YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
FALL ROAD SCHEDULE

Tower Fall to Chittenden Road and Long Lake via the Beartooth Pass to the Montana Stateline have closed for the season.

The first Sunday in November is the last full day of travel (November 2, 2003). All park roads close to the public at 8:00 a.m. the following Monday, November 3, 2003. The North Entrance to the Upper Mammoth Terraces and Mammoth via Tower Junction to the Northeast Entrance, remain open year round.

A reminder: Yellowstone National Park is scheduled to open for the winter season at 7:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 17, 2003, weather and snow conditions permitting. More information will follow in the November and December issues of this newsletter.

7TH BIENNIAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE A SUCCESS

On October 6-8, 2003, Yellowstone National Park hosted the 7th Biennial Scientific Conference on the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. This year’s theme was Beyond the Arch: Community and Conservation in Greater Yellowstone and East Africa. The conference, which included a world-class slate of keynote speakers, including Dr. Richard Leakey, surpassed all previous Biennial Conferences in attendance, with 188 pre-registered participants and attendees. The primary theme that emerged from the roughly 30 papers and seven keynote lectures presented was the question of whether conservation efforts are most effectively directed from the national or local scale. A variety of opinions and reasons were expressed throughout the three-day conference with the general conclusion being that the national scale works best in some situations, and should be maintained as such, while community-based efforts work best in other situations. Improved collaboration between national and local efforts was widely advocated.

The conference attracted speakers and attendees from across the United States and from Africa, as well. Other keynote speakers included Dan Flores, history professor at the University of Montana; Chuck Preston, Founding Curator of the Draper Museum of Natural History; Lee Talbot, environmental policy professor at George Mason University and co-author of the Endangered Species Act; and Steven Sanderson, CEO of the Wildlife Conservation Society.

Submitted by Alice Wondrak Biel, Writer-Editor, Yellowstone Center for Resources
MAIL BAG

"One afternoon, I had a short break between talks at Artist Point. Someone had written on a tree near where I was standing, so I attempted to use water to remove the marks. While I was happily rubbing the marks away, I heard a very accusatory, "It’s the rangers!" from a young boy walking by. The family continued on without stopping and I was left in confusion as to what he was so very upset about.

About 5 minutes later the family came up to me and the mother asked if they could talk to me for a minute. She told me that during their entire vacation the boy had been asking what made all the rubbing marks on the trees here. She told him that the bison or elk did it, and he seemed pleased with that answer until 5 minutes before, when the boy had seen a ranger happily rubbing away on a tree."

Dana Wallace,
Seasonal Interpretive Ranger
Canyon, 2003

"We came this summer, and everyone at the park, no matter who we had to deal with, were the nicest people on earth. I can’t thank everyone enough for all the work they do. The week at Yellowstone was one of the greatest times of my life!"

Thanks again.
God Bless You All,
T. Gardner

P.S. Everyone working there has wings in heaven waiting for them.

"I just had to drop you a line and let you know what a wonderful time I had in Yellowstone. I had come up for the Sturgis Bike Rally and stopped the week before in Yellowstone. It was my first trip and I was completely blown away. You may be surprised to know that it was not the beautiful countryside that impressed me the most. I was most impressed by the help in the park, and at every level. I cannot think of a person I met in the park that was not courteous, curious, helpful and down right pleasant. My first experience was in one of the gift shops and one of the little old ladies (I loved them) treated me like a long, lost relative. I thought she had confused me for somebody else, but I got the same treatment in the next gift shop, restaurant and by park rangers, too. I can tell you first hand that this sort of behavior is contagious and my trip to Yellowstone will certainly stay in my memory as one of the best trips I have ever taken. I have subsequently learned of your VIP program and I have told my mother and everyone else I can think of. Thank you, again, and your wonderful staff, for a wonderful experience."

Wendy Fitzgerald
St. Augustine, Florida

Dear Friends,

"Now that most of the boxes are unpacked and our house is beginning to look and feel like 'home,' we must take time to remember all of you, our friends in Yellowstone.

