

# Biography of Editor Janet Chapple



Janet Chapple at Castle Geysler, 2011

Janet Chapple's love affair with Yellowstone goes back to early childhood days when her parents worked in Old Faithful Inn. Born and raised in Billings, Montana, she was the second daughter of musician parents. Her father worked several summers as transportation agent. She prizes her memories of playing in Yellowstone Park with her sister Joan: visiting with rangers, attending sing-alongs, and playing hide-and-seek in the inn.

In 1995 Chapple started her five years of writing the *Yellowstone Treasures* guidebook, visiting the park every year to sightsee and research, eventually attending about twenty Yellowstone Institute workshops. She founded

Granite Peak Publications to publish *Yellowstone Treasures* in 2002. Then she began her larger project of researching early writing about the park, which led to *Through Early Yellowstone*.

Chapple's background is as a professional performer and teacher of cello. She was awarded a BA in Music cum laude from University of Southern California, followed many years later by an MA in Music from Indiana University. In Rhode Island she raised three daughters with her husband Bill Chapple, professor of structural geology at Brown University. After Bill's death she married another geology professor and family friend, Bruno Giletti.

With colleague Suzanne Cane, Chapple translated and annotated *Yellowstone, Land of Wonders*, an 1883 French travelogue by Jules Leclercq published by University of Nebraska Press in 2013. Since turning over Granite Peak Publications to her daughter Beth in 2014, she has devoted time to blogging at <http://www.yellowstonetreasures.com/author-blog/> and completing *Through Early Yellowstone: Adventuring by Bicycle, Covered Wagon, Foot, Horseback, and Skis*.

Nowadays Janet and Bruno live in Oakland, California. Chapple still plays cello in informal chamber music sessions and enjoys lap swimming, walking with friends, reading, knitting, playing Scrabble, and watching movies. She is always happy to give advice to first-time Yellowstone visitors—or anyone who will listen!

## Little-known fact

- Mount Inabnit in Montana is named for Janet's maternal grandfather Fred—a leader of mountaineering expeditions in the Beartooth Range in the early twentieth century.

## In the eyes of others

*Foreword Magazine* has called Janet: "Yellowstone Institute student, professional cellist, and geyser geek."

Nancy Lorraine of *Midwest Book Review* wrote: "The author . . . has spent much of her life becoming better acquainted with the riches of the area and she is generously sharing her knowledge with this beautiful guidebook."