

GATOR TALES

April , 2013

Winners of the 2012 & 2011 "Florida Cup"

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

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President's Message -

Hey Gators! Well I am so upset I think I am about to break down and cry great big Gator tears! As you know I am a very sensitive, gentle and emotional man and the thought of having to wait almost a year to go skiing again is just more than my tiny, teeny, little heart can bear! My therapist says I need a hug, actually many hugs! HINT HINT!!!

As you read this our Snowmass skiers will have returned from the snowy mountains of Colorado to the sunny South with beautiful photographers, unbelievable (as in difficult to believe) stories of great deeds of daring do, and a large quantity of semi-pickled livers. How does one get a pickled liver? No, don't tell me. I studied this in Law School at Miami. I devoted much time, much study, much work, much effort, and what little money I had – so I should know the answer. Yes, yes it is party spelled P-A-R-T-Y. Why? Because we are Gators!

What a party some 25 Gators had at Kathy & Gene Bondonese's home. It was our March Board of Director's meeting and much was accomplished other than there is no wine, food or liquor left in the Bondonese house. Let me summarize: Definite Florida Ski Council trips: Snowmass in January, Park City in February, and Garmisch Germany for European trip. Tentative Gator trips: Beaver Creek ?; Schweitzer, Idaho, and Red Mountain, Canada (yes one trip!); Vail ?; Winter Park or Keystone?. YES! Ok, I am excited. Not good for my heart!

So new subject, The III Forks Happy Hour was awesome! Good job, David Schue! The Chili Cookoff was smoking hot! (Tums Provided) Well Done Ann Ganzel! Well, I could go on and on, but I have to take Geritol and Mineral Oil.

Don't forget the Election Meeting Thursday, April 11th, 2013, 8:00 pm at the North Palm Beach Country Club. See you there!

It's good to be a Gator!

Warmest regards, *Rich Wennet, President*

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**Progressive Dinner -
Saturday, April 6th
Bonnette BBQ Dinner
Friday, April 26th
(See Socials page for details)**

April 20th — 10:00 am
Leisure Bike Ride
Palm Beach
Lake Trail
(See Special Activities
page for details.)



Susan's Ski Scoop



I am hoping you will vote yes on the board of directors' recommended By-Law changes. They will reduce the benefits to the board members substantially, about \$4,600. The By-Law changes were written with the help of our President, Rich Wennet, an attorney. The reduction in benefit was done in a way the board of directors thought was equitable to each position held by a board member. In regards to the position of VP of Ski Trips, the VP next year would still receive one free ski trip, the same as a trip leader. In my opinion, our club is about our ski program. Over half of our members go on ski trips. The VP of Ski trips is the most important position in our club. The ski program brings in enough revenue to easily support the VP of Ski Trips. The VP has huge responsibilities, design the ski program, negotiate trip contracts, do trip budgets, recommend trip leaders, train trip leaders, supervise trip leaders, is responsible for all ski trip income, participate in Florida Ski Council meetings, represent our club at meetings, do the marketing and on and on. Each traveler on a ski trip pays \$20.00 to the club reserve. This amount easily covers the cost of the benefit for the VP of Ski Trips. This year we exceeded this cost easily and even had funds to pay for other club expenses. Beside our annual dues the ski program brings in the most revenue. It helps support the other club expenses including, free membership picnic; free fashion show event; free ski season kickoff event; signage for free bike ride events; our meeting room, fidelity bond, storage room,; familiarization trips for trip leaders, postage, printing & copies, PO Box rental, newsletter, accounting fees, website expenses & other club expenses. I really hope you will support the bylaw changes recommended by the board of directors, they do reduce the benefits to the officers and I think they do it in an equitable way in relationship to each position of each officer.

So much for the business side of our club, now for the fun stuff. What's up for 2013 to 2014 ski season? December 2013, early Vail or Beaver Creek Trip (Date to be determined); January Florida Ski Council Trip, (1-25-14 to 2-1-14) Snowmass; February Florida Ski Council Trip (2-22-14 to 3-1-14) Park City; Schweitzer, Idaho & Red Mountain, British Columbia, Canada (date to be determined); Florida Ski Council European trip to Garmisch, Germany (date to be determined); Front range Colorado ski trip, 5 days to ski and home again, (looking for a reduced price quick trip to a great ski mountain) All of this is in the works, keep reading our Gator Tales for more details as the year progresses, we are still in the planning stages and if you would like to give me some input please call me.



For more information, please feel free to contact me directly at smfines@att.net Or call me at 772-332-2889.

