

Yosemite

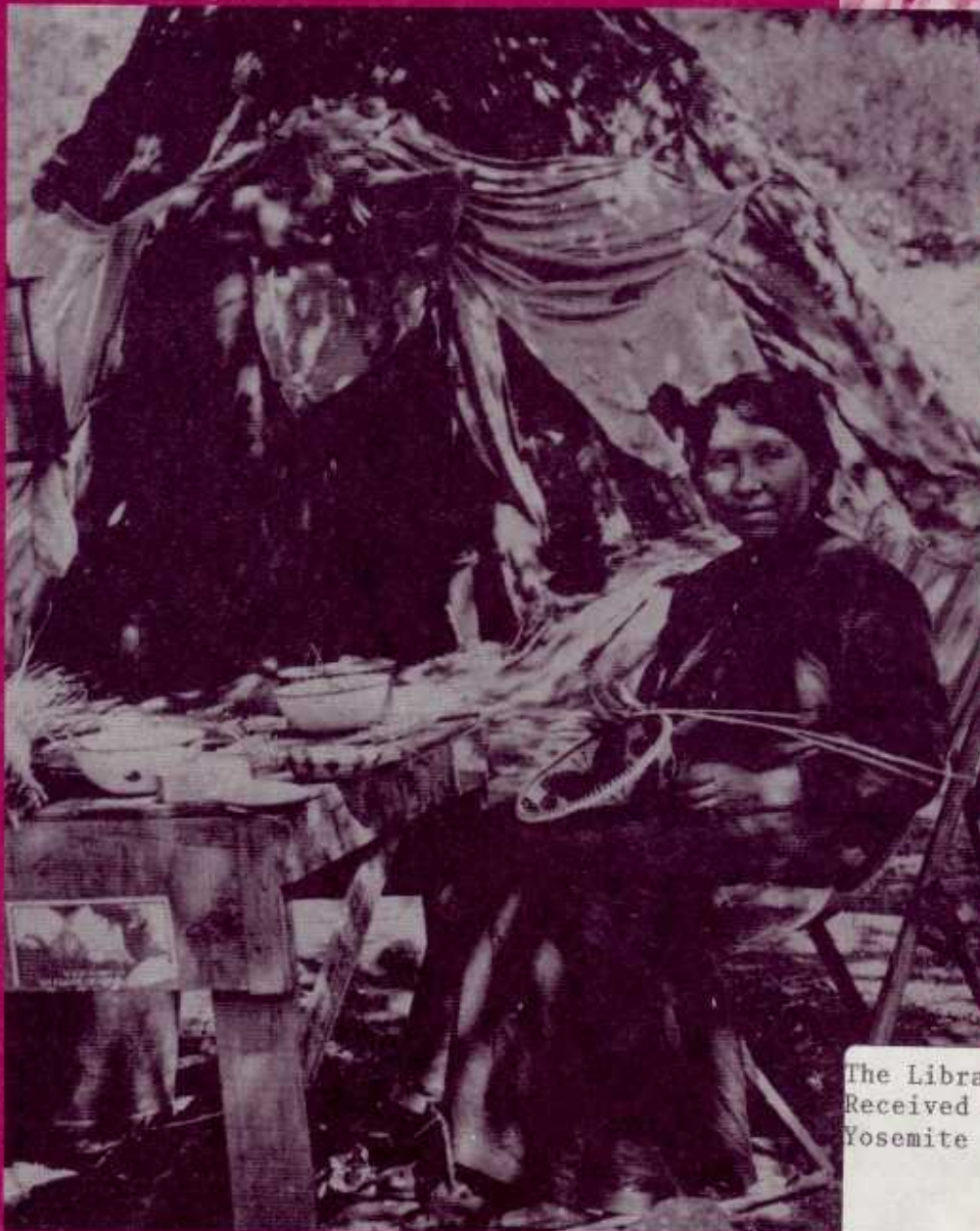
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An Indian Thanksgiving



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AN INDIAN THANKSGIVING

BY ESTELLA FALLA

FOREWORD BY CRAIG D. BATES, CURATOR OF
ETHNOGRAPHY, YOSEMITE MUSEUM

The following article was first published in Yosemite Nature Notes in April, 1957. The author, Estella Falla, was 81 at the time and wrote the article based on her memories of living in Yosemite in 1910-1914. Falla was born in 1875 in Tres Pinos, San Benito County, California. Her father was British, her mother born in Mexico City of a Mexican mother and a Spanish father who was the son of a representative of Spain at the court of Emperor Maximilian. When Maximilian was executed in 1867, Falla's mother and the other women of her family fled to San Francisco, where Falla's parents met.

Falla studied to be a teacher, and despite contracting tuberculosis, eventually received her teacher's certificate. Because of the tuberculosis she could not teach, and thus held a variety of jobs throughout her life. After spending a month camping in Yosemite in 1909, she returned the following year to work as bookkeeper and Assistant Postmaster at Salter's Yosemite Store from 1911-1914. She became the basket buyer for the store, purchasing baskets from Miwok and Paiute women. Many Yosemite visitors were seeking baskets, and Salter's was a prime location for acquiring baskets to take home. Falla purchased some special baskets for herself, and in the 1950s donated her small collection, including baskets by Lucy Telles, Emma Murphy, and Alice Wilson, to the Yosemite Museum. Estella Falla died in 1968.

Falla's article is a rare remembrance by a Yosemite resident of the local Indian people. Her description of the ceremonies she witnessed are somewhat romanticized, but her affection for and friendship with Lucy Telles, Mary and other Indian people is obvious. The many details in Falla's article are important to the study of Indian life in Yosemite Valley; for example, her account of Indian people snaring wild pigeons is one of the only extant records of this activity. Some of Falla's personal letters from Lucy Telles, along with Falla's own accounts of Yosemite Indian people and life in Yosemite, are in the collections of the Yosemite Museum and Research Library.

For days we noted the annual influx of Paiutes coming to Yosemite. This was in September of 1911, as I recall. They were coming "over the mountain"—that is, from the Nevada side of the Sierra, around Mono Lake, then over the steep climb of the Tioga Pass to Lake Tenaya, then down a steep, short, secret trail which came out at Mirror Lake, the east gate of the Yosemite. These Indians came in groups of two or more families, all walking, except that now and then a small child was given a lift on the back of a burro or pony already laden with sacks of pine nuts. It was an annual ceremony. The few ponies and burros and many of the Indian women carried the pine nuts to be traded for acorns, which were profuse in Yosemite.



Mary, 1913. Mary is poking the fire that is heating her acorn snaring rocks. In the foreground is the leaching basin, used to leach acorn flour. Photograph by Eleanor Sell Crooks. Yosemite Museum Collection.

Cover: Lucy Telles, 1913. Telles is working on one of her fancy baskets with a butterfly motif. Photograph by Homer E. Sargent. Courtesy Telles Family Collection, Yosemite Research Library.

In previous years, as soon as they arrived in Yosemite, the women came to Salter's General Store to sell their baskets. As bookkeeper for the store and because I had more patience than the men clerks, I did the buying—one basket at a time, each one paid for in silver dollars as purchased. But this year, the baskets were not brought in immediately on arrival. The camp on the Indian Creek grew daily from the usual forty to fifty Indians, and we noted members of other sections coming in over the Wawona, El Portal, and Big Oak Flat Roads until the camp grew to about 300.

Nightly, the usual "hand game" was played—a dozen or more Indians of both sexes sitting cross-legged on the ground on either side of a low-burning bonfire playing a form of our "Up! Jenkins," blankets spread across their laps to take the place of tables. These games would last until two or three o'clock in the morning. As a player became tired, he lay down where he was, his feet toward the fire and took a short nap, then rejoined the game.

After closing hours, about eleven at night, we often went to the camp to watch the gambling. We could throw in a quarter or half dollar if we liked on the blanket on what we guessed might be the winning side. As the gamblers lost, one by one they rushed to the store to sell their baskets.

The Indian camp with its *u-ma-chas* made of bark in the style of a tepee, its tents and its *chuck-ahs*, always held a fascination for me. The *chuck-ahs* especially interested me as I had watched Teleucie Tellez and her sister make one.¹ Then gentle Lucy was an especially good friend and the best basket maker among the Paiutes, with Emma Murphy a close second.²

Four strong saplings were firmly planted in the ground in the form of a four-foot square to start the *chuck-ahs*. These were kept bare for more than four feet above the ground, this being then the usual snow level line. Heavy bark was woven around the posts above the snow line in such a way that a thick wall of pine needles, sharp points down, was woven through up a distance of about four feet. A suitable base was built in this *chuck-ah*, the bottom bristling with pine needles pointing downward. In this container were stored the acorns and other nuts to be used as food, safe from the marauding squirrels. The top was finished off with bark to shed the rain. In the case of a small *chuck-ah*, an inverted washtub served as a roof.

One thing that had always puzzled me at the camp was a barbed wire fence that fenced in nothing. It was near the Indian Creek, about 300 feet long, its four strands of barbed wire held up by tree limbs used as fence posts.

One day Old Mary, whose picture appears in many of the Yosemite books written at the time, happily and secretly sought me out when I was alone in the office.³ The camp was full of Indians and I supposed she was happy over the grand reunion.



Acorn Granaries, Yosemite Valley, c. 1910. These granaries were located on the flat just behind today's Yosemite Post Office and Degnan's Store. Photographer unknown. Yosemite Research Library.

