



THE YELLOWSTONE NEWS



December 19, 2002

Next Deadline January 16, 2003

2002 – Another Outstanding Year for the VIP Program

Volunteers do make a difference. This past year, Yellowstone was rewarded with 88,088 hours of donated time given by 444 individuals and groups. If one does the math, it is easy to see that those hours divided by the “1,039” maximum hours a seasonal employee may work, theoretically benefited the park with another 85 seasonals!

Volunteering is one of the most pervasive activities in American society, one that has always been a historical tradition. In 1970, the Volunteers-In-Parks Program was authorized by Congress to provide avenues for volunteers to assist the parks. Since then, thousands of individuals have proudly worn the official VIP patch and helped the National Park Service (NPS) to preserve, manage, and interpret our American Heritage. In her Message from the Director – March 2002, Fran Maniella placed new emphasis on parks recruiting for volunteers and pursuing partnership possibilities. The NPS Volunteer-in-Parks program has been in existence for 32 years and promises to be a mainstay in the years ahead.

Yellowstone volunteers perform an extraordinary array of duties working in all divisions. Many of you probably met Glen Rudie this past summer and fall. Glen volunteered his services in the Computer Support Services (CSS) branch of Administration. His CSS comrades presented him with a peer award at the end of his season highlighting the 40+ hours of work he performed each week and the fact that “his

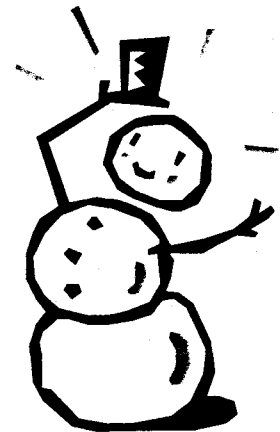
love of Yellowstone has given us all a renewed appreciation for our beautiful surroundings.”

Ask Doug Smith about volunteers. Without them, the fall and spring wolf predation studies, as part of the Wolf Reintroduction programs, just plain wouldn't happen. Doug's volunteers amass thousands of hours gathering some astounding information on what the wolf packs are doing in Yellowstone.

All Yellowstone volunteers get their housing paid for unless they're living in a gateway community in their own housing; very few receive any reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses. They are volunteers in the truest sense of the word.

So many of them come back year after year. Campground hosts like the Sherwoods just spent their 10th summer at Grant Village; the Dalys marked their 8th summer at Madison. Their devotion to this park, their supervisors, and their jobs go beyond any appreciation rendered in just words. We all know or have known Yellowstone volunteers. All of us are aware, to some degree, of the important work they do. Hopefully, we've thought to tell them how important they are to us and the overall accomplishment of the NPS mission.

If anyone would like to learn more about Yellowstone's VIP Program, please call Jean Nuetzel at (307) 344-2093. Thank you VOLUNTEERS!



The Yellowstone News is a monthly National Park Service employee newsletter that is published by the Public Affairs Office. Submit articles, notices of events, announcements and classified ads, by calling 344-2013, faxing to 344-2014, emailing to Yell_Public_Affairs@nps.gov, sending via interdepartmental mail or mailing to P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming 82190



Retirement

Former Yellowstone Assistant Superintendent Marv Jensen is retiring after 40 years of Federal Government Service. A retirement party will be held in Fort Collins on Saturday, January 18th, 2003. If anyone would like to attend or would like to send greetings/best wishes, please let Marsha Karle (2015) or Jan Laye (2003) know and they will get the information to you.



Thank You's

- ♦ The YELLOWSTONE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our members for your business and support during the past year. We welcome all National Park Service and Xanterra employees, residents and businesses in Gardiner and the surrounding area to become members of the Credit Union.

The Credit Union will be closed Wednesday, December 25, 2002, Christmas Day. We will close early at 1:00 PM on December 24, 2002, Christmas Eve. We will also be closed Wednesday, January 1, 2003, New Years Day. All other days, our regular business hours are 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all!

- ♦ A big thank you to all who bought raffle tickets and participated in the Yellowstone Park School Rummage Sale! We were able to make enough money to fund field trips, swimming lessons, and more.

