

the

YELLOWSTONE



News

March 29, 1996

NPS Employee Newsletter

Next Deadline: April 10

"You Say Goodbye..."

Three of our District Naturalists will be leaving us soon. **Matt Graves**, Grant District Naturalist, has accepted the position of East District Interpreter at Olympic National Park in Washington state. Matt has been at Grant since March 1994. He will be joined at Olympic by his wife Nancy, who has been working as a wildlife biologist for USFW in Portland, Oregon, for the past nine months. Previously, Nancy had worked at the Elk Refuge in Jackson but moved to Portland for a permanent job. Matt and Nancy are really looking forward to being together again! **Dan Hand**, Old Faithful District Naturalist, has accepted the Chief of Interpretation position at Coulee Dam National Recreation Area, also in the state of Washington. Dan joined our staff in October 1994, along with his wife Hughetta. They, too, were in a dual career situation. Hughetta worked a brief detail in Yellowstone's Fiscal Office last summer and was offered a permanent position as an Administration Technician at Buffalo National River in Arkansas in November. She will join Dan in Coulee as an Admin. Tech. at the Ft. Spokane District. **Roger Anderson**, Mammoth District Naturalist, is making a career change, leaving the NPS to join the private sector. He will be doing interpretation on a private consulting basis based in Bozeman.

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Park Awarded \$15,000 by Foundation

Yellowstone Park Superintendent Mike Finley was pleased to announce today that the park has received a \$15,000 grant from the National Park Foundation (NPF) to support the ongoing gray wolf restoration effort. The grant was made possible by a generous \$10,000 gift from NPF board member Homer Luther and his wife, Pat, and \$5,000 from the Foundation. The grant will help underwrite the wildlife veterinary services necessary for a safe restoration program in Yellowstone National Park.

"We're very happy to receive this generous grant from the Foundation. Having an experienced wildlife veterinarian who can administer the best possible care and husbandry is critical to the success of this restoration project," said Superintendent Finley. "Our experience in the first year of the project showed us how important it is to have veterinarian expertise working side-by-side with our biologists."

Wolf restoration began in Yellowstone National Park in January 1995, when 14 wolves from Alberta, Canada, were captured and transported to the park. They were held in acclimation pens and then released into the park in March 1995. Since their release, they have flourished. Two of the three groups had pups, and an estimated 4,000 visitors to the park observed the wolves performing their vital predatory role in the ecosystem. This year, 17 wolves were transported from British Columbia and currently remain in four acclimation pens in the park; they are tentatively scheduled to be released sometime in April.

"The National Park Foundation is pleased to be a partner to the Park in this historic effort," said NPF president Jim Maddy. "We're helping Yellowstone ensure that the howl of wolf will forever echo throughout the mountains and valleys of America's first National Park."

Founded by Congressional charter in 1967, the NPF is the official, nonprofit partner of the National Park Service (NPS). The Foundation raises private sector support to fund priority natural resource conservation, education and stewardship, and special NPF/NPS projects in the nation's 369 National Parks. In the past five years, NPF has awarded more than \$10.4 million in direct support to the Parks.

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Roger has been on our staff for 12 years, first as a seasonal at Old Faithful and Fishing Bridge, then as Grant District Naturalist before moving to Mammoth two years ago. He will be teaching classes in and around Yellowstone for Elder Hostel and Off the Beaten Path, among others. Carol Shively, Roger's wife, will stay in her position as Lake District Naturalist. We wish them all the best. The last day for all three will be April 27.

"And I say Hello....."

On April 28, Brian Suderman will arrive as the new Mammoth District Naturalist. He has worked at Apostle Islands, Organ Pipe, and most recently at Glacier Bay as a District Naturalist. He has a wife, Jo, and a seven year old son, Aaron. Mary Wilson will also arrive April 28, and will work at either Grant or Old Faithful (still to be determined). She has worked at Grand Canyon, Montezuma Castle, Glacier, Sequoia/Kings Canyon and most recently at Rocky Mountain National Park as Fee Program Manager. She is single and has two cats.

