

The YELLOWSTONE



News

September 12, 1994

NPS Employee Newsletter

Next Deadline: September 23

District Interpreters Selected

Dan Hand has been selected as the Old Faithful District Naturalist and will EOD on October 2. Dan is currently Director of Visitor Services at Jefferson Expansion Memorial in St. Louis. He has also held positions as District Interpreter at Glen Canyon, Interpretive Specialist at Everglades, Chief of Interpretation at Coulee Dam NRA, Assistant Chief of Interpretation at Cuyahoga Valley NRA, Park Ranger Interpreter at Ft. Union NM, Park Technician at Shiloh NMP, Fort Caroline NM, and Blue Ridge Parkway.

Neysa Dickey has been selected as the Canyon District Naturalist and will EOD on October 16. She is currently Chief of Interpretation at Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS. Prior to that she served as Park Technician in Pacific NW Regional Office in Urban and Environmental Programs, Secretary at Dinosaur National Monument, and clerk-typist in Rocky Mtn. Regional Office. She also worked as a seasonal interpreter at Theodore Roosevelt NMP and Timpanogos Cave NM.

Welcome to Yellowstone!

For Your Health

A Message from the Safety Office

The best safety device is a careful worker...get the safe habit.

Blaszak Accepts New Alaskan Post

By Jan Laye, Superintendent's Office

Marcia Blaszak, Yellowstone's Administrative Officer, will be heading to Alaska as the Associate Regional Director for Administration at the end of October. Blaszak accepts this new position with enthusiasm. "Alaska has always been a place we've wanted to live," she said, "I'm real sad about leaving Yellowstone, it's such a wonderful place and we're really going to miss the people here."

Blaszak began her career over 25 years ago when she held various NPS clerk/typist positions in the Western Regional Office and with the U.S. Navy. In 1974, Marcia accepted the position as the Budget/Fiscal Clerk at Golden Gate National Recreation Area and later became an Administrative Intake Trainee at Point Reyes National Seashore. Blaszak continued her budgetary profession at Sequoia National Park, and in 1987 accepted the position of Administrative Officer at Lassen Volcanic National Park. Marcia, her husband Bob (Mammoth Carpenter Shop), Clinton, 13, and Travis, 11, have lived in the Yellowstone/Gardiner area since 1992, when they transferred here from Shenandoah National Park.

Marcia has been actively involved in NPS Administrative Payment Teams, the All Risk Management Team and most recently was a member of the NPS Streamlining Task Force working in Washington D.C. When asked about the challenges her new position would ask of her she replied, "My main responsibility will be to keep track of Bob Barbee and try to keep him in line!" Reflecting on what she enjoyed most about her time in Yellowstone, Blaszak replied, "I will miss the people I've worked with and the interaction with them. My family and I are thankful for this new opportunity, although Yellowstone has been a highlight in our lives. We'll be back to visit in the future."

Bob and Carol Say Goodbye

"These last few weeks have been a rollercoaster of emotions. We realize after nearly twelve years, just how deep our roots are down in Yellowstone. Saying 'Thanks for everything' your support, dedication to service, and friendship--really limits the expression of our appreciation.

It's been a fantastic journey that we've shared with you! The scale of Yellowstone has prevented getting to know people as well as we would have liked. As we reflect on our experience here, that is our only regret.

The send-off we received at Mammoth was overwhelming. The gifts were special---thank you very much. You're the best. We'll never forget you.

Bob and Carol Barbee

Employee Awards

Congratulations to DeLynn Murdoch on receiving his twenty year Length of Service Award, and to Anita Varley on receiving her ten year Length of Service Award recently. Time flies when you're having fun!

Open for Bid

Old Faithful Quarters 531C, a two bedroom/one bath apartment, is open for bid to all permanent NPS employees whose primary duty station is Old Faithful. Further assignments as a result of this bidding may be made to the next highest bidders without further competition. Pick up bid forms at the Old Faithful Ranger Station, Visitor Center, or Maintenance Office, and submit by close of business Tuesday, September, 20. Call Laura Long, 344-2039, for more information.

Quote, Unquote

I FULLY REALIZE THAT I HAVE NOT SUCCEEDED IN ANSWERING ALL OF YOUR QUESTIONS...INDEED, I FEEL THAT I HAVE NOT ANSWERED ANY OF THEM COMPLETELY. THE ANSWERS I HAVE FOUND ONLY SERVE TO RAISE A WHOLE NEW SET OF QUESTIONS, WHICH ONLY LEAD TO MORE PROBLEMS, SOME OF WHICH WE WEREN'T EVEN AWARE WERE PROBLEMS. TO SUM IT ALL UP...IN SOME WAYS I FEEL WE ARE CONFUSED AS EVER, BUT I BELIEVE WE ARE CONFUSED ON A HIGHER LEVEL, AND ABOUT MORE IMPORTANT THINGS.

Humor Consultants, Inc.

Bald Eagle Population on the Rise

Current statistics show bald eagles fledglings numbers continue to the rise in the park. This year a total of 13 eaglets fledged from 21 occupied territories--the second highest eaglet production in the recorded history of the park. In the record year 1993, 17 eaglets were fledged from 18 active nests in the park. (Since 1982, the park annually averages 10 fledglings from 13.5 occupied territories.)

Occupied bald eagle territories have gradually increased each year since the 1988 Yellowstone wildfires, according to the park's bird management specialist, Terry McEneaney. "It looks as though bald eagles have responded positively to the effects of wildfires," Terry says. Other variables have influenced the results, as well--such as favorable mild weather conditions, particularly during nesting. He also pointed out that there are more bald eagles in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem than ever before, thus allowing floating eagles to occupy new territories.

McEneaney forewarned that eagles will undergo an unstable phase in their nesting cycle when many of the unstable burned trees from 1988 are uprooted by winds and begin to fall down. "Nesting bald eagles will most likely be affected as a result of this natural event," he stated, "but I expect them to gradually adjust to this natural disturbance." He mentioned, too, that wildfires this year have burned one bald eagle nest tree.

A Letter to the Superintendent

Dear Mr. Barbee,

August 24, 1994

My family has just returned home after a three day visit to your park. We cannot compliment you and your staff enough. However, what impressed me the most was the impact the park had on my twelve year old son and six year old daughter. They were delighted at every turn. They could not see, or do enough.

My son, Chris, was affected to the greatest extent. This is not a child to demonstrate a great deal of sensitivity. He is a triple A hockey player who finds more beauty in a slapshot or hip check than a thing of beauty. On the last day of our stay, while fishing on the lake, he noticed the smoke from the fires in the Pelican Creek area. He wanted to know why they weren't being put out. Chris had noticed earlier in the trip all the baby pine trees in burned areas, and we explained how fire could stimulate growth, but we didn't think it was very significant to him. What follows is documentation that we were wrong. Though Chris is a good student, we had never read anything he had written that had as much heart in it. It is a reflection on the park that you have been entrusted with, and the care it receives in your hands, as well as the impact it had on one small boy.

Larry Frey,
Hawthorn Woods, Illinois

In death there is "life"! In life, there is "beauty"! In beauty we find ourselves and all of the other creations of God's Earth. A great example of beauty is a forest, and how the cycle of life runs through it. A forest starts as one tree, then it blossoms into many, many more trees from the first one's seeds. Death and fire and plague overrun the forest, but many more seeds have been spread. Soon these seeds will once again blossom into a beautiful forest made possible by God's "brilliant" renewing system...the cycle of life.

Chris Frey
12 years old

COMMUNITY EVENTS

► Shriners' Screening Clinic

The Shriners will be conducting a screening clinic in Billings on October 1 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at St. Vincent Hospital. These clinics are conducted by local area doctors to determine if a child has a problem that could be treated at one of the 22 Shrine hospitals. Medical treatment is completely free to the family; there is no solicitation to an insurance company or government agency for payment. The clinic will screen for muscular or skeletal problems including cleft palate, some plastic surgery (no cosmetic), jaw problems, cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, scoliosis, club foot, legg perthes, burn scars and help with prosthetics. For more information, call 406-259-4384.

► Ladies Barbershop Chorus Performance

The Yellowstone Harmony Chorus, Sweet Adelines International, will present a concert entitled "Harmony Our Way". This ladies four-part barbershop chorus from Cody, Wyoming, will sing in the Gardiner School Multi-purpose Room on Saturday, September 17, at 2 p.m. and then at the Mammoth School Gym at 7:30 p.m. that same evening. Advance tickets sales are necessary to help defray expenses: \$3 adults, \$2 children 12 and under. Tickets are available at the Gardiner Bank or by calling Debbie Keller at 848-7690.

► "Holiday Premier" Open House

Come to the Mammoth Canteen on Thursday, September 29, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. for a "Holiday Premier" Open House. Talk to representatives from Tupperware, Creative Memories, Longaberger Baskets, House of Lloyds, Discovery Toys, Vita-Life, Jafra, and Avon. Lots of great gift ideas! Door Prizes! Refreshments! And arts and crafts items! For more information call Stacey Love at 242-7739.

► Vet Visit

Veterinarian, Dr. Jim Murray, will be at the Gardiner Exxon on Friday, September 23, from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. No appointment necessary. Housecalls available upon request. Next Visit: October 7.

► 1994 Parenting Speaker Series

Please join us for the last workshop in our *Parenting Together* speaker series: "Lifestyles of the Functional Family", at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 29, at Little People's Learning Center. This session will be presented by Park County Nurse, Mauray Miller, and is funded with a Wyoming Childcare Block Grant. For more information about this workshop or about other available parenting resources call Ginny Cowan at 848-7008.

► Local Cemetery Tour

Interested in local and park history? Plan to join Lee Whittlesey, Yellowstone's Historical Archivist and author, on a tour of local cemeteries, and hear the stories associated with these early, and now "permanent residents". Meet at the Gardiner Cemetery (one mile past the school on the old road) on Saturday, September 17, at 9:00 a.m. We'll also visit the Army Cemetery near Fort Yellowstone and the Mammoth Civilian Cemetery. Bring a sack lunch and wear comfortable walking shoes. Group size is limited to 25. For information and reservations call 848-7794.

► Photo Album Educational Seminar

Are your photos stuffed into shoe boxes and drawers? Come to a Creative Memories Photo Album Educational Seminar on Friday, September 23, from 5 to 10 p.m., or Sunday, September 25, from 1 to 6 p.m., at the Gardiner Best Western. You'll learn what products are photo safe, how to store your albums, and receive creative tips on assembling your photo album. You'll also put together a page of your keepsake album with photos and memorabilia you bring to the seminar. For registration and fee information, call Annie Bent (406-848-7353) or Stacey Love (307-242-7339).

► Children's Ballet Classes

Ballet classes for girls and boys, ages 4 and older, will begin October 4. Call Dayna McClure for more information, 848-7291.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Help Wanted:

Several positions available on 10-11 month basis: Payroll Lead Assistant, Telephone Systems Assistant, Accountants Payable Assistant. Positions are in the General Accounting Office of TW Recreational Services, Mammoth. Applications and job descriptions available in the TW Personnel Office, Gardiner, 344-5367. AA/EOE/M/F/H/V

For Sale:

1989 Englander pellet stove, used 1 year, includes some six inch stove pipe and pellets, \$400. Call 848-7649.

For Sale:

1980 Honda motorcycle XL185S, new tires, sprocket, \$800. Call 646-9295 extension 2803.

Wanted:

Small air-tight woodstove in good condition. Call Nancy or Mark at 848-7589.

For Sale:

Ten foot wooden drift boat, oak frame, white cedar siding, \$300. Small cast iron air-tight stove, \$50. Tunturi rowing machine, \$50. Air Master exercise bike, \$50. Ten speed 24" Raleigh bicycle, \$10. Call Ron Jones at 848-7591.

For Sale:

Asolo telemark boots, men's size 7, little used, \$200. Electric heater, \$10. Black & Decker steam iron, \$10. Call Elizabeth, 344-9242.