



PANHANDLER



GREAT FALLS SKI & BOARD CLUB NEWSLETTER January 2022 Issue

Club's Mission: Promote skiing in Central Montana by sponsoring special events and fun ski trips locally and abroad.

PRESIDENT'S MOGUL

Greetings all!

The snow has finally arrived, but along with it came in the bitter cold. Hopefully, many of you have made it out to the hills already, my first trip will be this weekend for the White Sulphur, Showdown trip. I am excited to get out and back into the season!

We have a lot going on for the rest of the season, check emails, Facebook, and website for details. Chelle has dramatically cleaned up our website-but due to some weird technical issues (that Shortgrass is working on) some browsers may still show the outdated material. If so, go into your setting and clear your history. Hopefully, this will get resolved soon.

Our Snowball dance is Sat. January 15th at the Elks. It is encouraged to dress up! See article for details.

We have changed up pricing details on some of the discounted lift tickets – see article for info.

Lastly, we have cleaned up the membership lists. If you know somebody who is not receiving the emails or newsletter, it is because they are not a current or paid member. Please refer them to me with any questions. Our email is gfskimail@gmail.com. People can register online as well – one of the easiest ways is to click “Join” on our Facebook page. The club is looking at PayPal options as another form of easy payment for members.

Stay safe out there

Andy Ferrin
President

January 15 Snowball—Mark Your Calendar

The annual formal Snowball dance is scheduled for January 15 at the Elk's Lodge. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served from 7–11. The Midnight Ride band will play music for your dancing and listening pleasure from 8-12 p.m.

Paid members admission is free and include one free drink ticket. The price of admission for non-members is \$15. Membership signups will be accepted from 7-8 p.m.

The event is formal, but semi-formal attire is acceptable. If you have further questions, contact Rachel Campbell or Angela James for details. Otherwise, see you there!

Bulk Discount Lift Tickets Going Fast

Last month the club received the bulk discount lift ticket package from Montana Ski Areas Association. At last count, all of the Big Sky tickets were sold. One Whitefish ticket is available at \$55.

PRICE REDUCTION!: BRIDGER BOWL & RED LODGE
There are 19 Bridger Bowl tickets available at \$35 each. These tickets may be used at any Montana area except Big Sky and Whitefish. And there are 15 Red Lodge tickets available at \$35 each. Those tickets can be used at any Montana area except Big Sky, Whitefish, or Bridger Bowl.

Contact Fenn Keggi at 406-217-2949 to get your deep discount tickets.

January 19 Annual Chili/Corn Bread Cook-off and General Meeting

We're looking forward to our annual favorite chili and corn bread cook-off at the general membership meeting on January 19. Since its inception, this event has had excellent participation by the club members. We've had wonderful chili entries of all sorts, ranging from vegan, to green, to venison, beef, etc. The Does will provide salad and dessert. Yummy! Surely you have a favorite. Share it with your friends. Or, bring your favorite cornbread recipe to accompany the chili. Winners of each food category will win a voucher to Showdown Montana. Please email Andy at gfskimail@gmail.com if you are bringing chili or corn bread.

News From Showdown

Hello from Showdown!

Our 85th Anniversary season is in full swing and we had an awesome Holiday Stretch! Kids' Camp was a big success last week and our 8 week youth programs start this Saturday, January 8, and we have 254 participants enrolled at this time.

Our all new Pow Pow Parents is an 8 week program geared towards parents of kids in the 8 week programs. All abilities are welcome and the \$125 includes eight 1.5 hour lessons in the morning only. It's a great opportunity to get out on the mountain and meet other parents!

We're back to our regular schedule of being open Wednesday through Sunday plus the Monday Holidays of MLK Jr. Day and President's Day. And we have \$30 lift tickets every Thursday.

Hope everyone had a great Christmas & NYE and we will see you on the slopes!

Rickey Nash
Showdown Mt
406-236-5522

Panorama Mountain Ski Resort Mini Trip

Fen Keggi and Laura Brusky are heading up a short trip to beautiful British Columbia to ski Panorama. This resort is covered by the Mountain Collective Pass that many of you purchased this year. We will depart Great Falls Wednesday March 16 and drive back Saturday the 19th. We will ski Thursday and Friday. The plan is to carpool in private vehicles. It is about a 7.5 hour trip from GF with good road conditions. Fen and Laura have booked a luxury VRBO (property 271867) about 5 minutes from Radium Hot Springs that can accommodate 12-15 people. The housing cost will be about \$75 US dollars per person per night with a small group and progressively less with more people.

Several people going plan to stay in Chateau Saturday night at the Stage Stop Inn and ski Teton Pass on Sunday with the rest of the Club. Those of you interested in going can call or text Fen at (406) 217-2949 or email him at fkeggi@yahoo.com

Skier Education Program Update

Showdown had an excellent Kid's Camp participation. Several rebate forms were processed. If you know anyone whose kids participated, please remind them to submit a rebate form so the club can rebate the full enrollment cost (one per family). We will finalize the list in cooperation with Showdown to make sure all qualified families can get in on the program.

