



Official Publication of
The Yellowstone Trail Association

"A Good Road from Plymouth Rock to Puget Sound"



It is with a sincerely heavy heart that the Yellowstone Trail Association announces the death of **Executive Director Mark Mowbray** on February 4 2021 after a battle with cancer.

For the last ten years Mark undertook the Association membership management and the editing of the *Arrow*. He was a "people person" who enjoyed meeting friends and making presentations about the Trail across the country.

He was our friend and we will miss him.

Board members of the Yellowstone Trail Association:

Dr. John Ridge, Chairman
Sheila Nyberg, Vice Chair
Sara Brish, Fiscal Officer
Alice Ridge, Secretary

Obituary from the Fond du Lac Reporter

Mark A. Mowbray, age 74, of Janesville, passed away on Thursday, February 4, 2021 at Oak Park Place in Janesville after an 18-month battle with lung cancer. Mark was born on May 10, 1946 in Fond du Lac, the son of James and Clarissa (Klotz) Mowbray. He attended Ash Grove and Presentation Schools and graduated in 1964 from Horace Mann High School in North Fond du Lac. Mark earned his Bachelor of Science Degree from Stout State University in 1968 and his Master of Science Degree from Stout in 1971. During his time at Stout he became a member of the Phi Sigma Epsilon Fraternity. He taught at the Beaver Dam Vocational School from 1968 to 1969 and was a faculty member of Stout State University from 1969 until 1971. Mark became the Associate Dean of Rock Valley College in Rockford from 1974 until 1977 and served as Supervisor at the Moraine Park Technical College from 1981 until 1984. He then held technical and supervisory positions in the liquid purification and treatment industry, working for IWT, Environmental Dynamics, and Integrated Separation Solutions, from 1987 through 2009. Mark enjoyed extensive business and personal travel in North and Central America, Western Europe, and the United Kingdom. Mark served as Executive Director with the Yellowstone Trail Association after he retired in 2010 for 10 years. Mark loved to travel along the Yellowstone Trail to both the East and West Coast, meeting many Trail friends. He was a knowledgeable car enthusiast and loved to attend car shows, cruise-ins and auto races.

No services are being held per Mark's wishes. Mark requested a casual meal and visit for family and friends to celebrate the good life he had, where guests could say a few words-short and sweet. Memorials in Mark's name may be directed to the Yellowstone Trail Association, 1105 Main Street, Suite A, Stevens Point, WI. 54481, or Agrace Foundation, 5395 E. Cheryl Parkway, Madison, WI 53711.

A note about Mark Mowbray

Mark's dad owned and operated the Yellowstone Garage on the Yellowstone Trail in North Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. Mark grew up on the Trail and was well acquainted with it when he joined the Association in 2010. He was a voracious reader of all kinds of travel and automobile-related books. And he traveled the Trail from end to end. He enjoyed communicating with members and talking with everyone he met as he traveled the Trail. ❁

An Explanation with Our Apology

Quite a number of members and friends of the Yellowstone Trail Association have not received a timely acknowledgment, a "thank you" or a response from us.

With the restrictions brought about by the Pandemic and the lengthy illness and passing of our Executive Director (the guy who did much of the work for the Association) the rest of us were caught flat-footed and unable to do things within a proper schedule. In addition, the formal corporation mailing address has necessarily changed.

But the Board has agreed upon plans and new proposals to continue and expand the Yellowstone Trail Association. The constructive changes being discussed are noted below; they will take a couple of months to implement.

In the meantime, the Board of the Yellowstone Trail Association and the staff of the *Arrow* apologize. We have lately received membership payments and generous donations from members and non-members and we have not thanked you sufficiently. The membership payments keep the fundamentals running and the donations provide the backbone of services like the provision of interpretive signs and the extension of the marking of the Trail. ❁

We also apologize for this slim *Arrow*. With COVID-19 limiting events and travel along the Trail and without Mark's continued efforts to acquire articles from our correspondents, your temporary *Arrow* staff has been stymied!

But we have great plans! And there is a real opportunity for you to be part of them! ❁



Immediate plans and plans being planned.

One big change is underway. Rather than relying on volunteer work, the Board is contracting with Kathryn Cooper of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, to maintain membership records, process payments and donations, and manage mailings of *Arrows* and other Association notices and communications between members, other contacts, and the Association. [see page 4] While she will not be an employee of the Association we choose to refer to her as the Administrator. She can be contacted by email at Administrator@yellowstonetrail.org. She will make use of commercial membership management programs and e-mailing services.

The second major change is planned for the near future: we will seek an editor for the *Arrow*. The publication of the *Arrow* is important to maintain the involvement of YTA members who are from everywhere from Plymouth Rock to Puget Sound and north and south of there! We will be seeking volunteers to solicit or write articles about subjects related to the Trail and its history and gather information about relevant events. Note that we have a special upcoming event for which we need local information from Aberdeen, South Dakota, through Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio.

