

# Bill's FLICKR Picture Gallery

William Fechteler

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## ***About the Gallery:*** Digitizing the Saudi Arabian Bedouin pictures

The pictures I selected for our DL came from a book by Wayne Eastep and published by United Technologies. It's a collection of photographs taken by the author and his wife during their visit with a Bedouin family of the Al Murrah tribe in Saudi Arabia. Due to a lack of scanner technology a Cannon A610 Power-Shot digital camera was used to take a picture of the pictures. The camera generated digital image "metadata" for each picture, such as the shutter speed, number of pixels, format and size.

The pictures were then uploaded to a photo sharing web site called Flickr <http://www.flickr.com/> and grouped by subject heading: People, Food and Children. Copyright/publication information for each picture was added in a comment area below the image.

## ***Bedouin by Wayne and Patti Eastep:*** About the book and the pictures

These pictures are of a visit made by Wayne and Patti Eastep to the Al Murrah tribe of Saudi Arabia. Bedouin hospitality is renowned and they were made to feel that they were one of the family though there naturally some adjustments to be made in this environment. Getting used to the heat was a challenge. "Our thermometer went up to 125 F and by late May it burst." Another was having some privacy. "The Bedouins do not go in for solitary activities. The desert is very large and the Arabs are relatively few. Something in that expanse seems to push them together."

The Bedouins are very inquisitive, they love to talk and have a good sense of humor. They also have an assured self-confidence that perhaps comes from the knowledge that they prevail in such a difficult landscape where others could not.

Camels are very important to the Bedouins and without them, life in the desert would be impossible although they often use pickup trucks for transportation. Wayne & Patti even saw camels riding in pickup trucks.

For all the discomforts, the lack of modern "necessities" and always the heat, the Eaststeps' would like to return. "...life is pared down to the essentials. What is cherished and nurtured is what is necessary for survival - friendship, hospitality simplicity."