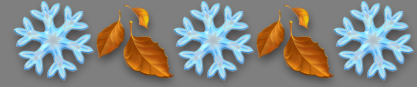


**October 2020
Volume 36 Issue 4**



President's Letter

Greetings Gray Wolves!

Again I sincerely hope that this letter finds you and your families in good health. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome any new members to the club and thank all the rest of you for your continuing enthusiasm.

Well it looks like the Wolf Creek ski area will be the first to open in Colorado for the 2020- 2021 ski season. They received approval from the Silver Thread health district to begin operation. A preseason Covid-19 operation plan as well as the Colorado State guidelines will have to be followed. Links to both guidelines can be found on the Wolf Creek Ski Area website. It looks like we will be getting back to the basics with only the lifts and the restrooms being offered to begin the season. Our group goes up that mountain to ski anyway... So let's put those lifties to work! I am confident that this group will make the most of the opportunities presented to them this season! WCSA plans on operating the Treasure, Bonanza and Nova lifts initially and they should have a complete November schedule determined by Sunday November 1st. This soft opening will allow staff members to ease into understanding Covid-19 protocols and make the transition from what they have previously known as ski area operations. We are fortunate to have a ski area operation so dedicated to the sport.

It all starts with the snow and I don't know if Becky and I can take all of the credit but we sure contributed to this past storm. We don't have a snow dance that works all that well... But we do have a snow drive that has an incredible track record. We normally go back to Southern Illinois to visit family and friends for Thanksgiving and Christmas and while we are gone there is ALWAYS a big dump! It is a 1050 mile jaunt that takes 15 to 17 hours but it is well worth it. We get a great visit and Wolf Creek gets the snow. This past week we left in the wee hours on Tuesday the 20th in order to attend Becky's sister's 60th birthday party and celebrate my Mom's 93rd as well. But now we are packing up to return home and ski... now that you all have the snow. We all know we need much more but this is at least a start.

I know that there were several members involved in unfortunate mishaps last ski season. Be sure to get ski patrol involved this season so there is proper documentation for those involved and we can hopefully help curb this growing problem.

There is nothing that can stop this group from showing their creativeness by having a major wardrobe change... So to that end... we have 3 dress up days planned. See all the details on page 3 of the newsletter.

Again this year Sheila has secured some wonderful local discounts. Also please continue to monitor our website (which Cynthia does such a great job on) so we can keep you all updated during this fluid situation.

Well goodbye for now... Hoping that its snows heavy and often. See you on the slopes!

Gerard Henken

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To access our website click on the link below.

www.graywolfskiclub.com

GWSC Calendar of Events

October	November	December	January
<p><u>Wed. Oct. 28 - Sun. Nov. 1</u> 9 am - 4 pm</p> <p>Thanks to an early season storm total of 22" Wolf Creek will temporarily open.</p>			<p><u>Tues. Jan. 12</u> 10:00 am - Noon Forever Young Clinic</p> <p>Wolf Creek Ski Area</p>
			<p><u>Tues. Jan. 12</u> All Day at Wolf Creek (No luncheon)</p> <p>Costume Theme: Pajama Day</p>

NOTICES

1. Gray wolf name tags are in!

Due to the restrictions in gatherings, the club has arranged with our local UPS Store to distribute name tags this year. They are located next to City Market, 135 Country Center Dr., Suite F. Hours are Mon – Sat, 8am -5pm. Please stop by at your convenience, after October 26, to pick up your name tag if ordered.

If you know you will not be traveling to Pagosa this year, and would like your name tag mailed, please email Stacy Mergens at littlerider8@hotmail.com. Please include "GW Name Tags" in the subject line so that I easily search my email for requests. Also, please verify you mailing address.

2. For the latest information regarding Wolf Creek Ski Area's Covid-19 operation plan and Colorado state guidelines, please check their home page at www.wolfcreekski.com

2021 THEME DAYS

At this time we do not have plans for luncheons on the mountain this season due to unknown restrictions at the ski area. We will keep you updated of any changes.

However, we will be having dress up days! We won't let these circumstances keep us from giving in to our propensity to put on costumes and act somewhat silly while enjoying the slopes at Wolf Creek.

In that spirit, start planning your costumes now for the following dress-up days.

Jan 12 - Pajama Day



Feb 16 - Mardi Gras



Mar 9 - Wolf Day



Normally, you would see photos of our 10th annual tailgate party in this edition of the newsletter. We typically hold this event in the parking lot at Wolf Creek on the first Saturday of the pre-season pass sale. It has been a tradition since 2011 and is one of our most popular and well attended events. However, normal does not seem to apply to 2020. Due to Covid-19 restrictions this year, the pass sale was held online or by phone and we unfortunately had to cancel our party.

So, instead, I am taking you down memory lane by sharing photos from past tailgate parties.







