



FINDING AID

Geyser Observation and Study Association Listserv Records 1995-2011

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HISTORY

The Geyser Observation and Study Association (GOSA) is a non-profit scientific and educational corporation founded in 1983 and incorporated five years later in 1988. GOSA's purpose is the collection and dissemination of information about geysers and other geothermal phenomena in Yellowstone National Park and elsewhere.

GOSA publishes a bi-monthly newsletter titled *The Geyser Gazer Sput*. The newsletter reports on current geyser activity in Yellowstone and elsewhere in the world. The organization also publishes *GOSA Transactions* which consists of juried articles concerning both scientific and observational research studies involving geysers and geyser fields around the world as well as geyser histories.

The listserv is not an official service of GOSA, although many members of the listserv are also members of GOSA. David Monteith serves as moderator of the listserv which is hosted by Walla Walla University. Listserv members send their submittals to the moderator at geysers@lists.wallawalla.edu and after screening are posted at <https://lists.wallawalla.edu/mailman/listinfo/geysers>.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

Geyser Observation and Study Association Listserv Records 1995-2011

CATALOG NUMBER YELL 185561

VOLUME 3.5 LF

DESCRIPTION This collection consists of printed emails generated by listserv members. The listserv is a moderated, online discussion group for those interested in geysers. Besides discussing issues of interest to the geysers observation community, reports of current geysers activity are also frequently posted.

The following are examples of the types of submittals to the listserv:

- Current geysers activity
- Clarifications or corrections of previous posts
- News about vandalism or other activities that have a negative effect on the thermal features of the park
- News about GOSA members (i.e. Geysers Gazers) or actions that will affect them
- News about dangers, such as bear activity, near backcountry thermal features

Posts may also include historical items and discussions of various Yellowstone-related topics. Submissions, coming from members around the world, are posted nearly daily. They concern geysers activity in the park and occasionally from geysers in other parts of the world (e.g. New Zealand and Africa). These submissions may have also been used in GOSA's newsletter, *The Geysers Gazer Sput*, in whole or condensed unless the original posting included "permission for republication is denied." Members come from a variety of backgrounds. Some are geologists and other scientists, but many are merely interested geysers observers.

These records preserve the history of geysers activity, and

may provide researchers with data used to predict future eruptions since few geysers have shown stability over time. The collection may also be of use to researchers interested in the history of tourism in the American West as geysers are a major attraction to the park.

The collection is nearly complete, although emails from January 1998 through June 1998, and September 2002 through September 2003 are missing.

ORGANIZATION

This collection is arranged chronologically.

PROVENANCE

The collection was gathered by the park's historian, Lee Whittlesey, who is a listserv member and one of the three founding members of GOSA in 1983.

Accessions are YELL-1955, YELL-2036, YELL-2037, YELL-2514, and YELL-2716.

RESTRICTIONS

NO

*ASSOCIATED
MATERIALS*

The Geyser Gazer Sput, GOSA Transactions, Yellowstone Research Library

CONTAINER LIST

Box	Title
01	July 1995-June 1997
02	July 1997-December 1997
03	July 1998-June 2000
04	July 2000-August 2002
05	October 2004-October 2006
06	November 2006-June 2008
07	July 2008-June 2009
08	July 2009-February 2010
09	March 2010-December 2010
10	January 2011-December 2011