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May 1, 1963

Mr. and Mrs. Eliot Porter
Route 4, Box 33
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Porter:

How does one tell you of his gratitude for the wonderful books you have made possible? For the enrichment they bring our lives? And for the work they will do on behalf of the beautiful places of our land? Surely those who come after us will be even more in your debt than we are, not only for the books themselves but also for the scenic resources that they will have helped to save.

It is impossible to evaluate what you have given to the Sierra Club and to the furtherance of its work. The money gifts, important though they are, are but a small part of the total. No one can put a price on the lifetime of seeing and feeling, the years of learning the magic that can be done with a camera. These are the contributions that are unique, that no one else can make. We can only say, simply, that we are deeply in your debt.

You must know already that you are both listed as Patron Members of the Sierra Club. You should know also that at a recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors the officers, through formal action, "noted with gratitude the generous contributions" that you have made, "and expressed appreciation on behalf of the Sierra Club."

Let me add my own thanks to those reported in the Club records, because the books are enriching my life, too, and I feel personal as well as "official" gratitude.

Sincerely,

Charlotte E. Mauk

Charlotte E. Mauk
Secretary