

The Yellowstone News



May 17, 1999

Next Deadline: June 11, 1999

Lamar River Picnic Area Closed

The Lamar River Picnic Area is closed until further notice due to flooding. Lamar rangers have posted signs that read 'Area Closed - Flooding'; however, visitors can still walk over safe ground to use the vault toilet. We will let everybody know when it reopens.

FILE

What's Up With That???

In the area between the North Entrance, the Roosevelt Arch, Front Street, and the Amfac administrative facilities you will notice a new feature on the "triangle" - a wire vegetation enclosure. Two more will be installed in the next couple of weeks. These enclosures will be in place for two to three years as part of a project to restore native vegetation to this area.

Yellowstone News is a National Park Service employee newsletter, published monthly by the Public Affairs Office. To submit articles, notices of events, classified ads, or announcements please e-mail Yell_Public_Affairs@nps.gov, call 344-2013, or send via interdepartmental mail or fax to 344-2014. Please include your name and phone number with all submissions.

This area has a long history of use -- it has been alternately used as a bus parking lot, an elk feeding ground, a racetrack, and an irrigated hay field. One historical reference calls it a "wasteland." This area is currently little more than a weed patch with a few small islands of native vegetation.

Mammoth School Board Election Results

The 1999 School Board election was held on May 11, 1999, in the Administration Office. Of the registered voters, nine actually voted. Mary Hektner was unanimously elected to serve a three-year term on the board. According to the Rules and Procedures, you will have to re-register for next year's school board election if you missed this election.

More than a negative first impression of the park, it has become a serious problem for the town of Gardiner. For the last several years, Russian thistle (*Salsola iberica*) has grown in an 11-acre section of the triangle. Mature plants break off at the ground and create "tumbleweeds," scattering seeds as they tumble. This area has become a source of weed spread as far north as the Carbella Bridge on the Yellowstone River. As these tumbleweeds pile up along fences, buildings, and natural features, they become an eyesore and a fire hazard. In 1996, Fourth of July fireworks ignited the pile of tumbleweeds along the iron fence in the triangle.

Filing Insurance Claims

The Mammoth Clinic would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your cooperation and understanding during these last few months with regard to your insurance filing. Due to staffing shortages, we were unable to file your insurance claims. As of April 1, we once again began filing insurance claims on your behalf. We will continue to ask for payment at the time of service, but will be able to resume all claim-filing procedures for you. Please advise us if there have been any changes in your insurance coverage. Once again, your patience and understanding this past winter was very much appreciated!

The Yellowstone Center for Resources, Branch of Landscape Architecture, and Resource Management Operations staff have joined forces in a cooperative effort to restore this area to native vegetation. So far, existing vegetation in the area has been mapped, a target vegetation community has been developed, historical investigation of the ditches on the site is underway, research is taking place on test plots under similar circumstances (BLA project), and weed management is ongoing.

Ya Speaka Swahili?

The Superintendent's office is seeking employees with foreign language skills to help in emergency situations and with other communication barriers. Please send the following information via e-mail to Paula_Clarke@nps.gov or interdepartmental mail to Paula Clarke: name, contact numbers, places where you can be reached, and language(s) you can speak. After the list is compiled it will be distributed for each division's use. If you have any questions please call Paula at 344-2003. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Due to the lack of natural water flow and the vast exotic seed bank in the soil, on-site plots to test different re-vegetation techniques are essential to restoration. The purpose of these test plots is to examine native and exotic seed germination and establishment under different treatments of fencing, mulching, and supplemental watering (mimicking a restored natural drainage pattern). Because they are in such a visible area, these test plots will remain in place for a minimum of two seasons and a maximum of three seasons. Sampling may continue, but treatments, including fencing, will cease after three years.

If you have any questions about this project, please call Roy Renkin at 344-2161, Tom Olliff at 344-2143, Paul Miller at 344-2185 or Cheryl Decker at 344-2317. They will be glad to take you out to show you what they hope to accomplish.

What is Retirement All About?

