



Gray Wolf Ski Club

Serving the senior skiers of the San Juans



January 2016
Volume 32 Issue 1



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Happy New Year everybody! What's not to be happy about when it comes to our favorite pastime, skiing and socializing. Mother Nature has seen fit to drop copious amounts of snow on our favorite resort this season and all in perfect doses. Some might argue that the Christmas dump was a bit extreme, at one point forcing an almost unprecedented closure of the entire ski area on Christmas day. The Cornish Game hens were spared from the Christmas lunch menu but in truth their fate had already been sealed long ago in plastic wrap. The closure the day after Christmas was troublesome for those of us on the west side. As charitable as we wanted to be the day after Christmas, we were disturbed by the fact that our east side brethren would be regaling us with stories of the greatest ski day ever in the history of the world. A world only they would enjoy. There would be no hint of remorse on their part, just the grinding truth that they just might be right. I must confess at this point that the wager that I foolishly entered into in the summer, that there would be no more than 350 inches of snow this season, is looking a bit tenuous, much to the delight of my so called friends. However under the circumstances, I will gladly take a pecuniary hit for the team.

The Christmas Party was once again held at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts and was sold out. We ate, drank, sang and danced our way into Christmas. In the end the diehard dancers faced down our own DJ Mike Hayward in a battle of who would blink first and call an end to the festivities. By mutual agreement it ended as a tie but not until Mikey was forced to dig deep in his arsenal by playing "Turn out the Lights the Party's Over". The five course meal by Smoken Moes was superb. I would like to thank Tim and Laura Moore for providing their beautiful venue and Mike Hayward (Santa/Grinch) for spinning the tunes that got everybody up and dancing. Thanks also to those who helped set up and clean up after the event, a real team effort.

So, down to business. We are heading into the part of the season where the Gray Wolves trot out their party apparel and signal to other skiers that getting older comes with a whole new set of rewards. Coming up we have a full plate of activities planned. All of our themed parties are designed to coincide with the Baby Boomer clinics held by the ski area. If you have a season pass it costs \$39.00 to participate in the clinic. There is always something to learn. Then enjoy one of three subsidized luncheons that your membership entitles you to. The dates and themes will be outlined later in this newsletter however the first date is January 12th and the Theme is "Cowboy Up", so don your best western finery and ride those untamed bucking bronco skis of yours. Other themes will be Mardi Gras in February, Hippie Day in March and Beach Day on the final Tuesday that the ski area is open. Also throughout the ski season, avail yourself of the free fountain drinks on Tuesday that are available at Base Camp. These are paid for by the Club so get to work on recouping your membership investment.

Ad hoc Tuesday Happy Hour gatherings of Gray Wolves continue at either Riff Brewing or Wolfe Brewing, usually starting after 2.00 PM. All of January we will be at Wolfe Brewing and February it's back to Riff Raff.

We will also continue with our popular Gray Wolves Theater night with the next performance being "Moon over Buffalo" scheduled for Thursday January 21. See details about this later in this newsletter. We will provide additional information on other upcoming live performances.

I would encourage members who would like to organize events through the club, particularly skiing and social events, to contact your board with your suggestions. We can only ever be as good as our member's willingness to participate, so we would love to hear from you.

I wish you all the best for the upcoming year and hope that the snow continues to be plentiful and the joy of unbridled fun in the snow stays with you.

Simon

Gray Wolf Officers - 2015/16

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Club Contact Information



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To access our website click on the link below.

WWW.GRAYWOLFSKICLUB.COM

If you know a member who does not have email please help us, and them, by sharing the information in this newsletter with them.

Especially the information about our luncheons and events on the mountain.
Thank You, Mary Gamache

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

🎉 FRED & LUANN FISHER 🎉

GARDEN CITY, AL

🎉 RALPH GOULDS 🎉

PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO

🎉 KEVIN JARVIS 🎉

PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO

🎉 KIM KRAHN 🎉

SOUTH FORK, CO

🎉 HAPPY NEW YEAR 🎉

🎉 STEVE LENZ 🎉

PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO

Boomers' Clinic at Wolf Creek Ski Area



The rate is \$39.00 for Season Pass holders.



For non season pass holders who are 65+ (\$65.00)

For non season pass holders who are 50 - 64 (\$82.00)

Lessons are geared towards beginner to advanced levels.

Preregistration not required. Buy your ticket at the main ticket window
on the morning of the lesson. Lessons are from 10 - Noon

The dates for the lessons are January 12, February 9, and March 1 and 29.

In Memoriam

Long time Gray Wolf member Edward H. Mergens, beloved husband to Elizabeth A. Mergens, passed away on December 28, 2015. After 35 years with Shell Oil, Ed retired and he and Betty discovered Wolf Creek and Pagosa Springs. They fell in love with the area and became active members with the Gray Wolves from the outset. Their immediate and extended family are still avid skiers and have many lasting memories of being here. Our condolences and thoughts go out to his wife Betty, and their family including Stacy who is active with the club today and is a second generation Gray Wolf.

He will be missed, but not forgotten.



Gray Wolf Western Party 2009

Gray Wolf Ski Club Discounts

The following retailers have offered to provide discounts to members of the club.

