

DIRECTORY

RESORTS & COMPANIES

CANADA'S KOOTENAY ROCKIES RESORTS
in beautiful Western Canada

This season take a trip to Canada's "Powder Highway" by conveniently flying to Cranbrook (YXC) from Salt Lake City (SLC) on the new Delta connection.

Ski the great resorts of Panorama, Kimberley and Fernie, little known to U.S. skiers, until now. Easily book all of your travel needs on www.skican.com/Delta. For more info, please log on to www.kootenayrockies.com. Please call 1-888-475-4226 - Page 15.

CRESTED BUTTE MOUNTAIN RESORT
near Gunnison, in Western Colorado

A great mountain and a great town with a great deal. And there are deals, deals, deals, including January lodging packages starting at \$97 per person per night. (It is a great deal even with the fine print on page 2.) Find out why Crested Butte was named one of the "Top Ten Best Towns" by Outside Magazine. Inspire your passion.

Please call 1-800-647-3123 - Page 2.

THE FAIRMONT PLACE FRANZ KLAMMER LODGE
in Telluride, Colorado

Be at home on the mountain. The Franz Klammer Lodge has unrivaled residences at the height of luxury with all the amenities you have come to expect at a Fairmont Hotel.

Please call 1-888-728-0355 - Page 9.

MOUNTAIN LODGE TELLURIDE
in Telluride, Colorado

This lodge is your window to the splendor of the San Juan Mountains. The Lodge is slopeside in Telluride's Mountain Village and when your day on the slopes is over, you can relax in the new Lobby Bar or beautiful outdoor pool.

Please call 1-866-368-6867 - Page 9.

SKI SALT LAKE, Utah

Experience four of the greatest resorts in the Rockies with only one pass - the Salt Lake "SUPER PASS." The "SUPER PASS" lets you ski different resorts for the best possible price and is good for all your skiing at Alta, Snowbird, Brighton or Solitude. Utah's Greatest Snow on Earth is an easy 40 minutes from the ambiance of a world-class Salt Lake City. Please visit www.saltlakesuperpass.com - Page 16.

SUBARU OF AMERICA

The SUBARU Impreza will help you get the grip back on winter and greet the season with open arms. With the Outback "Best Car for Snow" as voted by Forbes.com, you can have confidence in any weather. That is why they say "no need to take winter lying down." Love (and great vehicles). It's what makes a Subaru, a Subaru.

Please visit www.subaru.com - Page 1.

SUN VALLEY, Idaho

America's classic ski resort builds on its heritage and provides for the future. Perhaps no resort has invested so much over recent years to please their guests, like their "Lift Ticket Exchange Program." Your multi-day lift ticket can be exchanged for many off-mountain activities. Take a sleigh ride, get a massage - the possibilities are endless.

For all the details, call 1-800-786-8259 - Page 7.

TELLURIDE, Colorado

A new Revelation this season as Telluride continues to redefine the mountain vacation. And since they are surrounded by the highest concentration of 14,000-foot mountains in North America, the scenery is magnificent. This season they have added new terrain, named Revelation Bowl, where you will find natural, wide-open powder served by a new quad lift.

Please call 1-800-778-8581 - see Page 8.

GREAT LODGING LOCATIONS

COLORADO

Beaver Run - Breckenridge, Colo. Page 3.
Call 1-800-265-3527

Days Inn - Summit County, Colo. Page 5.
Call 1-800-520-4267

AROUND LAKE TAHOE

CAMP RICHARDSON RESORT - p. 13.
Call 1-800-544-1801

EMBASSY SUITES - p. 13.
Call 1-800-988-9850

HYATT REGENCY SPA & CASINO- p. 12.
Call 1-888-510-0529

ALSO RECOMMENDED ARE...

MANY FINE LODGES and GREAT SKI RESORTS listed and linked on our website homepage at www.skiernews.com

Info about these lodges and ski resorts can also be found in our double issue Regional Sections. These sections are distributed as extra editions with this Cover Section. They are available throughout entire season for your favorite skiing region of North America.

**BE AWARE
SKI WITH CARE**

From the PUBLISHER'S DESK:

By Publisher and Editor, Dave Leonardi

CHECK THIS OUT: www.skiernews.net

We have been working on the concept of placing our exact pages directly online for your viewing. After examining methods for the easiest way for you to view the pages in some logical manner, we are ready to do this.

Now you can log on to www.skiernews.net and view the page that you are reading now, or view the pages from your favorite resorts around the North America.