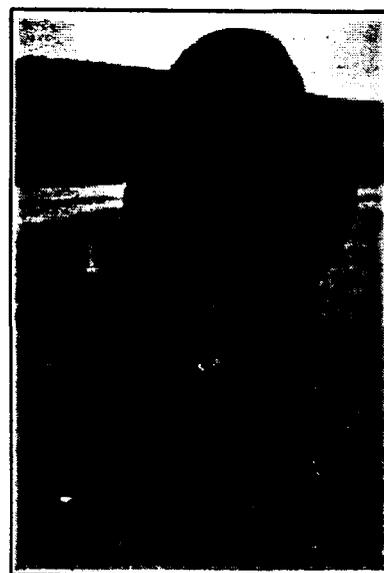
"It's a Day by Day Adjustment in Life"

"The day after my retirement, I went to work at my new job with the Tire Iron. It was a nice change of pace (I thought) assisting the needs of our customers, many of whom are from Yellowstone. Well, it took me until the end of the week before I realized that I needed to make a big adjustment, both mentally and physically. It went from one extreme to the next -- once a management assistant to the parts department assistant with very limited knowledge or experience. What brakes fit an '89 Toyota or what muffler for the '93 Chevy Suburban should I order? Will we need a case of PH8A oil filters or do we have the P235/75R15 tires in stock for the customer coming in next week? Now as for the physical side -- the same muscles used for typing were expected to be in shape to maneuver the heavy tires to be dismounted/mounted/balanced. Talk about a weakling. I had to retrain the ol' muscles for sure. What a rude awakening from a once sit-down job to standing all day. This is tough. I forgot how good the 'worn out' carpet felt compared to the concrete floors. Oh, and I should mention the attire -- from nylons and high heels to blue jeans and sweatshirts. My new uniform is definitely one that you need to take off by the wash machine every night. I'm convinced my new job will get better, once I become accustomed to this totally new way of thinking and working. And, yes, then I think 'semi-retirement' will be fun!"

"My sincere appreciation to you all for making my retirement party so special. It was truly an extraordinary experience for me, and one I will never forget. I was simply overwhelmed, to say the least, to see so many 'well-wishers.' A genuine 'thanks' for the extra efforts that went into making my party so much fun. Special thanks to Gail for the framed Japanese scarf and disc/pictures; Joanne for selecting the treasured wool buffalo blanket -- a gift from everyone (Thanks!) and the flower arrangements; and to Judy, Jan, Patty and Michelle for your hard work putting on the fantastic 'buffet.' The 'Happy Trails' cake was extra special, as were the retirement cards (thanks, Joy and Dave, also). I know many others helped to make my day particularly nice, and I am grateful for your kindness. Friendships are our richest treasures in life, and special friends like you will always be remembered. Keep in touch!" -J. Joyce Ludwig

IT'S A BOY!!!

Congratulations to Edith and Adolph Peterson. They are the proud grandparents of Brock Alan Peterson, son of Alan and Leslie Peterson. Brock was born on April 1 at 5:34 p.m., weighed 8 pounds, 12-1/2 ounces, and was 21" long. Brock joins his sister Brianne at home.



Buffalo Walk "Thank You"

This note was sent on behalf of Joseph Chasing Horse. Chasing Horse was the Lakota leader of the 507-mile Buffalo Walk from Rapid City, South Dakota, to Yellowstone. "I feel everything went extremely well and we are so thankful for all the help and respect shown to us by each and every Park Service employee. Please convey to them, from us, our profound gratitude for their kindness."

"I would like to add my thanks to everyone who helped prepare for the arrival of the marchers, and worked so hard while they were here on logistics, filming, food preparation, and cleanup. Thanks to your work, everything went extremely smooth and ensured our continuing good relations with a number of American Indian tribes." -Laura Joss

Yellowstone Federal Employee's Association's New Officers

The following individuals were recently elected to the Yellowstone Federal Employee's Association:

President	Ann Johnson
Vice President	Mark Biel
Secretary	Nancy Tyson
Treasurer	Jen Whipple
Membership Coordinator	Tana Lindstrom
Special Events Coordinator	Judy Jensen

Personnel News...

Term Appointments:

Lon Johnson - Cultural Resource Technician
Paul Norman - Concessions Management Specialist
Judith Folts - Supervisory Park Ranger, Assistant Chief of Interpretation

Permanent Appointments:

Jaren Whitman - Motor Vehicle Operator - Mammoth



May, 1999

Dear Yellowstone Staff,

I am writing to clarify some questions that you may have about the Yellowstone Park Foundation. As I hope you have heard, the Yellowstone Park Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated exclusively to raising money for projects and programs that protect, preserve, and enhance Yellowstone National Park. Our goal is to alleviate the environmental and financial pressures that Yellowstone faces by raising money for projects that are beyond the financial capacity of the National Park Service. The bottom line is that *we are here to help you.*

The Foundation is just entering its third year of operations. We raised \$1,100,504 in 1998, \$140,504 more than in 1997, from a variety of sources. Approximately 22% of the money that we raised last year came from corporations, 47% from foundations, 24% from individuals, and 7% from cause-related merchandise or earned interest. Our small staff allows us to keep our ratio of expenses to revenues to a low of 14.84%. We work hard to ensure that at least 85% of the funds we raise go directly to Yellowstone. We also know that none of our accomplishments would have been possible without your help and dedication.

