



PANHANDLER



NEWSLETTER FROM THE GREAT FALLS SKI CLUB October 2009 Issue

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

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Members enjoy many freebies and save money on ski trips. **Want to join?** Come to the next meeting, held monthly **September through April** on the 3rd Friday of the month at the Eagles Manor Conference Hall 7:00. **Members are encouraged to bring interested friends to meetings.**

Memberships are \$20 per person (18 and older only). For your \$20 you get:

- 1) The wonderful company of folks like you who like to ski or snowboard at all skill levels.
- 2) The opportunity to participate in community service tasks like Highway Cleanup.
- 3) 2 complimentary drink tickets at each of our monthly meetings (Sept-April)
- 4) The newsletter emailed and mailed to you
- 5) One lift ticket to Showdown so you can show your support for Showdown.
- 6) Opportunity to join us on our ski trips.

Memberships are annually renewable beginning in September. So you need to remember to renew. We won't send you a special letter/reminder.

About the ski tickets: This is a special offer from George at Showdown (please thank him the next time you see him). We send our list of active members to Showdown and they process the tickets. The first list of early renewals goes to Showdown immediately after the Ski Swap. The second and last list of the late renewals goes to Showdown after the Christmas party. If you wait until after that, you won't get a ski ticket for the current season. We will, however, try to remember to send your name up to Showdown with the early renewals the next ski season. Tickets are generally mailed by the middle of January, so please contact Kari (452-4318) if you don't get yours and think you should have.

EDITOR'S CORNER

EMAIL AND WEB PAGES ARE A GREAT WAY TO GET UP TO THE MINUTE INFORMATION ABOUT CLUB ACTIVITIES, MEETINGS, TRIPS, OR TO VIEW THE NEWSLETTER. HOWEVER, IT HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO SEND OUT EMAILS TO THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE ON OUR EMAIL LIST BECAUSE THEY ARE OFTEN MISTAKEN FOR SPAM. THAT MEANS THAT YOU ARE NOT RECEIVING THEM.

IN AN EFFORT TO IMPROVE YOUR ACCESS TO ELECTRONIC CLUB INFORMATION, I HAVE CREATED A GOOGLE GROUP EXCLUSIVELY FOR SKI CLUB MEMBERS. IT ALLOWS YOU TO VIEW THE NEWSLETTER OR OTHER UPDATES ONLINE (JUST LIKE A WEBSITE) AND TO RECEIVE OUR CLUB EMAILS.

THIS NO COST GROUP SITE IS FREE TO ANY INTERESTED MEMBER, BUT YOU MUST ACCEPT THE INVITATION TO JOIN OR REQUEST MEMBERSHIP AT THIS SITE:
[HTTP://GROUPS.GOOGLE.COM/GROUP/GFSKICLUB](http://groups.google.com/group/GFSKICLUB)

YOU WILL NEED TO LOG IN TO ACCESS THE SITE. IF YOU NEED HELP, YOU CAN EMAIL:
GFSKICLUB@GOOGLEGROUPS.COM

PLEASE CHECK YOUR EMAIL FOR THE INVITATION OR GO TO THE WEBSITE ABOVE TO ACCEPT MEMBERSHIP ASAP. IF YOU WISH TO BE REMOVED FROM THE GROUP/EMAIL LIST PLEASE LET ME KNOW.

ANGELA JAMES, DIRECTOR & EDITOR

You Voted and We Listened!

Here we go...Banff Canada. We will leave Great Falls on Wednesday February 24th and come home on Sunday the 28th. We have chosen these dates for better snow and warmer temps in Canada. We will be staying at the Banff Aspen Lodge where we can relax in one of the two outdoor hot tubs, steam room and sauna and we are only 2 blocks from the main street of Banff. The cost of your trip includes your bus fare, refreshments on the bus, lodging, breakfast and your choice of 2 or 3 days of skiing.

All Ski Packages Include:

- * Ski shuttle to and from ski areas
- * Three days of skiing at Lake Louise, Sunshine or Norquay
- * Night Skiing at Norquay on Friday (conditions permitting)

Norquay has 190 acres of ski able terrain, Sunshine Village offers over 3,300 acres of terrain on three mountains, with an average annual snowfall of over 30 feet. Lake Louise Ski Area is the "Giant" of Canadian skiing with over 4,200 acres of terrain spread across 4 mountain faces.

The cost of the trip is about \$540.00 per person. That's with a 3 day lift ticket and 2 people per room. If you want to double up and have 4 people per room, 3 day lift ticket, the cost is \$450.00 per person. I know, this is a lot of money but we are doing the math at 0.92 cents on the dollar. Let's hope the US dollar gets stronger and the cost of this trip will be lower. But you have plenty of time to save and recoup from Christmas. So let's go and have a fantastic time!

For the adventurous skier the bonus of going to Canada is the Heli-Skiing. RK Heli-Skiing will come to our hotel and pick you up for the most memorable experience you will ever have. I can tell you from 1st hand experience, it is not the toughest of skiing. You are only as fast as the slowest skier. It is a fantastic time. The hardest part is getting out of the helicopter in a heli-blade induced snow storm.

<http://www.banfflakelouise.com/experience-the-park/ski-snowboard>

<http://www.banffaspenlodge.com/amenities/index.html>

Be advised that no children under the age of 14 will be permitted on the bus, and any minor must be accompanied by a parent. It is also now a requirement to have a passport for entry into Canada. Individuals with any criminal convictions should check with Canadian officials to see if you will be denied entry.

Sign up today by calling **Ken Poser**
788-4588 and bring your deposits to the
September meeting.

Sue McCord 453-5139



10% off for MEMBERS ONLY at these fine establishments!
Show your membership card or bring in this newsletter.
Membership pays!

**Bob's Bar, Motel &
Restaurant**
327 North Main Street
Neihart, MT 59465
Phone: (406) 236-5955

**Lazy Doe Bar &
Restaurant**
4850 US Highway 89
Monarch, MT 59463
Phone: (406) 236-5439

“Great Falls Ski Club Annual Ski Swap”

Fair Grounds Trades & Industry Building * Public Invited * Free Admission
Clean out your garage and bring in your old ski equipment to consign.
Great equipment bargains, new and used.

Consign Check-In Starts: Friday, October 30th @ 12:00 Noon - 4:30 PM

Sale Hours: Friday, Oct 30 @ 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Saturday, Oct 31 @ 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

We need club members to help with the set up, security, and sales.

Contact: Kari Cann @ 406-452-4318 for details.

Snowball Dance

Date Change The club has moved the "Snowball Dance" to **Saturday November 14th at the Black Eagle Community Center.**

7pm - 8pm: Social hour featuring "heavy hors d'oeuvres"

8pm - Midnight: Live dance music

Join your fellow club members for a night of food, fun, and lots of dancing! No charge for Ski Club members, only \$5.00 for non-members.

Big Brothers Big Sisters Annual Ski Trip

Thanks to the generous support of the Great Falls Ski Club we were able to expose many of the youth in our programs to the wonders of skiing! March 21st was Big Brothers Big Sisters Annual Ski trip. The big yellow school bus drove the majority of the participants up to Showdown for a fun filled afternoon of spring skiing. Over 60 Bigs, Littles, and staff tested our skiing abilities on the mountain. Private lessons were available for everyone that wanted one, and those who didn't were matched with groups of two or three to enjoy their time on the slopes! The day ended with a success with happy kids and everyone was ready for a nap! It was truly amazing to see how quickly many of our kiddos went from the 'Magic Carpet' to zipping down the mountain and back up the chair lift. How quickly they catch on! Special thanks to our Bigs without skis: Sonny Putman, Rich Kuka, Ron and Connie Rust, and Debbie Erwin and to the Great Falls Ski Club. Without your support this outing would not be possible. Tina Cabbage

GREAT FALLS SKI CLUB
P.O. BOX 166
GREAT FALLS, MT 59403

**MEMBERSHIP DUES
\$20.00 PER
ELIGIBLE ADULT.
RENEW BY MAIL OR AT
THE NEXT MEETING.**

Presort Standard
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit # 237
Great Falls, MT



Next General Membership Meeting :

16 October @ 7:00

Dinner will be served by Big Mouth BBQ!

Members are encouraged to attend board meetings to further participate in planning club activities. Meetings start at 6:00 P.M. at the Eagles Lodge. See the schedule below for dates.

Don't forget to set aside a little time to volunteer at the Ski Swap 30 & 31 October!



**VIEW THE NEWSLETTER OR
OTHER UPDATES ONLINE @
[HTTP://GROUPS.GOOGLE.COM/
GROUP/GFSKICLUB](http://groups.google.com/group/GFSKICLUB)**

Activity Calendar at a Glance

10/12/2009	Board meeting
10/16/2009	General Membership meeting
10/30 & 31	Ski Swap
11/9/2009	Board meeting
11/14/2009	Snow Ball
11/20/2009	General Membership meeting
12/11/2009	Opening Day @ Showdown
12/12/2009	Ski Day @ Showdown
12/14/2009	Board meeting
12/16/2009	Holiday Christmas Party, Eagles
1/11/2010	Board meeting
1/15/2010	General Membership meeting