

# Yellowstone News

October 2004  
Volume 1, Issue 6

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Check us out at:  
[www.nps.gov/yell/newsletter.pdf](http://www.nps.gov/yell/newsletter.pdf)

National Park Service  
PO Box 168  
Yellowstone National Park, WY  
82190

## Ex-Yellowstone Backcountry Ranger scales the Grand--probably the oldest to do so!

By Jean Guza

Don Yestness, ex-backcountry ranger in Yellowstone Park, has packed several lifetimes worth of experiences into his adventures. His latest and greatest was climbing the Grand Teton in early August of this year via the Owen-Spaulding route. Oh, by the way, Don is almost 80!

Don worked in Yellowstone from 1959 to 1983. For the first 11 seasons, he was a boat ranger on Yellowstone Lake; from 1971 to 1983, he was the Shoshone Lake Backcountry Ranger. Don has great stories and many memories of the park amassed over 24 seasons. Don is even responsible for the construction of three backcountry cabins: Cove Cabin, Cabin Creek Cabin, and Howell Creek Cabin. Don remembers hiking into Cabin Creek Cabin in the spring of 1972 and finding the old cabin completely torn up by grizzly bears. He said the only thing standing was about 4 feet of wall, no roof, and in pretty bad shape. He started building the present A-frame cabin that summer. That was also the summer of the Trail Creek Fire which blew up one day, came across the Yellowstone River by the outlet, and burned what remained of the old cabin. Mother Nature spared the new cabin.

Don retired from the Park Service in 1983 but has always returned to the area on a pretty regular basis. For the past few summers, he has worked in Grand Teton National Park as a boat ranger for the concessioner on Jenny Lake. He takes passengers across the lake and

because he holds a maritime license, offers to perform nuptials should anyone be interested--offer good only for the duration of the boat ride.

Yestness hatched the idea of climbing the Grand last summer when he began shuttling Exum guides and their clients to climbing areas across Jenny Lake. He attended Exum Rock School to refresh his climbing skills and began training in earnest this spring. "Climbing the Grand for me is more about stamina than anything else," Yestness says. Don last climbed the Grand in 1968.

Though no official records are kept on the age of Grand summitters, climbing rangers at the Jenny Lake Ranger Station and guides for both Exum and Jackson Hole Mountain Guides couldn't recall any climbers over the age of 75 summitting the Grand. Don says that if nothing falls or breaks off his body, he'd like to come back and climb it next summer at 80. Go, Don!





# YELLOWSTONE ASSOCIATION

## Position Announcement

**Position:** Seminar Program Manager  
**Location:** Gardiner, Montana  
**Reports To:** Director of Educational Operations  
**Posted:** September 29, 2004

### **Summary Description:**

The Yellowstone Association Institute is a nonprofit field school operated in partnership with the National Park Service. We offer a variety of educational programs on the natural and cultural history of Yellowstone. This year we will provide nearly 100,000 contact hours of education to more than 3,500 park visitors (adults and families). Courses are based at our Lamar Buffalo Ranch field campus, at historic park hotels, and in the backcountry. For a complete description of the Institute program, please visit us at [www.YellowstoneAssociation.org](http://www.YellowstoneAssociation.org).

The Program Manager is directly responsible for management of our cornerstone program, the Field Seminars. He or she will work closely with college professors, researchers, park staff, and other experts to develop and promote high quality educational programs that reflect the broad interpretive themes of Yellowstone National Park. Success in this position requires good business sense, a strong commitment to educational quality, and close attention to deadlines and details. The Seminar Program Manager will be based at our North Entrance Education Center in Gardiner, Montana. This is a key management position with growth potential in one of the country's premiere national park field schools.

