

# ANNUAL REPORT 2018



YELLOWSTONE HISTORIC CENTER  
WEST YELLOWSTONE, MT.

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Photograph on Cover: Picture shows a kid skiing off the roof of the 1909 Depot with a crowd watching. Circa 1920s. Photographer unknown. From the YHC Collections.

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

Thank you all for making 2018 such a successful year for the Yellowstone Historic Center! As I look back on the year, among the many accomplishments, a few stand out in my mind.

- Receiving grants from the Montana Office of Tourism and Business Development, West Yellowstone Foundation, Historic Preservation Board of Gallatin County, and Union Pacific Foundation
- Admitting nearly 20,750 visitors to the YHC Museum from all 50 states, Canada, and over 40 countries around the world
- Publishing the first edition of the Yellowstone History Journal
- Featuring exhibits on the Eagle Family and Fred F. Willson at the YHC Museum in celebration of the Eagle's 110th anniversary
- Welcoming two new members to the YHC Board of Directors; Amanda Newell and Garrett Ostler
- Hosting the 17th Annual Heritage Celebration

All of these accomplishments were made possible by the incredibly generous and dedicated donors of YHC. Without the assistance of those devoted to our mission, we would not be where we are today!

As we look forward to the year ahead of us, we are filled with excitement and enthusiasm for what is to come!

Sincerely,



Executive Director  
Yellowstone Historic Center

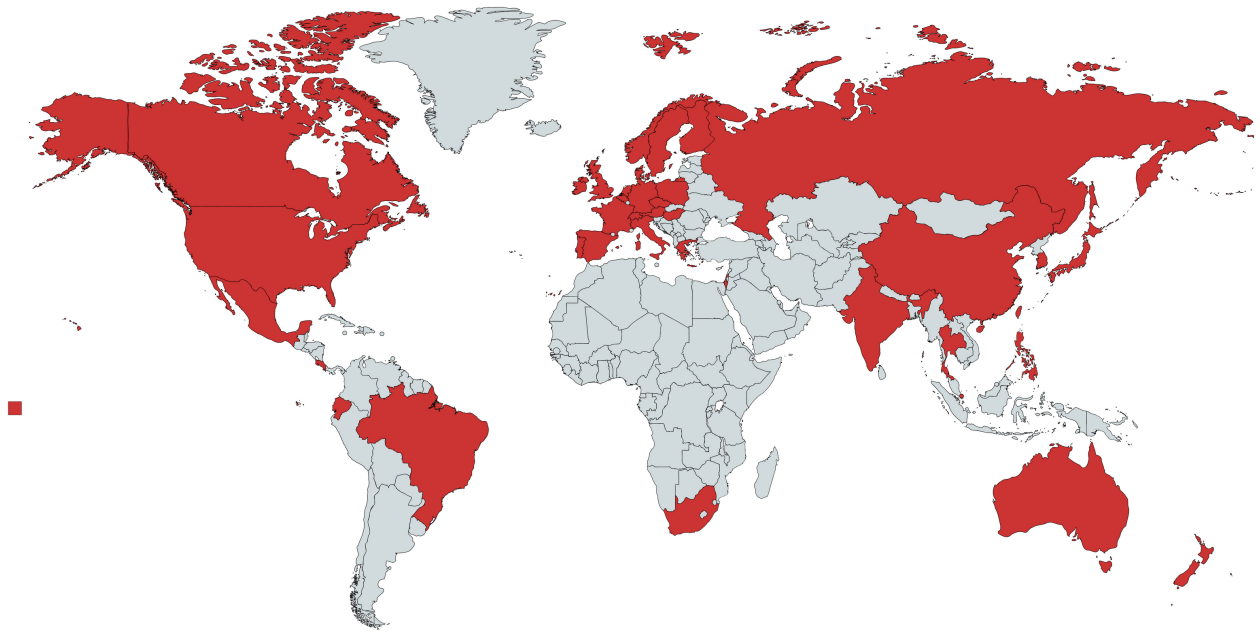


Executive Director Kaitlin Johnson pictured receiving a \$15,000 grant from Nathan Anderson of the Union Pacific Railroad.

