

# THE ARROW

Number 54  
November 2022

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## The Yellowstone Trail Association is

. . . a charitable and educational organization within the meaning of 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code with the following purposes:

- 1) Public Education: to increase public knowledge of the Trail and its importance in both local and national history,
- 2) Historical Research: to acquire information and stories about the Trail and its historical context,
- 3) Historical Preservation: to promote the preservation of appropriate sections of the Yellowstone Trail and buildings or other artifacts along the Trail,
- 4) Communication: to provide a medium of communication and support among its members,
- 5) Heritage Tourism: to promote heritage tourism along the Trail to support the above purposes, and
- 6) Related Events: to sponsor or support various events related to the history of the Trail to support the above purposes.

Front Cover Picture:

1.3 mi east of Exit 138 near Bonita, MT. The old Mullan Military Rd. and YT are same here.



## Are You Missing Pages 3-10?

In the beginning of the *Arrow*, nearly 20 years ago, every member of the YTA received a mailed printed copy of each *Arrow* when the postage costs were lower. The \$10 annual membership fee covered it all and we could print and mail a copy to all members. But we gathered a couple thousand "contacts" of interested people and the Board decided that to motivate memberships (and reduce work -- we need volunteers for everything) that each *Arrow* would be sent digitally to all but those who did not have a computer. And, we hoped non-members would, upon receipt of an *Arrow*, join. Some did, many didn't. **The Board then decided that full digital Arrows were to be sent to members but non-members and those with expired memberships would be sent just the cover pages to keep them aware.** And motivate them to join. It is just \$15 per year! And the necessary operating expenses are not quite covered. Thus, to avoid a sense of guilt and enjoy the *Arrow*, join! It is rewarding.

If you are not now receiving the printed version of the *Arrow* and you would like a printed booklet-style copy of this *Arrow* mail \$5 (or \$11 for the next year of issues) to YT Association, Box 65, Altoona, WI 54720-0065. Use your credit card by paying through PayPal. (Use: Actions, send money, Treasurer@yellowstonetrail.org )

If you have problems when renewing or joining, Email: Administrator@yellowstonetrail.org

### Join the Yellowstone Trail Association – or renew

**Your choice:**

1. go to [www.yellowstonetrail.org](http://www.yellowstonetrail.org) & click "Membership" to join on-line.
2. copy, complete, and mail this form with check to:  
Yellowstone Trail Association, Box 65, Altoona, WI 54720-0065

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

An e-mail address is required because the **ARROW** newsletter notice and all other communications are sent via e-mail. If you do not use e-mail and/or need a printed Arrow let us know.

**e-mail address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ (if you do not use e-mail.)

If this membership is for a business or organization:

**Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Your position:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Application for Membership or Renewal

- Check one**
- Personal-1 year . . . . . \$ 15
  - Personal-2 year . . . . . \$ 30
  - Personal-3 year . . . . . \$ 45
  - Small Business-1 year . . . . . \$ 15
  - Any Organization-1 year . . . . . \$ 25
  - Corporate Support-1 year . . . . . \$ 100

Gifts to the Yellowstone Trail Association are tax deductible.

**Dues Payment =** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Donation: =** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total enclosed: =** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Visit [www.yellowstonetrail.org](http://www.yellowstonetrail.org)

The dues listed reflect reduced dues for Tourism Promotion Organizations in an attempt to attract more such members.

# Trail-O-Grams, Con't.

## Hamlet, Indiana, Yellowstone Trail Fest

2022 Theme "Back to the Future" Aug. 20-21



The movie series "Back to the Future" was shot in the Hamlet area and the YT Fest made the most of it this year. In addition to bike/walk/run contests and Cruise

In on the Trail, tee shirts and pictures of Marty McFly, Doc. Brown and Biff reminded visitors of this year's theme. At least ten events peppered the County Fairgrounds. The popular "Repurposed Metal Art" contest linked past with future, as did the antique car show. And the newer event, the "Game Show" certainly kept players alert to trivial facts of the Trail as well as the movie. See and learn more at : [www.Yellowstonetrailfest.com](http://www.Yellowstonetrailfest.com)



**Hudson (WI) YT Heritage Day** Again there was a British flair to Hudson's Yellowstone Trail Heritage Day Aug. 13. Austin Healeys, MGs and all things British filled a whole block. There may have been a Land Rover (very crowded to see for sure). Vintage and Classic cars were present also. There were so many that some overflowed the allotted space. Others were placed on the historic "dyke" which was the Yellowstone Trail route and bridge to Minnesota.



The British invade the YT



The ever-popular Sociability and Poker Run entertained gamblers from Hudson to Baldwin on the Trail with stops in Roberts, Hammond and Baldwin.

John and Alice Ridge held forth at the Geocacher's Breakfast talking geocaching and the Trail. Dick's Bar and Restaurant was the site, chosen because a bistro of some sort has been in Dick's building for over 100 years. The Ridges later held a book-signing for their new, big history and travelogue book for the entire Yellowstone Trail.

Something new: a Yellowstone Trail "painting class" and a 1920s dancing class. What a hoot! Something old: the Octagon House Museum tours.

Now here's an idea: We reported in the last Arrow that the Yellowstone Trail Heritage Day committee of Hudson, Wisconsin, gave copies of Ridge's new book to all the libraries in St. Croix County to spread the word about the Trail. Perhaps readers could consult with their local libraries along the Trail?



