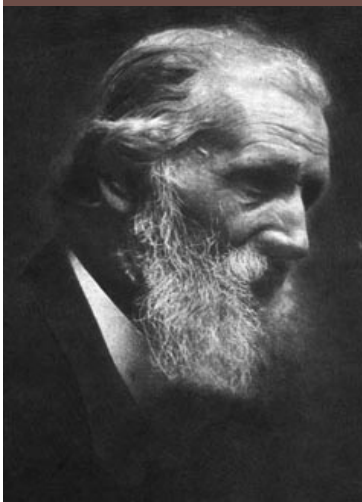




The View

FALL 2009

Brought into right relationships with the wilderness, man would see that his appropriation of Earth's resources beyond his personal needs would only bring imbalance and begat ultimate loss and poverty by all.
—John Muir



The mission of the John Muir Association is to celebrate the life, share the vision, and preserve the legacy of John Muir through education, preservation, advocacy and stewardship, in partnership with the National Park Service at the John Muir National Historic Site.

32nd Annual John Muir Conservation Awards Celebration to Feature Lee Stetson



Don't miss an unforgettable evening with John Muir, portrayed by the well-known actor Lee Stetson. The 32nd annual John Muir Conservation Awards will feature a unique Bay Area performance by the man who brought at least one audience member to remark "I didn't know John Muir was still alive." Stetson's acclaimed characterization of John Muir has been presented for nearly 30 years in Yosemite National Park and around the world.

In "The Spirit of John Muir," Mr. Stetson will present a fun romp through some of the very best of Muir's grand, thrilling adventures in his beloved western wilderness—in his own words—including his remarkable "tree ride" in a Sierra windstorm and his astonishing trip down a Yosemite Valley canyon wall on a snow avalanche! Muir joyfully engaged wildness in all seasons, and this will be a fine introduction to Muir the man, his profound love of wildness, and his

hearty good humor—all salted with his wilderness philosophy.

Most of us know John Muir's spirit and legacy are very much alive, and our award honors those who work, as Muir did, for a better planet. Awards will be presented in four categories: Conservationist of the Year, Environmental Education,

Nonprofit or Public Agency, and Business. Nominations are now open; please visit our website if you wish to nominate a worthy recipient.

Enjoy sumptuous hors d'oeuvres, tasty wines and an inspiring evening. Tickets are \$45. Special thanks to the Willows Theatre and to our sponsor, Shell Oil Products, US Martinez Refinery.

For tickets: Call Nancy at (925) 370-7158 or e-mail info@johnmuirassociation.org. Reservations are required; tickets will be held at the door. A portion of each ticket (\$20.00) is tax deductible in accordance with contributions to a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Reserve your tickets now!
Saturday, November 7, 2009
6:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Campbell Theatre
636 Ward Street (at Estudillo)
Martinez 94553



John Muir Association
P.O. Box 2433
Martinez CA 94553

Phone: 925-229-3857

Website:
johnmuirassociation.org

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JMA Welcomes Two New Board Members

Robert Hanna

Robert Hanna is John Muir's great, great grandson and a cousin to John Muir Association (JMA) Board Member Mike Muir. He has inherited his family's lifelong passion for the magnificent Sierra Nevada mountains. He is a vocal leader and an active member of his community. He works to make sure that "all understand the tremendous responsibility we've inherited to protect and preserve California's natural beauty."

Coming this winter, Robert's new outdoor clothing and recreation company, Range of Light, will offer a distinct product line for everyone to experience and enjoy. Robert's first child was born August 15, and his daughter is named Sierra Rose. He says his most cherished achievement is being a loving father and devoted husband. He and his family live in Roseville.



Heidi Perryman

Heidi Perryman, Ph.D., is a child psychologist and lifelong Martinez resident. She began her career helping children as a volunteer for the Martinez Early Childhood Center, where she continued as a teacher for the next decade while completing her degree. Her private practice "Acorn to Oak" is located in Lafayette. Interested in local wildlife, she started filming the Martinez beavers in 2006, served on the beaver subcommittee and started the organization "Worth A Dam" to manage their continued care. She has been particularly interested in the way that the beavers' struggle has connected residents more closely to their environment, to their city government and to each other.



"Beavers change things," she is fond of saying. "It's what they do."

...and Says Goodbye to Another

Steve Pardieck left the JMA Board in August to devote more time to other commitments and family. Steve served 1 ½ years, and chaired this year's John Muir Birthday-Earth Day Celebration. The Board will miss him and appreciates his hard work during his tenure.

