



Firehole River by Rowen Nyman

FIREHOLE RANCH

West Yellowstone Montana

SPRING 2010 NEWSLETTER



Dear Firehole friends,

We hope this newsletter finds you well, happy and coming out of hibernation.

With the darkness lifting and the snow receding here in Montana, summer is right around the corner! Keeping the thought of summer in mind will help sustain us through the mud season. Among our winter guests this year were a fox, bobcat, young bull moose, a herd of elk and a pack of wolves following close behind them. The ever-prevalent coyotes found a favorite napping spot under the porch of the boy's dorm.

We have much to share with you about the upcoming 2010 season. We are thrilled about the addition of a wonderful couple to our management team. Mark and Kim Parlett are amazing and they offer their contagious enthusiasm and fantastic array of skills to Firehole Ranch. As I begin my tenth year as owner, I truly believe we have found the dynamic team that can lead us into our next decade. You will find a letter from them on page two.

As all of you who visited in 2009 know, the stabilizing and energizing force was Shirley and Dennis Arsenault. I want to express my deepest gratitude to them for coming out of retirement and leading us through the last two summers. They will join everyone again this summer, but with Mark and Kim on board, they will start easing back into retirement, which means taking their grandkids camping and traveling the world. Please see Shirley and Dennis's letter inside for more on their adventures.

Soon to begin their 23rd year at the Ranch, our fabulous chefs, Bruno and Kris, are eager to create new and enticing meals for you. Bruno is about to have one of those big birthdays, so flip to the back page for the details and learn how you can help him celebrate. Alice, Rowan, Josh, George and Alan are all returning as is Scotty as our Head Guide. All are busy ensuring that the fishing continues to be an outstanding experience. You will also see many familiar faces returning this summer and a few fresh faces joining the team as well.

As you arrive at Firehole Ranch this summer, you will be thrilled to step foot on our new docks, designed and built by Dennis with Josh Duchateau as assistant carpenter. As you retire to your cabin after a day of fishing and spoiling your palette, new luxury linens await you for a restful sleep. There are a few other surprises — we'll let you discover when you arrive.

All of us look forward to welcoming you to our exciting 2010 season.

Warmest wishes,

Lyndy

Owner, Firehole Ranch



A new chapter for Mark, Kim and Firehole Ranch

There couldn't be two luckier people in the world and we are honored and enthused to call the Firehole Ranch our new home. We both hail from the Southeast and were lured to Montana by its open spaces, beautiful scenery and plethora of outdoor activities. We have both had successful careers, but on a 90-mile horse-packing trip with friends through Yellowstone National Park's Thoroughfare last summer, we set a goal to find a new professional trail in life; a trail that would allow us to work together in the landscape we both adore and to utilize our diverse experiences. What a place we have landed!

Mark grew up in Virginia and through his father, developed a passion for the outdoors at an early age fishing and hunting his way across rural Virginia. His love of fly fishing came from an "old-timer" named Ralph, who not only introduced him to the sport, but used fly fishing as a metaphor for life's ups and downs. After serving in the Marines and attending Virginia Commonwealth with a degree in therapeutic recreation and psychology, he was finally able to realize his childhood dream of moving to Montana. Mark has spent most of his last 15 years in Montana working with troubled teens in the outdoors as both the Director of one program and the Founder and Director of another program. While he didn't have much spare time, he spent what he did have skiing, fishing and hunting. The combination of helping people and being in the outdoors has fed his soul.

My story is a bit different, but fortunately has converged with Mark's story. I was bitten by the Southwest Montana bug on my trips to visit family in Bozeman. I understood the life-changing effects of spending time in the outdoors as I grew up on an Arabian horse

farm south of Atlanta and attended the University of the South in rural Tennessee. My challenge was figuring out how to make a life in such a beautiful place. Meeting Mark on a blind date three and a half years ago was just the nudge I needed to make it happen. I left my corporate marketing job with Miller Brewing Company and began working with Montana's Office of Tourism on their marketing and strategy. The number of friends who called and emailed me (and continue to do so) expressing their jealousy was monumental! I've been very fortunate to have had the experiences I have; an All-American college basketball player, Vanderbilt business school graduate and an incredible 10 years with some great companies. This is the next chapter in a spellbinding book.



During the off-season, we reside in our home on the Jefferson River and celebrate time in the outdoors with our kids/dogs Annie and Jack. The opportunity to join something like Firehole Ranch is rare and the perfect fit for us; working with people, both guests and staff, who have a deep passion for one of the most beautiful places on earth and all it has to offer. Top that off with Bruno's culinary masterpieces and it's simply perfect. Thank you for the opportunity and we look forward to meeting you all.