The Foundation has supported more than twenty-four projects in the last twenty-nine months, including:

- A beaver population survey to determine the range and impact of beavers on the biological diversity of Yellowstone's aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems
- A self-guiding trail through Fort Yellowstone that interprets the role of the U.S. Army in protecting Yellowstone during its early years
- The Wolf Restoration Project, which tracks and monitors the habits, habitat needs, and ecological impacts of Yellowstone's new wolf packs
- A trumpeter swan recovery project to improve our understanding of and raise public awareness about the benefits and importance of trumpeter swan conservation and management in Yellowstone
- The development and placement of an information center and interpretive materials in the Slough Creek Campground area that will explain the potential dangers associated with bears and describe what people can do to avoid negative encounters with bears

If you would like additional information about these matters, please contact the Yellowstone Office of Public Affairs for a more complete list of Foundation-funded projects as well as a list of our funding categories.

This year, the Foundation is committed to raising \$225,600 for five specific projects and hoping to raise an additional \$1,500,000 for more than two dozen other park projects. The five projects that we have committed to fund include, Mitigating Visitor Impacts at Great Fountain Geyser, the Pelican Valley Trail Reroute, a Grizzly Bear Moth Study, the "Yellowstone Revealed" film for the Old Faithful Visitor Center, and a new Youth Conservation Corps film.

You may wonder how the Yellowstone Park Foundation is different from the Yellowstone Association. In fact, the Yellowstone Association was instrumental and played a major role in establishing the Yellowstone Park Foundation. Both the Foundation and the Association are dedicated to the protection, preservation, and enhancement of Yellowstone National Park. The main difference between our two organizations is that funding provided by the Yellowstone Association is raised primarily through its membership program and sales of educational materials in park visitor centers. All profits generated by the Association go to support educational, interpretive, and research programs at the park. The Yellowstone Park Foundation concentrates on raising money outside the park from private foundations, corporations, and individuals. While the Foundation raises money to support educational, interpretive, and research projects, it also raises money to support wildlife management, trail maintenance, antiques and collectibles, history, historic architecture, archeology, and management support projects. In certain situations, the Association and the Foundation will partner together to fund the same project.

With regard to submitting a proposal to the Yellowstone Park Foundation, all grant requests first should be reviewed with and approved by your division chief. Formal proposals should be submitted to the Superintendent of Yellowstone by mid-April each year. The Foundation will only accept proposals that have been approved by the Superintendent. All proposals that are approved by the Superintendent will be submitted to the Foundation's Grant Committee at the Foundation's board meeting in mid-May. The Office of Public Affairs has copies of a pamphlet with more detailed information about how the Foundation reviews, selects, approves, and administers projects. This pamphlet will also be circulated on cc-mail.

I hope that this information is helpful. Please let us know if you have any questions or if you have an idea or suggestion for how the Yellowstone Park Foundation can better serve you and Yellowstone. The Foundation's telephone number is 406.586.6303. Our e-mail address is yellowstn@aol.com, and our website is www.ypf.org. Thank you for your time and commitment to Yellowstone.

Sincerely,



Lisa L. Diekmann
Executive Director



THE YELLOWSTONE PARK FOUNDATION'S PROCESS of PROJECT REVIEW, SELECTION, APPROVAL, and ADMINISTRATION

Requests for funding from the Yellowstone Park Foundation are reviewed once a year. The following is a general outline of procedures that should be followed when submitting a proposal to the Yellowstone Park Foundation.

Project Review

All Grant requests should first be reviewed with and approved by your division chief. Formal proposals should be submitted to the Superintendent by mid-April each year. The Foundation will only accept proposals that have been approved by the Superintendent. All proposals that are approved by the Superintendent will be submitted to the Foundation's Grant Committee at the Foundation's Board meeting in mid-May.

The Grant Committee will review and rate each project. The projects are rated according to the following criteria:

- The project is well conceived;
- The project is scientifically sound;
- The project's goals are clear and attainable;
- The project can reach its desired goal within the allotted time;
- The project leader has justified his/her request;
- The funding requested seems reasonable and adequate for the project;
- The Foundation will be able to find funding for the entire project;
- The project is appropriate for the mission of the Foundation.