~ From the Yellowstone Park School PTO

- ♦ Thanks to all who attended the Yellowstone Association Book Sale!! We appreciate your patronage, and enjoy seeing you at this busy time of year! Congratulations to this year's raffle winners:

Kathy Kaldheim won the Yellowstone Association Institute briefcase and coffee cup.

Mary Hektner won the coffee table book

We wish you all a healthy and happy holiday season, and thank you again for supporting your park!!

- ♦ I would like to thank each of you who helped with the YFEA Holiday Party. I am grateful for your help. I would also like to thank the people I missed when speaking at the Christmas Party – special Thanks to Grace Short and Nancy Baum for their contributions to our sweet treats table. I also want to acknowledge the hard work that Jim Sykes did to make our raffle a success and especially for getting the donations of those great prizes. Thanks to each of you who purchased raffle tickets. It is with all of your help that we are able to keep the organization going and sponsor our annual Holiday Party.

~ Judy Jensen

- ♦ This was written by a Yellowstone visitor:

As a citizen (and thus a park owner), I would like to thank you, who staff our parks. You do a wonderful job, with limited resources. I will continue to try to see that you and the parks receive the needed decisions to make your jobs easier and the parks healthy and peaceful havens.

Sincerely, Barbara Johnson





Personnel News

Term Appointments:

Don Wethington
EOD 12/22/02

Small Craft Operator
w/Yellowstone Cultural
Resources @ Lake
On furlough until spring

John Fleming
EOD 12/1/02

Maintenance Mechanic
Supervisor, Madison Junction/
West Yellowstone

Permanent Appointments:

Lynn Webb
EOD 12/15/02

Automotive Worker
Lake Area Maintenance

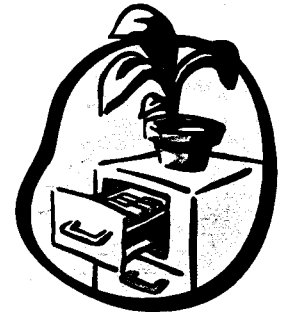
Promotions:

Jennifer Conrad
EOD 12/1/02

Park Ranger
(Interpretation)
Old Faithful

Michael Keator
EOD 12/15/02

Supervisory Park Ranger
Lake Area



Peer Awards

The Peer Awards for November and December, 2002
are as follows:

Scott Timberlake
Greg McGinnis
Mike Cole
George Barrett
Virginia Brock

Nancy Baum
Pat Bigelow
Susan Glenn
Mike Powell



- **Slow Down** – Employees in the park are driving TOO fast and need to slow down. Tickets will be issued to anyone caught speeding. Accidents are an unnecessary part of working in this park and speeding employees will not be tolerated. **SLOW DOWN!!!**

*YFEA would like to thank the business & individuals for their donations:
Your generous donations made the raffle and Christmas party a huge success!*

PRIZES

\$50 gift certificate from Livingston Bar & Grill:
\$50 gift certificate from Kenyon Noble:
\$30 gift certificate from Simkins-Hallin:
\$25 Mary Kay gift certificate from Michelle Sykes:
\$25 gift certificate from Livingston Ace Hardware:
\$25 full body massage from Health Works Institute:
\$20 gift certificate from High Country Rental:
\$10 hair cut/bottle of shampoo from Upper Cut Salon:
\$10 photo album from K-Mart:
\$125 liquor basket Wapiti Bar (Kris Peters):
\$25 socket set from Valley Motor Co:
\$30 Montana book from Sax & Fryer:
\$10 / 5 personal pizzas from Pizza Hut:
\$10 thermal socks from Bob's Outdoor:
\$30 tool set from Checker Auto:
\$50 jewelry from Crazy Mountain Jewelry (Steve Krumm):
\$90 Moen kitchen faucet from Zig's Electric and Plumbing:

WINNERS

*Lessie Sites
Jan Laye
Jim Alvis
Kerry Gunther
Garry Peters
Erik Hendrickson
Jim Alvis
Brett Athas
Bill Hopkins
Jim Alvis
Hank Coleman
Connie Fitzgerald
Joe Bueter
Bob Seibert
Frank Albrecht
Hank Coleman
Roger Anderson*