## OUR MISSION

The Yellowstone Historic Center seeks to understand, preserve, and interpret the unique cultural heritage of West Yellowstone and the Hebgen Lake Basin, and the connection of that heritage to the development of transportation and visitation to Yellowstone National Park.

# 2018 MUSEUM STATISTICS



From May 12 to October 7, the Yellowstone Historic Center Museum welcomed visitors from all 50 states and over 40 different countries. The Museum staff consisted of one new and six returning employees. The Museum debuted two new exhibits and the newly finished permanent exhibit "Ho! For Yellowstone."

## YHC MUSEUM VISITORS

20,743 visitors

## WALKING TOURS OF THE HISTORIC DISTRICT

762 participants

## RANGER PROGRAMS

558 participants

"It has several diverse exhibits and the most interesting of them are automobiles from last century. An evening well spent."

"Excellent museum for learning the history of the greater Yellowstone area and the NP."

# 2018 SPECIAL EVENTS & FUNDRAISERS

## HERITAGE CELEBRATION

The 2018 Heritage Celebration provided guests with the opportunity to visit with friends new and old and celebrate the grandeur of the historic Union Pacific Dining Lodge. The live and silent auctions included items donated by 52 businesses. In its seventeenth year, this annual event raised nearly \$30,000 for YHC Operations.

2018 marked the 110th anniversary of the first passenger train arriving in the town that is now West Yellowstone. Guests had the opportunity to get their pictures with a train conductor. They also heard from Ida Eagle (portrayed by granddaughter Kendra Eagle Owen) who was one of the original settlers of West Yellowstone. Ida and husband Sam's business, Eagle's Store, celebrated their 110th in 2018 as well.



Larry Gibson, a third generation musician who lives in Townsend, MT, provided entertainment at the Heritage Celebration. He is a member of the Cowboy Poets of Idaho and the Christian Cowboy Balladeers and performs all over Montana and Idaho.



## SPECIAL EVENTS & FUNDRAISERS (CONT.)

### PIE ON THE PORCH

One of the most popular events of the year! Pie on the Porch every 4th of July brings a long line of hungry guests to the YHC Museum to grab a slice of homemade pie. This year, we had over 60 pies made by locals as well as a special, huckleberry-peach cobbler made by our own Garrett Ostler.

### SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE WHO BAKED PIES!

Kristy Coffin, Joyce Binnie, Linda Blank, Jan Leach, Sue Conaghan, Ashley Sandau, Dianna Morris, Louise Cochrane, Lisa Marie Costanzo, Dusty Dunbar, Verlene Schmier, Juanita McCracken, Wendy Swenson, Sherre Thoreson, Kathy Boyd, Ed Geiger, SJ Sheppard, Lisa Johnson, Sabolsky Family, Liz Roos, and Garrett Ostler.



## YELLOW BUS WEEKEND



The Buses of Yellowstone Preservation Trust joined YHC in West Yellowstone for a fun-filled weekend in August celebrating the historic yellow buses of Yellowstone National Park. The weekend consisted of educational programs, informative displays, and rides in the buses. Special thanks to Three Bear Lodge, sponsor of the event.

## PRESERVATION & RESTORATION UNION PACIFIC DINING LODGE WINDOW PROJECT



In May of 2018, 132 window panes were replaced around the north and south entrances of the Firehole Room at a cost of \$45,000. This project was funded by the Town of West Yellowstone and a \$10,000 grant from the Union Pacific Foundation. The UP Foundation has granted the YHC another \$15,000 to be used towards the completion of this project in 2019.

## DEPOT FLOOR



In 2018, the floor of the east waiting room in the Depot was refinished. Now the original hardwood floors in both waiting rooms and the ticket office have been refinished. This step of the project cost \$6,081 total, \$4,054 of which was funded by the Tourism Grant program of the Montana Office of Tourism.

# 2018 UNION PACIFIC DINING LODGE VENUE RENTALS

2018 was the third year YHC managed event rentals of the Dining Lodge. The rental season lasted from May through September. During the season, there were 26 events held including weddings, graduation parties, reunions, birthday celebrations, and fundraisers.