Research Library News...Changes, Changes, Changes

Please check your shelves and drawers for books, videos, journals, and vertical file items from the Yellowstone Research Library. Due to the disappointing result to past appeals for the return of missing materials, we have been forced to reevaluate our loan procedures. The library staff is UN-happy to announce that we will soon be instituting replacement charges for lost books and overdue fines. This could be bad news for some of you with items that are long overdue. Please call and talk to us now if you have any questions about what is checked out to you. (A few offices have some items on indefinite checkout—these will not be subject to fines, but will be to replacement costs if lost or damaged. Such arrangements are made on a case-by-case basis and are fairly infrequent. If you think you have items on indefinite checkout, please call to make sure that our records show this—otherwise, it is not official.) TELEPHONE RENEWALS ARE QUICK, EASY, AND WELCOME! We really wish we did not have to do this, but unfortunately the Division has had to reconsider existing policies in order to protect the resources and make sure items are available to all of our patrons. Please call 344-2264 if you have any questions. We will be happy to help you.

Yellowstone Employee's Association Meeting Minutes

by Helene Greninger, Interim Secretary

The Yellowstone Employees Association is an non-profit, employee organization that will sponsor social events to give employees from all divisions a chance to get to know each other and will benefit the federal employee by providing services such as offering support to employees by sending cards, flowers or money on occasions including weddings, childbirth, extended illness, or death of an employee or member of an employee's immediate family. An employee emergency loan fund will be set up. A membership card is being developed with hopes of using it to receive discounts from local businesses and park concessioners. Many ideas have been suggested, including holding Cookout Days, dances, picnics, etc., parkwide. We would like to sponsor a potluck lunch before each of the Superintendent's All Employee Meetings, with his approval. Membership in this organization will be voluntary. The initiation fee is \$2.00 and annual dues are \$1.00 per grade, with Seasonals paying 1/2 the regular rate.

Superintendent Finley has made the decision that parties with alcohol on government property and government time will no longer be allowed without a permit from the Y.E.A. due to liability concerns. The newly formed employee association will now buy insurance and permit parties thus releasing the government and its officers from all responsibilities and liabilities. Parties are defined as any gathering of employees with alcohol held in or on any government office, grounds, or community facility (excluding private functions held in employee housing) which are announced by use of government copy machines, fax machines, cc:Mail, and the Yellowstone News. This includes office Christmas parties, the Canyon Snowball, the Bechler Barn Dance, to name a few, as well as small get togethers to drink beer after meetings. Farewell parties serving alcohol will still be coordinated by each Division but will require a permit. This is a new way of doing business and may seem like a lot of red tape, but the permit process will be extremely easy, user friendly, and permits are free. A one page form must be filled out and can be obtained from any Y.E.A. officer. All announced parties will have wording to the effect of "sponsored by the Yellowstone Employees' Association," with exact wording, size and placing on the announcement to be worked out. The Superintendent has given his full support to this organization and will work with Y.E.A. to set up a long term funding source.

The Y.E.A. will do much more than just permit parties. Y.E.A. has some accomplishments already. On March 18, 1996, a St. Patrick's Day potluck lunch was held in the Canteen Gym. The gym was decorated and prizes were awarded for the best hats and derbies. As stated above, a membership card was selected from designs created by ADP. We have sent a condolence card with \$15 for a memorial fund to Dennis Zafft, whose mother recently passed away. Members of Y.E.A. will be manning the cookout grill at the March for Parks event in April. And we have selected Interim Officers to act on behalf of the Association

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to get it up and running. The offices and interim officers are: President - vacant, Vice President - Lynne Mager (Backcountry Office), Secretary - Helene Greninger (Interpretation), Treasurer - Jan Laye (Superintendent's Office), Historian - Edith Peterson (Loss Control), Special Events - Judy Jensen (Mails and Files), Fundraising - vacant, Membership Coordinator - Nancy Ward (Maintenance), Seasonal Coordinator - Steven Petrick-Underwood (Interpretation), Executive Directors (2) - Ann Johnson (Cultural Resources), and Jack Roberts (Maintenance).

