

September, 2011

GATOR TALES



Winners of the 2011 "Florida Cup"

www.gatorsnowskiclub.com

The official monthly publication of the Gator Snow Ski & Activities Club

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT

BRUCE HOLTZMAN

305-206-1200

gatorprez@att.net

VP SKI TRIPS

SUSAN FINES

772-340-0001

smfines2@yahoo.com

VP SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

VI WARE

561-301-2346

Vivia.ware@yahoo.com

VP SOCIALS

CAROLE KAY

561-801-3400

vpsocials@carolekayrealty.com

TREASURER

JUDY HOGAN

772-288-6305

hoganjdy@netscape.net

SECRETARY

KATHY BONDONESE

561-622-1857

kbondonese@comcast.net

PAST PRESIDENT

BRUCE MITCHELL

561-627-0494

BMitchell60@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP

HARRY PATAT

772-288-4821

hpatat@earthlink.net

MEMBER - AT - LARGE

SHARON LONG

561-626-0406

wmarrussich@comcast.net

Past President

Liaison

PAUL LACHANCE

561-775-9848

TheGeneral1940@aol.com

President's Message -

Hello Fellow Gators,

Ski season will soon be upon us and our trips are now on sale and are filling up fast. We have some fantastic deals which include Vail, Steamboat, Crested Butte, Heavenly (including an extension to San Francisco and Wine Country), Copper Mountain, and spring break to the Canyons. They promise to be lots of fun with many extra activities included. Be sure to sign up soon so you won't be left behind.

Our Special Activities department is quite busy too. We have our 11th Annual Labor Day Golf outing at Springlake with Jim Krotiak. Jim always does a great job with this event and it usually sells out fast. There is snorkeling on September 17th and biking on October 8th. On the weekend of November 11th the Gators are going to River Ranch where we horse back ride, attend a rodeo, and a hayride. There will be great food and we'll line dance in the Saloon. There is also fishing, boating, archery and skeet shooting.

The Socials department is also very busy. In September we have the Sylvia LaChance Memorial Golf Tournament. October 23rd is our fashion show which replaces our general meeting. It is always fun and very entertaining. October 29th we are having a Halloween party and in December we are planning a very special Holiday party. Don't forget our happy hours, every Friday at various venues throughout Palm Beach County.

For information on all of our activities and trips please consult the pages of this issue of the Gator Tales as well as our web site.

If you have not, as of yet, renewed your membership, please do so. You can download an application from our web site and mail it in. Applications for ski trips are also available on the web site. Please remember you must be a member to participate on any trip and most activities, so please join us and join in on the fun. Lastly, I want to thank all the trip leaders, assistant trip leaders, event coordinators and the board of directors for all their hard work in kicking off a roaring season. Until the next meeting, I will see you at our great and upcoming events.

Bruce Holtzman, President

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Socials Page 2 & 3

Ski Trips Pages 3 to 6

Special Activities Pages 7

Calendar Page 8

Snorkeling

September 17th

Kayaking the Lost River

September 24th

See Special Activities for details!

Sylvia LaChance Memorial Golf & 5th Annual Benefit for Disabled Vets

Winston Trail Golf Club

September 17th

See Socials for details

Social Committee Meeting THURSDAY, September 22, 2011 at 6:30 pm

located at the North Palm Beach Country Club There is a new location for our meetings. Instead of Cardello's, they will be located at the North Palm Beach Country Club. Please come and share your ideas and be ready to help us plan an outstanding 2012!



General Meeting- August 11, 2011- This meeting was the ski trip sign up so we did not do any other special activity as the sign ups were most important. Evie Houston does have some interesting activities planned for our future meetings so please attend these important and fun functions.

Rainbow on the Ocean August 19-21st.

What a fantastic time! Great job Meryl and thank you Captain Ron for the wonderful music all weekend long! We had 56 attend this event on Saturday. Most of which were our members and a few who were not members but I bet they want to be members now that they see how much fun we have as a club! Friday started out quiet with drinks and just winding down from our week. Saturday began with coffee and Baily's and ended with jello shots and a quick dip in the pool. Saturday dinner was fantastic with many delicious side dishes to compliment the main course of grilled chicken and pulled pork. Meryl arranged for a live Rock band following dinner which was just fantastic and we danced under the stars for hours! Don't miss this event when it comes around again! It is a great way to end the summer.



Tri-Rail to Riverwalk for Jazz- August 7

Weather cooperated and the event was nicely attended. The members enjoyed each other's company while strolling the avenue shopping, listening to music, and enjoying libations. Hopefully we can make this event a regularly scheduled event for all to look forward to as it offers our members an affordable way to get out and enjoy what South Florida has to offer.



Sylvia LaChance Golf Tournament & Benefit for the Disabled Veterans - September 17 -

Please plan on supporting this very important event as it benefits our veterans who have served our country. You can support the event by golfing, buying a ball or more for the ball drop or by donating items for the raffle. There is an opportunity to sponsor a hole too, so if you own a business this is a great way to promote your business. Call Abe Tessler at 561-633-3551 or email him at audiodesigns@aol.com.



All our members are needed to support this event, even if it is just \$10 you can give please give it. Thank you in advance for your participation.

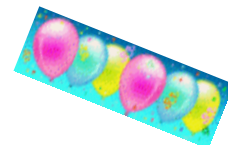
Howlin' Halloween Party, October 29th

Check out the Gator website for all the gruesome details, or call June Nash at (561) 670-3213 junenash@comcast.net. If you dare!

We have many ideas in the works for 2012 so please keep your eyes open and participate in our events. Remember to say thank you to our volunteers and although we don't always make everything perfect, please keep in mind we are all giving our time to the club and doing our best to make each and every event the best we can for you. Suggestions for improvements are always welcome at our meetings when planning for our events.

**Carole Kay, vpsocials@carolekayrealty.com
Or 561-801-3400**

Your VP of Socials





Susan's Ski Scoop



Sign up's for our 2012 trips are underway. Members check your schedules, see something you like, sign up, unlike years past we will need to drop lodging, airfares, etc. because of vendor contracts which have become much shorter than in past years. Those of you thinking about ground packages need to get busy too, I suggest booking your air early. As many of you know, airlines are scheduling less and less flights and they fill up fast. I know it's warm outside and may seem like winter is far off but it is just around the corner if you are planning a group ski trip.

I want to encourage all new members and guests to look at our great ski trips. Come to the meetings, mingle and talk with everyone signing up for trips. When you're a new member this can be a little intimidating. It may look like our club members are self absorbed just talking with each other all the time, but they are not, they just have so many great experiences together that they have a lot to talk about. Join in on the conversations, get on a trip. Then you will know how exciting skiing and being a Gator member is.

Members tell your friends, acquaintances & work colleagues about our 2012 ski trips. Get involved with your trip. Ask the trip leader for flyers you can post at your workplace break room, gym, etc. or ask the trip leader to email you the flyer, put it on your facebook page, email it to your email list, etc. Get others involved. Get them to join our club. The more members who travel on a trip the less expensive a trip can be. If we can fill trips and it reduces the cost of the trips, these savings will go back to all of the trip participants, either in the form of a refund or an extra event on your trip.

To sign up for a ski trip, you must be a current member of the Club. Applications with deposits can be given to the trip leaders directly, or mailed to them. Applications and trip information are available on our website:

gatorsnowskiclub.com.

Be sure to attend the General Membership meetings for more information, details, and sign ups and make new friends. Catch the ski fever with the trip leaders and assistants and our members.

For more information, please feel free to contact me directly at smfines2@yahoo.com.

Be in the loop and get the SKI SCOOP.

Susan Fines,

VP Ski Trips

(772) 340-0001 or smfines2@yahoo.com

BETTER SKIDAY

Looking out to pristine snow,
Settled from the night anew.
The whiteness as the clouds,
Sends brightness everywhere.
Our cheeks glow brightly,
As ripe apples in the fall.
The winds send a message,
To the swirling new snow.
We sit upon the moving lifts,
The mountain peak in sight.
Soon to glide our skis,
On the snow locked slopes.
I'm racing with the wind,
Skis sitting on their edges.
Poles are deftly planted,
As each new carve appears.
Can there be a better day,
Then riding on a mountain face..

A poem by Terry Daly,
Assistant Trip Leader, Crested Butte



GATOR SNOW SKI & ACTIVITIES CLUB 2012 SKI TRIPS



Vail, Colorado



**December 10th to
16th, 2011 \$1715* per member**

*Vail, the premier ski resort in the US...
what more is there to say!!*

How about ski-in, ski-out...

EARLY SEASON...no lift lines....