Holiday Greetings From the Safety Services Office

At a recent safety meeting, a participant stated that a park employee injury was caused by "not keeping my mind on task." With holiday time filled with shopping, baking, school and church programs, parties and family visits, it is often difficult to keep "our mind on task"

As we finish 2002 and begin a new year, let us all renew our efforts "to keep our mind on task" in relation to safety. Safety Services would like to wish all a safe, happy holiday and here are a few tips to help ensure that you have a happy holiday:

- ⇒ When selecting your tree, make sure that the needles are not dry. Keep the tree outdoors and cover the trunk with snow or immerse it in a bucket of water until you're ready to decorate. Keep the tree stand filled with water the entire time the tree is indoors. Keep your tree away from heat sources such as heat ducts and fireplaces. Set the tree up so it is not in an area where people will be walking and where it does not block entrances or exits. When the holidays are over, recycle or discard the tree, never burn it.
- ⇒ When putting lights on your tree or outdoors, ensure that you use the correct lights. Never use indoor lights outdoors, and vice versa. Check the light bulbs, sockets, wires and plugs to make sure nothing is cracked, broken or exposed. Make sure the bulbs do not come in direct contact with tree needles or ornaments. Also keep bulbs away from curtains, drapes or flammable materials. Do not run cords under carpet or rugs since wires could overheat and cause a fire.
- ⇒ When placing ornaments on the tree, remember that small children are very inquisitive and may try to eat the ornaments. Keep tinsel on the higher branches of the tree if you have small children or pets because it could cause a choking hazard.
- ⇒ Do not use your fireplace to burn gift-wrapping materials; they may create toxic fumes and even a flash fire. Always use a fire screen. Do not wear loose or flowing clothes when tending fires. Make sure the fireplace is out before leaving the house or going to bed.
- ⇒ Please use candles safely. During the holidays we hear of fires starting from unattended candles. Make sure your smoke detectors are working properly. Check the detectors once a month and replace their batteries once a year.
- ⇒ Supply a lot of ashtrays for your smoking guests. Let ashtrays cool before you empty them in the garbage can.
- ⇒ If you drink alcohol during the holidays, be sure to have a designated driver. Be sure to supply plenty of snacks which can help absorb alcohol in the stomach. Stop serving drinks at least one hour before the party ends.

Practice safety every day of the year, not just during the holidays.

The Safety Services Office welcomes Brandon Gauthier, the new Safety and Health Manager. If you have not met him, drop by the office and say "hi."

Condolences



Patricia Coleman passed away Monday evening, November 25 at her home in Livingston, Montana, surrounded by family and friends. There was a memorial service on Saturday, December 14th, in the Multi Purpose Room at the Gardiner School.

Pat unselfishly served not only the Yellowstone community, but also the Livingston and Gardiner communities with her medical expertise. Her husband, Stu Coleman, is retired from the National Park Service.

Pat's life has been selflessly dedicated to children. The Patricia Coleman Foundation has been set up to maintain that dedication to the children of Montana. Stu Coleman asks that in lieu of flowers, contributions be made to the Patricia Coleman Foundation, P.O. Box 2162, Livingston, Montana 59047.



Geri Hape, 70, of Gardiner, Montana, died at her home on December 9, 2002, after a struggle with cancer.

Geri's hobbies included fishing, hunting, camping and snowmobiling. Her love for children was shown in her participation in Little League Baseball, twirling, pom poms, drill team and Scouts. She was a member of Entre Nous Club and many other community organizations.

Memorial Services were held on Friday, December 13th, 2002, at St. Williams Catholic Church in Gardiner.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Geri Hape Scholarship Fund, c/o First Interstate Bank of Gardiner, P.O. Box 810, Gardiner, MT 59030.



Paul Miller's mother, *Mary Lou Miller*, a long time resident of Gardiner, Montana, and a former employee of the National Park Service passed away December 12, 2002, in Seattle, Washington.