Lucy Brown, c. 1915. Lucy Brown is seen here near her home in the Indian Village at the mouth of Indian Canyon. Today, employee housing covers this site. Yosemite Museum Collection.



She bent over me as I sat and whispered, "Tomorrow, make acorn bread. You come."

"Where, Mary?"

"By river near Nick's camp. Other way. You see. Plenty Indian there. Three o'clock."

Of course, I promised to come. The three or four women clerks in the store thought it would be a fine idea to go along, too, and I had a hard time making them understand that they had not been invited. If they crashed the party, I would not go.

All the way to the river, I kept a lookout to see I was not followed.

Mary was looking for me when I arrived. She came to me and led me to a large, comfortable stone where I was to sit, facing the fire, which was burning about twenty feet in front of me. To my left, sitting on the ground in a group, were 300 Indians and their well-behaved, quiet children. To my right ran the Merced River. It startled me. I had been given the seat of honor where I could see everything. And I sat alone where everyone could see me.

I had wanted to bring pencil, pad, and camera to take notes and pictures but knew I must just sit and watch and say nothing. It did not occur to me to ask permission to take pictures.

As the fire burned, three rounded rocks about six or seven inches in diameter were laid on it to heat. I noticed that three river sand piles had been laid in a row, then bordered with small pebbles. It seems to me that the center, where the fire burned, was bordered in a square about two feet in diameter. While to the right and left as I faced them, the piles were bordered in the form of a circle, each about two feet in diameter, and all very symmetrical and artistic in appearance. In the circle to the right of the fire as I faced it, imbedded in the leveled sand which was about four inches deep, was a large Indian basket about eighteen inches in diameter at the top and about twelve inches at the base and about eighteen inches in height. It was a very beautiful, very old basket of Paiute make.

The sand in the circle to the left had also been leveled to about four inches, and on this sand was piled several inches of acorn meal.

The ceremony began.

An Indian woman carried a basket water jug to the river and filled it, returning to the cooking basket in which the man in attendance poured the water. Another Indian woman had already brought a water jug full of water to the Indian man squatting by the circle of meal and he gently poured the water over the meal to leach it. The Indian man at the fire kept it at the low flame.

When the meal was properly leached of its bitter taste the Indian who had been by the cooking basket took a fair-sized basket and filled it with the damp meal, then poured it into the cooking basket, stirring it with a stick. The Indian at the fire then took two short, stout



Baskets offered for sale by Salter's Store, Yosemite Valley, c.1912. Baskets numbers 6, 10, 25, 29 and 35 were all the work of Lucy "Teleucie" Telles. Photographer unknown. Yosemite Museum Collection.

limbs about 1½" in diameter, each with an upward growing branch cut off to make a hook. With these wooden hooks, he lifted a hot stone from the fire, placed it in the cooking basket, and I could see steam begin to rise.

The man at the meal circle continued to leach, an Indian woman keeping him supplied with river water.

Then, the man at the fire used his tongs to lift the cooled stone from the cooking basket and replaced it with a hot one. By the time the third stone was dropped in, the mixture in the basket was boiling. I could see it bubbling from my seat. I was so excited, it was hard for me to keep a calm exterior. I wanted to run down close to see the boiling at close range. I was also too excited to time the cooking, but soon three Indian women, each carrying what we called a Klamath Squaw cap, a very flexible basket about seven or eight inches in diameter and almost four inches tall, came to the cooking basket. When the mixture was done, the Indian man at the cooking basket picked up a small basket, which he used as a measure and poured the mixture into each squaw cap. Each Indian woman squeezed two edges of her cap together and hurried to a rock ledge in a bend of the river out of the current, and turned the contents of her cap over the flat rock

to be cooled by the gently flowing water, which washed over it.

The glutinous loaves held their shape and were about eight inches long and three inches in diameter. As the loaves were laid on the rock, the squaw caps were rinsed in the river, and the women hurried back to the cooking basket for other loaves. When the cooking basket was empty, the process was repeated over and over. River water was again put in the basket, then meal, then a hot rock. At this distant time I do not recall how many hot rocks were required to cook each batch of bread. But I do recall my disappointment at the one discordant note. As the bread cooled on the stone, the loaves were neatly laid in new galvanized wash tubs. Even in 1911, there were no huge baskets in which to pack them.

It was almost sundown when the rite was over. No one had spoken a word. I wondered about the meaning of the circles and the squares. I asked no questions. The Indians had probably lost the answers I wanted.

When the cooking was over and the tubs filled, Mary brought a loaf to me, wrapped in a newspaper. Each tub of bread was carried by two Indian women, and since we were in the rear, we were the last to go. Mary was happy.

"You like?"

"Very much."

We said little as we left the river together to reach the road leading to the village. When we came to the road, we turned left a short distance before we came to the Indian Creek. When we came to the creek, Mary turned right as she said "Good-bye!" I had hoped to be asked to the feast which would follow, for looking up the creek I could see to what use the puzzling barbed wire fence was put. I believe there was a dressed wild pigeon on every barb. Wild pigeons came to Yosemite by the thousands each year. The Indians must have snared them, for certainly no one had heard a shot. At the store we all tasted the unsalted, glutinous bread, not bad.

That night at eight the big pow-wow was held. It started with the principal men of the tribes, about twenty men, sitting in a circle around the low burning bonfire. A larger circle of the rest of the men sat outside the inner circle and then the Indian women stood or sat at the back. The tourists stood at the front.

It began with a speech by the Chief of the Yosemite. As he spoke, I thought that any speech student could have taken lessons from his eloquence. Quietly, the modulations of his voice, his rhetoric pauses, his few eloquent gestures, conveyed his meaning to us, although we did not understand his language, and we even got the drift of his humor. For an hour he held white and Indian alike during his speech.

The circles broke up and the dancing began—the deer hunting dance, the courting dance where young people made known their preferences in husbands and wives, and many other dances. The next day the trek reversed itself, going back "over the mountain" to the deserts of Nevada, over the Wawona, El Portal, and Big Oak Flat Roads to the deserts and plains of California.

Quiet settled down for the fall and winter with Salter's Store at one end, the Sentinel Hotel at the other end of the block-long village on one side of the street, and facing Salter's, Degnan's home, and bakery at one end and the Cedar Cottage, so called because of the cedar tree which grew through one of its rooms, at the other with picture studios, the post office, dance pavilion, Wells Fargo Express, Yosemite Valley Transportation Co., and a meat market filling in the spaces between.

This old village lives only in the memories of the old-timers for progress has swept it away. There are no more acorn bread rites, no more pow-wows.

But in the year 1911, when we settled down to the everyday routine following the pow-wow, I thought of the immense amount of work this reunion had entailed. All

summer I had watched Old Mary and the children race the squirrels in gathering the acorns from the ground. At the campground I had seen Old Lucy (not the basket maker) carried to a blanket spread in the sun on the ground where all day she hulled acorns with her teeth.¹ She was 108 years old, but she had all her front teeth, at least, although they were worn to half their length. Later I had seen the younger women grind dry acorns to a meal at the Indian Rock whose surface was covered with holes made by centuries of Indians using long stones as pestles; the huge stone resembling a beehive of mortars where a dozen women could work at a time.

Looking back, I have been very grateful to my Indian friends who invited me to witness the rite of thanksgiving for the harvest, the making of the acorn bread, perhaps the last held in California. The Indians have since been moved about a mile west where those working for the government live in houses supplied with electric lamps, refrigerators and sometimes with washing machines. I know they must miss the music of the Indian Creek, as it gurgles its rushing way to the Merced.

In 1952, I went to Yosemite and looked up Teleucie. When she answered my knock, she did not recognize me. "This is Estella," I said, "Remember? A long time ago."

"Oh, Estella!" she said and put her arms around me, laying her cheek to mine. Then she took my face in her hands, and I could see her sight had failed. Then, disappointedly, "Oh, so old!" Recovering herself, she laughed and added "Me too!" We had both been rather young women when last we had parted.

NOTES

1. "Teleucie Tellez" was what Estella Falla called Lucy Toy Parker Telles (c.1885-1955). Telles, of Paiute and Miwok ancestry, was well known for her fine basketry.

2. Emma Murphy, born Emma Jim, was the sister of two other well known Mono Lake Paiute weavers, Tina and Nellie Charis. Emma married Louie Murphy, and their daughter Virginia married Lucy's son Lloyd Parker.

3. Mary (c.1840-1923) was a Miwok woman who was well known to Yosemite visitors. For many years she lived in her cabin near the base of the Four Mile Trail.

4. "Old Lucy" is Lucy Brown (c.1830s-1924), a Miwok woman who lived much of her life in Yosemite. She was the grandmother of the well-known Yosemite Miwok dancer Chris "Old Lemee" Brown (c.1900-1956).



September 28, 2000.

It's autumn in the Valley. The seasons are in transition. Summer slowly releases its hold to autumn. The meadows, no longer green, still bloom with golden rod and *Lesquerella*. The Pacific dogwoods blush red and the big leaf maples yellow. Orange-crowned and Wilson's warblers sit about the willows, their plumage faded and worn from wear. Clark's nutcrackers are busy caching their precious white-bark pine nuts. Red-tailed hawks are on the move. Dragonflies dominate the meadows and the Merced River.