We look back on the 22 years we spent in the park, our only park tours of duty, with many fond memories. How can we forget the view of Mt. Everts from our kitchen window; the elk bugling right outside our door; the great columns of steam rising on a frosty winter morning from the Terraces; showing off our 'back yard' to relatives and friends; the fires of 1988? It would take many pages to recount all of our experiences.

But the best of our 22 years was being among such wonderful people. What a great place to work and raise a family! We will always be thankful for the opportunity to be part of that community.

We thank you ALL for all the good wishes, gifts and the very nice farewell party that you gave for us, just another indication of the kind of friends you are. We will miss you.

Please know that you are welcome to visit us in Lander if you are ever traveling this way."

God bless you,

Dennis and Barbara Zafft

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

"I want to thank everyone for my great retirement party--the National Park Service, Xanterra, Delaware North, Yellowstone Park Service Stations, Medcor and all of my friends and co-workers. There are never the right words to express your feelings for something so special! I'll miss all of you. I have wonderful memories of my career in Yellowstone; of the people I have met and worked with and for the magnificent park itself! Thanks Again!"

-Judy Churchwell

COURIER SCHEDULE

Beginning October 2 through October 23, we will run only on Thursdays (to the summer pickup locations on the lower loop).

The schedule for the shoulder-season courier (done by a VIP) has not been established. This is the courier that runs on Tuesday and Friday, picking up and delivering mail at the maintenance office areas only.

If you have further questions, call Tammy Wert at (307) 344-2115.
CHANGE IN LONG DISTANCE CALLING

Effective November 20, 2003, at 12:01 a.m., calls anywhere within Yellowstone National Park will be considered local. This includes calls from areas with 344, 242, and 545 prefixes. Calls placed to Bozeman, Livingston, West Yellowstone, Emigrant, Wilsall and Belgrade will also be considered local. However, Big Sky is NOT included in this phone change.

There is a mandatory charge for this extended area service of $2.02 per line per month.

YELLOW BUS

I am so delighted about the return of the yellow bus! It is famous in my family because my mother was a “Pillow Puncher” at Old Faithful in about 1920. She used to sing a song about the yellow bus to us when we were children:

“Ridin’ in a yellow, in a yellow, yellow bus.
Rain or shine I’ll make no fuss.
Rain or shine I’ll make no fuss,
Ridin’ in a yellow, in a yellow, yellow bus.

Do the geysers freeze when the weather gets cold?
First I said and then I told
How last December old wuthering Pete
Fell through the ice and scalded his feet!”

Chorus:

“Ridin’ in a yellow, in a yellow, yellow bus.
Rain or shine I’ll make no fuss.
Rain or shine I’ll make no fuss,
Ridin’ in a yellow, in a yellow, yellow bus.

She said the college kids had a wonderful time that she remembers well. She is now age 89.

Susan Escherich
National Historic Landmarks Survey
National Park Service
PERSONNEL NEWS

Reassignments:

John Hall to Contract Specialist, Boise National Forest
EOD 10/20/2003

Travis Rixford to Supervisory Forest Technician, (Fire Engine Operator)
Gallatin National Forest
EOD 09/21/2003

Sue Consolo-Murphy to Chief of Cultural and Natural Resources, Grand Teton National Park
EOD 10/19/2003

Roger Drake to Water Treatment Plant Operator, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area
EOD 10/19/2003

Mark Foster to Chief of Maintenance, Glacier Bay, Alaska
EOD 11/16/2003

Bobbi Foster to Property Specialist, Glacier Bay, Alaska
EOD 11/16/2003

Permanent Appointments:

Wanda Sue Williams, Concessions Management Assistant
Mammoth, Business Management
EOD 10/05/2003

Tina Holland, Office Assistant
Mammoth, Maintenance Division
EOD 10/12/2003

Gena Madding, Office Assistant
Mammoth, Maintenance Division
EOD 10/12/2003

Promotions:

Ryan Trip, Supervisory Forestry Technician (Engine Foreman)
Fire Cache
EOD 10/19/2003

Annual Leave, Use or Lose, must be used before January 10, 2004. Please keep in mind that if you do not use what you’ve earned, you can donate it to someone in the Leave Share Program. You may also give to other employees who are not working in Yellowstone. To donate use or lose, please complete donation form OF-630-A, available from the Human Resources Office or you may call (307) 344-2051 to request a copy. The following information is needed: name, social security number and annual leave hours you wish to donate. A recipient can be selected by Yellowstone Human Resources or by the Denver Payroll Office.