Join Electric Peak Arts Council in welcoming:

Walkin' Jim Stoltz

January 11th at 7:00 p.m.

Mammoth Hotel Map Room

\$8 for adults, \$5 for students

Questions: contact Bob Fuhrmann 344-2256

Jim Stoltz, known far and wide as Walkin' Jim, combines his live music and poetry with beautiful slides taken on his long wilderness treks, weaving and fading into each other in a powerful dance of images resulting in a powerful, inspirational program. This merging of the media captures the magic and uniqueness of the wild country like no other presentation you've seen!

After walking the Appalachian Trail in 1974, hiking the Continental Divide Trail, just completing a Yellowstone to Yukon trek, his miles now total more than 24,000—adding up to much more than miles; years of experiences, stories, and songs. Walkin' Jim's music springs from the land itself. Most of his songs are written out in the wilds. Song topics range from nineteenth century mountain men to grizzly bears and mountain lions, from rosy desert evenings, to fresh mountain rainbows. And then there's the magic of the vast land itself.

With his deep, powerful voice and basic guitar and harmonica back-ups, he sings with the assurance and sincerity of one who has something to say and shares the most precious feelings the wilderness can offer.



Yellowstone Association Institute Seeking Naturalist/Guide

The Yellowstone Association Institute is seeking instructors for interpretive naturalist, interpretive wildlife biologist, and environmental educator positions in the park from late May to the end of September 2002. Close knowledge of Yellowstone National Park, hiking experience in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, broad knowledge of the park's natural and cultural resources, professional outdoor leadership experience, and a strong commitment to the Institute's educational mission are required. Current Wilderness First Responder certification and experience working with or for the National Park Service are desired. Staff will work 40-50 hours/week. To apply, please send a resume and cover letter with three references to: Jim Williams, Program Manager, Yellowstone Association Institute, PO Box 117, Yellowstone, WY 82190. For more information, call Jim Williams at (307) 344-2292. Applications are due February 1.

Interpretive Naturalist: Instructs interpretive day hiking courses in the park from mid-May to as late as the end of September. The program, titled *Trails through Yellowstone*, is designed to provide an introduction to the natural and cultural history of Yellowstone and features daily interpretive hikes. Compensation is \$11/hour and meals on work days. Lodging may be available.

Interpretive Wildlife Biologist: Instructs interpretive wildlife viewing courses, titled *Wildlife EdVentures*, as well as custom wildlife ecology courses from mid-May to as late as the end of September. Compensation is \$11/hour.

Environmental Educator: Instructs a family environmental education program, titled *Yellowstone for Families*, from mid-May to as late as the end of September. Experience teaching 8-12 year-olds is required. Compensation is \$11/hour and meals on work days. Lodging may be available.

*Please see our website at www.YellowstoneAssociation.org , or call Jim Williams at (307) 344-2292 for full position descriptions.

Yellowstone Christmas Bird Count December 22, 2002

The **Yellowstone Christmas Bird Count** will be conducted **Sunday, December 22** in the Mammoth/Gardiner area. For people not familiar with the Christmas Bird Count, it is an international method of counting birds, an opportunity to learn something about birds from other people, and have fun with fellow birders during the Christmas holiday season.

Whether you are a beginning birdwatcher, a moderately experienced birder, or an advanced observer, the Christmas Bird Count is still a lot of fun. If you have never participated, you should give it a try! For those that have participated before we hope to see you again!

Meet at the **Best Western, Gardiner, Montana, December 22, 2002 at 7:15 am**

\$5 charge per person is mandatory (proceeds go to the National Audubon Society to defray CBC costs).

Bring personal warm clothes, snacks, and drinks for the day. All participants will be invited to McEneaney's for lunch.

Let's hope the weather improves (it gets colder and snows)! Normally, if the weather is mild the birding is slow. There is nothing we can do about the weather.

For more detailed information please contact: **Terry McEneaney**
H (406) 848-7942
O (307) 344-2222

Hope to see you on December 22nd!!