School is in session and I am working again. This week I have the honor of teaching eleven students from Galt High School. My job is to teach them the natural and cultural history of Yosemite National Park. In our third day of exploration, we visit the west end of Yosemite Valley. We spent the morning on the Old Big Oak Flat Road and most recently the recessional moraine, left behind after the latest glaciation. I know there is a good lunch spot near the moraine on the river. I have worked as a naturalist for Yosemite Institute (a field science program) for seven years and know the importance of a "good lunch spot." It must be scenic and, most important, it must entice the students to explore after they finish their meal. The Merced River, now just a sleepy trickle, beckons.

In the course of an hour we see a great blue heron, an American dipper, gossamer (silk created by ballooning spiders), California sisters (a brush-footed butterfly), and

chestnut-backed chickadees. As we near the end of our lunch, Brian Deis, the history teacher, spots a dragonfly and asks, "What are they doing?"

"The same thing we're doing—eating lunch," I say. The squadron of dragonflies has probably been here since nine or ten o'clock in the morning when the ambient air temperature warms enough to engage their flight muscles.

Their flight is erratic. They slowly cruise a straight line over a stretch of river until prey, in this case a U.F.I. (Unidentified Flying Insect), is detected by the visual target acquisition system. Without warning, cruise control is overridden, warp speed engaged, and the dragonfly executes an unbanked right angle turn that appears immune to any sort of centripetal force. It's an optical illusion that has been practiced nearly 300 million years by one of the world's first aerialists. When a dragonfly turns, it still carves an arc but its abdomen swivels 90 degrees, as if on a lazy Susan, from its original flight path, giving the illusion it can pivot in mid-air.

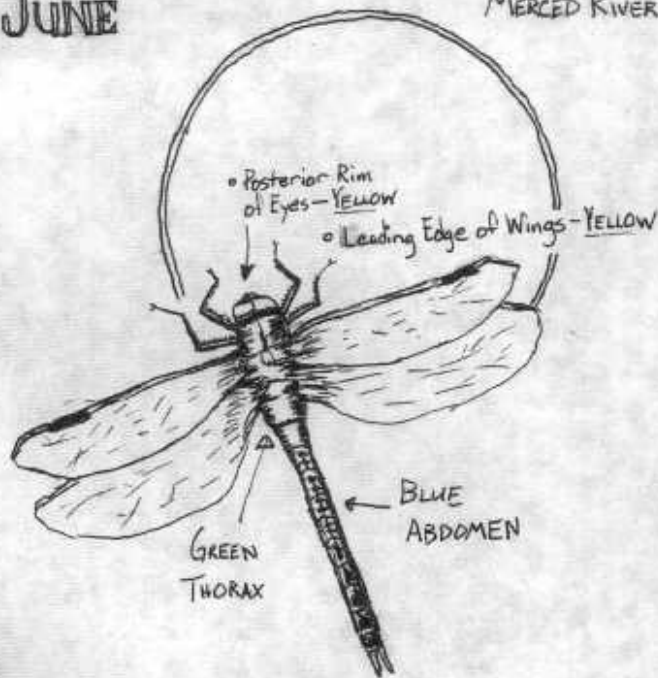
Trace the dragonfly's evolutionary history and find it reads like a "Who's Who" of the insect world. *Meganeura*, a dragonfly prototype that cruised the coal forests of the Late Carboniferous Period some 300 million years ago, gained celebrity by boasting a wingspan of 27½ inches, rivaling that of a crow. Widely regarded as being among the most ancient of insects, dragonflies (the stout-bodied insects which, when at rest, hold their wings outstretched) and their brethren the damselflies (the slender insects which, when at rest, hold their wings together above their body) belong to an ancient group called the *Odonata* (the "toothed ones"), an allusion to the sharp teeth used to chop their prey, mostly small flies and mosquitoes, into bite-size morsels.

Philip S. Corbet, an odonatologist (dragonfly specialist) concludes his book, *A Biology of Dragonflies*, with the assertion, "dragonflies, their long history untarnished by defeat, still remain—monarchs of all they so completely survey." He attributes their continued success to "their size and agility and to the fact that they have tapped an inexhaustible source of food: the myriad of flies and other small insects that inhabit the earth."

I assume that is what our dragonflies are dining on as my high school students gobble up the last tidbits of trail mix. The erratic flight exhibited by the dragonflies is a type of behavior called *hawking*. This term is borrowed from the birding world and is used to describe a foraging (hunting) strategy in which the bird (or insect) catches

LORD MASTER OF JUNE

SEPT. 28,
MERCED RIVER



Today I saw the dragonfly
Come from the well where he did lie...
Thro' crofts and pastures wet with dew
A living flash of light he flew
—Alfred Lord Tennyson

ECW

insects or other prey in mid-air. Watching dragonflies hawk looks like a surreal World War II dog fight where the roles have been reversed, and the giant B-17 Flying Fortress Bombers are more agile than the small Axis fighters. In the aerial predator/prey war, odds are heavily stacked in favor of the dragonflies because of their superior weapons systems, which include visual target acquisition, pursuit, and intercept operation—in other words, highly modified eyes, wings, and legs.

VISUAL TARGET ACQUISITION

The rotating head is mostly composed of two compound, bulging eyes (each containing 30,000 facets) providing a

visual field covering almost 360 degrees—allowing them to see in nearly all directions simultaneously! Dragonflies can detect color including ultraviolet and polarized light, and most important of all, movement. Prey and/or potential mates can have specific color patterns or reflect ultraviolet (UV) light triggering the dragonflies' attention and eliciting appropriate behavior. Presumably dragonflies are able to navigate by using the pattern of polarized light in the sky, and the pattern is detected on fast beating wings. Try to catch a dragonfly with your hand or net and you'll realize humans are no match for dragonflies in the "quick draw" category. Dragonflies excel at detecting motion because they have a high flicker fusion frequency. They can detect the flickering of light at twice the rate that we can: 80 versus 40 per second, giving them the edge in reaction time.

PURSUIT

Once the target has been detected, pursuit ensues. Locomotion is strictly aerial. The blueprint for this flight equipment is ancient, but the fact that there has been little design

change over the past 300 million years is a testament to its success. Philip Corbet comments in his book *Dragonflies*:

In their aerial agility and general mastery of flight, dragonflies are without peers among other animals except perhaps a few raptorial birds (birds of prey). On a scoring system that reflected versatility, dragonflies would almost certainly emerge as the best flier this planet has produced.

The wings have the look and feel of brittle saran-wrap, often times adorned with bright colors, bands, and delicate, minute geometric shapes. Actually the "saran-wrap" is a double layered membrane supported by an intricate

network of veins carrying blood, air ducts, and nerves. The veins' cross-braced pattern of triangles, hexagons, pentagons, trapezoids, and octagons strengthens and supports the wing much like struts in airplane wings. The wings are powered by the dragonfly's massive flight muscles (accounting for one-third to one-half its body mass) which are tightly packed into the thorax, a backward-slanting box behind the head.

Dragonflies can bend their wings, allowing them to perform a number of aerodynamic feats. They are among the fastest insects on wings, with a top speed of 35 miles per hour. They can lift more than double their own weight, a feat not yet duplicated by human aircraft. They can take off backward, accelerate at warp speed, hover, glide, stop on a dime, and according to Richard Conniff in his Smithsonian magazine article, "even somersault in the heat of combat. The U.S. Air Force has put them in wind tunnels to see how they do it, and despaired."

INTERCEPT OPERATION

Dragonflies use their bristly, hooked legs clustered toward the front of the thorax as a net to intercept prey. Larger prey like bees, moths, and even other dragonflies are snagged by the legs and usually devoured at a perch. Small prey like midges can be caught directly in the mouth with the "look ma, no hands" technique and consumed while in flight.

As we leave our lunch spot one of my students proclaims, "You never told us what kind of dragonfly we are looking at," a common remark with my groups, for I try not to disclose the true identity until the group has become acquainted with the essence of the creature and by that time the name is almost superfluous.

Although most dragonflies do not migrate, I know this particular species has a penchant for migration and is known to accompany hawks along flight corridors following the cold fronts in fall. Migrations appear not to be due to prey shortages, but possibly are caused in some cases by restlessness due to internal parasites such as flukes.

This species is by far the most common dragonfly in the park, ranging from Tuolumne meadows down to the foothills and is most often seen swarming over fields and waterways. The recession moraine reminds me that the glacier's

influence is strongly reflected in Yosemite's rocks, rivers, lakes, and dragonflies—for it is in the still, marshy waters of glacial lakes where this dragonfly mates and lays eggs.

It is one of the largest and most common dragonflies in the U.S. It makes for easy identification in the field with its yellow-rimmed eyes, unmarked green thorax, and blue (males) or brown (females) abdomen. Which brings us to the name, which is anything but superfluous—the Green Darner. The common name describes the long and slender abdomen, which resembles a darning needle. It also goes by "devil's darning needle" because it supposedly is capable of stitching together the lips of wicked children in their sleep—a "fact" I try to impress upon my students. But it is the scientific name that best describes this insect's place in the animal world. *Anax junius* translates into "Lord and Master of June".

Erik Westerlund is a naturalist for Yosemite Institute. He leads bird walks for YA's member meetings and will be teaching a field seminar "After the Ice Age: The Return of Life to Glaciated Yosemite" next summer.



YOSEMITE ASSOCIATION INTERNS: Students Making a Difference

BY BETH PRATT



YA Interns—Class of 1999

In her staff cabin at Glacier Point, intern Jackie Ferguson hangs a map of Yosemite where she marks in bright red marker all of the areas of the park that she has explored. The map is covered in red lines—an incredible accomplishment given that she has been in Yosemite only a little over two months.