The offices of President, Fundraising, and one Executive Director are vacant. Also, we need at least one person from each location to act as Vice President or Location Coordinator. If you are interested in being part of this organization, the Y.E.A. meets once a month with the next meeting scheduled for April 16 at 2:00 p.m. in the Superintendent's Conference Room. Copies of the Draft Yellowstone Employees Association Constitution may be obtained from Judy Jensen, Mails and Files, and memberships are coordinated by Jan Laye, Superintendent's Office.

Heartfelt Thanks

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks for all the expressions of sympathy we received following the death of Dennis' mother. The Zafft Family

Basketball Tournaments Scheduled

The Fourth Annual Electric Peak Classic Basketball Tournament will be held Friday, April 12 through Sunday, April 14 in the Gardiner School Gym. Eight teams will participate in the tournament, including many of your local favorites. An exhibition game will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, featuring the Breakfast Flakes from KCTR Radio in Billings against Dave Vischer's KATH Radio in Bozeman. Cat Country has donated lots of fantastic prizes, including concert tickets, that will be raffled during the tournament games! They have also donated a \$103 prize for the winner of the half-court shoot-out that will take place during half-time of their game on Friday evening. Tournament proceeds will be donated to the Gardiner Scholarship Fund. Volunteers are needed for taking tickets and selling concessions. To volunteer or for more information, please call Rod Churchwell at 848-7290.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

* **Vet Visit** Veterinarian, Dr. Jim Murray, will be at the Gardiner Exxon on Friday, March 29 from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. No appointment necessary. Housecalls available upon request. Next visit: April 12.

* **Farewell Potluck** for Matt and Christy Sankey on March 29, 1996, at the Canteen Gym. Festivities start at 6 p.m. A-L bring a main dish, M-Z bring a salad. Call to confirm with Janet Lewis at 344-2353 or Kathy Hoak at 344-2055.

* **Flyfishers Meet** The Yellowstone Flyfishers will meet on Wednesday, April 3 at the Town Cafe, 6:30 p.m. for fly tying and their regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. Don't miss the **Raffle** at this meeting!! The program will be "Wild Trout and Wildflowers" by Rick Smith. Rick is a fishing guide and manager of Montana's Master Angler in Livingston. For club and meeting information contact John Cates at 848-7194 or Dennis Zafft at 344-7483. The public is always welcome.

* **Weight Watchers to Meet** Anyone interested in finding out more about the community Weight Watchers program is invited to attend an open meeting on Tuesday, April 16, 1996, at 5 p.m. in the Gardiner High School Library. A new 12-week session begins on April 23. Come and meet Rachel, our enthusiastic group leader from Bozeman, and learn how you can begin to make positive lifestyle changes with Weight Watchers!