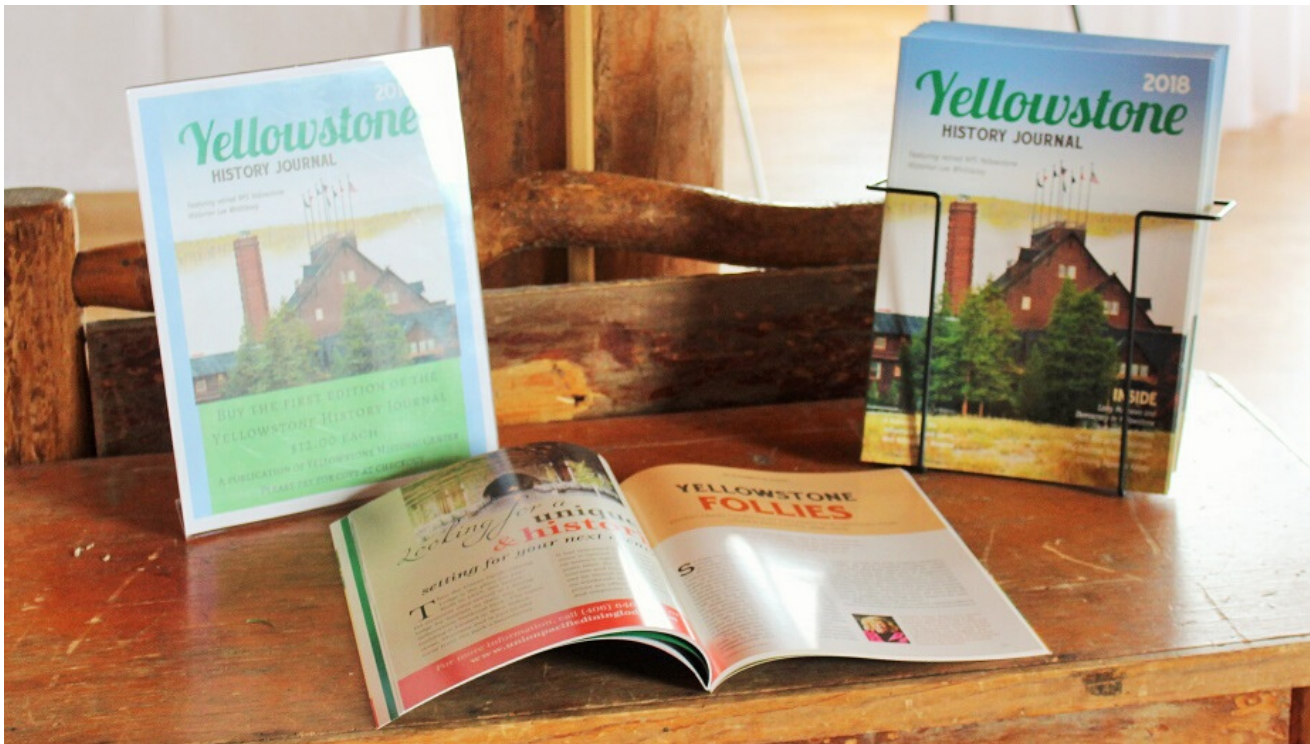




# NEW IN 2018

# YELLOWSTONE

# HISTORY JOURNAL



This year, the Yellowstone Historic Center published the first issue of the brand-new "Yellowstone History Journal." The Journal is the first-ever journal devoted exclusively to the history of the world's first national park. The issue featured contributions by Lee Whittlesey, Elizabeth Watry, Bruce Gourley, Tamsen Hert, Kathryn McKee, and Ellen Butler.