*If you have not been to Vail, this is the
trip!!*

*Get in touch with John now, before we
give up the rooms!!*

*Call John Paglialungo, Trip Leader
Vail 2011...561/891-0009*

Steamboat Springs, Colorado

Florida Ski Council Trip



January 21-28, 2011

\$2030* to Hayden,

\$1770* to Denver

Gators believe that Steamboat is the place to be in January as evidenced in a strong turn-out for trip sign-up last month. With two flight options, one into the regional airport at Steamboat (\$2030 package) and the second offering of a flight direct to Denver (\$1770 package), we already have nearly 60 skiers flying to Colorado. The resort's reputation for champagne powder and the excellent ski-in ski-out accommodations at the Chateaux Chamonix are great incentives to join a group of fun-loving happy skiers on this Florida Ski Council adventure. Bask in glory as the Gators bring home the FSC's Nastar trophy once again. Let others cook for you three nights. Find your inner cowboy or cowgirl--the

Wild Wild West is the theme of the big party. Come join us in Steamboat.

Marie York and Lin Lambert

Crested Butte, Colorado

February 11 to 18, 2012

\$1550* per member

**Calling all Gators and
friends of Gators!!!**



Come join our trip to Crested Butte Colorado on February 11th. To February 18th, 2012 and enjoy the skiing and Gator fun at a place known as "Colorado's Last Great Ski Town"! With nearly 1200 Skiable Acres! 2775 Lift Served Vertical Feet of Great Snow! You will find 121 Trails: 23% Beginner / 57 % Intermediate / 20 % Advanced

We're including a Valentine's Day invitation for romance to all Gators and friends of Gators. What could be more ROMANTIC then to spend Valentine's Days and Evenings in the mountains of Crested Butte! Skiing all day, dinner on the mountain, a moonlight walk, and a warm fire while spending time with your SWEETHEART as you cap off the day!

The trip includes: Roundtrip Air from PBI to Gunnison CO. Ground Transfers (45 Minute Bus Ride Airport to Resort) 5 Day Lift Tickets (Optional: SKI FREE ON 6TH DAY) 7 Nights Lodging at Plaza Condominiums. 2 BR/2 BA. 100 Yds. to Lift! Gator Pre and Post Trip Parties Gator Dinner/Party at Crested Butte Plus: Après Ski Parties! And the price for all this fun and excitement! \$1550*

**Trip Leader: Everett Barber (561) 215-8704
email: barbever@msn.com**

**Asst. Trip Leader: Terry Daly (561) 386-5998
email: homeinspectpbc@gmail.com**

*All Prices, Itineraries are subject to change.



GATOR SNOW SKI & ACTIVITIES CLUB 2012 SKI TRIPS



Ski, Wine & Sourdough



Heavenly, San Francisco & Wine Country
February 26 to March 7, 2012
10 day trip for only \$2,130*

As a departure from the traditional winter ski adventure, Heavenly, San Francisco and Sonoma is one of the most unique and exciting trips that the club has offered. This is truly an all inclusive vacation that caters to all kinds of interests including skiing. Lake Tahoe is one of the scenic wonders of the world, San Francisco is one of the most unique and special cities anywhere and Sonoma is where you will enjoy the unparalleled ambience of the wine region.



Lake Tahoe provides great skiing at both Heavenly and Northstar, gambling, snowmobiling, a paddle boat ride across "Big Blue", a ride up the Gondola just to take in the views, entertainment and much more. San Francisco will delight you with more incredible vistas and things to do - Golden Gate Bridge, Lombard Street, Alcatraz, Sausalito, museums on and on. Then, on to the vineyards for wine tasting, galleries, beautiful weather and a real education about wines. There is so much to see and do in this beautiful country of ours and you will talk about these places for years to come. So please join us for a "Ski, Wine and Sourdough" adventure and oh yes, don't forget to bring plenty of film.

For more information, contact:
Trip Leader: Linda Oliver (561) 236-5875 or email: lboliver@gate.net
Asst. Trip Leader: Cheryl Barnes (781)749-2992 or email: cheryl2108@aol.com

Copper Mountain, Colorado

March 10 to 17, 2012
\$1525 * per member

Copper Mountain is the very best ski mountain in the west. It offers the lightest powder and the most scenic views in the Rockies. Plus snowfall of 285 inches. Many trails for experts, intermediates and beginners. Want to have fun! Call or e-mail Evie Houston at 561-762-2628, SGJewelers2@aol.com. Richard Ruvido at 561-2626-7830, ruvidorealestate@yahoo.com.



COPPER



CANYONS

Canyons, Utah

PBC Spring Break Trip
March 17 to 24, 2012
\$1655* per member

Hit the Beach for Spring Break!
The Ski Beach that is!

Join the Gators for a great Spring Break trip to Canyons, the largest ski resort in Utah! Utah is famous for having the World's greatest Snow, and March is the best time to hit their slopes for fresh powder and beautiful blue skies.

We have great Lodging at the Silverado, one of Canyons best lodging properties. Just minutes to the slopes, with great amenities. The restaurants, entertainment, and shopping of Park City are just a quick shuttle ride away, for all a great time when you're not on the slopes! Don't miss this great Spring Break Trip!

For more details, contact Susan Belgard at (561) 307-8022 or sbelgard@bellsouth.net, or Assistant Trip Leader, Rick Filsinger at (727) 515-2371 or Techdivr@gmail.com

*All Prices, Itineraries are subject to change.

September Happy Hour Schedule!

September 2nd - Panama Hatties
PGA Blvd. just east of Intracoastal

September 9th - Dirty Martini
Downtown at the Gardens, Palm Beach Gardens

September 16th - Ruth's Chris Steakhouse
661 US Highway 1, North Palm Beach

September 23rd - Renegades
600 Village Blvd, just north of Palm Beach Lakes, WPB

September 30th - Two Drunken Goats
2509 Ocean Avenue, Singer Island



Wear your Gator name tags! Show everyone you are part of our group!
Special Thanks to the organizer of our fantastic Happy Hours!
Call Dave Schue (561) 383-1080 with suggestions for new venues.

ACTIVE GATORS

FSC DELEGATE

Don Chalaire
561-729-0849
donchal@comcast.net

HOSPITALITY

Allen Trefry
(561)625-6610

BIKING

Ben Smith
(561)775-3481
bbsbob525@aol.com

PHOTO EXCHANGE

Nancy Rollins
(561)627-0494

WEBSITE DESIGN

Susan Belgard
(561)307-8022
sbelgard@bellsouth.net

PUBLICITY

Lynda Pepper
(561)626-2833

2012 International Trip: Jewels of the Adriatic

Join the Gators for another amazing international adventure touring the picturesque Dalmatian Coast of Croatia and Slovenia. The aptly named Jewels of the Adriatic tour includes stops in elegant Zagreb, quaint Ljubljana, and historic Dubrovnik* - one of Europe's best preserved medieval walled cities. Tour the magical Istria Peninsula with its small fishing villages and dance the night away at the tourist mecca of Opatija. Enjoy the beautiful people and varied, delicious cuisine of Croatia. Did you know that Croatians beat the Irish and Germans in their love for wine and beer? Stroll through Plitvice Lakes National Park*, a string of 16 turquoise colored lakes linked by 92 waterfalls and cascades and surrounded by densely wooded mountains and lush vegetation. Cruise Lake Bled, set in the Julian Alps, and voted among the twelve most beautiful in the world (Yahoo Travel). Take a train ride through Postojna Caves – among the largest in Europe- and see the magnificent stalactite/stalagmite rock formations. Visit the well preserved Roman ruins including Emperor Diocletian's palace* in Split; tour the artistic town of Trogir*...and so much more. (* UNESCO World Heritage Site) April 4-17, 2012 (14 days). Early bird price \$3,300 Includes airfare, lodging, etc. Discount valid until 9/28/2011. Sign up now and save! Contact: Walter Marussich (gsscmem@comcast.net, 561.768.6368) or Estela Basso (estelabasso2001@yahoo.com, 561.214.1603)

For updates anytime, or to download flyers on any of our trips, visit:

www.gatorsnowskiclub.com

Recess for Adults

VP of Special Activities Vi Ware

561-301-2346 or vivia.ware@yahoo.com



The **Lost River Kayak outing** had to be postponed ton September 24th. We will meet at South River Outfitters in Stuart, right off I-95. Paddles will be wet at 10am. Please contact Ray Collie at ray.collie@gmail.com. Price is \$26/single kayak or canoe and \$36 for a double kayak/canoe. Coffee and donut holes will be provided. Bring snacks for our break in the paddling, bring sunscreen & water. This is a most favorite event for the Gators, and the Lost River is incomparable for bird watchers, alligator watchers, manatee watchers, and squirt gun fanatics. Afterwards, we will head to Charlies Bar and Grill on Kanner Highway for some adult libations and relaxation.



Walter Marussich and his fellow Galapagos travellers had a very festive post trip party at Labamas on July 31st. Many wonderful pictures and videos were on hand to share and all agreed it was the best trip ever. Thank you Walter for a well done adventure!

Rick Pahl hosted Thirsty Thursday at Roger Dean Stadium on July 21. Hammy Hammerhead smoozed with us and is quite photogenic in the group's photographs. The Hammerheads beat the Lakeland Flying Tigers! Rick did a wonderful job coordinating this fun evening. Thank you Randy C. & Rick for taking such great photographs.