Currently, Alysia Ballinger, Trails Worker, is the only active Leave Share recipient in Yellowstone. She is eligible until her summer appointment ends on November 15, 2003.

The Summer 2003 MEDCOR Yellowstone National Park Seasonal Employee Health Care Plan will end on October 17, 2003. Please keep in mind that there is a two-month break in health care coverage. Seasonal employees must initiate their health care plans again for the winter season. The 2003-2004 winter season should begin on December 17, 2003, and end on approximately March 14, 2004. The Human Resources Office will provide an update when the winter dates are finalized.

Peer Awards

The peer award recipients for September are:

Dave Whaley
Heavy Mobile Equipment Mechanic, Lake

Linda Dawes
Supply Center Laborer, Mammoth

Sean Murphy
Computer Support Services Volunteer, Mammoth

Lexi Marsh
Laborer, Mammoth

Evelyn Hutchings
Laborer, Mammoth

Sue Nell
Laborer, Mammoth

Tom Yankus
Laborer, Mammoth
OPPORTUNITY

The Gardiner Community Center (GCC) has made some remarkable achievements during the first year of operation. The GCC and its programs have successfully attained non-profit and IRS tax-exempt status. The GCC has also started a program for local teens and hosted many area events. It has been a busy, rewarding and fun-filled year with more to come.

YOU, can be part of this community effort. The GCC will conduct the first elections November 2003 for its Board of Directors. All nine (9) elective Director positions on the GCC Board will be filled for 2004.

This is an opportunity to get involved in the early stages of something so important and so fundamental to the community’s well being that the impact will be felt far into the future, literally, for generations. We will continue to determine how the center and the programs it will offer can best serve the community, and how funding can be obtained to meet these goals and begin more programs. Community programs may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. After school and latchkey programs.
2. The current Youth Satellite Project.
3. Senior citizen assistance.
4. Continuing adult education classes and seminars.
5. Counseling services.
6. Job assistance services.
7. Community improvement and beautification grants.
8. Many other programs limited only by our imaginations and willingness to help.

YOU, can be a vital part of this effort by running for a Board position. All you have to do is:

1. Reside in the greater Gardiner/Mammoth communities.
2. Be a minimum 18 years of age.
3. Get the support (i.e., signatures) of five (5) community members of minimum age (individuals may sign for more than one nominee). Please submit the names on letter-size paper with the name printed clearly.
4. Submit the names to current board member Kelly Stermitz at Gardiner Drug during normal business hours, or mail to the Gardiner Community Center, P.O. Box 612, Gardiner, Montana 59030 by Tuesday, November 4, 2003.

The actual vote will take place at the November GCC monthly meeting. Results will be announced in the next edition of the Gardiner Howler and the Gardiner Chamber Newsletter.

OBITUARY

Former Yellowstone National Park employee Elfreda Kaminski passed away in her sleep early Wednesday morning, October 15. There was a memorial service, October 17 in Idaho Springs, Colorado, with burial in Nebraska on October 21. In lieu of flowers the family has set up a memorial fund for Elfreda through the Lion’s Club and request donations be sent to: Rocky Mountain Lion’s Eye Institute Foundation, Elfreda Kaminski Memorial, P.O. Box 6358, Aurora, Colorado 80045-0358.

Anyone wishing to send a note or card to the family, please contact Elfreda’s husband Vance Kaminski, 107 Ponderosa Drive, Evergreen, Colorado 80439.

