



Farewell to Winter

April 2025

Volume 41 Issue 2

Gray Wolf Ski Club



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

This year's ski season is winding to a close. It was a light snow year, but there were still lots of great skiing opportunities. Hopefully, next year will be even better.

We had good turnouts for the luncheons at Wolf Creek and the weekly happy hours have been very well attended. Hope you can join us and meet more of your fellow club members.

Even though the ski season is over, there are plenty of opportunities to join your fellow Gray Wolves for fun, adventure and socializing. There are groups that enjoy hiking, fishing, biking, travel, ATVing, RVing, camping, reading books (OK, really drinking wine and gossiping), playing cards, and many more. Join in the fun!



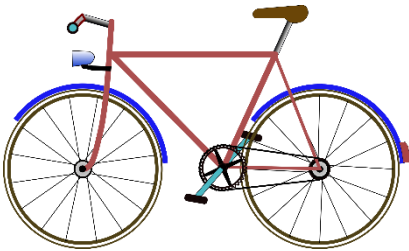
We have several events coming up. We have two trash pick-ups. One will be along the section of Highway 160 that the club has adopted, and the second will be at the ski area. With a large turnout, it's not a lot of work. Brats, refreshments, and socializing afterward will be provided as in the past. Next, our annual Business Meeting will be held on June 14th at the PLPOA Clubhouse. This year it will be fully catered so be sure and attend.

In celebration of our fortieth year as a club, annual dues next year will be reduced to \$10, and we will be doing lots of special events and raffles. Make sure all your friends and neighbors know about this incredible value!

Take care and have a wonderful summer!

John Thomas

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April	May	June
<p>Gray Wolves Board Nominations open April 15th</p> <p>National Ferret Day – Apr 2nd</p> 	<p>Nominations close May 7th, and voting runs May 10-17th (see details below)</p> <p>Twilight Zone Day - May 11th</p> 	<p>Annual Meeting June 14th at PLPOA clubhouse 11:00- 2:00pm</p> <p>World Bicycle Day – June 3rd</p> 
<p>West Side Happy Hour Tuesdays from 3 - ? Pagosa Bar</p>	<p>West Side Happy Hour Tuesdays from 3 - ? TBD</p>	<p>West Side Happy Hour Tuesdays from 3 - ? TBD</p>

We have four positions up for our 2025-2026 season. Nominations will open April 15th to May 7th, with voting running May 10-17th. Of the four positions up for nominations, three, Vice President, Publications, and Secretary are all willing to continue in their roles. Stacy, our Treasurer for the last 12 years will be stepping down and we are soliciting new nominations. An email will be shared that will have instructions for how to nominate and vote.

2025 Membership Information

As of April 2025, the Gray Wolf Ski Club is 1,190 members strong!

The **annual membership renewal** period for the **2025 -2026** season runs **from April 15 to August 15, 2025**. Anyone over 50 is eligible to become a Gray Wolf!

- Annual membership dues, reduced by \$5 for 2025, allow members discounted season ski pass rates for those age 65+, and for those meeting the Wolf Creek Ski Area grandfathered clause issued in August 2023.
- Members who have been Gray Wolf Ski Club members for the previous 3 or more consecutive years as they turn 80 years of age or older can apply for their membership at no annual charge, however, they must renew membership as lifetime members each year.
- Additional benefits include:
 - Members can participate in many outdoor and social event opportunities as well as discounted luncheons at Wolf Creek Ski Area.
 - Local business discounts listed on the Gray Wolf Ski Club website are available to members. Members receive a group email for password access to the local business discount and membership lists.



Update on Japan 2026

"Thank you for all of you have expressed an interest in the proposed Japan Ski Trip. We are getting closer to finalizing. Anticipated cost for the two-week trip will be around \$5,500.00 per person, double occupancy. The departure day will be around January 27th, 2026 (depending on availability of flights). The basic trip will include airfare from Durango to Tokyo. Transfers and three-night stay in Tokyo, transportation to Hakuba, in the Japanese Alps. Accommodation in Hakuba, six days of skiing in Hakuba. At least one optional day of sightseeing for the snow monkeys and shrines. Transportation to Kyoto and three nights accommodation in Kyoto. Two days of tours of Kyoto. Transfers back to Tokyo and the flight back to Durango. For those that want to have more skiing we will price a trip that takes out the Kyoto portion and goes to Hokkaido (Niseko). This will require flying from Tokyo to New Chitose Airport. This is an internal Japan flight, and you will be responsible for making those flight reservations yourself. The club can book the hotels. The trip will include all breakfasts and possibly some dinners. A \$300.00 nonrefundable deposit will be required to secure your booking. Likely you will need to decide within 10 days of the release of the itinerary to secure your participation in the trip. Those that wish to make their own flight reservations you are welcome to do so. Make sure you coordinate with the standard itinerary as much as possible. In the event of any disruption of your flights it will be up to you to catch up with the group.

The itinerary will be forwarded when finalized. Please contact Simon Fuger if you are still interested at simonfuger@msn.com or calling 970 264 1003.

East Side Happy Hour Pics!



90th Birthday Celebration!

Pat Nabers celebrated her 90th birthday with her son Bill in January at the ski lodge. Pat and Dalas compare their Wolf Creek Silver 80 pins.



2025 Ski Luncheons.



Gray Wolves Officer 2024-2025

President	John Thomas	210-393-6481
Vice President	Sheila Manzanares	719-464-6313
Secretary	Becky Gerze	303-921-6766
Program Chair	Suanne McLellan	512-797-6097
Treasurer	Stacy Mergens	303-870-9998
Membership & Web Chair	Cynthia Riski	817-938-8609
Membership Chair In training	Suzanne Hill	512-201-5042
Publication	Carolyn Wilson	972-746-8146
East Side Representative	Paul Midgley	970-731-3626

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