Depending on the project, other criteria may be considered.

Project Selection

After the Grant Committee has reviewed and ranked each project, it will convene in Yellowstone. At that time, project leaders will be invited to make presentations, provide additional project information, and answer any outstanding questions or concerns. This meeting usually takes place in August. Following this meeting, the Grant Committee will identify 5 – 6 projects which they will recommend to the rest of the Board for their approval at the Foundation's September Board meeting.

Project Approval

At the Foundation's September Board meeting, the Board of Directors votes whether or not to commit to fund each of the projects that the Grant Committee has recommended to them. If none of the projects are approved, the Board will review other projects that were submitted in April. The Board reserves the right to fund a project only on the condition that the project leader will make certain changes to the project's design.

Post-Approval Process

Following the Foundation's September board meeting, the Executive Director will send a letter to all project leaders that submitted a proposal to the Foundation. The Executive Director's letter will state either that the project was approved and the Foundation will find the necessary funds by the end of the following year, that the project was approved contingent on certain changes to the project's design, or that the project was not approved. The Superintendent, the project leader's division chief, and each member of the Foundation's Grant Committee will be copied on these letters.

Letters of approval will ask the project leader to contact the Foundation's Program Director within two weeks to discuss project details including reporting requirements, updates, slides, and/or budgets the Foundation may require for its files.

As soon as the Foundation has secured funding, the project leader will be contacted. After work has begun on the project, the Foundation will require quarterly reports each year with photographs of the project's work in progress. Please note that this information will be sent to the Project's funder and should be well presented. The initial report should be a detailed overview of the project and include a timeline and a budget. The second and third reports should discuss what work has been done to that point, what funds have been spent, and any changes from the original proposal. The final report will be due when the project is finished, and should summarize the work completed, address any changes from the original proposal, any problems encountered, and include a final budget for the project. Additional update reports may be requested at any time as needed.

As time permits, the Foundation will work with project leaders, whose projects the board did not commit to fund, to help them find funding for their project. The project must still, however, have the approval of the Superintendent of Yellowstone National Park.

Project Tracking and Payments

Once a project has been approved it will be given a name and assigned an account number. When the project has been funded, the Foundation will notify the project leader so they can start to draw money from the account. In order to draw funds the project leader must fill out a requisition request form that justifies the expenditure. The requisition request form must include all original receipts and be signed by the project leader and the chief of his or her division. Checks over \$10,000 require two signatures and consequently may take more time to process.

1999 Annual Park to Paradise Results

CATEGORY	TEAM NAME	TEAM MEMBERS	TOTAL TIME (H:M:S)
Race-Men	Floundering Fousome	Mitchell, Madson, Gruber, Perkins	2:11:14
Rec-Men	Great White North	Furhmann, Smith, McCartney	2:11:24
Rec-Men	3 A's, 1 B, & a C	Cretella, Bernethy, Ricardi, Ricardi	2:13:16
Race-Men	3 Springs from Corwin	Allen, Galloway, Pantoja	2:13:35
Race-Mix	Team Skiing	Loren, Reid, DeYoung	2:13:46
Race-Men	Redeyes	Lyness, Thate, Hatfield	2:22:43
Rec-Mix	House 415	Chan, Chan, Weeks	2:23:33
Race-Women	Tar Corn Cats	Horner, Sucher, Stieb	2:24:56
Rec-Men	Fearsome Foursome	Issa, Sweeney, Hearn, Vaughn	2:25:29
Rec-Mix	Red Heads	Berg, Hendrix, Daigle-Berg	2:25:49
Rec-Mix	Show	Sacklin, Heller, Obernesser, Ward	2:26:46
Rec-Men	The Morning After	Edminston, Fowler, Talago	2:27:14
Solo-Men	Bear-ly Alive	Mark Biel	2:29:27
Rec-Men	Ballard	Ballard, Harrison, York, Diem	2:31:35
Solo-Women	Kerry Creamer	Erin Shanahan	2:32:33
Solo-Men	Scott Hoeninghausen	Scott Hoeninghausen	2:33:07
Race-Men	Headin' to the Picnic	Kelley, Kelley, McNeil, McNeil	2:33:34
Solo-Men	Captain Jim	Kerry Gunther	2:33:37
Race-Mix	The Subs	Raimondo, Pettit, Colmey	2:35:42
Rec-Mix	Cougar Crew & Groupie	Whitman, Maples, Clark, Ruth	2:37:06
Solo-Men	Dale Sexton	Dale Sexton	2:38:08
Solo-Men	LMH	Per Gunness	2:38:43
Rec-Men	Frostburg Fanatics	Thomas, Etgen, Thomas, Thomas	2:48:13
Rec-Women	3 Nerds & a Nurse	Rodman, Eldred, Savage, Magnis	2:48:16
Race-Mix	The Corwin Springers	McNabb, Allen, Koltonow, Vann	2:48:33

