

## **Meadow in the Sky now available in eBook for Kindle and Apple**

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Elizabeth Stone O'Neill has backpacked and hiked, botanized and birdwatched, throughout the Sierra and other mountain ranges. She has written extensively about mountain subjects and nature in periodicals as well as in her books, Meadow in the Sky, Mountain Sage, and Tioga Tramps - the last in collaboration with her late husband, J. Carroll O'Neill, whose photographs grace many of her pages, not to mention her children's books. O'Neill is launching her first eBook, "Meadow in the Sky: A History of Yosemite's Tuolumne Meadows Region." Set to go live April 17, 2017, it is available for kindle on Amazon and Ibook from Apple. The paperback remains available on line from [greatowlpress.com](http://www.greatowlpress.com), from Amazon and independent bookstores in and near Yosemite National Park. It is expected to become a big hit with fans of the history of the environmental movement and lovers of the mountain world. Excitement surrounds this book launch as it is the first of the author's books to be available as an eBook.

More information on the book can be found here: <http://www.greatowlpress.com>

This is the First of 13 book O'Neill has authored. Although about the mountains in the past, it is "with some hope for the future. As long as we have the meadow, there is much left that is good in our world. May we cherish the meadow for those who will yet come with open souls and youthful hearts, as to a world newborn, and who will find peace and joy and happiness there, and perhaps wisdom. It is not too much to hope."

Meadow in the Sky: A History of Yosemite's Tuolumne Meadows Region sets its main focus on the history of the Tuolumne Meadow Region of Yosemite National Park in California which cannot be separated from the history of the conservation movement itself.. Readers will likely find a particular interest in how the past in these mountains of California informs the very future of humankind. The book's cover art was created by John Carroll O'Neill, Jr.. Meadow in the Sky: A History of Yosemite's Tuolumne Meadows Region is being released by Great Owl Press.

Elizabeth Stone O'Neill has a background is a graduate of the University of the Pacific in Stockton, California, where she majored in French and earned a Master's degree in Inter-American Studies with a major in History. She taught elementary school in inner-city schools and spent her vacations backpacking and climbing in the Sierra Nevada and other mountain ranges. Her love of the area shaped the creation of the book. Her background in the mountains ignited a passion to find out more about their history and an interest in their preservation..

When asked about why she wrote the book, O'Neill said: "This book came to be because of an ending. In 1976 the National Park Service closed the walk-in campground at the Soda Springs. Benches and tables were removed, fireplaces were razed and raked clean, and one sun warmed hillside of Tuolumne Meadows returned to forest. Not a bad thing, one might say. Yet for me, and I am sure for many others, a deep sadness arose at the thought that this historic spot, site of so much

history and of so many happy personal memories, was being shut down. After knowing this place for thirty years, I suddenly wondered how it came to be. This book is the result."

O'Neill hopes that through it you will share with her the joy of the mountains and of those who have loved them. May it signify for you not an ending, but a beginning. This positive outlook from the author is certainly a testament to her optimism considering some of the challenges during its creation. It was written on a portable typewriter in a trailer in Tuolumne Meadows. Any typo or change required rewriting at least an entire page. New information found also required new writing. She had none of the luxury of copy machines or computers with search engines and cut-and-paste technology.

In a recent interview, the author made a point of thanking the help of many knowledgeable people. She would like to express her thanks to Dr. Mary Hill of San Francisco State University for going over the geology chapter; to Yosemite Park Indian Specialist Craig Bates and to Dr. Michael Moratto, both of whom read and commented on the Indian sections; to David Gaines of the Mono Lake Committee, who checked the material on birds; to Dr. Carl Sharsmith, who gave special attention to the geology and botany; to Dr. William A. Douglass of the University of Nevada Basque Studies Program, who read the chapter on shepherders; to Evelyn P. Wigger, who shared her recollections of François Matthes; and to Lee and Dorothy Verrett, who shared their memories of Tuolumne Meadows with her. Additional thanks go to Yosemite Park Superintendent Bob Binnewies, David Gaines, Henry Berrey of Yosemite Natural History Association, Chief Park Naturalist Leonard McKenzie, Dr. Walter Payne of the University of the Pacific, Catherine Rose, Dr. Carl Sharsmith, and Yosemite Research Librarian Mary Vocelka, each of whom read the entire manuscript. Her most heartfelt appreciation is for her husband, Carroll, who introduced her to the Sierra, shared with her the joy of innumerable mountain days, read and considered the manuscript more times than anyone else, helped and encouraged her, and donated his photograph for the cover, which commemorates some of the best days of their lives."

Those interested in learning more about the book can visit here: <http://www.greatowlpress.com>

Contact Info: Name: Adele O'Neill and David Carpenter Organization: Great Owl Press Address: 7445 Andrea Avenue, Stockton, CA 95207, United States Phone: +1-209-475-9237 For more information, please visit <http://www.greatowlpress.com> Source: PressCableRelease ID: 187165

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