FOR SALE: Trek 800, girl’s small mountain bike, 13 inch/33 cm frame, 21 speeds, 3 years old, great condition, $95. Sorel Caribou Snow/pac boots, women’s size 5, worn only a few times, $35 (about $80 new). Figure skates, women’s size 6. Used only one season, great condition, $20 ($50 new last year). Leki pole, travel series Sierra AS model. New with tags, $50. Bought as a gift for a person who already had one, and it can’t be returned. Call (307) 344-7788.

FOR SALE: 1989 Polaris Trail Touring Snowmobile, 88cc, two-up with electric start and reverse. New chain, clutch and recent tune-up. Only used for commuting in and out of the South Entrance, good dependable machine, $700. Will throw in tow sled in excellent condition for another $50. Contact Justin at South Entrance at (307) 543-2559 or (307) 543-9168 or call Rick at (605) 745-1151 or (605) 745-4463.

FOR SALE: Snowmobile fold down tow-sled with heavy-duty plywood on frame, reflectors, safety chain on hitch. Good condition, $125. Contact Justin at South Entrance (307) 543-2559 or (307) 543-9168 or call Rick at (605) 745-1151 or (605) 745-4463.

FOR SALE: Kenmore dishwasher, works fine, $50. Call Mark or Alice at (406) 848-7962.

FOR SALE: Historic 1886 Emigrant train depot (original baggage doors, ticket window, etc.) converted to 2 bedroom, 1 bath home on 1-1/3 acres bordering National Forest Service land, approximately 2 miles up the Jardine Road. Fantastic view. Serious inquiries only, please. Call (406) 848-7153 for an appointment.

FOR SALE: 1996 Subaru Legacy AWD wagon. Original owner. Well maintained. Garaged. $4,600 OBO. Call Dave or Mary at (406) 848-7192.

FOR SALE: Queen size mattress and box springs, $100. Round oak dining table with four chairs and two leaves, $150. Two front porch, wooden rockers with pads, $50 each. Futon (single) with frame, $100. Kawai console piano and bench, oak cabinet, in perfect condition, $2000. Maytag washer and dryer, $75 each. Iron and wood headboard and footboard bed frame, $450. Antique oak dresser with mirror, $125. Additional miscellaneous items also for sale. Please call (307) 344-7920 for an appointment.

FOR SALE: Kenmore, 5 cubic foot chest freezer, excellent condition, $75. Sears 60mm refraction telescope with wooden, expandable tripod. In original box with instructions, $30. Heavy-duty, mountaineering, leather hiking boots, women’s size 7, good condition, $20. Compact, traveling backgammon set with soft, zippered carrying case. Never used, $5. Hardwood salad bowl set in original box, never used. One serving bowl, four salad bowls, wooden serving utensils, $10. Call Mary at (307) 242-2651 or (307) 242-7656.


VETERINARIAN VISIT: Dr. James Murray, DVM of Livingston, will be at the Gardiner Exxson on Friday, October 31, 2003, and every other Friday thereafter. Call (406) 222-3700 if you would like to schedule an appointment for a home visit.

YELLOWSTONE GENERAL STORES at Mammoth will close for business on November 1, 2003, and plan to open for the winter season mid-December 2003. The closure will enable interior remodeling of the store that was a commitment in the Concessions Contract. If you have any questions, call the Business Management Office at (307) 344-2271.
COMMUNITY EVENTS

BOOK SALE: Don’t miss the opportunity to have your books signed by well known, local historian Doris Whithorn. She will be signing at the Silvertip Bookstore on Wednesday, October 22, 2003, from 2:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

THE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY will be held on Wednesday, December 10, 2003, in the Mammoth Hotel Map Room. More information will follow in the November issue of “The Yellowstone News.”

THE YELLOWSTONE FEDERAL EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION (YFEA) will host their annual employee Christmas party on Thursday, December 11, 2003. YFEA is having a centerpiece contest in conjunction with the party. Bring your centerpiece to the party and everyone will have the chance to vote for their favorite one. A $50.00 cash prize will be awarded to the person or group that makes the best centerpiece. After the party, you can either take your centerpiece home to use on your own table, or sell it at the party. If you’re interested in showing off your creative talents, call Kris Peters (307) 344-2039.