### **Primary Responsibilities:**

- Develop and manage a broad selection of adult seminars based on interpretive and budget goals. Develop course schedule, recruit contract instructors, write course descriptions, promote courses, and monitor program quality.
- Serve as primary contact for approximately 80 contract instructors. Maintain strong positive relationships through regular communication and support.
- Develop and manage a detailed course budget including projected enrollment, revenues, and expenses.
- Work with National Park Service and United States Forest Service to ensure that all Institute programs obtain necessary permits and comply with land agency guidelines and requirements. Submit applications and reports as requested.
- Recruit, train, supervise, and demonstrate our appreciation for the talented volunteers who support the seminar program.
- Supervise a seasonal employee who manages summer operations at our Lamar Buffalo Ranch field campus.
- Assist Director of Educational Operations with implementation of annual marketing plan for all Institute programs. Write press releases, host writers, represent Institute to the media.
- Represent the Institute and its mission to diverse audiences.
- Serve on an integrated management team to address issues such as wilderness risk management, marketing, and program quality.

### **Qualifications:**

The ideal applicant will be a team player with an advanced degree and at least five years of relevant employment in Interpretation, Environmental Education, Outdoor Education, or a closely related field. Previous experience in program development and marketing is required. A close knowledge of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and experience working with volunteers are preferred. All applicants must have excellent oral and written communication skills, strong organizational ability, and a demonstrated commitment to the educational mission of the Yellowstone Association.

### **Compensation:**

Annual salary of \$28,000 to \$34,000 based on experience. Starting benefits include two weeks paid vacation, ten paid holidays, retirement program, and flexible benefit plan. Modest housing is available for rent from the Yellowstone Association in Gardiner, Montana.

### **To Apply:**

Please send resume, cover letter, and three professional references to:

Jeff Brown  
Director of Educational Operations  
Yellowstone Association  
PO Box 117  
Yellowstone National Park WY  
82190

Applications must be received not later than 4:30 MST on Thursday, October 28, 2004. Employment will begin as soon as possible.

The Yellowstone Association is an equal opportunity employer.

**Mark your calendars so  
you don't miss the annual  
Xanterra and Yellowstone  
Association Holiday Sale  
on December 7th!!!**

## A Heartfelt Thank You

The Galindo Family would like to extend a big, heartfelt thank you to the Yellowstone community for all their help this past year during Pete's cancer treatment and Anna's surgery. All the meals, love, share donations, thoughts, prayers and help really were the silver lining in a gray year for us. We are so lucky to live in a community of such generous and thoughtful friends. Thank You from the bottom of our hearts!



Peter, Anna, Sam and Kate

## Human Resources Info

### PAYROLL

**Reminder: Use or Lose Annual Leave must be used up by Saturday, January 8, 2005.** Please don't lose your earned annual leave, donate to the Leave Share program. At this time Yellowstone only has one recipient, Peter Galindo. He has enough leave share hours for his medical needs. There are many more recipients in the Intermountain Region or any other Region and Federal agency whom you may know; e.g. Social Security, Forest Service HUD and many more.

**Supervisors, Timekeepers and Seasonal Employees:** Please make sure your forwarding address is accurate. 2004 W-2 will be coming out soon and we want to make sure they are sent to the correct address.

**Thrift Savings Plan Open Season** begins October 15 and runs through December 31, 2004. During this open season, FERS employees can put up to 15% of their basic pay each pay period into their TSP. Employees covered by CSRS can put up to 10% into theirs. The IRS elective deferral limit for 2005 is \$14,000. Thrift Savings Plan Election Forms (TSP-1's) are available in the Human Resources Office or at [www.tsp.gov](http://www.tsp.gov) under Forms.

## Used Pill Bottles Needed

I would like to make a request to have people send me their old pill bottles. The archeology program has used most of the supply of containers in stock and can really use empty pill bottles. We especially need small ones. Bottles can be sent to Ann Johnson at YCR.

## The latest peer award recipients are:

1. Donna Bartek - North Ent. VUA
2. Bruce Sefton - Lake Maintenance Foreman
3. Phil Anderson - Lake Maintenance Mechanic Supervisor
4. Evelyn Hutchings - North District Laborer
5. Scott Timberlake - North District Engineering Equipment Operator
6. Lois Wertheim - West Ent. VUA

## The Yellowstone Park School PTO Rummage Sale Extravaganza

The Yellowstone Park School parents and teachers are working hard at their only chance at raising funds for their Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) over the next two years: The Rummage Sale Extravaganza! The event takes place Tuesday, November 16 between 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. at the Yellowstone Park School in Mammoth Hot Springs, Yellowstone National Park.