Martinez Home Tour

The Muir home will again be on the Martinez Home Tour on Saturday, October 10, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The 1882 Muir home is in the Italianate style of late Victorian architecture. Visitors will be invited to tour areas of the home not usually open to the public.



Tom Zamaria

Seven other lovely homes on the tour were built from 1902 to 1935. Tickets are \$20 in advance, or \$25 the day of the event. Refreshments will be served at the Tour reception at the Martinez Museum. For tickets and more information, visit www.MartinezHomeTour.com or call Cheryl (Ulmer) Grover at (925) 228-8951.

John Muir Birthday–Earth Day Celebration Breaks Records

This year’s John Muir Birthday–Earth Day Celebration broke all attendance records, with more than 2,300 guests enjoying the lovely weather, myriad activities and a talk by our popular speaker, Pet and Wildlife Columnist Gary Bogue.

Each year, the John Muir Association presents this event in partnership with the John Muir National Historic Site. Visitors not only learn about how to be better inhabitants on planet Earth, but also about John Muir’s enduring legacy. Our hope is that guests will leave feeling inspired to “keep close to nature’s heart” by cherishing our natural world’s wild places and doing their part to keep our planet healthy. Enjoy the photographs by Tom Zamaria.



Michael Muir (far right) and the Access Adventure carriage



Recycled Fashion Show



Gladys and Ross Hanna (John Muir’s grandson)



Pet and Wildlife Columnist Gary Bogue (left) with “John Muir” (Ranger Frank Helling)



Spinning Wheel



Cake by Jane Moore



A big THANK YOU to our sponsors:
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The View from the President's Window

By JoAnne Dunec

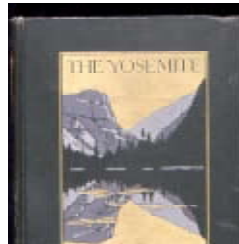
The William and Maymie Kimes Collection is a significant asset of the John Muir Association (JMA) that contains nearly 2,000 Muir-related items. Following is a summary of how the collection came about and the items it contains, as described in documents in the files of the John Muir Association.



Tom Zamaria

JMA President JoAnne Dunec accepts a check from Roger Weed, St. Andrew's Society of San Francisco, for John Muir Mountain Day Camp.

Bill Kimes, with the assistance of his wife Maymie, began collecting books, magazines articles, and letters by John Muir in the 1950s. Their collection includes signed copies of the books published in Muir's lifetime. The couple also collected books, articles, and other publications about Muir, along with extensive memorabilia. *John Muir; A Reading Bibliography*, published in 1977 and 1986 by the Kimes's was the culmination of these efforts. (The John Muir papers at the University of the Pacific are organized and numbered in correspondence with the bibliography.) The William and Maymie Kimes Collection forms a unique resource of Muir's literary efforts. In the course of the research, the Kimes's contacted libraries, private collectors, and Muir descendants. They interviewed many who had known Muir, and/or the Hanna and the Funk families. Bill Kimes and John Muir's daughter Helen Muir (Funk) corresponded extensively.



The Yosemite, published in 1912

Highlights of the collection include a first edition of *The Mountains of California* inscribed by John Muir: "To my friend David Douglas [a publisher in Edinburgh and close friend of Muir] with kind regards of the author. John Muir. Martinez, California, Oct. 30, 1894." In addition, there are three other books inscribed by John Muir as follows: *Our National Parks* ("To my dear friend Mrs. Henry Fairfield Osborn. 'Our Parks,' corrected copy recalling happy book work days in leafy

Woodsome Lodge. Summer of 1911. John Muir."); *My First Summer in the Sierra* ("To Mrs. Henry Fairfield Osborn, active, able, untirable, wife, mother, father, sister, brother, friend, all in one faithful, loveful, benevolent blend. John Muir, Castle Rock, July 12, 1911."); and *The Story of My Boyhood and Youth* ("To my friend Mrs. Henry Fairfield Osborn with fondly cherished memories that are growing ever dearer and brighter in the heart of John Muir"). Other interesting books include a complete set of Shakespeare comprised of 22 small, leather-bound volumes with Muir's markings and/or notes.

According to a letter from Maymie Kimes to Betty Zarn, then President of the John Muir Memorial Association (now doing business as JMA), the Association engaged Lloyd Mason, owner of California Collectible Books in Martinez, to appraise the collection. The appraised value was \$117,836.00. The John Muir Memorial Association purchased the appraised items in 2000 and 2001. The Agreement of Sale provided that the collection be known as the "William and Maymie Kimes Collection."