See the Trail-O-Grams on page 3. ❁



Trail-O-Grams

2021 Yellowstone Trail Cross-Country Historic Military Vehicle Convoy.



The Military Vehicle Preservation Association's 7th Cross-Country Convoy will depart from Aberdeen, SD, on 28 July'21. This Convoy will travel east along a segment of the Yellowstone Trail through SD, MN, WI, MI, IN & OH. The YT'21 Convoy will stop at the MVPA Convention in South Bend. The Convoy will end in Conneaut, OH, on 20 August'21, joining the planned 2021 Conneaut World War II reenactment. Email HQ@MVPA.org for details. [As reported at www.mvpa.org]

Yellowstone Trail Fest

The good news in this otherwise bleak year for museums and attractions along the Trail is that our friends at Hamlet, Indiana, who have done bang-up jobs of celebrating the Trail



in recent years, received permission from the Hamlet Town Council to keep the \$1,000 the Council had granted them. The grant would have been used for last summer's Yellowstone Trail Fest. Unfortunately, COVID-19 stepped in, causing the cancellation of the annual event. Instead of withdrawing the grant, the Council voted to let the Fest organizers use it for the next Fest, whenever that will be. Good on ya, Council (as Australians say). Receive newsletters and early notification of Cruise-Ins, Trail Days, Yard Sales & Fund-Raisers. See www.yellowstonetrailfest.com

Kellogg, Idaho, is really on top of things with their new YT signage.



And in Valparaiso, Indiana:

The *Indianapolis Star*, Feb. 12 reported that Valparaiso University was on the hunt for a new mascot and nickname. One of the suggested nicknames was "Yellow Stones." The article goes on to say that, "Yellow Stone Road in Valparaiso marks a segment of the Trail." Perhaps the cheerleaders could create a new chant, based on the time-honored:

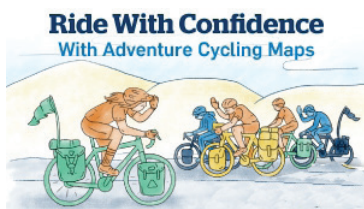
Two, four, six, eight
Who do we appreciate.
The Stones, the Stones
The Yellow Stone Stones

Editor's note: Hmm.

And in North Dakota:

The Adventure Cycling Association has announced the designation of five new U.S. Bicycle Routes, including one in North Dakota. Their announcement said, "The 87.5-mile [route] follows U.S. Highway 12 through prairie and crop fields in southwestern North

Dakota. The route was known as the Yellowstone Trail when it was the first transcontinental automobile highway in the U.S.



See www.adventurecycling.org

The intersection of the Yellowstone Trail and the Lincoln Highway in Valparaiso, Indiana



Introducing the new YTA Administrator

Hello, my name is Kathy Cooper. My husband Mike and I have lived in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, for 18 years. My oldest of four children recently joined the Air Force, my middle two are in high school, and my youngest is in 5th grade. I currently work full-time at United Way of the Greater Chippewa Valley. I started there five years ago using my early childhood education degree and teaching experience as a Volunteer Coordinator for the education initiative. My current role involves work in resource development, marketing, and community impact. I met John and Alice Ridge, Yellowstone Trail Association Board President and Secretary, seven years ago and have helped them with various office-related tasks, including support of their work on their upcoming book. I have learned a lot about the Yellowstone Trail while working for the Ridges, and I look forward to assisting the Yellowstone Trail Association with its administrative duties.



Contact the Yellowstone Trail Association

Our corporate office has a changed street address:

Yellowstone Trail Association
1105 Main Street, Suite A |
Stevens Point, WI 54481

For membership payments, address changes, and Arrow receipt questions,

Administrator@yellowstonetrail.org

Trail information and editorial communications please use

Yellowstone Trail Association
PO Box 65
Altoona, WI 54720
Or email-- YTA@yellowstonetrail.org

Mail related to purchases should be sent to:

Yellowstone Trail Publishers
7000 S Shore Dr.
Altoona, WI 54720
Or email-- YTP@yellowstonetrail.org

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Use this form and mail with a check OR Apply at www.yellowstonetrail.org and use either the [online form with PayPal](#) or the [mail-in form with a check](#).

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

An e-mail address is required because the *Arrow* newsletter is sent via email. If you need yours printed we'll make special arrangements.

e-mail address : _____

Phone: _____ (Required if you do not use email.)

If this membership is for a business or organization:

Organization: _____

Your Position: _____

VISIT WWW.YELLOWSTONETRAIL.ORG

Cut off and mail this form with your payment. OR apply online at www.yellowstonetrail.org

Send to: Administrator
Yellowstone Trail Association
PO Box 65
Altoona, WI 54720

Membership category and annual dues:

Check one: Regular (Individual or small business) ----- \$15
 Not for profit (museum, car club, historical) ----- \$25
 Tourism Promotion Agency ----- \$50
 (C of C, CVB, Econ Development, similar)
 Corporate (Contact the Exec. Director for sponsorship details. mmowbray@yellowstonetrail.org) \$100

Enter Amounts: Dues for 1 year (June -May) - \$
 Gifts are tax deductable. Dues for 2nd year - \$
 Same rate. Optional. Additional contribution - \$
 We are a nonprofit 501c3 corporation. Total = \$