Jim Krotiak has been gathering all the hackers, I mean Golfers, for the **11th Annual Spring Lake Golf Weekend** September 2 through 5th. Price is \$265.00 member price. \$285.00 for non-members. Everyone loves his happy hours, Gator Scrambles, dinner in the clubhouse, and just general merriment. Price includes 4 days and 3 nights of unlimited golf on two 18 hole golf courses, 3 breakfast buffets, 1 dinner in the clubhouse, evening cocktail parties, 2 traditional gator scrambles, unlimited fun! Contact Jim at 561-585-8620

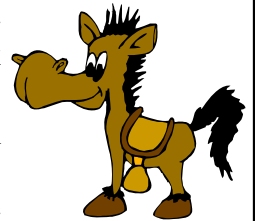


Deep Sea Drift Fishing—Greg Arnold had a very successful deep sea fishing trip on Saturday, August 7 going out of Riviera Beach Marina. Tropical Storm Emily cooperated and dissipated so that the group had wonderful weather. Don and Kathy McGee each caught a kingfish, as did Carole Kay and her son. Linda Dunhill caught a snapper. Don McGee also caught a Bonita. Some of the group had the chef at Tiki Bar cook their catch afterwards. This should be a regular Gator event to enjoy our beautiful beaches.

Snorkeling around the Blue Heron Bridge. Saturday, September 17, meet Ben Smith at 11:30 am at Phil Foster Park, 900 East Blue Heron Boulevard. Bring your own tables and chairs so we can hang out in the shade under the Bridge. Also bring lunches, snacks, water, sunscreen and your snorkeling gear. High Tide is 12:04pm so there is a window of 1 hour to snorkel before the tide turns at 1:00 p.m. Ben Smith: 561-775-3481



River Ranch Weekend—More upcoming fun not to be missed--mark your calendars and hold November 11 through 13th for **River Ranch** with Carole Kay as our leader. Carol has arranged for smores and a campfire social and a free drink ticket for Friday night followed by the saloon and dancing, Saturday is your choice of events, some of us will golf, some will ride horses with Carole. She has arranged a lunch on the trail for the horseback riders, you can take the afternoon on Saturday to ride pontoon boats, do archery, take airboat ride, just relax. Saturday evening is the hayride to be followed by dinner and rodeo. Carole is getting all of us matching gator scarves so we can sit together on the hayride and in the bleachers of the rodeo. Saturday night will be fun in the saloon line dancing. Price is \$170/double occupancy for members, campers \$70.00. Carole is providing a continental breakfast in her cabin Sunday morning and is working on arranging late check out to extend the weekend. Contact Carole at vpsocials@carolekayrealty.com.



Saturday, October 8 is **Ben Smith's first bike ride of the season**, meet him at Okeeheelee Park at the Nature Center at 10am. Wear a T-shirt with a tacky design/saying. (Potentially valuable token prizes awarded). Bring lunch for picnic afterwards..... Ben Smith: 561-775-3481



More to come: Shark Valley bike ride in February with Ben (watch out for those alligators!)

GATOR TALES

Gator Snow Ski & Activities Club
 P O Box 31524
 Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
 Events Hotline: 561-691-0062

**CHECK WEB SITE FOR DATES
 AND TIMES for all events:**
www.gatorsnowskiclub.com



Proud member
 club of the Florida
 Ski Council

NEXT GATOR SNOW SKI & ACTIVITIES CLUB MEETING Thursday, September 8th

September Calendar of Events

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
August 28	29	30	31	September 1 7:00 Board Meeting PGA Marriott	2 Happy Hour Panama Hatties—PGA Blvd—just east of Intracoastal	3 Springlake Golf Weekend See Special Activities
4 Springlake Golf Weekend See Special Activities	5	6	7	8 General Membership PGA Marriott	9 Happy Hour Dirty Martini Downtown at The Gardens	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 Happy Hour Ruth's Chris Steak House No Palm Beach	17 Golf Tourny See Socials Snorkeling See Activities
18	19	20	21	22 Social & Activities Com- mittee Meeting North Palm Bch Country Club	23 Happy Hour Renegades Village Blvd WPB	24 Kayaking On the Lost River—See Special Activities
25	26	27	28	29	30 Happy Hour Two Drunken Goats, Singer Island	October 1 Peter Glenn Sale Broward Convention Center

IMPORTANT FUTURE DATES

October Board meeting, Thursday, October 8th at 7:00 pm @ PGA Marriott RCA Blvd.
 General Membership Meeting, Thursday, October 13th @ PGA Marriott RCA Blvd.

September, 2011