We would like your feedback, and an e-mail address for you to respond will be on the homepage of www.skiernews.net

Now at home, the office or wherever you have Internet service, you can add www.skiernews.net to your favorites.

FEAR MONGERS, GAS AND OIL PRICES, TRAVEL, RECESSION AND DEPRESSION

Each summer we plan a business trip to visit our advertisers, see what is new at their resorts or lodges and, hopefully, renew their advertising with **SKIER NEWS**. This year, as we were planning to leave on our drive on June 27, if we listened to the news and all those so-called "experts" on the price of oil, we never would have left.

We were told, by the mainstream media on TV, radio and in newspapers, that gas prices would average more than \$4.25 a gallon by July 4th. At the time, it seemed like prices were already climbing 3- to 5-cents per day, per gallon. Other experts would state that gas would cost more than \$5 per gallon by Labor Day and would keep rising, especially if a hurricane hit our offshore oil rigs. We were told to expect oil to be selling at \$200 a barrel by August and it would be least \$300 a barrel by Labor Day. Those increases did not come to pass.

You may also remember that some TV commentators were rushing to be the first to pronounce not only big rises in the price of gas and oil, but home heating oil, food prices and anything else that they could throw into the mix. We budgeted for an average of \$4.40 for a gallon of gas for our trip. It barely cracked the \$4 mark and, except for a few places, was well under \$4. The best price was \$2.53 in Hays, Kansas, in early August on our return trip.

The ski towns we visited were packed with summer visitors. The American Century Celebrity Golf Championship in Lake Tahoe broke another record with a crowd of more than 21,000 attendees. The roads were full. RV's and other low mpg vehicles were also on the roads in abundance. Campgrounds were full with vehicles of every size. These people did not get the memo that they should stay home and watch the fear mongers every day on television letting them know how bad everything was. Those vacationers were probably enjoying themselves as well; so much for the experts.

Dr. Michael Crichton, author of many noted works including "The Andromeda Strain" and "Jurassic Park" and who recently passed away, wrote an article for PARADE Magazine in December 2004 titled "Let's Stop Scaring Ourselves." (Google the phrase, you will easily find it online and be able to it read in full.)

It ends with these thoughts from Crichton, written in first person form:

"I've seen a heap of trouble in my life, and most of it never came to pass," Mark Twain is supposed to have said. At this point in my life, I can only agree. So many fears have turned out to be untrue or wildly exaggerated that I no longer get so excited about the latest one. Keeping fears in perspective leads me to ignore most of the frightening things I read and hear—or at least to take them with a pillar of salt.

For a time I wondered how it would feel to be without these fears and the frantic nagging concerns at the back of my mind. Actually, it feels just fine.

I recommend it.

So when it comes to your ski travel, check the snow conditions, find a resort with a deal you like, make your plans and go. I have said for years that snow is a greater factor in the participation of skiing than the real or perceived state of the economy. Fewer skiers visit ski resorts when there is no snow, no matter how good the economy. When a bona fide bad economy actually does occur, if the snow is good then skiers will determine their course, find a great deal and continue to go. You should be among them.

RECESSION?

Here is what I recommend. If someone claims that there is a recession, tell them that you are not participating in it. If at least half of us do not participate in any "recession" we will defeat it. (Technically, a recession is two consecutive quarters - two straight, three month periods - of negative economic growth. When was that first quarter in this cycle?) A perceived recession can be as bad as a real one, but either way, do not participate.

DEPRESSION?

No doubt in the coming months some expert will proclaim our economy is so bad that we are in a depression or one is about to occur. The reality is that everything is not perfect in our economy or in the world's economy. There is plenty of blame to go around and while it is easy to define the problems, there are no easy solutions. The new administration in D.C. invites more challenges and no one knows if things will get better or worse in real terms.

Here is what I do know about a depression. I am never depressed when I am skiing and I imagine that you are not either. So determine where the snow is best and then go.

You will feel better, and so will the economy.

I recommend it.

CLOSING THOUGHTS

Once again, we ask God to bless our troops who continue to defend America against terrorism in Afghanistan, Iraq and around the world so that we can continue to enjoy the blessings of liberty here at home.

Please continue to travel safely and enjoy the freedom of skiing and thank our heroes for helping to preserve our outstanding way of life.

Thank you for reading **SKIER NEWS**, we hope you continue to enjoy it.

And, as always, think snow.