# 2018

# MEMBERS

## YELLOWSTONE

Randy and Jeanine Roberson

## WONDERLAND

Jonathan Doyle

## FAITHFUL

Stage Coach Inn  
CS Construction  
Crosswinds Inn

## SPONSOR

Cardon Realty LLC  
Richard Fairbanks  
Food Roundup  
Freeheel and Wheel  
Kristie McPhie  
WestMart Building Center  
Bullwinkle's Saloon and Eatery  
Fall River  
Jim and Peggy Russell  
Yellowstone Basin Bank  
Michael and Patti Weigand  
Town of West Yellowstone  
Honorable Scott and Linda Butler

## ASSOCIATE

Jack and Susan Davis  
The Gusher Pizza and Sandwich  
Jacklin's Fly Shop  
Kathrin Mautino  
Judith Meyer  
Joe Novak  
Dee Hall  
Barry Schwarz  
Thornton and Susan Waite  
Anna Nolan  
Barta Electric, Inc.  
Running Bear  
Eva Eagle  
Richard Eagle  
Hansen Bros. LLP  
Yellowstone Realty  
Gordon Holt  
Glen and Virginia Loomis  
Madison Crossing Lounge  
Dave Robinson

Ruth Ann Nydam

Dave and Cheryl Gill  
Harry and Joanne Mayo  
Pyle Foundation  
Ed and Yvonne Parish  
Tom Schenkenberg  
Carol Ashton  
Open Top Bus Co.  
Dale and Sherre Thoreson  
Bruce Gourley  
Buffalo Bar  
Nancy Meyer  
Tom Ansbach  
Nine Quarter Circle Ranch  
Marin Fogg  
Three Bear Lodge  
Montana Territorial Land Co.  
Mrs. Sue Conaghan  
David Mayfield  
Tamsen Hert  
Evergreen Motel  
Ernie's Deli  
Madison Hotel  
Delia Voitoff-Bauman

## FAMILY

Kevin and Mary Davis  
Kelly Anderson  
Robert Bower  
Shigeko Clarson,  
Giles Cokelet  
John Golba  
Wayne Hill  
Joanne Hitchcock  
James Jorgenson  
Anne Kinney  
Tom and Jan Leach  
Wesley Nelson  
Duncan Patten  
Pat and Ginger Povah  
Joan Stadler  
Firehole Ranch, LLC  
Michael and Paula Chatary  
Jane and Mike Heverly  
Greg Johnson  
James and Donna Stinnett  
Sharon and George Watkins

Howard and Pat Wattles

Doug and Nancy VanHowd  
Carol and Bob Leasure  
Sal and Bunny Romano  
West Yellowstone B & B  
Andy and Kathy Stirling  
Gene and Diana Christie  
White & White Vet  
Sherry Chandler  
Rob and Marybeth Cutietta  
Nick and Cynthia  
Stipanovich  
Trish Barnes  
Dick and Molly Harshman  
Tom and Alice Walters  
Patricia Rathmann  
Kendra Eagle Owen  
Geoffrey Krone  
Susan Eagle Reynolds

## INDIVIDUAL

Cochrane Accounting  
Linda Blank  
Frankie Eagle  
Robert Goss  
Michael Levonas  
Robert Paarlberg  
Patricia Toeckes  
Willard Warnock  
Jane Lamph  
Linda D. Jones  
Greg Nichols  
Sara J. Bradley  
LeRoy and Betty Liebelt  
Mike Slevin  
Richard and Betty Steadman  
Kimber Swenson  
Thea Lancaster  
Renee Dalton  
Leanna Pfaff  
Sandra Stuart Love  
Margaret Anne Payne  
William E Casaday  
George McKinney  
Robert Lindstrom  
Sophie Garsvo  
Daniela Tierra  
Jennifer Handley  
David Kogut  
Charles Pyle