Friends of Dennis & Barb Zafft
are invited to
a 40th wedding anniversary
celebration
to be held in the Mammoth
Canteen Room A
Saturday, December 28th, 2002 at
7:00 p.m.
Attire is formal
Parents are kindly asked to make other
arrangements for their children
Please RSVP to any one of the following:
Carol Hutton, Alana Darr, or Nancy Tyson



**Everyone is invited to the
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

Tuesday, December 24

At either 6 p.m. or 8 p.m.

Mammoth Chapel

Local choirs will be performing

Nursery provided

A Christian Ministry in Yellowstone

Custom Embroidered

WINTER

Yellowstone NP  Winter Staff

AVAILABLE NOW!

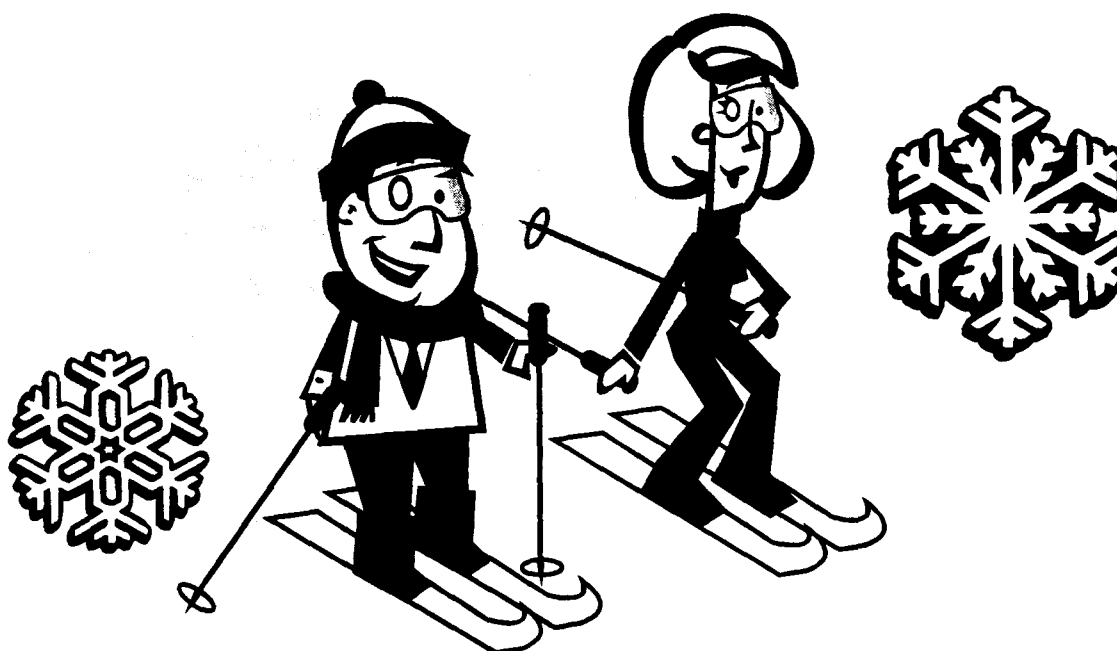
100% Acrylic Knit Cap with Contrasting Trim
Custom Embroidered "Yellowstone NP Winter Staff"

LIMITED QUANTITIES!

Available in Navy Blue, Gray, and Black

Pick Yours at the Parkwide Employee Recreation Office
For only \$12!

Hey Skiers! Join the **100 - Mile Ski Club!**



***Start logging those miles
And pray for snow!***

Enroll now for only a buck at the Parkwide Recreation Office!

You will receive rules and a sheet to log your miles (x-country only)

***Submit your miles and you will be entered in a database
with all other club members - see how you rate!***

***100 Mile achievers will receive a certificate and Ski Club Pin
Ooh, that'll look nice on the ski cap! (the pin, that is)***

Hop on the

SKI GOOGLE

This Winter!

**NEW SKIERS
ENCOURAGED!**



The Yellowstone Co-Op Employee Recreation Program will be offering van trips to cross - country ski destinations throughout the season.