SKIER'S RESPONSIBILITY CODE

Ski resorts can be enjoyed in many ways. At the areas you may see people using alpine, snowboard, telemark, cross country and other specialized ski equipment, such as that used by disabled or other skiers.

Regardless of how you decide to enjoy the slopes, always show courtesy to others and be aware that there are elements of risk in skiing that common sense and personal awareness can help reduce.

Observe the code listed below and share with other skiers the responsibility for a great skiing experience.

1. Always stay in control.
2. People ahead of you have the right of way.
3. Stop in a safe place for you and others.
4. Whenever starting downhill or merging, look uphill and yield.
5. Use devices to help prevent runaway equipment.
6. Observe signs and warnings, and keep off closed trails.
7. Know how to use the lifts safely.

KNOW THE CODE. IT'S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

(This is a partial list.)

FROM THE COVER

Copper Mountain
in Colorado.

Their theme this year is "Free Your Mountain" and this includes free snowcat rides to their Tucker Mountain area, shown on the cover. As you look at Copper from its modern base village, the beginner trails are on the right side of the mountain, intermediates in the middle, and on the left are the expert trails. It is a perfect layout. Read more on page 5.

Thank you for reading **SKIER NEWS**, and thanks for using the phone numbers in **SKIER NEWS** to help you plan your ski trips.

Copyright December, 2008, The Skier News, Inc.
S.S.N. 1094-0960

SKIER NEWS, published by Skier News, Inc. - a New Jersey Corporation, distributes three national and five regional editions for the ski season, from October through April. These double issues are labeled October-November, December-January and February-Spring. Summer and Fall issues are published on line at www.skiernews.com. The inaugural issue was published November, 1988. (That is a long time in the ski industry.)

SKIER NEWS gratefully acknowledges the assistance of all of the fine organizations associated with skiing and is by concept dedicated to promote skiing. Skiing should be the all-comprehensive generic term for all snowsports. If the "ski" industry used only the term "ski" to connote snowboarding, telemark, snow dancing, free-skiing, skiboarding, and ski-kiting etc., 4,000 trees, and 87GB would be saved through word efficiency in press releases alone.

Appreciation is hereby, once again, proclaimed to Mark Bunzel, now of Washington. His original technical and computer suggestions, in 1988, helped make the first issue possible. Now he publishes boating books in the Pacific northwest. After 10 years, in 1997, our 286 machine was replaced by a Windows 95 PC, which crashed more often than the ski-jump guy at the famous beginning scene of "Wide World of Sports".

Now we are using computer-to-plate technology with a Mac. Upgrades were not smooth as Apple wants you to believe. Since you are reading this, something eventually worked - thanks again to Steve, Roger, Nancy, Bobby, Dan, Rob and Nichole and Erica.

Change of address should be reported to:

SKIER NEWS
P.O. Box 77327
West Trenton, NJ 08628-6327

Subscriptions & inquiries, please call
609-882-1111 or e-mail us through
our web site, www.skiernews.com

SKIER NEWS is published in the shadows of the beautiful but now defunct, formerly rope-tow serviced Belle Mountain Ski Area in Hopewell, New Jersey, Exit 7-A. Printed in New Jersey off of Exit 3.

No animals were killed or maimed in the production of this publication. Unsolicited manuscripts will be used as kindling for our office wood stove.

Why are you still reading this fine print?

One more thing, when a sentence ends with a web address, we do not use the period, since some knuckleheads might think that the period is part of the web address. Not you, of course, but the guy who picked up the copy just before you. You would know better than to use the period, just in case we forget to eliminate one. Thanks.

SKIER NEWS

EXECUTIVE OFFICES:

Publisher & Editor,
David Leonardi

President & Executive Editor,
Lorraine Leonardi

Associate Editor,
Jennifer Hawkins

Accounting
Charles "Chopper" Weber

Tale of Two Cities
Charles Dickens

TECHNICAL EDITOR:

Tony Crespi -

OCCASIONAL CONTRIBUTORS:

Ed Blumstein -
Feature Reports

Jim Gregory -
Cartoons (and Mac advice)

Mitch Kaplan -
Feature Reports

Don "Snoshu" Thompson -
Feature Reports

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS:

Jennifer Hawkins,
Dave Leonardi, Lorie Leonardi

SKIER NEWS Editors are members of:

NASJA, North American SnowSports Journalists Assoc., and **ESWA**, Eastern Ski Writers Association and **NASJA Midwest**

SKIER NEWS, INC is a member of the
National Ski Areas Association.