# DECEMBER 31, 2018

## YELLOWSTONE HISTORIC CENTER

### YEAR-END STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

	Museum	Special Projects	Management and general	2018 Total	2017 Total
Changes in unrestricted net assets:					
Revenue and other support:					
Dining Lodge Operations	\$ -	\$42,925.00	\$ -	\$ 42,925.00	\$ 41,061.00
Fundraisers	\$ 1,707.30	\$ 8,681.03	\$ 28,783.00	\$ 39,171.33	\$ 37,679.00
General Donations	\$ 1,437.10	\$29,921.68	\$ 5,578.02	\$ 36,936.80	\$ 6,429.04
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22,554.00	\$ 22,554.00	\$ 12,400.00
Memberships	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18,550.00	\$ 18,550.00	\$ 10,875.00
Museum Admission	\$ 96,402.74	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 96,402.74	\$ 94,553.00
Merchandise Sales	\$ 35,889.44	\$ 287.40	\$ -	\$ 36,176.84	\$ 36,011.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 109.18	\$ -	\$ 67.50	\$ 176.68	\$ 581.00
Special Equipment Use	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -
Walk Into History Program	\$ -	\$ 2,815.00	\$ -	\$ 2,815.00	\$ 1,005.00
Total unrestricted revenues	\$135,545.76	\$ -	\$ 75,532.52	\$ 211,078.28	\$ 181,617.00
Total restricted revenues	\$ -	\$87,130.11	\$ -	\$ 87,130.11	\$ 58,977.04
Expenses:					
Archives & Collections Management	\$ -	\$ 6,221.14	\$ -	\$ 6,221.14	\$ 36.64
Dining Lodge Management	\$ -	\$14,722.50	\$ -	\$ 14,722.50	\$ 5,785.07
Educational Programs	\$ 2,048.60	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,048.60	\$ 1,606.00
Exhibits Management	\$ -	\$11,065.95	\$ -	\$ 11,065.95	\$ 12,832.13
Fundraisers	\$ -	\$11,346.87	\$ 955.27	\$ 12,302.14	\$ 6,283.00
Institutional Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,936.81	\$ 5,936.81	\$ 5,690.00
Maintenance & Repair	\$ -	\$11,000.00	\$ 1,838.92	\$ 12,838.92	\$ 3,017.00
Marketing	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,206.25	\$ 2,206.25	\$ 1,618.00
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8.00
Museum Operations	\$ 19,112.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,112.50	\$ 17,535.00
Office Operations	\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ 8,847.03	\$ 8,997.03	\$ 6,413.00
Payroll: Salaries & Emp. Contributions	\$ 35,728.74	\$21,415.55	\$ 77,198.25	\$ 134,342.54	\$ 130,395.68
Personnel	\$ 600.00	\$ -	\$ 1,573.18	\$ 2,173.18	\$ 1,676.00
Phones & Utilities	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,796.98	\$ 6,796.98	\$ 6,803.00
Rents	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,301.00	\$ 10,301.00	\$ 9,851.00
Special Equipment	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,400.00
Subcontractors	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,260.10	\$ 7,260.10	\$ 7,161.00
Walk Into History Program	\$ -	\$ 1,074.90	\$ -	\$ 1,074.90	\$ 887.49
Total expenses (unrestricted)	\$ 57,489.84	\$ -	\$ 122,913.79	\$ 180,403.63	\$ 174,985.90
Total expenses (restricted)	\$ -	\$79,496.91	\$ -	\$ 79,496.91	\$ 45,012.11
(Decrease) increase in unrestricted net asset:	\$ 78,055.92	\$ -	\$ (47,381.27)	\$ 30,674.65	\$ 6,631.10
(Decrease) increase in restricted net assets	\$ -	\$ 7,633.20	\$ -	\$ 7,633.20	\$ 13,964.93

# YELLOWSTONE HISTORIC CENTER

## BOARD & STAFF

### Board of Directors

Rawhide Johnson, Chair  
Glen Loomis, Vice Chair  
Bruce Gourley, Secretary  
Chipper Smith, Treasurer  
Linda Blank  
Amanda Newell  
Garrett Ostler  
Cindy Salisbury  
Jerry Schmier

### Staff

Kaitlin Johnson, Executive Director  
kjohanson@yellowstonehistoriccenter.org

Ellen Butler, Curator & Fundraising Assistant  
ebutler@yellowstonehistoriccenter.org



# YELLOWSTONE

## HISTORIC CENTER

Office Location: 220 Yellowstone Ave. West Yellowstone, MT 59758

Mailing Address: PO Box 1299 West Yellowstone, MT 59758

Website: [www.yellowstonehistoriccenter.org](http://www.yellowstonehistoriccenter.org)

Email: [info@yellowstonehistoriccenter.org](mailto:info@yellowstonehistoriccenter.org)

Office Phone & Fax: 406-646-7461

Museum Phone & Fax: 406-646-1100

The Yellowstone Historic Center is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Tax returns, board meeting minutes, and other documents are available for public review upon request at the administrative office