THE LIBRARY BAZAAR will be held on November 4, 2003, in the Gardiner School multi-purpose room. Check out the Snoopy Cooperative Preschool silent auction table. Three of the items are quilted wall hangings featuring an historic Yellowstone postcard. Don’t miss your chance to take home one of these beautiful pieces. The Roosevelt Arch and the Gardiner Depot are featured on these wall hangings. We hope to see you there. Thanks for supporting the cooperative preschool. Call Jeanne Johnson at (406) 848-7972 with questions.

ELECTRIC PEAK ARTS COUNCIL: Please plan on attending the November 5, 2003, Mime performance in the Gardiner Community Center at 7:00 p.m. The Gardiner Snoopy Cooperative Preschool will be selling delicious baked goods at this family-oriented performance. Preschool volunteers will also be selling raffle tickets for a handmade pillow featuring the Roosevelt Arch and Gardiner Depot. The winning ticket will be drawn that night. We appreciate your support and hope to see you there. Call Jeanne Johnson at (406) 848-7972 with questions.

YELLOWSTONE ASSOCIATION INSTITUTE WINTER EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS: Discover Yellowstone in winter with one of four Institute educational programs. These programs include: Field Seminars, Lodging and Learning Programs, Wildlife Education Ventures and Field Courses. For more information on any of these winter programs, please visit www.YellowstoneAssociation.org, or call at (307) 344-2294.

THE SAFETY OFFICE would like to congratulate the following winners in the student Fire Prevention Week poster contest. Each student will receive a $25.00 Savings Bond, which were purchased with donations contributed by park concessioners Delaware North, Xanterra and Yellowstone Park Service Stations.

Gardiner School
Elsa Baltz
Francey Stermitz
Taylor Perius
Sarah Manry
Maura McKenna
Emma Reinhart
Shelley Haug

Mammoth School
Julianna Olliff
Alise Glenn
Aaron Koel
Tori Hoeninghausen
Justin Koel
Maddie Hoeninghausen
Cody Kisthart

West Yellowstone School
Jillian Carter
Bailee Parker
Madison Turner
Hannah Paul
Nick Liszka
Kaitlyn Carter
Kaitlyn Johnson
Jamie Leathy
Electric Peak Arts Council Announces

2003-2004 Season

The Electric Peak Arts Council is celebrating their 5th season of bringing performing and visual arts to Gardiner, Mammoth and the surrounding communities. The 2003-2004 season includes:

*Bill Bower’s Under a Montana Moon:* A collection of silent stories, November 5, 2003, Gardiner Community Center
*Four Shadow:* a high energy, a cappella sensation, January 22, 2004, Gardiner School
*Confluence: A Duet of Words and Music:* Alan Kesselheim and Stuart Weber, February 21, 2004, Mammoth Hotel Map Room

Bill Bowers — Under a Montana Moon

November 5, 2003, 7:00 p.m., Gardiner Community Center

Montana native Bill Bowers’ critically acclaimed *Under a Montana Moon* is a collection of silent stories which all take place under a Western sky. Performed without words and within a tapestry of sound, Bill takes the audience on a journey that is hilarious, heartbreaking, and always profoundly moving. *Under a Montana Moon* uses the Art of Silence to investigate the Idea of Silence: to remain silent, to be silenced, to silence someone else.

Save money and see all three exciting performances by purchasing a Season Pass

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<th>Individual show</th>
<th>Season Pass</th>
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<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
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<td>Family</td>
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<td>Children under 5 admitted Free</td>
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Season Tickets are available from any board member:

Denny Barford                           Janet Lewis
Christie Cote                           Dayna McClure
Bob Fuhrmann                            Diana McGahan
Jenny Golding                           Debra Telsing
Cheryl Hoppe                            Julie York
Ivan Kowski