Jackson Hole—Club's Out-of-State Trip Plans Developing

Jackson Hole, here we come! You are responsible for your own ski tickets. Mountain Collective Pass is no longer available for this season. You are also responsible for your own transportation. Jackson Hole is requiring reservations to get a ticket. It is advised to get your tickets online a least 14 days prior to when we get there, or sooner the better. If you have a mountain collective pass you can book your ticket online as well. Grand Targhee is not requiring reservations but is strongly suggested that you make a reservation.

The plan is for the trip to be over the March 4-9 time period. We would stay at the Super-8 in Driggs, Idaho, \$125 for two queen beds. Reservations for six of these rooms are currently being held. We would ski Grand Targhee on the 5th and 6th. Targhee retail lift tickets are currently \$115/day for adults. Then on the 6th we would stay at the Super-8 in Jackson Hole where six rooms are being held at \$105 for 2 queen beds. Individuals will be responsible for booking from the reserved block in a timely fashion. Jackson Hole adult lift tickets are projected to be \$176/day for all day adult pass. We would then ski two days at Jackson Hole and head north. Contact Bill Ferrin at 406-899-6825 if you have questions about this trip and to let him know you plan to go on this trip.

Short Instate Trips Schedules Updated

For those of you who can't participate in the long trip, the following short trips have been scheduled.

February 11-12—Discovery/Fairmont—A total of 15 rooms have been booked at \$169 plus fees with two queen beds.

March 16-19—Panorama/ Canada trip lead by Fenn Keggi. Contact him at 406-217-2949 if you're interested.

March 19—Teton Pass—Ten rooms reserved at Stagecoach Inn at \$82 per room.

April 19—Big Sky—Accommodations are on your own. The Mountain Pass includes two days at Big Sky.

Travel will be by way of personal vehicles. It's your individual responsibility to make travel arrangements, book motel accommodations that have been reserved, and to provide your own ski pass.

COVID Corner.... Stay Safe

Just when we thought we might get a break, a new Covid variant of interest popped up on the world stage. Omicron has now been detected in over half of the United States including Cascade County. It appears to be more easily transmitted than previous variants. Let's continue to get vaccinated, boosted, social distance, and wear masks indoors. With your ongoing cooperation, we hope we don't have to cancel any more Club-sponsored events. Until it is over, check for event cancellation announcements, or other related announcements. We'll post updates on Facebook and via email.



Great Falls Ski and Board Club is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to promote skiing in Central Montana by sponsoring special events and fun ski trips both locally and abroad. Membership dues are \$30.00 per eligible adult. Membership may be renewed by mail, on-line, or at the next general meeting. Further information can be found on the internet at greatfallsskiclub.com, e-mail address at gfskimail@gmail.com, or at P. O. Box 166, Great Falls, Mt. 59403. If you have questions or input about the editorial content, feel free to contact your editor at wlcjb@3riversdbs.net.

Next Board meeting is Monday, February 7 at the basement bar of the Elk's Lodge. Board meetings are normally held the 1st Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Elk's Lodge with exceptions for holidays. Summer Board meetings are held at board member's houses. The January General Membership meeting will be January 19 at the Elk's Lodge. This is the night for our annual chili/corn bread cook-off. Fire up your crock pot and bring your favorite chili or corn bread. Prizes will be presented for first place entries in both categories. During the season, meeting night for General Membership meetings is typically the 3rd Wednesday of the month starting at 7 p.m. with exceptions for holidays. Light meals will be served and members will receive one drink ticket at regular General Membership meetings. Due to Coronavirus Pandemic, venue changes or cancellations may be posted on Club website or notifications may be sent out by email.

Great Falls Ski and Board Club Activity Calendar 2021-2022 Season

1/15/22—**Snowball**—Elks Lodge— Opens at 6:30

1/19/22—**January General Meeting**—7 p.m.—Elks Lodge—Chili/Corn Bread cook-off

2/7/22—**February Board Meeting**—6:30 Elks Basement

2/11-12/22—**Discovery/Fairmont Short Trip**

2/16/22—**February General Meeting 7 p.m.**—Elks Lodge –Nominations

3/4-9/22—**Jackson Hole/Grand Targhee Long Trip**

3/6/22—**March Board Meeting**—6:30 Elks Basement

3/16/22—**March General Meeting**—7 p.m. Elks Lodge—Elections

3/16-19/22—**Panorama Revelstoke Trip**

3/19/22—**Teton Pass Short Trip**

3/21/22—**Raise a Pint Night**

GF Ski and Board Club Has Joined Instagram

Reminder, the Great Falls Ski and Board Club is now on Instagram! Be sure to follow us and tag us at GFSKIBOARDMT with all of your skiing and snowboarding activities: meetings, special events, movies, fundraisers, and, of course, MOUNTAIN fun! Hey, just tag us now, for fun.

Chad Mans

Identity

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