“My work has given me the opportunity to explore the park. I take every free moment I have to see something new in this place.”

Her enthusiasm for Yosemite, a place she had never even visited prior to her internship this year, is now directing her future. Having connected to this place, she intends to return annually, whenever possible, to volunteer. And her enthusiasm, whether it's while leading a small group on a nature hike to Illilouette Fall or conducting an evening program for two hundred people at Glacier Point, helps visitors make their own connections to the park.

While I listened to a program, “Natural Disasters,” that she designed as part of her internship, I watched as a child peered cautiously over the railing of Glacier Point trying to imagine the crash of the enormous rockfall being described. Jackie says that the interaction with people is the best part of her internship experience, and it's evident from the visitor responses to her program that she succeeds in helping to enhance their experience.

“I get postcards from visitors thanking me. I know that

I've really hit home when I receive feedback. It makes my day.”

Her supervisor, Dick Ewart, a Yosemite park ranger for over twenty-five years who also started as a YA volunteer commented on her enthusiasm and said she has definitely helped with visitor contact. “She is a good speaker and has developed programs the visitors enjoy.”

Jackie is one of over twenty-five interns sponsored annually by YA. These undergraduate students are selected by the National Park Service in Yosemite to provide much needed assistance not only for the visitor but also for the NPS and Yosemite itself. Park Ranger Greg Lawler observes that, “We don't have an enormous staff and having the interns helps us in our jobs.” Evan Jones, Search and Rescue supervisor, says the interns “have been an enormous asset and help us to get work done we couldn't do otherwise.”

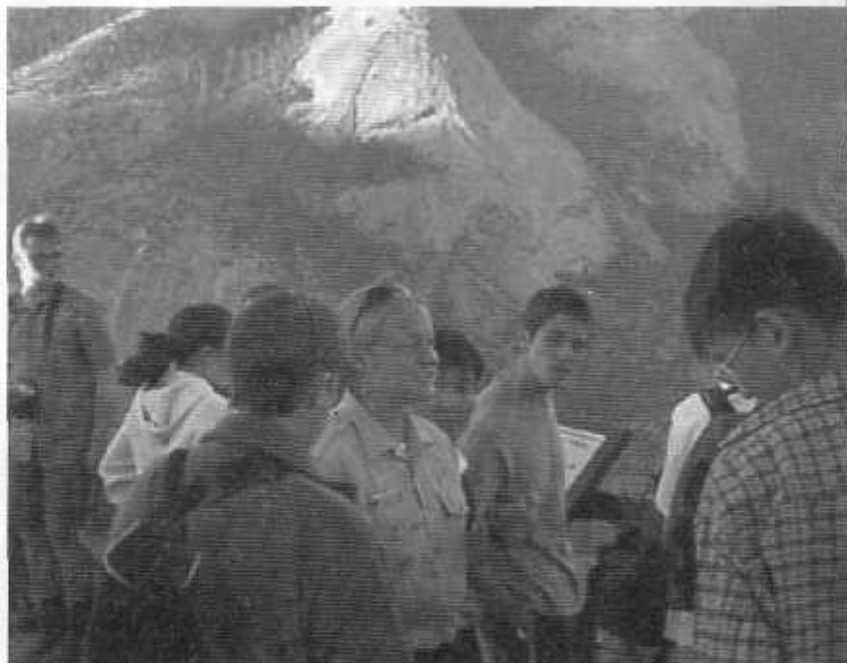
Yosemite's intern program began in 1981, with six students from the University of California at Davis (see sidebar). All were assigned to jobs in the division of interpretation (the area of the NPS that provides visitor information and naturalist programs). Rick Smith, present Chief of Interpretation, says, “The intern program allows us to expose college students to the opportunities in becoming stewards of our nation's lands. The park appreciates the funding support supplied by the

Association, without which it is doubtful that the program could continue.”

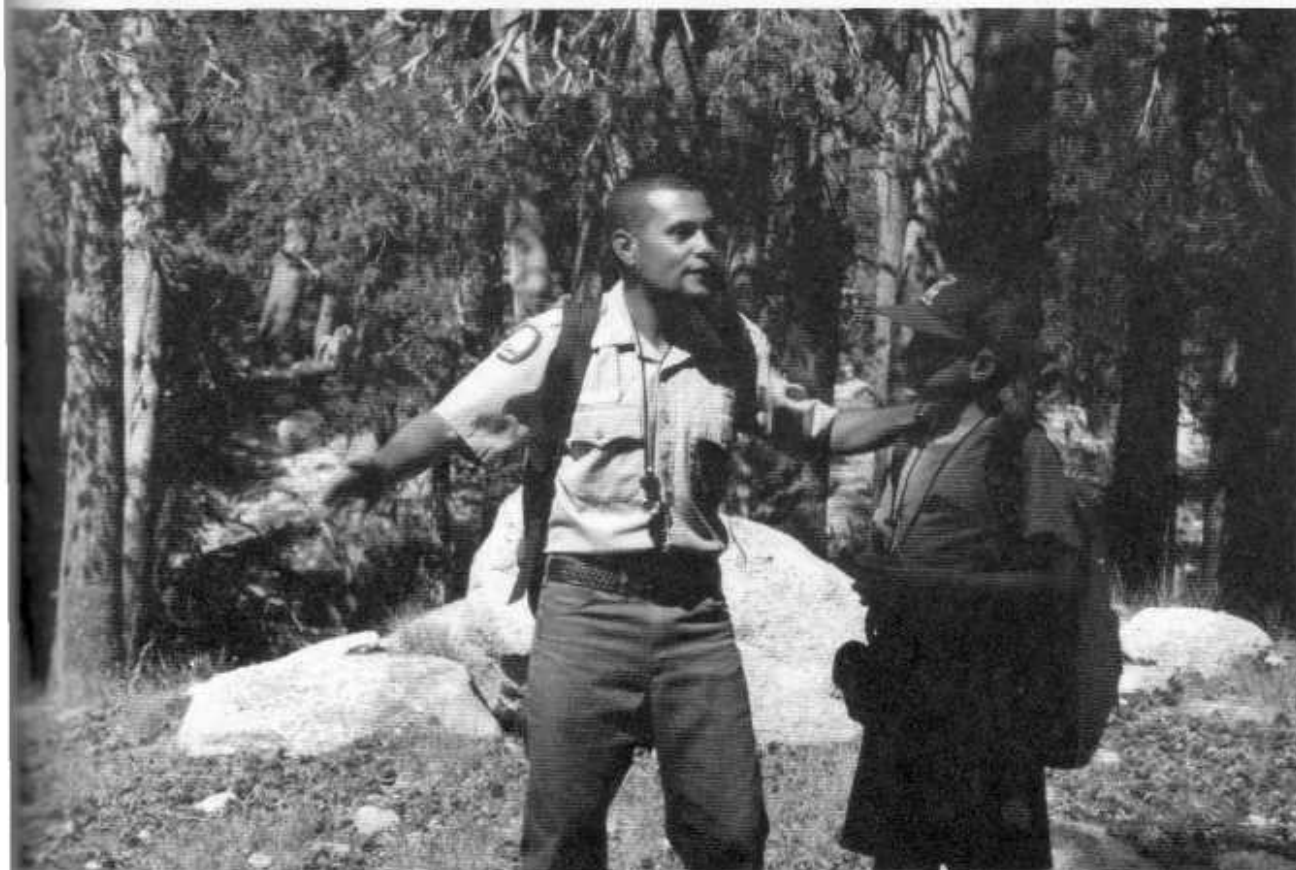
Over the years the program has expanded beyond the division of interpretation, and interns now contribute in many areas throughout the park: they assist the NPS in conducting naturalist activities, search and rescue missions, and field archaeology research as well as providing wilderness education and visitor information.

And their contributions extend even after their internship has ended. The intern program allows many students to explore careers with the Park Service—and many of them later return as employees. Paul Gallez (see sidebar) has worked in Yosemite for over twenty years, most recently as a computer systems engineer. Ranger Alvis Mar was an intern in 1995 and has been working as a park naturalist ever since. Hank Seeman, an intern in 1993, returned to the park as a ranger in Tuolumne this year, and hopes to return seasonally every year, balancing his career as an environmental engineer with his love for Yosemite.

Kathy Dimont, the intern coordinator for Yosemite, sees the benefit of providing an early foundation for young people through the internship experience. “We get a chance to make a difference in the lives of young students; we guide them, encourage them, and give them work experience that could make a difference in their quest for careers.”



Glacier Point Intern Jackie Ferguson talking with park visitors after her evening program



Joseph Rodriguez, an intern based in Tuolumne Meadows in 1999, shown leading a naturalist walk for visitors.

Jackie is one such example. She returns to the University of New Hampshire this fall, where she'll start medical school; her goal is to become a cardiovascular surgeon. She sees her internship experience as a critical learning phase. "I learned more this summer than from the past two years of my biology classes. In terms of personal development, I couldn't have asked for a better program. And I was able to help others connect to this incredible place."

Next year, the Yosemite Association celebrates its twentieth year of supporting the internship program and helping motivated students like Jackie achieve their goals while also serving the needs of the park. By giving students early exposure to Yosemite, we not only support their futures, but the future of the park as well.