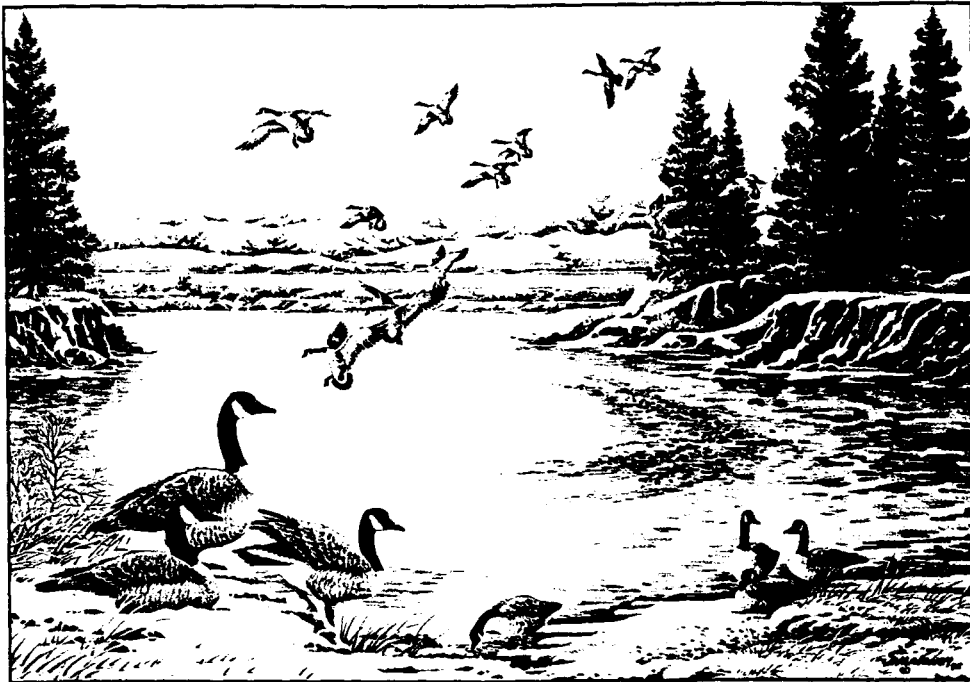
CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale: Car top carrier with racks, used once. \$50. Call Ken at 344-7494.

For Sale: Beautiful antique oak dressing table with mirror. \$350. Call Renee at 344-2204 or 344-7471.

For Sale: Cabin Fever and Spring Fever have BOTH set in! We must redecorate! Sofa with matching loveseat, small oak dinette, and open oak room divider-type shelves, all for sale at very reasonable prices. Call 344-7414 after 5 p.m.

MONTANA 1995/96 WATERFOWL PRINT



A MONTANA DUCKS UNLIMITED
SPECIAL EDITION
EARLY BIRD PRINT

*Wings on the Morning Light
by Dave Maloney*

Dear Ducks Unlimited Supporter:

PLAN TO ATTEND THE 1996 GARDINER DUCKS UNLIMITED BANQUET:

WHERE: Gardiner Eagles Hall

WHEN: April 13, 1996

TIME: No-Host Cocktails @ 5:30 p.m.

The **DUCKS UNLIMITED** Special Edition print, featured above, will be available as an Early Bird incentive. This print will be added **--FREE--** to the first 30 MEMBERSHIPS AND BANQUET TICKETS purchased. The signed and numbered print by artist Dave Maloney is a collectors item.

YOU WILL RECEIVE:

1. Buffet Dinner.
2. Tax Deductible Ducks Unlimited Membership and Magazine.
3. 1995/96 Montana Ducks Unlimited Special Edition Print by artist Dave Maloney -- AVAILABLE ONLY WITH THE FIRST 30 TICKETS AND MEMBERSHIPS SOLD.
4. An evening of FUN and PRIZES, including many auction and raffle items, like the ones listed below:

****BROWNING'S MODEL BSP 12 GAUGE**, special edition shotgun.

****HOT TUB** to use for thirty days, from *MOUNTAIN HOT TUB Inc.*, Bozeman.

****TERRY REDLIN'S "CAMPFIRE TALES"** This print along with other DU prints can be viewed at the *FIRST INTERSTATE BANK* or the *FOOD FARM* in Gardiner.

****A WINE BASKET** donated by the *K-BAR*

****TODD FREDERICKSEN'S "CINNABAR CHALLENGE"**, signed #8 OF 500.

****Mens and Ladies DU Medallion Watches.**

5. All for only \$45 for a single ticket or \$65 for a couple.

Tickets are available from any of the Gardiner Ducks Unlimited Committee Members or by calling Tom Totland at 344-9254 or Eric Robinson at 848-9410. Please get your tickets early. Limited seating available.