



Gray Wolf Ski Club

Serving the senior skiers of the San Juans



April 2010
Volume 27 Issue 2



Letter from the President

Greetings all Gray Wolves,

It's hard to believe another ski season is almost over. It was another great year on the mountain. Thanks to all for being a great group of folks enjoying a very special mountain.

I'll see you at the 'Closing Day Party' on Sunday, April 10th.

Hoping for some late snow and bonus weekends!

Have you heard the news? Plans for 1,000 more acres and 6 more lifts!

I love it just the way it is.

We would like to honor Charles Elliott on his acceptance into the Colorado Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame with a lifetime membership to the Gray Wolf Ski Club.

Don't forget to save the date, Saturday, June 25, at the PLPOA Clubhouse, for our business meeting and pot luck.

Keith Jones

Important Reminder

To buy a preseason ski pass for Wolf Creek at the special Gray Wolf rate for next ski season, your club dues must be paid between May 1 and August 31. You may go to the website at www.graywolfskiclub.com and download the application form. Please mail it, along with your check, to the club address.

The membership dues increased as of Sept. 1, 2010.

\$15. for a single

\$20. for couples

Drawing for Dining Gift Certificate

All memberships paid between May 1, and June 24, will qualify for a drawing to award a \$50. gift certificate to the Alley House Grille restaurant. Your dues must be received at our P.O. Box by June 24th to qualify for the drawing. The drawing will be held at the business meeting on Sat., June 25.

Gray Wolf Officers - 2010/11

President:
Keith Jones 970-731-3034

Vice President:
David Lopez 970-731-8448

Secretary:
Lorrie Church 970-731-2217

Treasurer:
Ron Chacey 970-264-6275

Membership Coordinator:
Cynthia Riski 817-938-8609

Publications Editor:
Mary Gamache 970-731-8389

Program Chair:
Doe Stringer 970-731-316

Club Contact Information



Mailing Address:

Gray Wolf Ski Club
P.O. Box 2394
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147



The 2010/2011 membership directory is available online.

Click on the link below.

WWW.GRAYWOLFESKICLUB.COM

	<u>A Warm Welcome to Our Newest Gray Wolves</u>	
Jim Andrews Grove City, OH	Lisa Hays Durango, CO	Rick and D'Ann Whittle Springdale, AR



WOLF CREEK CLOSING DAY POT LUCK

SUNDAY, APRIL 10 11:30 AT BASE CAMP



Join all your ski buddies for our last party of this ski season.
The club will provide plates, utensils, and beverages.
Please bring your favorite dish that will feed 8 - 10 people.

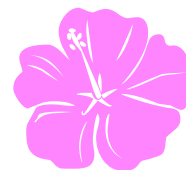
Let's close out the 2010/2011 ski season in style.



Annual Business Meeting and Potluck

Pagosa Lakes Club House

Saturday, June 25, 2011 11:30 a.m.



Our theme for the meeting is a Hawaiian Luau. Join in the fun and dress for the occasion. The club will provide chicken, plates, utensils, and beverages. Please bring a side dish that will feed 8 - 10 people.

We will have the annual reports from our President, Program Chair and Treasurer, as well as hold an election of the following officers: Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Publications Editor. Anyone wishing to volunteer to be nominated for these offices, please contact one of the current Board members.



The first Club luncheon of the year was held, at the Upper Lodge, on January 11. 93 members participated. It was great to see many members in attendance who do not ski.



The Club paid \$5.00 toward each member's lunch. We had a choice of anything on the menu.

**On February 1, we celebrated the 80th birthday of three Gray Wolf members!
Wayne Odom - Sept. 5, Ozzie Wells - Feb. 7, and Dan Coulter - Mar. 8**



Wayne, Dan, and Ozzie



The following article was published in The South Fork Times newspaper

Local men celebrate 80th on Alberta

Posted: Friday, Mar 11th, 2011 BY: TONI STEFFENS-STEWARD



Odom, Wells and others take a break to enjoy the view from the top of Alberta Peak.

SOUTH FORK – South Fork residents Wayne Odom and Ozzie Wells chose to celebrate turning 80 in a way many younger people could not manage.

In February, along with a group of younger skiers, the two hiked up and skied down Alberta Peak at Wolf Creek Ski area. The Peak rises to 11,900 feet and the men were able to scale it on what has been described as a beautiful sunny day.

The ski trail is rated as extreme on the Wolf Creek Area ski map and Alberta Peak is recommended for experts only on the ski area website.

Other members of the Gray Wolf Ski Club joining in included Mike Evans, Marty Goldberg and Poppy Borland, all from South Fork, and Charlene Stipe, Klaus Neubert, Simon Fuger and Will James, all from Pagosa Springs.