Editor's Note:

Although interns are technically volunteers, the program requires a sizeable monetary commitment by YA. Interns are provided with housing, a uniform, and a \$10 per day (\$50 per 40-hour workweek) stipend to help defray expenses in addition to reimbursement for travel to and from the park. Upon successful completion of the 12-week commitment, each intern also receives a \$1,000 scholarship. By year's end, YA will have contributed approximately \$70,000 to support the 27 interns who supplemented the park's paid staff in the summer of 2000.

Beth Pratt is Vice President of YA.

Where are They Now? The Class of 1981

Paul Gallez

Computer Systems Engineer, Yosemite National Park
M.A., Botany; B.S. Botany

"My internship provided me with the experience necessary to obtain permanent status with the Park Service and I'm profoundly grateful to the Yosemite Association for the opportunity to spend two decades living and working in Yosemite."

Michael Nachman

Associate Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
University of Arizona

Ph.D., Biology; M.S., Biology; B.A. Zoology

"At the end of my first summer as an intern I was hired on as an interpretive ranger, which I did for another five seasons. My doctoral work in the genetics of evolution was motivated by the exposure I received during my park service experience."

Mark Hooten

Ecologist, Ecological Risk Assessor, Neptune and Company

Ph.D., Biological Sciences; M.S., Entomology; B.S., Environmental Planning

"The internship experience launched me into working for the Park Service and becoming a park naturalist, and set the foundation for the work I do today as an ecologist. I look back on that experience fondly and I have much gratitude for what the program gave me."

David Erley

Activist, Branch Director of Regional Utah Open Lands
MBA, B.S. Water and Soil Science

"During my internship I was taught respect and love for wilderness, and out of that respect I have dedicated my life to preserving open space and ecosystems."



Part of the Class of 1981—Paul Gallez in white turtleneck with Mark Hooten to his right.

IN THE TRENCHES: A Biologist's View of Working on the Yosemite Valley Plan

I couldn't believe my good fortune as I arrived in Yosemite in the winter of 1989 to assume the job of wildlife biologist. I had toiled long and hard to get the education and experience necessary for my profession, and had worked in a succession of temporary wildlife jobs with a variety of state and federal agencies. But my goal had always been to work for the National Park Service (NPS). Its mission of resource preservation fit well with my own conservation philosophies, formed in the environmental movement of the early 1970's. When looking for wildlife biologist jobs, however, you can't turn down offers from any agency; there are always many applicants for few positions. So, when I found myself working for the NPS in a place of astounding beauty, and that is treasured by people around the world, I felt like my hard work, combined with some sort of cosmic convergence of accumulated good karma, had placed me here. I felt like I had finally arrived at a place where I could happily spend the rest of my career, after many years of a semi-nomadic existence.

I took up residence in a house near the base of Yosemite Falls; close enough that my windows rattled in the spring when the falls swelled with melted snow. My commute to work was a short bicycle ride through oak-shrouded roads and trails to an office with a postcard view of Half Dome. With each season, Yosemite Valley revealed new splendors; whether it was the hushed cloak of new snow on trees and cliffs in winter, the burst of spring grasses and wildflowers in meadows, or the glow of fall color in the trees. I lived in paradise.

More important to me than living in the midst of this wonder, was my ability to translate my love of Yosemite into actions to protect it, for both the wildlife and the visitors. It sounds corny, but I felt I was fulfilling a sacred public trust to protect a place that contains rare, relatively pristine wildlife populations and habitats, and is important to millions of people nationally and internationally. I still feel the same. I enjoy going out and talking to visitors because their love of Yosemite and their excitement of being here is infectious. It helps me fight creeping complacency and reminds me just how important this place is to so many people.

It didn't take me long to realize that my idealistic view of working for the NPS had some unexpected complications. The Organic Act of 1916 mandates the NPS to "allow for the enjoyment" of the park while also leaving it "unimpaired for future generations." This is a difficult

mission in Yosemite, where nearly 4 million people visit each year. While my job is to be an advocate for protection of wildlife in Yosemite, my activism must be tempered with pragmatism: large numbers of people will always come to Yosemite, and some adverse effects on natural resources, including wildlife, will inevitably result. But to sacrifice natural resources in the name of visitor enjoyment would not only result in the loss of wildlife and habitats that are unique in the Sierra Nevada, but would also ultimately degrade the enjoyment of the park by all visitors. A key part of my job is, therefore, to help develop strategies to repair damage to park resources and work to avoid future damage.

Many of the adverse effects on natural resources we work to prevent and repair have a long history related to continual growth in visitation and uses of the park that had become "traditional." At one time, we allowed visitors to drive out into meadows and camp wherever they pleased. Black bears were fed tons of garbage each year to entertain visitors. The Firefall (a bonfire pushed off Glacier Point) attracted hundreds of people into meadows to view the spectacle, resulting in sensitive habitats trampled to dust. Each of these practices was abandoned when the NPS realized that they were inappropriate and had unacceptable costs to resources in a national park that was established for its natural wonders. Although we now view such changes as obviously correct, I'm sure the park managers of that day had to withstand howls of protest from the public who had become accustomed to such liberties and entertainment.

I currently find myself involved in a similar controversy, but on a much larger scale. In the wake of the 1997 flood, the Park Service decided it was high time to implement the long-dormant 1980 General Management Plan, and its general goals of protecting and restoring natural resources in the Valley, while also improving the quality of the park experience to visitors. The flood had emphasized the need for us to respect the Merced River's role in the natural, dynamic changes in Yosemite Valley, and to recognize the biological and visitor-experience values of restoring the Valley's natural environment. The framework for such changes is the Yosemite Valley Plan (YVP). Over the last three years, nearly all my time has been dedicated to assisting in the development of the YVP.

This has often been a grueling experience. The document is extremely large and complex, addressing numerous interrelated issues such as lodging, camping,

transportation, housing, and, of course, resource protection. It has been my task to provide information and recommendations that would help the YVP avoid and minimize impacts on wildlife and habitats, while also restoring areas in Yosemite Valley that have a high value to wildlife (e.g., meadows and riparian areas). I've thoroughly evaluated dozens of actions proposed under the plan, in order to provide a clear picture of their combined potential effects on wildlife; and I have written large portions of the document that reflect these findings. This all means that I've had to assume an indoor existence of computer screens, meetings, and endless text editing, all of which have me wistfully remembering my days of high-stress, exhausting, all-night bear captures.

My work on the YVP, however, has been unexpectedly rewarding. Initially, my involvement in the plan was grudging and tinged with pessimism. Obviously, the current desecrated condition of Yosemite Valley was the result of endless accommodation of visitors at the cost of the natural environment. Biologists who had preceded me in the park's history had likely opposed this incremental destruction, only to have their protests and recommendations ignored. Why would it be any different this time around? From the very beginning of my involvement in the YVP, however, it was clear that my professional opinions, knowledge, and expertise were valued and would be an integral part of the document. Reduction in habitat fragmentation became one of the YVP's central themes, and my evaluations of potential impacts on wildlife were never second-guessed, even when they caused reconsideration of planned actions. Overall, it has been a gratifying experience for me to see my accumulated knowledge of Yosemite's wildlife and my application of ecological principles put to use in a plan that will benefit Yosemite's wildlife for many years to come, and ultimately mark a positive turning point in the park's history.

In some ways, changes proposed by the YVP have, coincidentally, been reflected in recent changes in my personal and professional life. I moved my office from Yosemite Valley down to El Portal, where the YVP would place a majority of park administration. My family and I moved from our beloved little house in Yosemite Valley down to Mariposa, since my job had changed to the point where I could no longer justify to myself remaining in the Valley (e.g., I was no longer getting called at all hours to catch bears). In many ways, we dearly miss living in Yosemite Valley: being part of that close community; living in the surrealism of world-famous scenery, and



Black bear being measured by park biologist Steve Thompson.

observing its changes with the time of day and the seasons; the simplicity of living within walking distance of work, school, daycare, and the grocery store. But we were willing to give up these personal benefits to do the right thing for Yosemite; timeless but ever-changing. We hope the changes proposed in the YVP that aim to reclaim Yosemite Valley's unique beauty and biology can be seen in a similar altruistic light.

I am, however, only a small part of this effort. Dozens of other staff members have left their regular jobs to join the YVP effort, and provide their knowledge and insight often late into the night and during weekends. Somehow many members of the public believe the plan is some sort of inscrutable tome imposed on them by a faceless monolithic bureaucracy. In fact, it has largely been developed here, in Yosemite National Park, by park staff: people who have an intimate knowledge of the park and strong spiritual and emotional connections to it. They strive to "do the right thing;" not necessarily for the current generation of visitors, or the park concessioner, or the various special-interest groups, but for the timeless qualities of Yosemite and the many generations of visitors yet to come who have no voice.

Editor's Note: The final Draft Yosemite Valley Plan is due to be released to the public in mid-November.

Thank you! Thank you!

The Yosemite Association is grateful to the following Yosemite Valley and Tuolumne Meadows volunteers who generously gave a month (or more) of fine work this year on behalf of the association and the park.

Ian Bigelow, Mike Bigelow, Lucy Bunz, Ethel Davis, Eston Davis, Jim Duff, Bill Eggers, Marion Eggers, Marlene Everingham, Dick Felberg, Virginia Ferguson, Ann Hardeman, Krista Holt, Fran Jerzgarzewski, Mary Jane Johnson, Vern Johnson, Roy Kautz, Ed Magee, John McCaffrey, John McClary, Alan McEwan, Marilyn McKeever, Ray McKeever, Gary Orr, Lois Orr, Donna

Peterson, Wayne Peterson, Deanna Petree, Gene Reis, Irene Reis, Heather Schneider, Julie Schuller, Elizabeth Schultz, Beverly Sessa, Roger Strange, Ruth Strange, Karen Zaller, Pat Zuccaro

We also wish to thank the following people who participated in the Worktrip program for all their labor in the revegetation and restoration work of Yosemite this past summer.

Kathy Aguilar, Jim Barbieri, Maxine Barbieri, Ray Borean, Rox Anne Borean, Donald Burns, Jack Christensen, Joan Conlan, Bill Currie, Thomas DeForest, Tracy L. Deitschman, Tony DeMaio, Jean

Dillingham, Candace Elder, Chris Elder, Cindy Elder, Tim Hansen, Anne Hardeman, Don Hedgepeth, Lorraine Heitchue, John Holloway, Lynn Houser, Richard James, David Jansson, Andy Jecusco, Judy Johnson, Randy Kahn, Mona Knight, Kathy Konkel, Ann Y. Lee, David Margiott, Kathy Margiott, Kate Mawdsley, Dianne McMahon, Jerry McMahon, John Mullen, Ralph Occhipinti, Carey Olson, Deanna Petree, Marie Pitruzzello, Edward J. Polainer, Laurel Rematore, Jean Roche, Joan Sanderson, Randy Sautner, John Y. Tsai, George M. Vega, Susan Weiss, Fern Wollrich, Sue Zimmerman

El Portal Road Project Completed

The two-year road construction project on flood-ravaged Route 140 between El Portal and Yosemite Valley concluded September 30, 2000. The road opened to all traffic 24 hours a day on October 1, allowing unrestricted access through the Arch Rock entrance.

Sections of the "all-year highway" were severely damaged in 21 locations and weakened in 30 others in the January 1997 flood, forcing closure of the road for five months. After emergency repairs were completed, the highway reopened and permanent reconstruction began in September 1998. At that time the road was closed to traffic during each of two daily eight-hour work shifts. Access to the

park was permitted between shifts and during those months when visitation is traditionally high. One fourth of Yosemite's visitors come in to the park through the Arch Rock entrance station.

The road improvements, completed through a partnership with the Federal Highway Administration and the National Park Service, included stabilizing the roadbed, realigning and widening the roadway, adding and replacing culverts, improving drainage, replacing the guard-wall with one that meets federal safety standards, and repaving the road surface. An official ribbon-cutting ceremony was held October 18.

Ostrander Ski Hut to Open for Season

The Ostrander Ski Hut will open for the winter season on December 22, 2000 and remain open until April 8, 2001. The hut, operated for the National Park Service by the Yosemite Association, is open and staffed during the winter to encourage ski touring. The nine-mile trip into the hut requires considerable stamina and cross-country skiing experience.

The hut accommodates twenty-five people and is equipped with bunks and mattresses, a small kitchen and a wood-burning stove. Visitors to the hut ski in with their own sleeping bag, food, water filter, and personal gear. The charge per person/per night is \$20.

Reservations for the hut are made through a lottery which takes place in mid-November. Information on the lottery is available at (209) 379-2317. Phone reservations for remaining openings available after the lottery can be made on or after December 4, 2000 at (209) 372-0740.

Preview of YA's 2001 Mid-Week Winter - Spring Package Learning Vacations

Spend some quality time with a top-notch instructor and stay overnight in a pleasant Yosemite Lodge room at a discounted price. This quiet season with its crisp, clear air is an excellent time to enjoy hikes and outdoor activities in Yosemite Valley or Badger Pass. Sign up now and secure your space.

Yosemite Valley Winter Snowshoe

Julie Miller Feb. 6 (eve)-8

Yosemite Valley Winter Snowshoe

Mike Ross Feb. 20-21

Winter Photography

Dave Wyman Feb. 19 (eve)-21

Easy Winter Hikes

Mike Ross Feb. 13-14

Yosemite Art History

Martha Lee March 7-8

Winter Ecology

Dick Ewart March 7-8

Observing Wildlife

John Weller March 20 (eve)-23

A Walk in The Wild

Kristina Rylands April 18-20

Yosemite Valley Spring Birds & Flora

Mike Ross April 25-26

In addition to detailed course descriptions of these classes, the complete 2001 catalog of all YA seminars will be available on our web site at www.yosemite.org. A copy of the catalog will be mailed to all members early in January. If you'd rather view the catalog online and help us save on printing and postage costs, please drop us a postcard and let us know.

For further information call Penny or Lou at (209) 379-2646.

Leaving a Yosemite Legacy

Since 1920, thousands of individuals and families have helped the Yosemite Association undertake its important educational, scientific, and research programs, with gifts of time, services, and money. Each year we receive critical support for Yosemite in the form of charitable bequests from wills and estate plans. Such bequests play a vital role in our future funding.

We encourage you to consider including a gift to the Yosemite Association in your will or estate plan. It's a way to ensure that others will enjoy Yosemite far beyond your lifetime.

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

YA Benefits from Your Online Shopping

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

GreaterGood.com
Shop where it matters.

Association Dates

February 25-March 1, 2001

Yosemite Winter Literary Conference, Yosemite Valley

March 31, 2001

Spring Forum, Yosemite Valley

September 15, 2001

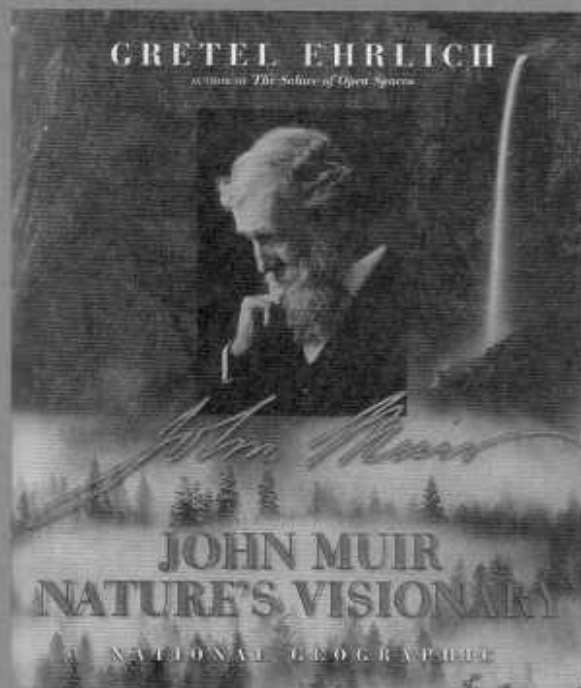
26th Annual Meeting, Tirolumne Meadows

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.

E-mail News

Keep up with Yosemite all year—subscribe to Yosemite News e-mail for park news and information updated throughout the seasons! Sign up at the bottom of the home page of yosemite.org.



John Muir – Nature's Visionary

by Gretel Ehrlich.

This brand new biography of the Sierra Nevada legend commemorates Muir's long, remarkable life. Ehrlich portrays Muir as a visionary who wrote of nature with such memorable eloquence that the whole nation listened.

All aspects of his life are included—his Scottish birth, his tinkering as a youth, his wandering, dreaming, fighting, and lobbying. With the author's own considerable voice behind him, Muir the man comes alive amid the times in which he lived and the wilderness that he loved.

Historic and contemporary photographs, as well as Muir's own drawings and quotes, add texture to the volume. This is a handsome gift book from National Geographic

sure to please lovers of Muir and his mountains. 8½ x 10 inches, illustrated in full color with 100 photos and drawings, 240 pages, National Geographic, 2000. Hardcover, \$35

Ho! For Yo-Semite!—By Foot, Horseback, Horse-Stage, Horseless Carriage, Bicycle, & Steam Locomotive: Eleven Original Accounts of Early Day Travel to Yosemite Valley

introduced and annotated by Hank Johnston.

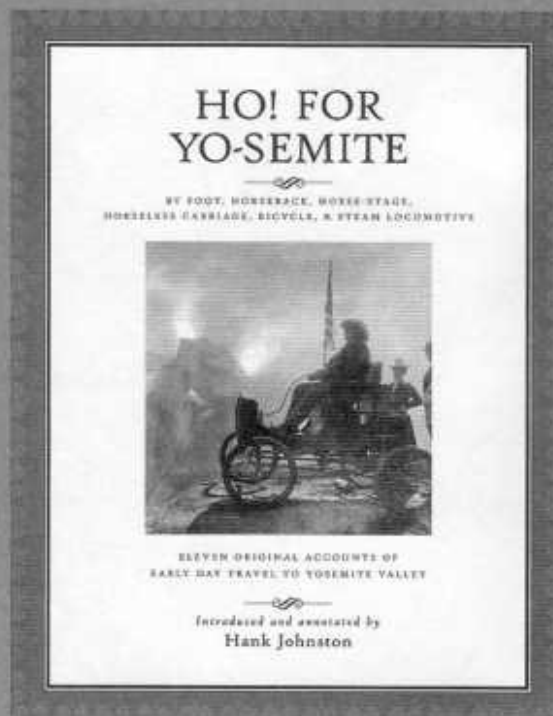
This new collection of articles from the Yosemite Association chronicles a variety of visits to Yosemite before the advent of modern transportation. The authors describe their adventures in getting to the park on foot, on horseback, by horse stage, by bicycle, in the first horseless carriages, and by other forms of conveyance.

Extracted from the historic record, the accounts are informative, humorous, and oftentimes remarkable. Among the included articles are those detailing an overland foot trek in 1855; a cavalry expedition from the San Francisco Presidio; the first automobile visit in 1900; a harrowing bicycle ride down the Priest Grade; and a trip on the new Yosemite Valley Railroad.

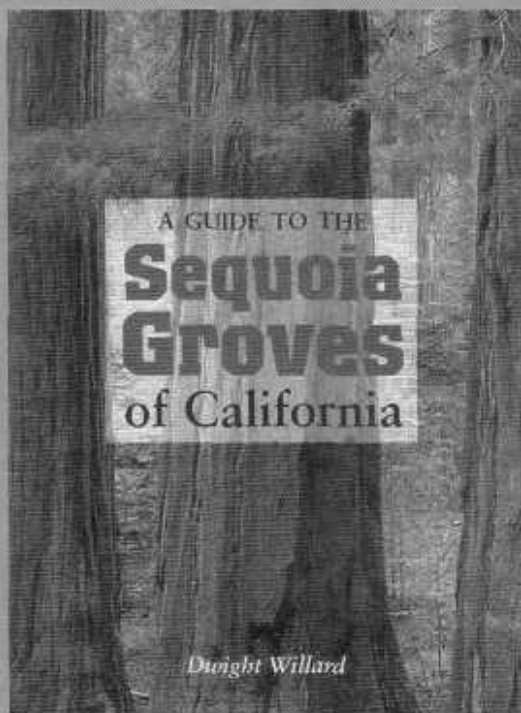
The book is 8½ inches wide and 11 inches high, and illustrated with black-and-white photos.

148 pages, Yosemite Association, 2000.

Paperback, \$12.95



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



A Guide to the Sequoia Groves of California

by Dwight Willard

This comprehensive new guide from the Yosemite Association is the first to focus on all the giant sequoia groves in the state, not just those that are well-known. The author has identified sixty-seven different groups of these forest giants, and has organized them into five different geographic areas from north of the Kings River to south of the Tule River watershed.

Extensive information is provided for each grove including general description and managing agency; historical facts; size, condition, and overall quality; access; and notable trees.

In addition there are special sections on subjects such as sequoia natural history, management, and logging, and appendices with map references, managing agency data, an access guide, and a selected bibliography. The guide is illustrated with numerous color and black-and-white photographs, both historic and contemporary, and location maps are included for each section.

The volume includes coverage of the sequoia groves included in the new Giant Sequoia National Monument. This is an authoritative

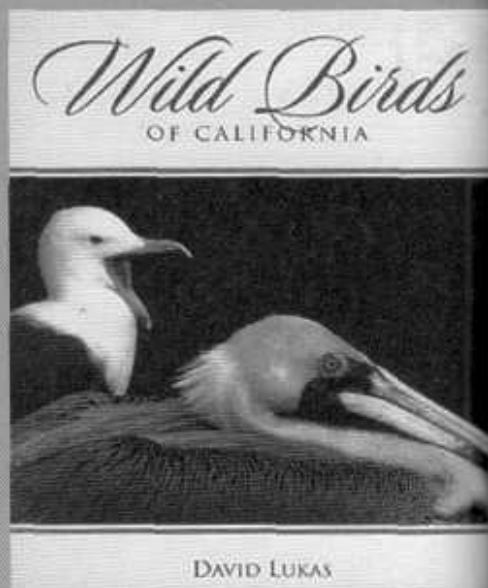
guide to California's giant sequoias and an important reference work for anyone interested in these remarkable, ancient trees. 7½ x 10½ inches, 148 pages, illustrated in color and black & white, paperback, Yosemite Association 2000. \$17.95

Wild Birds of California

by David Lukas and 26 contributing photographers.

This book celebrates California's tremendous wealth of wild birds and the natural areas that sustain this abundance. A rich diversity of birds—shown throughout the seasons, throughout their life cycles, and in many habitats—is represented here in colorful images by some of the state's best wildlife photographers.

The author has written extensively on California's birds and the natural history of the state, and he has provided an essay that covers topics such as birds in flight, seasons of the bird year, watching birds, and more. His captions for the more than 125 full-color photographs of the birds offer insightful observations and interesting factual data. This is a beautiful and inspiring book to be savored by lovers of birds and wildlife. 136 pages, paperback with gatefold cover, Companion Press, 2000. \$19.95



Heart of a Nation – Writers and Photographers Inspired by the American Landscape

with an introduction by Barry Lopez

Readers are invited to celebrate America in this remarkable new book that showcases the beauty of our nation's landscape and the deep feelings our citizens hold for this country. Stirring words and stunning photographs by award-winning artists combine to create a rich mosaic of our nation's lands.

Follow America's finest writers and photographers on personal journeys as they show their deep ties to the land. Words from the likes of Edward Hoagland, Scott Russell Sanders, and Terry Tempest Williams are combined with the images of Jim Brandenburg, Pat O'Hara, Art Wolfe, and George Huey, among others. Through this special volume, readers learn that every landscape holds its own beauty.

This large format, full-color work is 10¾ x 10¾ inches, and includes 120 color photographs. 240 pages, National Geographic, 2000. Hardcover, \$40

Discover America—The Smithsonian Book of the National Parks

by Charles E. Little with photographs by David Muench

This beautiful title is based on a simple concept: to really discover America, one must visit the national parks. It offers a fresh way to explore the vast pageant of natural and human history to be found in the National Park Service's 368 national monuments, parks, battlefields, and preserves.

Linking together better—and lesser—known sites, the book opens new vistas on our country's geology, prehistory, immigration, settlement, and war. It also explores the vastness and beauty of the land that may be crucial to the prospects for our future. With an engaging, full-length narrative and impressive photographs, this volume highlights the remarkable parks that convey the full sweep and grandeur of our national park system.

The book is handsomely designed and produced by the Smithsonian Institution. 9 x 11 inches, illustrated in color. 224 pages, Smithsonian Books, 1995. Hardcover, \$30

DISCOVER AMERICA

THE SMITHSONIAN BOOK OF THE NATIONAL PARKS



by Charles E. Little Photographs by David Muench

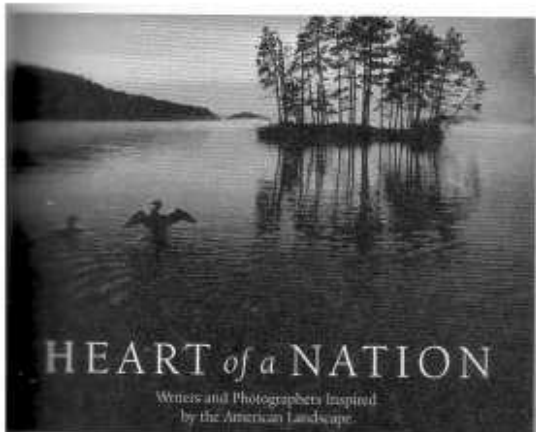
2001 Yosemite National Park Calendar

by Golden Turtle Press

The annual Yosemite calendar for 2001, part travelogue, part keepsake photo treasury, is filled with photographs that capture the mystery, intricacy, and provocative beauty of Yosemite. The well-known and much-loved sites of the park are captured in rich photographic detail—El Capitan, Half Dome—along with the more hidden treasures that make Yosemite a magnetic attraction for so many visitors each year. Photographers with work represented include William Neill, Carr Clifton, Dennis Flaherty, and Laurence Parent.

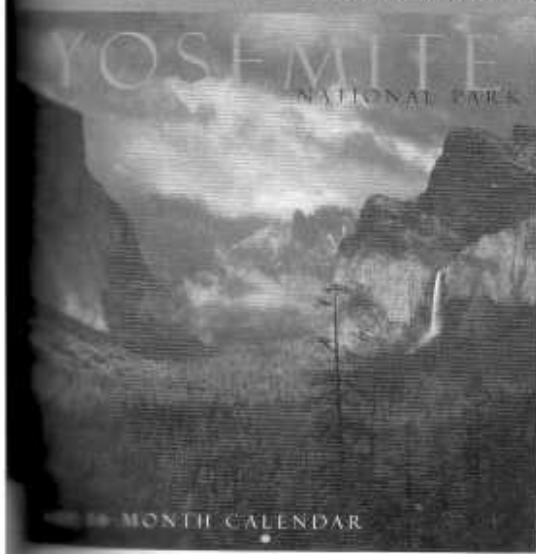
Each month's calendar page includes important Yosemite-related and other dates, holidays, phases of the moon, thumbnail layouts of the previous and following months, and a description of the accompanying photograph. An added bonus is a single page calendar for both 2000 and 2001 listing the dates of key holidays. A great way to keep Yosemite in mind the whole year through! The 12" x 12" full-color calendar unfolds to 12" x 24".

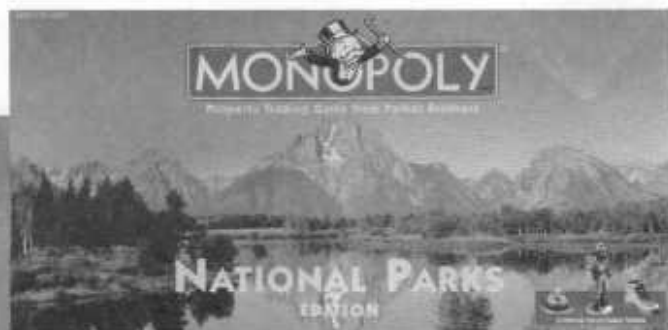
Golden Turtle Press, 2000. \$9.95



HEART of a NATION

Writers and Photographers Inspired
by the American Landscape





Monopoly—National Parks Edition

from Parker Brothers.

