



The Sierra Club National Outings Program presents:

Memories of Muir in an Accessible Sierra High Country

September 7-13, 2008

Hike or Ride in a Horse Drawn Wagon in the
Incomparable Beauty of the Sierra's with
John Muir's Great Grandson as one of your Guides.



This trip is designed for the able-bodied nature and Muir enthusiast as well as for people needing an alternate mode of transportation to access the wilderness. Trip members are invited to hike or ride (or a little of both) in the incomparable Sierra National Forest just south of Yosemite National Park. Learn Muir family history firsthand from a Muir descendant who has traveled thousands of miles by horse and carriage.

We will use a uniquely designed horsedrawn wagon featuring a solar powered, battery operated wheelchair lift. Powered by a team of gentle draft horses, our group of adventurers with varying abilities will camp, hike and ride our wagon into the beautiful Sierras overlooking the Ansel Adams and John Muir Wildernesses.

(see other side for more info)

Itinerary:

The trip begins the morning of September 7th at our campsite in the Soquel Basin area of Sierra National Forest, northeast of the town of Oakhurst and just south of Yosemite National Park. We'll spend the morning settling in before we gather together for lunch and an orientation. The afternoon will be spent getting acquainted with our team of horses and learning more about our wagon transportation. We will take a short ride and hike before dinner. Days two and three will be full days of exploring the area with visits to places such as the Shadow of the Giants interpretive trail and Nelder Creek. On day four we will drive along the Sierra Vista National Scenic Byway to our second camp in the high country bordering the Ansel Adams Wilderness. We will make several stops along the way and take time to enjoy the dramatic change of scenery from the lower forest area to the high Sierra granite. Days five and six will again be full days of hiking and riding through serene forests and granite overlooks. The trip will conclude with breakfast on day seven at our high Sierra campsite.

Trip Difficulty:

This trip is designed to accommodate trip members with varying abilities, including people with disabilities. Those trip members using the wagon transportation should expect to be in the wagon up to six hours a day with frequent breaks. Hikers can expect to walk up to 10 miles in a day over varying terrain with grades of five to seven percent. Participants can alternate between hiking and riding throughout the day.

Everyone will participate in camp chores. Weather and other wilderness conditions can make a trip more physically demanding. While the days may be sunny and moderately warm, nighttime temperatures in the Sierra this time of year can dip into the 30's. Trip members should be in reasonably good physical condition and be able to function independently. To ensure your enjoyment and success as well as the safety of the group, it is essential that you provide complete information on health concerns and disability issues on your trip approval and medical forms.

Your Guides:

Our wagon will be driven by horseman Michael Muir, 54, who has lived with multiple sclerosis since he was 15 years old. Despite the challenges of MS, he has maintained an extraordinarily active and adventuresome life. Using wheelchair accessible horsedrawn vehicles, Muir promotes open space and wilderness access for people with disabilities. In 2001, he led an international team of people with disabilities driving wheelchair accessible horse drawn carriages on a 3,000 mile, ten-month Journey Across America. Two years later, Michael reenacted John Muir's walk to the Gulf using his horsedrawn carriage.

Trip leader, Jan Lockie has been an outdoor guide for over 15 years, leading paddling, backpacking and wilderness trips in her home state of California, as well as Alaska, Canada and other outdoor destinations. She has a master's degree in Recreation, is a certified Recreation Therapist and a Wilderness First Responder. She has led wilderness trips with Wilderness Inquiry and Environmental Traveling Companions as well as the Sierra Club.

Price: \$1095

Trip details are available at the Sierra Club website:

<http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/national/brochure/08198A.asp>

or contact trip leader, Jan Lockie: janlockie@hotmail.com