The Yosemite, inscribed by John Muir to Robert Underwood Johnson, Editor of *Century Magazine*

Following acquisition, the Association adopted the "Official Policy for access to the William and Maymie Kimes Collection, March 2001," established the Office of Curator and appointed Steve Pauly as the Curator to implement the access policy. As Curator, Steve organized and provided materials from the collection for an exhibition subsequently held at Hearst Art Gallery, Saint Mary's College in Moraga, California.

At the June meeting of the JMA Board, Pauly not only described the collected items, he also brought representative books and papers from it, which all present were pleased to view. The JMA Board is proud to be the steward of the William and Maymie Kimes Collection, and hopes to make the materials available for appropriate exhibitions in the future.

A Right Royal Occasion By Will Collin, Trustee, John Muir's Birthplace

John Muir's Birthplace in Dunbar, Scotland welcomed its second royal visitor in 16 months when the heir to the British throne, His Royal Highness Prince Charles, visited on June 3rd. His younger brother Prince Edward had preceded him in February 2008.

Following an earlier visit to check out building security, police checked the area a few hours before the Prince's arrival at 2:00 p.m. A considerable crowd had gathered by the time his limousine drew up at the door, where he was introduced

to Birthplace Trust Chairperson Liz McLean. Inside, she presented the trustees to HRH and then former trustees Norman Hampshire and Dan



His Royal Highness Prince Charles exiting John Muir's Birthplace, flanked by Jo Moulin (left) and Liz McLean.

Cairney, whose idea it had been to purchase Muir's birthplace and set up an interpretive centre dedicated to Dunbar's most famous son.

Liz, along with Birthplace manager Jo Moulin, then took Prince Charles for a tour of the building, during which he met local students who had recently completed the John Muir Conservation Award. He was also introduced to representatives of the John Muir Trust, which works to protect wild areas of Scotland.

After signing the visitors book, the Prince walked along High Street with Liz and Jo to the John Muir statue, chatting to many of the bystanders en route. He was intrigued to learn that one of them, from Alaska, was also there to visit the birthplace of John Muir. All too soon, it was time for Prince Charles to move on to the next engagement in his busy schedule.



John Muir's Birthplace

Photos by Duncan Smeed

Postscript: California quarter concept designer Garrett Burke and his family spent the weekend of July 17-19 in Dunbar, and were entertained by Friends of the Birthplace.

Martinez Welcomes Birthplace Trustee



Paul McLennan, a Trustee of John Muir's Birthplace, visited the John Muir National Historic Site in July with his wife Sharron and children Scott and Kirsty.

Ranger Tad Shay also escorted them to John Muir's gravesite, along with John Muir Association (JMA) Board Members Sherida Bush and Robert Hanna. From the beginning of Muir's life to his final resting place, the story of Muir's life is the chronicle of a wanderer. Paul and his family were much impressed to see the house and grounds where John Muir put down roots, lived, wrote, raised his family and worked in the orchards—a significant part of his remarkable life's adventure.



Paul McLennan left us with a renewed sense of the Martinez-Dunbar connection: two epicenters of the John Muir legacy, where many work to ensure his message is shared with visitors from all over the world. Since 1981, Martinez and Dunbar have been Sister Cities, and the year 2011 will mark the 30th Anniversary of this alliance.



Superintendent's View

By Martha Lee

I want to begin by thanking everyone for helping to make this year's John Muir Birthday–Earth Day Celebration such an enormous success—more than 2,300 people were inspired, entertained, and educated on that day! And as I write this, we are hosting the John Muir Mountain Day Camp, another wonderful partnership between the NPS and JMA that is spreading Muir's ethic to a new generation. We are also forging connections between youth and our park through another avenue this summer: we have a Student Conservation Corps crew of seven high school youth working with us. This is an excellent opportunity for them to gain work experience, learn about historic preservation, the National Park Service, and (of course) John Muir. We have had some additions to our staff since the last newsletter. Our new Chief of Interpretation and Education, Morgan Smith, replaces Naomi Torres who left earlier this year for a promotion. Morgan brings a lot



Morgan Smith with John Muir Mountain Day campers.

of energy and enthusiasm from his former position at the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. Earlier in his career, Morgan worked in the Education Department at the Gibbes Museum of Art while completing a double major in Art History and Art Management at the College of Charleston,

SC. In New York City, he earned a Master's of Science Degree in Museum Education from Bank Street College. During his graduate studies, he gained experience in exhibit and program development at Children's Museum of Manhattan. At the City Parks Foundation in New York City, he worked with school programs where he gained experience educating teachers and children through seminars, park field trips and after-school programs. Morgan's passion for educating children also led him to



Tom Zammaria

teach in the private school sector, beginning with seventh grade and leading to first grade.