Alice and geocachers, middle; John observing at registration desk, right.





## Trail-O-Grams, Con't.

### The Yellowstone National Park Floods & YT

The unprecedented June flooding temporarily shut down the whole of the Yellowstone National Park, and destroyed - irreparably --the only useful road into the Park between Gardiner and Mammoth.

Before the building of the US highway 89, that was destroyed by the flood, autoists from the north approached the park on the Gardiner Back Road. That early Gardiner/Mammoth route had been maintained as a one-way gravel, winding hilly route traveled only by those out exploring. All of the visitors arriving from the north on the Yellowstone Trail came down the west side of the river and continued into the park on the Gardiner Back Road.

The Gardiner Back Road that carried all the Yellowstone Trail traffic was again pressed into service, but

not before being totally rebuilt in record time. Leaders of the rebuilding process reported "To transition from a dirt road 16-feet wide to the new paved route in less than five months was nothing short of a miracle."

And for supporters of the Yellowstone Trail an additional proposal is of vital interest. Namely, the county is looking at reopening the old rail bed through Yankee Jim Canyon, on the west side of the Yellowstone River, as a secondary route. This would open the original route of the Yellowstone Trail to be visited again after landslides closed it a couple of years ago.

See also: <https://cowboystatedaily.com/2022/11/06/remote-wyoming-road-a-winter-lifeline-for-yellowstone-communities/>

and [https://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/yellowstones-northeast-entrance-to-open-oct-15-4-months-after-historic-flooding/article\\_b74d0b86-442c-11ed-b28a-bfa38203a5a5.html](https://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/yellowstones-northeast-entrance-to-open-oct-15-4-months-after-historic-flooding/article_b74d0b86-442c-11ed-b28a-bfa38203a5a5.html)

## To the future

As the Yellowstone Trail Association builds for an exciting future, the first action is to choose a dynamic governing Board to plan new and exciting programs. The existing Board, diminished by death, aging, and Covid, has elected several new members, from New Jersey to Idaho. The first acts of the "new" Board will be to consider several additional appointments, to thrash out plans for action, and search for a new Executive Director, the person who gets things done. [The Board will be introduced in the next *Arrow*.

Help and advice is solicited from all readers. Drop a line to [YTA@yellowstonetrail.org](mailto:YTA@yellowstonetrail.org)

Looking forward requires looking back to learn from successes and failures. We did. In that review of the past we became more strongly aware of the support we have received from Greg Childs. His substantial donations to the Association and his promotional efforts in Laurel, Montana, have made a difference. Thank you Greg.

## Contact the Yellowstone Trail Association

### To join, make membership payments, or donate:

Web: go directly to our membership service:

<https://yta.clubexpress.com>

USPS: Send to administrator, Yellowstone Trail Association  
Box 65, Altoona, WI 54720

There is a printable application form at:

[www.yellowstonetrail.org/Docs/MemberApplication.pdf](http://www.yellowstonetrail.org/Docs/MemberApplication.pdf)

Or, to join, renew, donate, use the form on page 2

### For questions about membership, address changes, or Arrow receipt questions:

Email: [Administrator@yellowstonetrail.org](mailto:Administrator@yellowstonetrail.org)

USPS: Yellowstone Trail Association, PO Box 65  
Altoona, WI 54720

### For Trail information and editorial communications

(our corporate office):

Email: [YTA@yellowstonetrail.org](mailto:YTA@yellowstonetrail.org)

USPS: Yellowstone Trail Association  
PO Box 65  
Altoona, WI 54720

### For YT related signs and merchandise (not part of the YTA):

Web: [www.yellowstonetrail.org](http://www.yellowstonetrail.org)

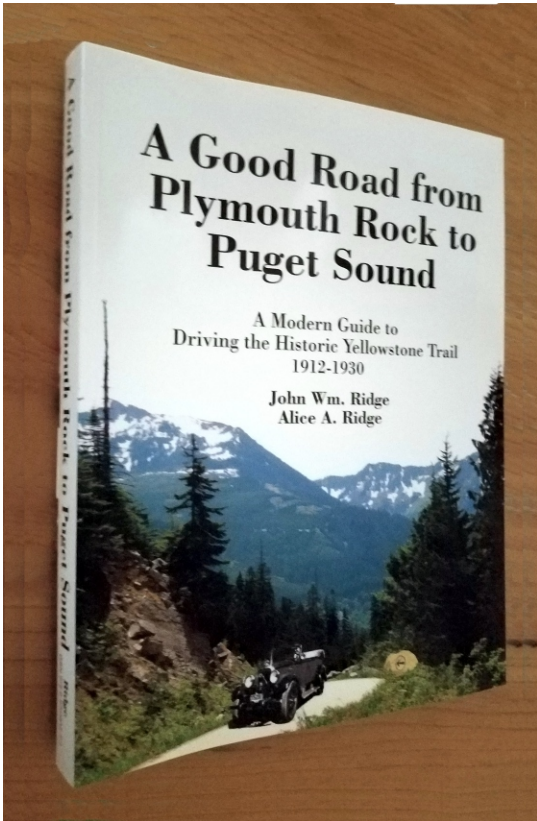
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