, Mr. & Mrs. William Neuman, Dennis Peitzel, James Peterson, John C. Peto, Cliff & Diane Phillips, Charles Pribbernow, Pamela Putman, Laura Ranks, J. Renner, Joe Robinson, Richard & Meg Rodgers, Arthur J. Rubinstein, M. Ruyak & Lisa Travis, Iona Scapple, Joanna Schwend, Sheldon Siegel, Charles & Louise Silverberg, Loren & Karen Snider, Joanne Sobel, Susan Sommer & D. Sporleder, The Stecher Family, Sandra Sternberg, Mark Stoess, Rena Taguchi & David Vail, Dave Terry, John Tompkins, Sharla Tracy, Sherry Trochta, David

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Besides publishing and selling books, maps, and other materials, YA operates an outdoor adventure program, the Yosemite Art 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.

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