

The YELLOWSTONE



News

November 09, 1995

NPS Employee Newsletter

Next Deadline: November 21

Heartfelt Thanks...

Not knowing where to start, I will begin by giving my thanks to so many of you for your friendship and support (you know who you are !!!). Can it really be?--8 years here in Yellowstone. This is such a unique place and I am truly blessed by the opportunities and friends I have had here; even through the rough stuff. My friends back east can't even envision life out here, and now, happily, I get to set off to another beautiful park on an adventure with my new hubby that is sure to be full of good things.

The party was the best--great food and fun people! Thank you all for the gifts and kind words. Turning 30 wasn't too bad at all!

We will be at Glacier for the next year. I'll be the one wearing the giant bear bells and carrying the 50 gallon drum of bear spray! I'm going to take some time off to set up our home, get back into some art projects, and maybe even take downhill ski lessons for the first time. I also hope to volunteer at the park -- who knows, maybe my dream job awaits!

I will close with a quote by Merle Shain. "Friends are the people who help you be more yourself, more the person you were intended to be. " (You) are in my heart and I shall treasure you always.

Best Wishes,
Laura (Long) Kammel
P.O. Box 511
West Glacier, MT 59936
(406) 888-5141

The Wolves of Isle Royale: A Broken Balance...

Yellowstone has had the good fortune to have Rolf Peterson, one of the world's leading wolf ecologists, working with the Yellowstone wolf project for the past couple months. Rolf has spent 22 years studying the wolves in another national park, Isle Royale, and his new book, *The Wolves of Isle Royale: A Broken Balance*, has just been published. Besides its lively, authoritative text, the book is beautifully produced, with outstanding color photographs throughout. Our own wolf project leader, Mike Phillips, highly recommends it. Rolf will be in Yellowstone until early December, and if you want a copy of this important book you can get one (or more - remember Christmas is coming) from him.

The book, besides being a wonderful first-hand account of life in the wilderness, is an important statement about how wolves fit in national parks. The cost of *The Wolves of Isle Royale* is \$29.50, and Rolf is donating his royalties to the good cause of wolf research at Isle Royale. If you would like a copy, Rolf can be reached by calling 344-8839.

What????!!

Below are questions the staff of the Wyoming Division of Tourism has recently fielded (taken from "TravelLog," a monthly publication from the Wyoming Division of Tourism):

"If I travel on the Beartooth Highway from Red Lodge to Yellowstone or the opposite direction from Yellowstone to Red Lodge, will the scenery be different?"

"I'm looking for a place to stay in Wyoming where there is heat, electricity, and running water, much like a hotel or motel. Are you familiar with what that is, and can you help me find one?"

"What day does it start snowing in Wyoming?"

"My husband and I are coming to Yellowstone from Canada. Are there any serial killers in the area we need to be cautious of?"

"I need to call Yellowstone and get the key or combination to the main gate because I won't get there until around midnight, so I need to let them know."

The Yellowstone News is a bi-weekly newsletter for NPS Yellowstone employees published by the Public Affairs Office. To submit articles, ads, or notice of events contact:

Jan Laye, Editor, 344-2003

Can It Be...?

Jerry Mernin and Terry Danforth
retiring?

The rumors are true! Jerry and Terry are both retiring after a combined 60+ years working for the National Park Service in Yellowstone.

A dinner and party in their honor is scheduled for Friday, December 15, 1995, at the TW Services Rec Hall in Mammoth. Happy hour will begin at 5:00 pm, dinner at 6:30 pm, festivities will follow.

The cost for dinner is \$15/person. RSVP by December 1 by sending your \$15 fee to Dan Sholly in the Chief Ranger's Office.

If you would like floor time to honor Jerry or Terry, contact Dan Sholly at 344-2101. Dan is putting together a slide show for the occasion, so if you have vintage slides of Jerry and/or Terry that you are willing to share, let him know.

If you are unable to attend but want to send a video message, cassette message, or an anecdote, contact Dan.

Donations toward a gift and/or a scrapbook can be sent to Grace Gifford in the Chief Ranger's Office. Grace also needs photographs for the scrapbooks.

See you at this milestone event!

Housing Comments Wanted

The Housing Design Committee was recently formed to address current housing design standards. One of our goals is to identify a universal set of designs that would address all of our housing needs Parkwide. We would like to start by looking at existing housing designs and identify positive aspects to retain as well as inefficiencies to avoid in future designs. (cont'd on next page)

News from Personnel

NEW EMPLOYEES

Don Striker of Leesburg, Virginia, was recently selected to take Curtis Anderson's place as Budget Officer. Don is presently working for the National Park Service in Reston, Virginia, as Project Manager for a team of computer systems specialists and accountants, who have customized the Federal Finance System for the NPS. He has worked for the NPS since 1993.

Don graduated from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business in 1987. He is married with three children, and enjoys hiking, biking, Frisbee, and restoring classic cars.

Jeff Mathias and his family, Lisa and Zoe, have transferred from Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park. Jeff is the new Utility Systems Operator at the Lake District. Some of the activities he and his family enjoy are home-brewing beer, sailing and hiking.

Fred Bolenske and his wife, Sharon, have joined us from Rocky Mountain National Park. Fred is the Maintenance Mechanic Supervisor at Canyon. They enjoy hunting, fishing, x-country skiing and collecting antiques. Fred says this is their sixth park, but they are excited to be here! Fred is from this part of the country originally and one of their two grown children is attending college at Montana State University in Billings.

