



KIRK'S KORNER

Kirk's View from 30,000 feet

I thought during this gloomy part of winter I would bring some color to the first Kirk's Korner of 2024. Looking at the changes in Morning Glory Pool, one of Yellowstone National Park's hot springs, from 55 years ago until today is fascinating. The distinct color of the pool is due to bacteria which inhabits the water and the color has changed over the years is due to cooler water temperatures and pollution. The pool is about 23 feet deep and is much too hot for swimming. Although it's not the hottest of the basin pools, it is still very hot. The warmest pools are approximately 200 degrees Fahrenheit and Morning Glory is 160 degrees Fahrenheit.

Seeing the pool in summer it is a fantastic photo opportunity, but on a clear day in the winter the pool can be breathtaking! It can be a little challenging to get to in the winter, trudging through feet of snow and dodging the Bison that hang out near the pools for food and warmth.

The pool was named by Mrs. E. N. McGowan, wife of Assistant Park Superintendent, Charles McGowan in 1883. She called it "Convolutus", the Latin name for the morning glory flower, which in the spring it resembles. By 1889, the name *Morning Glory Pool* had become common usage in the park. The feature has also been known as *Morning Glory Spring*.

On a few rare occasions the Morning Glory Pool has erupted as a geyser, usually following an earthquake or other nearby seismic activity. Several entryways have been clogged due to objects being thrown in by tourists, reducing the hot water supply, and in turn altering the overall appearance of the pool. Several attempts by park officials to artificially induce eruptions to clear the pool of debris and clear blocked entryways have been met with mixed results. Be sure to see this amazing hot spring on your next trip to Yellowstone National Park. I hope you enjoyed this edition of Kirk's Korner January 2024. *Kirk*



Morning Glory Pool
Yellowstone National Park
2021



1966

Welcome to NSB

Samantha Bergstrom - Titonka

Chad Lunning - Forest City



Vicki Swenson

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

This quarter our spotlight is on Vicki Swenson. She is a teller at our Forest City office. Vicki has been with the bank 11 years and has a total of 20 years in banking. She has 2 grown children, 3 grown grandchildren, and a dog Maggie Mae. In her spare time she enjoys spending time outdoors.

Looking Forward

- *Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Jan 15th - Bank Closed - Training Day
- *Super Bowl Sunday - Feb 11th *Valentine's Day - Feb 14th
- *President's Day - Feb 19th - Bank Closed
- *Daylight Savings Time Begins - March 10th
- *St. Patrick's Day - March 17th



4th Quarter Highlights



All branches had open houses on December 15th with goodies and cider this year and the staff had fun celebrating with their Christmas sweaters on December 22nd.

Did You Know?

*The total number of NSB Bank debit card transactions for 2023 was **1,333,079**.



*That total number of transactions equated into over **\$55,798,000** of purchasing power for NSB Bank Customers!

Looking Back



This Christmas season seven elves joined our bank and we were excited to share their adventures with our customers on Facebook and in our lobbies.

Employee Donations

Our employees have the option to wear Jeans on Friday for a donation. During the year each branch chooses where to send their donations. Northwood gave their money to Worth County Shop with a Cop and bought pizza for the Northwood Fire Dept. The Mason City branches gave \$300 to the Hawkeye Harvest Food Bank and \$300 to the Humane Society of North Iowa. Forest City contributed to \$475 to friends of the Winnebago County Conservation Foundation. Thompson donated to a cancer benefit golf tournament and Titonka's donation of \$445 went to the Titonka Community Club.

"Believe you can and you're halfway there ." - Theodore Roosevelt