We will also be welcoming Keith Park to our staff mid-September. He will be filling a new position we have created and received funding for—our first professional horticulturist! He will be responsible for the management of our historic cultural landscapes, working with maintenance and cultural resources staff. Keith has worked as the lead horticulturist for Filoli Center in Woodside, California for almost 10 years. He is currently finishing up a Masters program in historic preservation with an emphasis in cultural landscapes and resource management. Keith's experience and expertise in maintaining diverse landscapes and orchards will greatly benefit our sites. Keith and his wife will continue living in Woodside as he begins his National Park Service career.



Keith Park

Since the spring, we have been fortunate to have seasonal park rangers Eric Stearns and Matt Holmes working with us at John Muir. Sadly, both are nearing the end of their assignments and will be leaving us soon. Matt Holmes grew up in northern California and, before becoming a ranger, was a public school teacher for seven years. He and his wife are expecting their first child, a baby girl to be named Stevie Louise Holmes. Eric Stearns has worked in almost 15 parks since he started working for the National Park Service as a seasonal ranger eight years ago. He is heading off to work in Rocky Mountain National Park in mid-August. We thank both Matt and Eric for their enthusiasm and dedication and hope they can join us again next year to continue spreading John Muir's legacy.

Yes! I want to continue John Muir's legacy as a member of the John Muir Association.

Your donation to the John Muir Association supports our mission to celebrate and share the life, work and spirit of John Muir through education, preservation, advocacy, and stewardship of the John Muir National Historic Site.

The John Muir Association is an IRS 501(c)(3) organization; donations to JMA are tax deductible.

- | | | | |
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Please mail this form and your tax-deductible donation to:

**John Muir Association
P.O. Box 2433
Martinez, CA 94553**

John Muir Mountain Day Camp Delivered Big Fun

John Muir Mountain Day Camp was bursting with campers this year. Seventy campers enjoyed new activities, along with many great special guests.



Photos by Jill Harcke and Sherida Bush

Our thanks to the National Park Service and camp Directors Jill Harcke and Sue Barry. Our special thanks to Ranger Matt Holmes (see Superintendent Lee's article, opposite page). Also, our terrific Counselors and Junior Counselors worked hard to make camp a great experience for each child, and we appreciate their efforts. And thanks to our sponsors, who make camp possible: City of Martinez, Shell Oil Products US Martinez Refinery, St. Andrews Society of San Francisco and the Kiwanis Club of Martinez.



Celebrate the Adventure! The Walk with Rock Saturday, October 10, 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Join JMA Board Member Michael Muir at Rush Ranch in Suisun City for a fun day of activities for the family. Walk with Rock, North America's largest Percheron horse. John Muir Mountain Day Camp Directors Jill Harcke and Sue Barry will be there with a camp activity for children.

See the Access Adventure website www.access-adventure.org or call (707) 432-0152 for information.

**"My son has done many types of day camps ... this was the only day camp he talked about and wanted to return to!"
—A happy camper's mom**



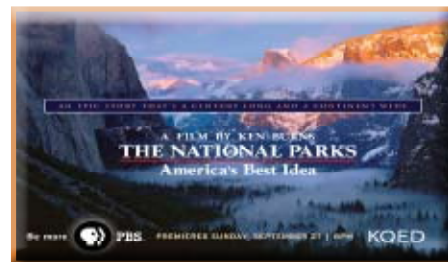
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Join Us for These Great Events

A Special Preview: Ken Burns's *The National Parks: America's Best Idea*

The John Muir Association, the Martinez Chamber of Commerce and the National Park Service present a special, one-hour preview screening of Ken Burns's stunning new film, *The National Parks: America's Best Idea*. The six-part series will air on PBS beginning September 27. Preview made possible by KQED.



Saturday, September 19

Program: 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. **Reception:** 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Alhambra High School Performing Arts Center, 150 E Street, Martinez

Admission is free. Reservations are required and space is limited. To RSVP, call (925) 370-7158 or e-mail info@johnmuirassociation.org. The evening features presentations by John Muir's grandson Ross Hanna and Martha Lee, Superintendent of the John Muir National Historic Site.

This event is underwritten by Shell Oil Products, US Martinez Refinery



32nd Annual John Muir Conservation Awards Celebration

Saturday, November 7, 2009

See Page One for details!

Special performance by Lee Stetson!



Martinez Home Tour

Saturday, October 10, 2009

See Page Two!