Congratulations to all three of you!

You are an inspiration to us! We hope you will continue to enjoy the sport of skiing for many years to come.

Colorado Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame Announces 2011 Pioneer

(Press Release from the Colorado Ski & Snowboard Museum)

Vail, CO - The Colorado Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame is pleased to announce one of the newest members of the Hall of Fame.

Charles Elliott joins the Colorado Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame as a member of the class of 2011. He will be honored as a Pioneer for his involvements with skiing on Wolf Creek Pass.

In 1934, a 21 year-old Charles Elliott and a friend decided to try downhill skiing. With two pairs of homemade wooden skis, they headed to Wolf Creek Pass and discovered they loved the sport. However, it was not until 1936 that Elliott was introduced to ski poles and the concept of turning on skis instead of going straight down the mountain.

By the 1930s, skiing was picking up popularity around America, including in the Wolf Creek Pass area. The Monte Vista, Del Norte and Alamosa ski clubs united into the San Luisa Valley Ski Association in 1937. Wolf Creek Pass became their full-time ski location, thanks to Elliott's knowledge and previous exploration of the mountain.

From 1936 to 1944, Elliott was the driving force behind an incredible growth and interest in skiing in the San Luis Valley region. His accomplishments during this time include construction of shelter facilities, fundraisers, establishment and training of a local Ski Patrol to increase safety on the mountain, installation of rope tows, exploration of the Wolf Creek Ski Area, host of international skiers, not to mention serving as the coordinator for the early operations of the Wolf Creek Ski Area.

After serving in the U.S. Army Air Corps as a weather man and cryptographer from 1942 to 1946, Elliott returned to reestablish skiing in Wolf Creek Ski Area as well as restore the local Ski Patrol, which had dissolved during World War II.

For his excellent service as a patrolman and leader, Elliott was awarded a lifetime badge in the National Ski Patrol. He was also instrumental in defeating an initiative to build a commercial and resort project at the base of Wolf Creek.

During the 2005-06 and 06-07 seasons, Elliott skied over 50 days in each season, at ages 92 and 93. The following season, he skied over 35 days. Now at age 98, he is the oldest member of the Gray Wolf Ski Club, consisting of 600 local members who are 50 or older. For over 75 years, after discovering downhill skiing, Charles Elliott has persistently pioneered the sport at the Wolf Creek Ski Area.

CHARLES ELLIOTT
GRAY WOLF SKI CLUB

Tuesday, February 8, we enjoyed a day of celebration for Charles Elliott with our Gray Wolf luncheon at the Wolf Creek Upper Lodge. Along with Wolf Creek Ski Area owners, Davey and Rosanne Pitcher, we congratulated Charles for his acceptance into the Colorado Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame! Charles will be honored, along with four other members, at the 2011 induction ceremony on November 5.

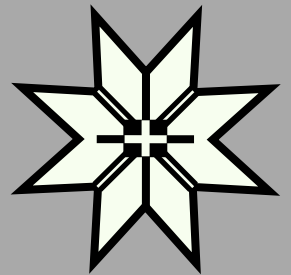
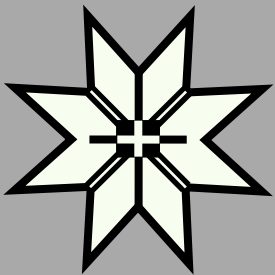


Charles, with fellow Gray Wolf members who gathered outside, in spite of the storm, for a group photo.



Rosanne Pitcher, Charles Elliott, and Davey Pitcher

Many members posed for a photo with Charles!





Mardi Gras 2011

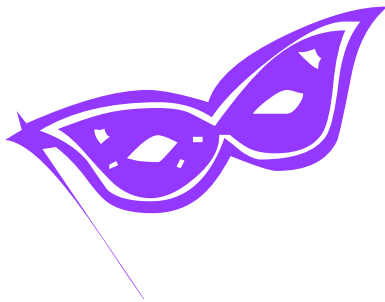


Lorraine Hoffman, one of the founding members of the Gray Wolf Ski Club, with Poppy Borland.



On March 1, 93 Gray Wolf members gathered at Base Camp for our second annual Mardi Gras celebration at Wolf Creek. Many members wore creative costumes. The club served Subway sandwiches, assorted chips, and cake for lunch. It was a fun filled day of skiing with blue bird skies and spring like temperatures.





Here are some photos from other fun days on the mountain which gave Gray Wolf members an opportunity to express their creativity.

Retro Day Feb. 15



Hat Day Mar. 29