Greetings from Dennis and Shirley

The Firehole Ranch "opening" for Season 2010 is fast approaching, and the excitement is building for all of us as we look forward to un-shuttering the cabin and lodge windows, installing newly constructed docks, launching the boats, setting up the cabins with additional enhancements, anticipating the beautiful cuisine of Bruno and Kris, welcoming both our return staff and those newly on-board and best of all, greeting our guests once again and sharing with them the beauty of this exquisite place.

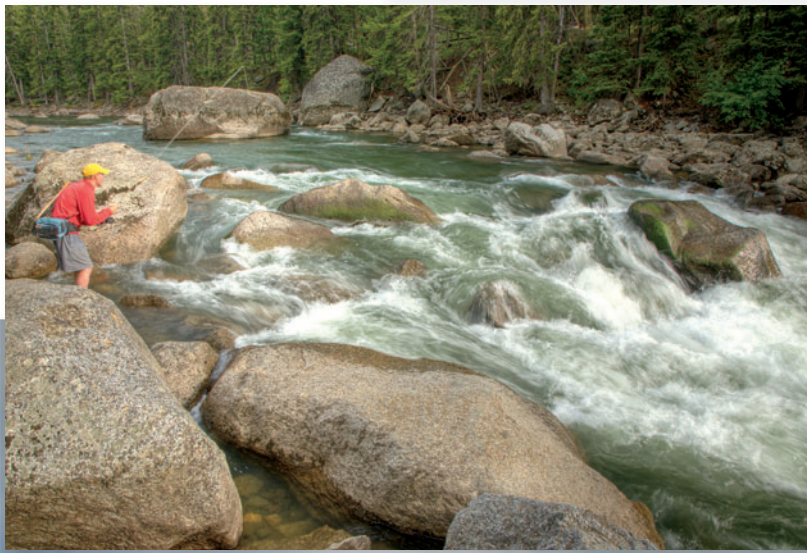
It truly is our pleasure to work with Mark and Kim as they assume the management role of the Ranch. To say that they are a dynamite duo is an understatement; they are a perfect fit for the Firehole. We truly can't wait for you to meet them! What this means for me and Dennis as we step back again to a flexible schedule is more time to travel the world, more time to camp with our grandchildren and children, and more frequent occasions to be with our mothers 90+ years of age in Minnesota and Maine.

To satisfy our need to explore the world, we are now on what we have termed a "mystery trip." We have set out for a month of travel with destinations unknown. Dennis as a retired military man has the privilege of hopping military flights as space is available wherever they might be going and on whatever military carrier it might be—a cargo plane, refueling tanker, or a plane carrying paratroopers. We will fly to Hawaii, and from Hickham Air Force Base on Oahu, we will hop on military flights to whatever their destination. The military base possibilities include Okinawa, Guam, Korea, Wake Island, Singapore, and other bases in the Pacific. It will be a fun month of travel, each of us carrying a mere backpack and passport.

The Firehole Ranch will be our landing spot for the summer, and we, along with Lyndy, Mark and Kim, can't wait to greet you there. See you soon.

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GARDINER RIVER
SLOUGH CREEK
RUBY RIVER
SODA BUTTE CREEK
MADISON RIVER



Clockwise from top:
Firehole River and
Geysers • Cutthroat •
Madison River at Ruby
Creek • Fishing Lamar
Canyon, photos by
Rowan Nyman



FIREHOLE RANCH

P.O. Box 686 ■ West Yellowstone, MT 59758



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FIREHOLE RANCH

West Yellowstone Montana

A Toast to Bruno

Ryan Turner

How can you begin to encapsulate the life of a person celebrating their fiftieth year? Start by understanding what motivates and moves the person at their core. For Chef Bruno, who turns 50 on March 15th, it's his wife Kris and their two children, Remy and Chloe, above all else. He also holds a very special place in his heart for the intimate expanses of Montana as well as his unparalleled passion for food. How lucky we all are to know and interact with this man gifted with a lifetime's worth of knowledge, creativity and enthusiasm.

A happy birthday and toast to Bruno for navigating his first 50 years so successfully. May you wind your way as well through at least 50 more.

To congratulate Bruno, email bruno@fireholeranch.com or send a card to:
210 N Church Avenue, Bozeman, MT 59715