You can stop by after work and enjoy a delicious dinner with your choice of chili, sloppy joes, hot dogs, chili dogs and dessert. Shop good quality rummage and find sporting goods and equipment, clothes, housewares, baby goods, toys, electronics, books and more. There will also be a raffle and silent auction of excellent art, crafts, gifts, goods and services that have been generously donated by Mammoth, Yellowstone, Gardiner, Emigrant, Livingston and Bozeman Businesses and Community Members. Look for our 5th 6th graders who will be selling raffle tickets! What a great opportunity to shop for the holidays (remember Thanksgiving is only one week after this event!).

This fundraiser pays for all field trips, extracurricular sports and physical fitness activities, and school functions at the Yellowstone Park School over the next two years.

The event is for the enjoyment of and supported by our entire Emigrant / Gardiner / Mammoth community members and businesses. Please spread the word.

Rummage drop off will be November 11, 12, 13 Mammoth school.

If you have any questions, please call Duane Martinz 344-7352 or Jen Morey at 344-9274.

The Supply Center would like to give special thanks to the employees from the Paint Shop and the Carpenter Shop that worked very hard on our building getting it prepped and painted, and shined up the windows for us. Great job! Thank you!

**Electric Peak Arts  
Council Proudly  
Presents  
Spontaneous Combustibles  
November 4, 2004  
Gardiner Community Center**

Join us for an evening of non-stop laughter when Bozeman's Equinox Theater brings the improvisational comedy of Spontaneous Combustibles to Gardiner. *Spontaneous Combustibles* can boast truly up-to-the-minute entertainment—since their improv comedy is based on audience suggestions, every show is completely different!

Spontaneous Combustibles – November 4  
Men Of Worth – January 24  
Paul Taylor – February 11

See all three performances and save money by buying a SEASON PASS.

	Individual show	Season Pass
Adult	\$8.00	\$20.00
Student (K-12)	\$5.00	\$10.00
Family	\$25.00	\$60.00
Children under 5 and Seniors over 70 admitted Free		

Look for Season Passes on sale at local events or place your order via the mail by sending payment to:

Electric Peak Arts Council  
P.O. Box 22  
Gardiner, MT 59030



Support Staff Waiting to go to Work

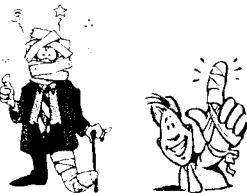
## Halloween Carnival

The Mammoth Elementary Schools Halloween carnival will be on 30 October from 5 to 7 PM. Used books donations for the book table can be dropped off at the school. Please bring a snack for the treat table.

If you have any questions I can be reached at 344-7477.



## Hurt at Work?



### Go On-line:

[www.smis.doi.gov](http://www.smis.doi.gov)

**YELL employees now  
report work-related  
injuries on-line:**

1. Log-on and request a claim ID
2. Enter the claim ID and complete a CA-1
3. Enter your supervisor's email address and hit send

For more information  
contact Bernie  
Adams @ 344-2047

## Classifieds

**FOR SALE:** 16' Mad River Canoe-Explorer RoyaleX (like new-used twice) - \$1,000. Price includes 2 dry bags, 2 wood paddles, 2 PFDs (1 adult medium and 1 adult extra large), and vehicle tie-down straps and pads (all like new). Contact Marsha (586-5916) or Paul (585-5337) in Bozeman.

**FOR SALE:** Ovation Celebrity six string acoustic-electric guitar with sturdy hard case. Slim body (rounded back, wood front), standard cord jack, volume and tone controls (I've never plugged it in, so I don't know how it sounds). Neck is straight, sound is good, and strings are new. \$175.00. An excellent all-weather travel guitar. Call Paul at 1-406-585-5337.