This special version of the classic property trading board game was created in cooperation with the National Park Service to introduce the beauty and grandeur of America's national parks, while providing a unique and entertaining way to learn more about the park system. The game is played like traditional Monopoly, but some interesting changes have been made.

National parks have replaced the various properties (with Yosemite and Yellowstone substituting for Park Place and Boardwalk), "luxury tax" is now dinner at the Ahwahnee Hotel, a "Preservation Fund Donation" replaces "income tax," the game tokens are park-related shapes (hiking boot, ranger hat, bear, canoe), the houses and hotels are now tents and ranger stations, and if you leave your bear box open you go directly to "Jail." Pretty much everything else follows standard Monopoly rules.

While it may seem strange to be buying and selling national parks, then developing them with tents and ranger stations, the game is still about becoming wealthier than the other players. And it's fun to be reminded of the national parks as you play this time-tested game that never seems to grow old. Parker Brothers, 1998, \$34.95

Yosemite Christmas Greeting Cards

from the Yosemite Museum collection.

For the holidays, the Yosemite Association recommends that you send holiday wishes to everyone on your list using these reproductions of a historic Christmas greeting card from the collection of the Yosemite Museum. Originally appearing on a postcard, the full-color image of El Capitan framed by poinsettia flowers has been reproduced on a sturdy 5" x 7" note card of recycled paper.

The striking image reads "Christmas Greetings," but there is no message on the inside of the card. El Capitan is shown reflecting orange and yellow colors that are balanced by the predominant greens of the trees and river below. The saturated reds of the poinsettias complete the effect of this festive card. It's a great way to remember your friends and Yosemite during the Christmas holidays. Yosemite Association, 1998. Box of eight color cards with white envelopes. \$7.50



Yosemite Black Bear Stuffed Animal

from the Yosemite Association.

This soft and fuzzy stuffed black bear comes fitted with an authentic ear tag—just like those used by National Park Service rangers to research and track the bears in Yosemite. It's there as a reminder that not all bears in the park are wild; some have become conditioned to human food and have had to be captured and watched.

The Yosemite black bear is part of a new awareness program sponsored by the Yosemite Association, Yosemite Concession Services, and the National Park Service, designed to educate the public so that bears will be roaming the Sierra Nevada for years to come. All proceeds from our sale of the stuffed bear will be donated to the program and aid Yosemite bears.

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. Bears are dark brown with a lighter muzzle and come in two sizes: large (14 inches) and small (10.5 inches). Large \$14.95; small \$9.95

NEW MEMBERS

Individual Members

Susan Alcorn, Lucian Antkiewicz, Jon Antoni, Kathleen Armstrong, Sheryl Ballard, James Banta, Anne Batey, Steve Beltram, Carmen Berteaux, Alma Best, Anthony Bitonio, Rob Boudewijn, Jerry Bowerman & Karen Clark, Mary Breen, Larry Broutman, Sharon Brown, Erica Bruns, Amy Calvert, Simone Cezar, Vicki Chase, Art Ciapponi, L. Denise Clendening, John Collins, Darlene Comingap, Jordan Copland, Susan Costa, Jackie Crosno, Michael Cuevas, Georgia Curtiss, Judith Dantico, Russ Davies, Nery Diaz & JoJo Morrison, George Dodds, Jim Duncan, George Durkee, Laurel Eden, Linda Estes, Karin Fangman, Carolyn Fitz, Lisa Fleckenstein, Carol Fleming, Jane Fuller, Pamela Gaber, M.J. Gallagher, Elnora Gallahue, Hernando Garzon, Barbara Gibson, Janet Giller, Samuel Glasser, Beth Grimm, Paul Grunland, Jay Guerber, James Guyer, John Hall, Catherine Hampton, Diane Hansen, Janet Hatzler, Paula Hendricks, Ian Hernandez, Lisa Hoefl, Diana Hoffman, Margaret Horsfall, Judy Horton, Tom Hoskins, Debra Hunt, Paul Israel, Bernice Ito, Billie Janott, Mary Ann Jestel, Nancy Jones, Teresa Jordan, Lyn Jung, Barbara Kaplan, Jeanne Karpenko, Peter Keenan, Audrey Kelm, Meunda Kizer, Thomas Knight, Norman Knowles, Manami Kobayashi, Jana Kuechler, Brenda Lackey, Carol Lambrecht, Ann Lebedeff, Gee-Gee Lenhart, Shirley Lotz, Anita-Jo Lupercio, Brian Luschwitz, Ann Macleod, Deena Maise, Judith McCarty, Frank McHugh, James McVay, Al Medina, Terry Meehan, Jim Meyer, Kim Miller, Gary Miranda, Donald Mitchell, M.J. Montgomery, Lisa Murphy, Kelley Murphy, Sharon Noffsinger, Patricia Northrop, Lisa Nostadt, Tom Oberstar, Katherine O'Connor, Arlyn Osborne, Carol Ouzounian, E. Papke, David Parlato, Howard Parnes, Harvey Parolari, Kim Parrino, Ann Pearl, James Penman, Ron Perry, Mary Alice Pisani, Dora-Thea Porter, Willard Pruitt, Jane & Frank Puccio, Darin Puhl, Mildred Purvis, Doug Randall, Charlie Record, Joanne Reifer, Judy Risk, Whitney Roberson,

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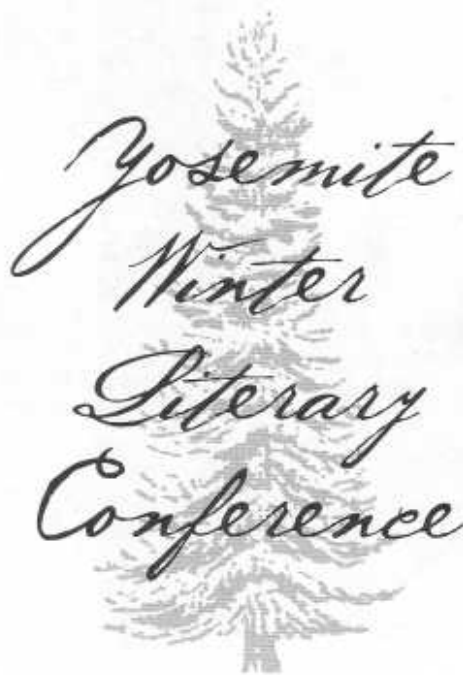
Bequest and Grant Received by YA

The Yosemite Association was gratified to learn recently that it had received a generous bequest from the estate of Marion A. Stebbins, a long-time supporter of our organization.

The association also was pleased that the Stebbins Foundation awarded it a grant of \$20,000 toward the development of a new bird guide to replace *Discovering Yosemite Birds*. The money will be used to finance research and writing for the book, which will feature all new full-color drawings by Keith Hansen, renowned bird illustrator.

It is through such thoughtful gifts as these that the Yosemite Association is able to provide both educational and financial assistance at Yosemite.

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Yosemite Association members will receive a brochure with additional information and enrollment form in November.

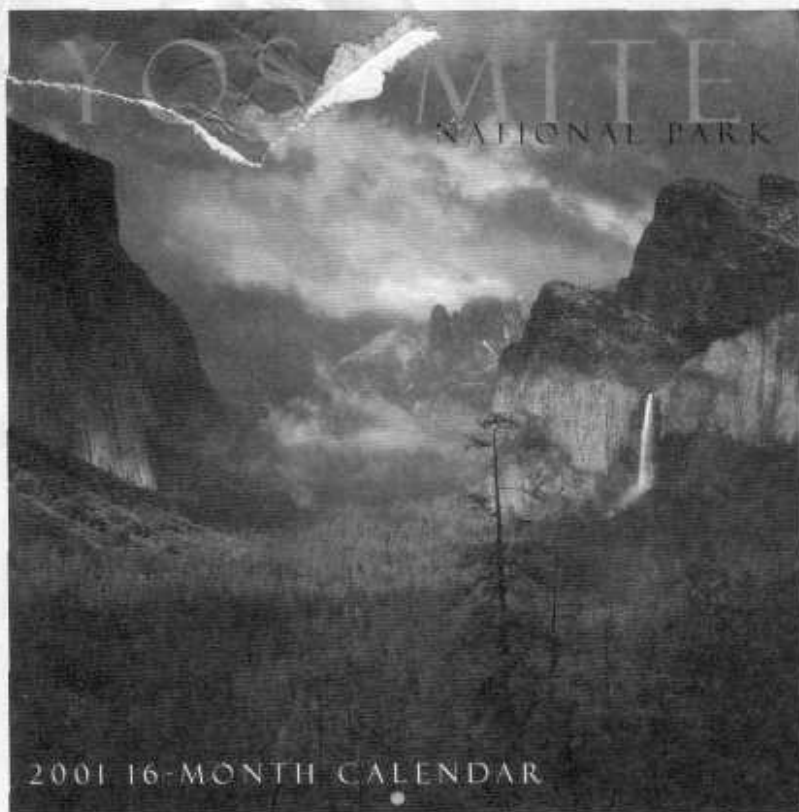


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