PROMOTIONS

Congratulations go out to **Bud Breining** upon his conversion into a permanent Water Treatment Plant Operator position at Grant.

YEAR-END LEAVE

The current leave year ends January 6, 1996. At that time annual leave in excess of 240 hours will be forfeited in accordance with existing regulations. Anticipated excess annual leave should be scheduled in order to avoid forfeiture.

Leave which is forfeited cannot be considered for restoration unless it was scheduled and approved in writing before the beginning of the third pay period prior to the end of the current leave year, i.e., November 26, 1995. If employees are unable to use scheduled and approved annual leave, they must reschedule it for use before the end of the leave year. If that annual leave is subsequently cancelled, a request for restoration may be submitted. Requests for restoration should not be submitted until after the leave is actually forfeited.

Leave should be systematically scheduled and used throughout the year as not to create pressure for the work units at the end of the leave year. Employees who choose not to request nor use annual leave are not entitled to restoration.

If you have any question, please contact Sue Crowfoot in the Payroll Office at extension 2051, or Carol Van Alstine, Administrative Support Team, Rocky Mountain System Support Office at (303) 969-2728.

HEALTH AND THRIFT OPEN SEASONS BEGINNING SOON

Open season for the Thrift Savings Plan will be November 15-January 31, 1996. Open season for health benefits will be November 13-December 11, 1995. Please stop by the Personnel Office, or call Rosanne Riley at 344-2041, for more information.

Housing cont'd...

We would appreciate any comments, both good and bad, regarding your present housing. Make sure you include your building number and location so we know where these conditions exist. We would also appreciate some personal information, such as family size and your preference on number of bedrooms, so we may interpret your comments better.

Please limit your comments to the most important issues so we may analyze everyone's comments in a reasonable amount of time. Comments may include, but should not be limited to, the following:

building site/location	bathroom
living space	bedroom
storage/basement	safety
living room	kitchen
utilities/heating	garage
carpeting/flooring	accessibility

Please keep your comments short and simple and return them to Chris Miller by Monday, December 11. If you have any questions, feel free to call Chris at 344-2350, Dayna McClure at 344-2304, or Kristen Churchill at 344-2021.

Abstracts & Agendas

for the recent Microbiology and Predator Conference are available by contacting Sarah Broadbent x-2233 or Bob Lindstrom x-2234.

--Just because you're paranoid doesn't mean that they're not out to get you.

Fire Prevention Week

Congratulations to the following students from the West Yellowstone School for their accomplishments during Fire Prevention Week:

Poster Winners

Kindergarten	Rebecca Konieczny
First Grade	Waco Utley
Second Grade	Heather Hansen
Third Grade	Kruin Seibert
Forth Grade	Tom Smith
Fifth Grade	Jaelynn Hoskins
Sixth Grade	Jamie Benes

Academic Achievement (Quiz)

Seventh Grade	Jessica Carsley
Eighth Grade	Jake Benes
Ninth Grade	Jared Forsythe Kassie Dolson
Tenth Grade	Zach Coffin
Eleventh Grade	Buch Schacher
Twelfth Grade	Dawn Saul

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale: 1982 Oldsmobile 98 Brougham. New tires, nice interior, runs good. 848-7614.

For Sale: Macintosh computer Quadra 605 with 8 MB of RAM, 500MB hard drive, 14" color monitor, Global Village Teleport Gold II fax modem, mouse and key board. \$1400 OBO. Also, Macintosh PowerBook 100 with 4MB of RAM, 40MB hard drive, AC adapter and Targus case. \$400. 344-7929 or 344-7986.

For Sale: Backcountry/telemark boots, Merrill XCD (double), excellent condition, new Carter resole, women's size 7½, \$240. Dinette set, chrome/melamine with six chairs and leaf, double mattress set, lamp, two end tables, \$70 for all. Apple Imagewriter II printer with color and black ribbons, make offer. Compact spare tire with cover, never used, make offer. Utility trailer, \$250. Call 242-7523.

For Sale: CSA Alpine Tracker Ski Machine with computer and weights on arms, \$150.00. Call Pam at 344-2294.

Wanted to buy: Snowmobile in good condition, preferably under \$2000. Call Victoria at 242-2630 (w) or 242-7263 (h).

COMMUNITY EVENTS

* **Vet Visit** Veterinarian, Dr. Jim Murray, will be at the Gardiner Exxon on Friday, November 10 from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. No appointment necessary. Housecalls available upon request. Next visit: November 24.

* **Open House** The Yellowstone Gallery invites everyone to our annual Holiday Open House on Saturday, December 2 from 11 am to 6 pm. Come share in the festivities while browsing the Gallery for gift ideas. Door prizes, specials, refreshments, fun, and good cheer will be abundant. See you there! Call 848-7306 for more details.

* **Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony** The ceremony will be held on Friday, December 8, 1995, at 5:30 p.m. at the Administration Building, Mammoth Hot Springs. A special program (to be announced) will be held after the ceremony at the Mammoth Hotel Map Room. Please bring hot hors d'oeuvres to share. Cake and punch will be provided. For more information, please contact the Public Affairs Office at 344-2013.