**FOR SALE:** 1986 Buick Century Sedan, 74,000 original miles (Grandma's car). \$500 / obo. 307-344-7455.

**Wanted To Buy:** A Good quality used treadmill. If you have one that's just being used for hanging laundry, sell it to us and get some Christmas cash and more free space in one fell swoop! Please call Anna at 344-9252.

**FOR SALE:** Roll-top desk \$20, call Lynn at 344-2622.

**DOCTOR MURRAY** will be at the Exxon October 22<sup>nd</sup> and every other Friday after that. Stop by with your pet if you need a vet.

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### **The Body Shop® Holiday Season is Here!**

The holidays are fast approaching and our new Fall/Winter and Holiday catalogues are here! There are some great holiday scents and gift sets so start making your lists for friends and family!

If you are running low on your favorite products or just want to sample new ones give me a call @ 406-223-4824 or 848-2209.

You may also be interested in pampering yourself and your friends by hosting one of our Girl's Night Out parties! We have some fantastic host specials for October and November ☺

## **Yellowstone Mourns the Loss of a Great Friend**



Alana Thompson

Yellowstone National Park and especially North District Resource Management has lost a great friend.

companion, and workmate. The death of Alana Thompson on the night of Monday, October 11th causes us pain and sadness. She worked, ate, recreated and lived with us for two summer seasons. She loved horses, mountains, life, Ryan, her parents and family. She was energetic, motivated, with lots of friends, a big smile, and a big laugh. She especially loved to work with Montana Outdoor Science School children and Montana Conservation Corps groups we worked with. She enjoyed most outdoor sports and was an active environmentalist. She graduated from High school with honors and was taking environmental science at Montana State University. We will keep you informed about the planned memorial service to follow next week.

## **Please Help Us Protect Yellowstone's Wildlife**

Subject: Halloween Pumpkins

Living in Yellowstone National Park is a privilege for all of us who work here in support of the park mission. It is our obligation to adhere to park regulations and practices consistent with protecting this significant resource. As Halloween approaches, a dilemma confronts us regarding the cultural tradition of placing carved pumpkins upon our doorsteps.

Last year, as in past years, residents left pumpkins outside their residences for time periods significant enough for them to become a food attractant for wildlife. There were incidents where elk were observed eating pumpkins. The week after Halloween, a bear was struck by a vehicle between the campground and housing area creating speculation among some that it may have been attracted to the housing area by the presence of food attractants such as pumpkins.

This year, in keeping with the mission of the park and in the spirit of balancing cultural tradition with food storage security, we plan to adopt an experimental practice to manage Halloween pumpkins. Pumpkins will be allowed on the exterior of occupied residences between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m., October 24 through November 7. All pumpkins must be secured away from wildlife outside of these time frames and dates.

We sincerely hope that this practice will provide an acceptable balance of preserving park resources and the cultural tradition of park residents.



October 2004

# **DUE TO THE FLU VACCINE SHORTAGE, THE CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL (CDC) RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS RECEIVE THE VACCINE:**

All children aged 6-23 months;

Adults aged 65 years and older;

Persons aged 2-64 years with underling chronic disease of the blood, kidneys or immune system (including HIV), or diabetes that has required medical follow up or hospitalization in the last year;

Chronic disorder of the heart or lungs, including asthma; All women who will be pregnant during the influenza; Resident of nursing homes and long-term care facilities; Children aged 6 months-15 years on chronic aspirin therapy;

Health-care workers involved in direct patient care; and Out-of-home care givers and household contacts of children aged <6 months.

As stated by the CDC:

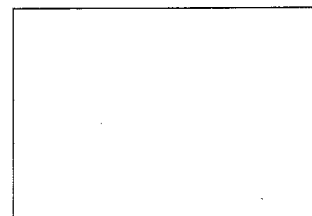
"Persons who are not included in one of the priority groups described above should be informed about the urgent vaccine supply situation and asked to forego or defer vaccination."

**Feel free to discuss this further with us!**

**MAMMOTH CLINIC**

**OCTOBER 6, 2004**

National Park Service  
PO Box 168  
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190  
United States



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED