WIN LIFT TICKETS and PRIZES at YOUR FAVORITE MOUNTAINS

January is Learn to Ski or Snowboard Month: January 11 is the Bring a Friend Challenge

LAKEWOOD. CO -Experienced skiers or snowboarders can enjoy introducing their non-skiing friends to their sport once again this January as the "Learn to Ski or Snowboard" month enters its 11th year in January 2019. The Bring a Friend Challenge and First Day Faces are two of many ways to get your non-mountain friends on the slopes. Anyone who helps a newcomer sign up and take beginner lessons from profes-



JANUARY IS **LEARN TO SKI & SNOWBOARD ■ MONTH ■**

sional instructors can win some terrific prizes from Head, Burton, Rossignol, Seirus Innovation, Zeal Optics, Transpack, Eurosock and other product suppliers. In addition, they qualify for a free year membership in Mountain Sports Club (a \$60 value). Taking the Bring a Friend Challenge is simple. Details are found at: www.bringafriend.org

The newcomers can win gift vouchers from Liftopia, GetSkiTickets, skis.com/snowboards.com, and others via the First Day Faces social media campaign. Newcomers just need to post a photo or photos of their first day learning along with

Photos are posted on the www.learntoskiandsnowboard.org web site and winners are selected from the postings.

Friday, Jan. 11, 2019, is "Learn to Ski or Snowboard Day Celebration". It is a special day when resorts throughout the U.S. will offer great deals and programs for beginners and a lot of fun in the process. Offers will be posted on the Deals tab at: www.learntoskiandsnowboard.org as information is made available. The goal is to see how many beginner lessons can be taught in a single day while having a fun time on the slopes.

One of the objectives of the site is to make it easy for snow sports enthusiasts and especially beginners to find nearby locations. The "Find Resorts" menu tab includes listings, addresses and links back to individual locations. It is set up with a search engine activated by inputting zip codes. "Find Gear" works similarly for shops and now the same can be done with Nordic Centers. In all cases, listings are grouped by state making it easy to find locations.

Maybe it is time for current skiers and snowboarders to lend a hand to newcomers who may not have all of the bells and whistles dedicated enthusiasts probably have in duplicates or even triplicates. Newcomers can find out what they need by reviewing the "How to Dress" Tip posted on learntoskiandsnowboard.org. Plenty of other tips are posted to help newcomers better enjoy their first time on the snow. Topics include making the sport more affordable, information on children's programs, explanations of terminology, what to expect at a ski area and more. Lending your friends an old ski jacket and pants will help keep them dry, warm and happy at the end of their day on the mountain.

This brings us to a final thought on how current skiers and snowboarders can help newcomers get started. Checking out the weather forecast and snow conditions in advance can help ensure that newcomers will have a better time if prepared. Helping newcomers sign up for lessons from a pro is another.

One tip for your non-skiing friends that is found on the helpful website: www.learntoskiandsnowboard.org is that some mountain resorts are inverted. This means you start at the top, ski down to a lift and ride up to the base. There are some advantages to this and the topic is one of many tips posted on the web site. An advantage of starting at the top is your friend may not look up and be intimidated by the mountain, so you will not hear them say, "You want me to ski down that?"

The articles also offer a variety of practical tips for experienced skiers and snowboarders as well. For example, do you know how many calories you can burn in an hour skiing or snowboarding? Of course, the amount depends on how proficient you are and how fast you go, but the calorie chart posted on the website provides some insight.

The Tips section also offers suggestions for sample meals for those who like to stay in condos while on a ski or snowboard vacation. Burning calories often translates to carboloading but the posted samples also focus on good nutrition.

Parents and grandparents will find plenty of fodder to help get youngsters involved in the sports. High on anyone's list is how to economize and how to take safety precautions when engaging youngsters. Southeast writer Bobby Monacella outlines the benefits of renting compared to purchasing. She offers helpful hints on what to look for and how to make the tough decisions in a tip called How to Save Money on Kids' Snow Sports Gear and Apparel. It can be found at the bottom of the Adult/Kids Tips tab on the website.

The section also provides links to other resources such as the National Ski Areas Association's "Lids on Kids" program that points out the benefits of youngsters wearing a helmet. There is a link to "Tips for Parents" and another "Tips for Grandparents." Both target ways to make it fun getting kids



out on the snow in winter. On the same tab, find a piece called FREE4Kids for parents with youngsters in the fourth, fifth or sixth grades. A number of states organize programs for those grade levels so that kids truly can ski or snowboard free once parents purchase a very affordable "Passport Booklet" or an online ver-

sion. The cost is in the \$30 range. Typically kids can ski or ride three times at each participating resort that is part of the package. Again, please see: www.skiandsnowboardmonth.org and look for the tab "Adult/Kids Tips."