Ski and Bow Rack: (Pagosa Springs)

10% off any ski tuning, ski repair and clothing.

Also ask for locals discount on demo rental skis

Pagosa Ski Rental: (Pagosa Springs)

15% off any ski tuning.

8200 Mountain Sports: (South Fork)

10% off any retail sales and 50% off any demos during the week.

They have a very wide range of powder skis.

Alpine Bike and Ski: (South Fork)

25% off any demo rental skis and 15% off any retail items.

Hot Springs: (Pagosa Springs)

\$8.00 entrance fee on Tuesday's.

\$8.00 for any Gray Wolf group of 14 people or more at any time except holidays.

Overlook Hot Springs: (Pagosa Springs)

Tuesdays - buy 1 get one free on beer and wine purchases.

Summit Ski and Sports: (Pagosa Springs)

Monday - Thursday - 50% off hot wax application for skis and snowboards.

The Outfitter: (Pagosa Springs)

10% discount

Gray Wolf Ski Club preferred lodging rates at the following hotels in Pagosa Springs.

High Country Lodge (970) 264-4181

\$80 per night including breakfast

(excluding weekends & holidays)

Mountain Landing (970) 731-5345

15% off their seasonal pricing

Quality Inn (970) 731-4141

15% below listed rate including breakfast

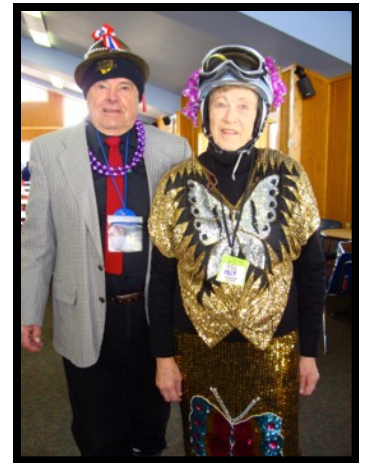
Gray Wolf Theater Night

If it's January it must be a farce time at the Theater. In the tradition of "Boeing Boeing" or "Lend me a Tenor" the next Gray Wolves Theater night is "Moon over Buffalo" scheduled for Thursday January 21st, 2016. "Moon over Buffalo" tells the story of two aging actors trying to resurrect their acting careers by putting on two productions at the same time, Noel Cowards Private Lives and Cyrano de Bergerac. With the possibility of the famous director Frank Capra being in the audience the stakes for the two aging actors has been raised dramatically. In typical farce fashion anything that can go wrong does.

Tickets will be discounted for the Gray Wolves for \$26.00, and includes a reserved seat if you arrive at least 15 minutes before the 7.00 PM performance. These tickets will be available on a first come first served basis. Some of the shows have been selling out so do not delay. Purchases can be made online at www.pagosacenter.org and accessing the promo code "gw3" or by contacting the theater box office at 970 731 7469. If you have any further questions contact Simon Fuger at 970 264 1003.

Luncheons and Theme Days for Ski Season 2016

The first Club sponsored lunch in the Main Lodge, at Wolf Creek Ski Area will be held on **Tuesday, January 12, 2016**. The Club will pay \$5.00 of whatever you choose from the menu. You are responsible for the balance of the bill, including your drink. Please respond, on the website (www.graywolfskiclub.com) by Jan. 7. The ski area will need to know if you are choosing the 'special for the day' (beef stroganoff) in order to plan accordingly. When you respond, please indicate if you will have the 'special'. The theme for the first luncheon will be **"Cowboy Up Day"**. Dress in your Western attire and belly up to the Lodge food line to get your grub!



Our Mardi Gras celebration is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 9**, in Base Camp. The Club will provide 6" Subway sandwiches, chips, and cake. Let's go all out this year and make this the "best dressed" Gray Wolf Mardi Gras event of the last seven years (I can't believe we've been doing this for 7 years!)

On **Tuesday, March 1**, we will enjoy our second lunch in the Main Lodge. The theme again this year is **"Hippie Day"**. Get out those old bell bottoms, peace signs, and beads and join us for a day of peace, love, and skiing, of course. Again, the Club will pay \$5.00 of your lunch.

The last event of the ski season will be held on **Tuesday, March 29**. We will celebrate the end of the season with a **"Beach Party"** potluck to be held in Base Camp. Dress in your favorite beach attire and bring a dish to share. The potluck will begin at 11:30. Weather permitting, there will be music and dancing on the deck.

Gray Wolf Christmas Party at The Performing Arts Center Dec. 15, 2015











Another Festive Christmas Party!!

The Performing Arts Center was, once again, the venue for our annual Christmas party. All the decorations from the set of the production of White Christmas added to the holiday ambiance.

100 members and guests attended. We enjoyed dinner, drinks and dancing. Smoken Moes catered the delicious food. We are always thankful to have Joanne Irons and her student volunteers helping to serve.

Our own Mikey Hayward/Santa/Grinch provided the music. The dance floor was packed!!

Thanks to Lassie Olin and her volunteers for coming early on the day of the party to help set up and to the volunteers who came the following morning to assist in the clean-up.