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale: Girls' 18-speed Schwinn Sidewinder 24 mountain bike. Great condition, \$100. Child's bike helmet, \$10 or free with purchase of bike. Call 344-2266 or 344-8868.

For Sale: Used washer & dryer, \$125. Mini blinds, off-white, fit Mission 66 living room windows, \$10. Maytag convertible dishwasher. Like-new conditions Call 344-7938.

For Sale: 1996 Polaris Indy Trail, good condition, approx. 5000 miles, \$1650, OBO. 1989 Polaris Indy Trail Deluxe, 2 up, good condition, \$500. Two-year old, 8' satellite with receiver, \$200. Call Wally at 545-8025 or 545-2732.

Wanted: Good, used, reliable, cheap (I just want it all!) vehicle for use in getting around the park this summer. Preferably a smaller vehicle. I am a new seasonal and need some reliable wheels so I can explore the park and surrounding areas (oh, yes, and to get to work!). Please leave a message with Mary at the Grant Visitor Center at 242-2651. Thanks! -Alisa Bieber

Services: House cleaning available 7 days a week. References available. Call 406-222-0393.

Employment Opportunity: Administrative Assistant to the Membership Coordinator and Executive Director of the Yellowstone Association. Full-time, year-round position, \$9.30 per hour plus benefits and the opportunity to help provide support for educational programs in Yellowstone in a fun and challenging work environment. Position responsibilities include (among other duties) input of member information into a database, preparing membership packets, explaining membership program to members and potential members, preparing correspondence for the Executive Director, and researching special projects. Applicants should have good communication, computer, and clerical skills and must be able to start work July 1. Housing not provided. For a complete written position description, please call 344-2289. To apply send a resume/letter describing qualifications, plus a list of three work-related references, including telephone numbers to: Yellowstone Association, Dept. MD, P.O. Box 117, Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming 82190. Resumes must be received in the Association office in Mammoth by 4:30 p.m., Friday, May 21.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Craft Sale May 28, 29 & 30. Ten miles north of Gardiner on Highway 89.

RUN OR WALK



FOR WELLNESS

Saturday, May 22 at 9:00 a.m.

Register by completing the attached form and mailing it to LivingSteps Wellness Center, Attention: Janice, 112 West Lewis Street, Livingston, Montana 59047.

Participants who have pre-registered can pick up their T-shirt, number & packet on Friday, May 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Wellness Center or registration and pickup packets beginning at 7:30 a.m. on the day of the race (race starts at 9:00 a.m.). Kid's 1-mile walk/run is at 10:30 a.m.

To get to the race take park Street and turn south onto Yellowstone (following signs to Sacajawea Park) go over the bridge and turn right.

Awards for top male and female participants in each category will be given. The prizes include: gift certificates from the Livingston Bar & Grill, Winchester Cafe, and Chico Hot Springs; and \$50 cash from the Livingston Federal Credit Union and Chinook Electric.

Immediately following the race there will be drawings for a chance to win a framed Russel Chatham original lithograph and many other incredible prizes. You must be present to win. There will also be free massages after the race for participants.

Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Age: _____ Sex: _____

	<u>By 5/12</u>	<u>After 5/12</u>
10 K Run	\$12.00	\$15.00
5 K Run	\$12.00	15.00
5 K Walk (walk only)	\$12.00	15.00
Kids 1 mile Walk/Run (does not include t-shirt)	\$ 2.00	\$ 4.00

Enclosed Total

\$

T-shirt (circle size)

S M L XL

Release from Liability

I hereby release the organizers and sponsors of this event from any claims, suits, actions, or any other proceedings for money or any other form of compensation relating to any injuries or personal property damage I may incur while participating in this event. This release shall be binding on my heirs, personal representative and assigns. (Signature of parent is required for participants under 18 years of age.)

Signature of Participant/Parent

Date: _____