Tuesday - December 17th - Barronette Peak Trail

Difficulty: Easy

Meet at MHS Recreation Hall at 12:45PM

Shuttle will return to Mammoth by 5:00 PM

Gas Cost: \$4.00 Per Person

Thursday - December 19th - Blacktail Plateau Trail

Difficulty: Easy

Meet at MHS Recreation Hall at 12:45PM

Shuttle will return to Mammoth by 5:00 PM

Gas Cost: \$2.00 Per Person

Friday - December 20th - Petrified Tree / Lost Lake Trail

Difficulty: Easy to Moderately Difficult

Meet at MHS Recreation Hall at 12:45PM

Shuttle will return to Mammoth by 5:00 PM

Gas Cost: \$2.00 Per Person

Please call ahead (344-5225) or stop by the Parkwide Recreation Office to sign up at least one day in advance.

Come prepared with your own ski equipment, warm clothing, food & water.

Most trails are to-and-back, thus allowing distances suited for the ability of the group

Cancellations may occur due to weather and snow conditions

New skiers - you will be accompanied by experienced skiers who will help!



More Co-Op Recreation News

INTERNET COMPUTER:

Located in the Mammoth Recreation Hall.

Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Call 344-5225 to reserve a time.

Time slots available are generally 1/2 hour (possibly longer – if no one is signed up after you.)

Co-Ed Pickup Basketball: Monday & Wednesday evenings at 5:30 p.m. ; Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 6:00 a.m.

Christmas Gift Exchange – Call now to become a “secret santa”. Exchange will be held at the Mammoth Employee Pub on December 24th 9:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

COMING SOON:

- Van Trip to Bozeman for shopping 10:00 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. \$6/person., Sign up in advance to reserve your seat.
- More ski shuttle trips
- Big screen movies
- Pool tournaments/dart tournaments
- Big Sky/Bridger Bowl ski trips
- Snowcoach trips for cross country skiing in the park.

- Parkwide Recreation Office Hours – are posted on the Office Door. (behind the stage)

Any other Recreation questions, suggestions, or comments, please call 344-5225

December in Our Town

We invite you to enjoy our Holiday Program

*“December In Our Town”
at the Yellowstone Park School
On December 19, 2002, at 6:30 p.m.*

The Students and Faculty of Yellowstone Park School



Classifieds

- * **FOUND:** A golf club in the Mammoth Hotel parking lot. Call 848-7153 to identify.
- * **FOUND:** Several Christmas platters/bowls were left at the Christmas Tree Lighting service. Please call Judy Jensen at 344-2031 to claim.
- * **A Home for the Holidays:** Sick of dorm life or just want a place to yourself where you can watch all the sports you could ever want? Do you love pets? We need a pet-sitter for a frisky dog, sluggish cat, and a fish from December 23, 2002, to January 2nd, 2003. If you are interested call 344-7712 or 344-2353.
- * **Looking to get rid of that used outdoor equipment cluttering your garage?** The Lynx Project is accepting donations for the following items for our new volunteers. We are looking for insulated sleeping pads, headlamps, climbing or snake skins, stuff sacks, a pair of XL gortex shell pants or XL windbreaker pants, XL down jacket. They would get tremendous use! Please call Tiffany Potter at 344-2056.
- * **FOR SALE:** Full size Lowery organ with magic genie. Must see and hear to appreciate. \$750 or OBO. Call Ralph at home 344-7419, or at work 244-2353.
- * **FOR SALE:** Merrell Super Ultra 2-buckle leather telemark boots. Two pairs (men's size 10 and women's size 8). Both in very good condition. \$95 each. Denon CD player \$50. Call 344-9272.
- * **FOR SALE:** White Kelvinator refrigerator in very good condition, \$75; a Maytag electric dryer (almond) in very good condition, \$75; (matching washer needs work—free). Call 848-7933 after 6 p.m.
- * **Veterinarian Visit:** Dr. James Murray, DVM of Livingston will be at the Gardiner Exxon on Friday, December 20th. His next visit to Gardiner will be January 10th. Call (406) 222-3700 if you would like to schedule an appointment for a home visit.

Happy Holidays!