"Your Mountain" is one of the unique features of the www.learntoskiandsnowboard.org website. It explains through visuals and short explanations what to expect at a typical snow sport mountain resort, an especially useful tool for

Since most skiers and snowboarders like to feel that they know the ropes, www.learntoskiandsnowboard.org offers a section called the VIP Experience. It is a short cut to a plethora of additional information, much like Cliff Notes are to literary works. Look for the VIP tab in the menu.

"Newcomers want to feel like they are 'part of the club' just like seasoned skiers or snowboarders, so we try to make it easy for them to feel that way," said Mary Jo Tarallo, director of the Learn to Ski and Snowboard /Bring a Friend initiative and a member of the North American Snow Sports Journalists Association (NASJA).

The website is an excellent source for everything firsttimers and many experienced skiers need to know. It lists a number of deals and learning programs in the Special Programs section.

Learn more about the events of Jan. 11, 2019, get permission to take off work, and get ready to bring a non-skier or snowboarder to the events of Learn to Ski and Snowboard month and the Bring a Friend initiative.

Log on to: www.learntoskiandsnowboard.org

View, read and share this page, especially with a new skier or snowboarder online at:

www.skiernews.net/Jan2019-News.pdf

CRESTED BUTTE LODGING HAS MORE VALUE for LESS DOLLARS

CRESTED BUTTE, CO - Many people travel far and wide to discover the bounty of beauty that is Crested Butte in every season. With so many things to do in Crested Butte and even more places to stay, choosing might be the hardest part. From rustic retreats to hot tub havens, Crested Butte Lodging is there to help you sort through the variety of options and find just the right experience for your trip. Five other lodging options were presented in SKIER NEWS Oct-Nov edition. Find those choices online at: www.skiernews.net/Oct2018-News.pdf

Here are five great, additional options for your lodging choices.

All Under One Roof at Three Seasons

Ideal for families and groups, Three Seasons combines the convenience of a hotel with the comfort of a condo. Suites feature a separate living room, kitchen and fireplace; they encircle two large atriums and feature a host of amenities. Avoid mountain chills by relaxing in the indoor pool, hot tub and sauna, or channel your inner pool shark for a round of billiards in the game room. Cyclists rejoice. The property is furnished with a free bike washing station and an indoor storage facility.

Chateaux, a Year-Round Party

With a 1,100-square-foot clubhouse ready to host large meetings, get-togethers dinners, and Chateaux makes family or group travel an absolute breeze. Winter isitors enjoy spiasning around in the heated outdoor pool and hot tub, even as the flakes fall. In addition, summer mountain bikers can rinse off their wheels at the complimentary bike wash station on-site. Condos range from one to four bedrooms (the largest of any on this list) and are furnished with a wood-burning fireplace, private deck and full kitchen.

Two (Hot Tubs) for

the Price of One at Redstone

After playing like a Crested Butte local, the last thing anyone wants to do is awkwardly squeeze between strangers for an end-ofday plunge in the resort hot tub. Located just a short three-minute walk to the base area, Redstone alleviates any anxiety by providing not just one, but two hot tubs for all guests to enjoy. Between stunning mountain vistas and out-of-this world stargazing, this property lends itself to this additional amenity. Inside, units boast open floor plans, generous square footage, private balconies, cozy fireplaces and full kitchens. If you manage to peel yourself away, head

to a nearby base area restaurant for some light fare that you will not soon forget.

Snowcrest Trifecta: Unbeatable Views, Location and Price

Yes, nearly all of the properties on this list include some fashion of a bubbling bath complete with some sort of outlook, but few properties can hold a candle to Snowcrest's outdoor deck and hot tub. Boasting one of the best Crested Butte Wildflower Festival vantages in summer due to its slightly elevated and central locale, this property feels like it's off the beaten path when, in fact, it's right in the heart of it all.

Accessible via the private pedestrian footbridge, guests are just steps away from two express chairlifts, charming shops and gourmet restaurants. Inside, each unit features a circular freestanding fireplace (think rustic mountain chalet), as well as a private balcony and full kitchen at surprisingly affordable rates.

High Above the Rest, Eagle's Nest

Perched high on the hillside across from the base area sits the aptly named Eagle's Nest townhomes. Each unit features a glimpse of Mt. Crested Butte, so capturing views this special require not just one, but two private balconies. Watch the

sun rise and fall from the comfort of your master suite, or head to the living room and nestle up next to the wood-burning fireplace. Keep your vehicle parked in the attached, private garage as you voyage out and about on the free shuttle. The property sits directly on the Condo Loop Shuttle route. A fully equipped kitchen, in unit washer/dryer, common area saunas and two outdoor hot tubs make Eagle's Nest one of the best.

Want to Read More?

View their first five lodging options at: www.skiernews.net/Oct2018-News.pdf

Plan to save on your great Colorado ski vacation. Please call Crested Butte Lodging at 1-888-620-7669 (SNOW) Still Want More?

Check out all the lodging options on their great website at www.CrestedButteLodging.com It has more places for you to stay when in Crested Butte in any season.

View, read and share this page online and you can link from it also, at: www.skiernews.net/Jan2019-News.pdf

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