Be in the loop and get the **SKI SCOOP.**

Susan Fines, VP Ski Trips

For updates on all of the current events and trips Check out our website:

www.gatorsnowskiclub.com

The April 11th General Membership Meeting will include our Election of Officers for the 2013-2014 Year.

It is very important that we have a quorum vote in the election, so we will have a valid election. All of the Candidates for office are listed on the enclosed ballot, and most have submitted a brief article below. If you are unable to attend the Meeting, please send your Absentee Ballot to the Elections Supervisor, David Schue. PLEASE NOTE: The Absentee Ballot enclosed in this newsletter is the ONLY valid absentee ballot. A paper copy of this newsletter is being mail to EVERY member of the club, so all have access to the ballot. This is YOUR club, so please participate in the election, and either vote in person, or with this ballot.

The candidates for office are:

PRESIDENT: Richard Wennet: is running unopposed

VICE PRESIDENT / SKI TRIPS: Sheri Agenw: FUN & EASY! As VP Ski Trips, I, Sheri Agnew, would like to offer our Club ~FUN & EASY meetings, Trip Leader Training & most of all Trips! (Trip Leaders need a FUN & EASY support system, relevant to today's market that can help them SELL SKI & succeed!) TRIPS FOR ALL BUDGETS! High end, bare bones & in-between! YOUNGER SKIERS & FAMILIES! Marketing to these important groups will keep our club moving forward! SOCIAL NETWORKING! My Snowmass Trip proves when you step out of the box, exciting things happen! Skiers from 4 other states found us on Face-Book! We no longer have to limit ourselves to our backyard! FUN & EASY ~ a Ski Program I will work hard at for our Club! Thank you for your vote! (Active Member in good standing since 1998! Business Owner & Organizational Wizard!)

VICE PRESIDENT/SPECIAL ACTIVITIES: Connie Flow: I have been an active Gator for 15 years and have many bandannas and racing medals to represent over 50 trips I've taken with the club, as a skier, bicyclist, golfer, horseback rider and world traveler. My professional career in Sales and Medicine I've acquired skills in directing, delegating teaching, supervising, counseling and the ability to work well with everyone. I've spearheaded many a night's entertainment and activities from croquet and tea parties to sing-alongs and Shag dance lessons, plus several huge parties on short notice for close to 200 people, As a Board member I hope to bring exciting, new adventures to the Gators' calendar of activities. I will bring Enthusiasm and fresh ideas to the Gator social committee as your next Vice-President of Activities.

VICE PRESIDENT/SOCIALS: Betty Williams: is running unopposed

SECRETARY: Tammy Walkoff: For over 25 years I have volunteered for many non-profit organizations, serving on local, regional, tri-state and executive boards of large organizations, holding positions of President and VP several times, to include membership, programming and fundraising. I've chaired committees and have served as Secretary. I have always taken my board positions seriously and worked on behalf of the membership. I am very active with the *Humane Society* and support *Save the Chimps*, volunteering 18-20 hours weekly and financially support these organizations. As a Gator, I thank those who have served to help build our club and feel it's time for me and step up as Secretary of the Gators to and help to improve our club, making it the best club possible. Tammy Walkoff

TREASURER: (Please note for one)

Walter Marussich: I am your current Treasurer, a member since 1984. It is no secret that I have served more than once in the past without a benefit (money better spent on you versus a free trip for me) as I will do again this year. It would be my honor to serve you again without a benefit next year. I pledge to continue to serve you in an accurate, conscientious, informative and lawful manner. As I have done this year, your treasury will remain open for all of you to review. Ultimately, I want all of us together, the Old Guard, Concerned Gators, skiers and non-skiers to become invested in how the club is run, to feel good about our leadership, our club, and each other. I would appreciate your vote. Walter

Susan Fines: I would appreciate your vote. The past 2 years I served as VP of Ski Trips. I attended all Florida Ski Council meetings, attending breakout sessions to become informed & educated. I have networked with 100+ ski club officers. These travels have been partially paid by me as well as from club income. I will continue to support our ski program. Since I retired 3 years ago, selling my insurance business of 20+ years I stepped up to help. I have skied with Gators 15+ years. I'm experienced with Quick Books, (our accounting program). I'm a team player, believe by-laws need following, and members need to be kept informed. I'm in favor of reducing board benefits & have voted to do so. BE SURE AND VOTE!!!! Susan Fines

MEMBER AT LARGE: (Please note for one)

Nancy Rollins: A member since 1984 the Gators have been like family! Being on the board for the second time, contrary to rumors, I vote for what I feel is best for our club and its members! I've run ski trips, parties, events, etc. As an active member, I felt this is what an active member does..I ran the Naples golf 2011-the Danube trip 2012-the Lobster feast 2012 because no one else would.

These were so important to the club I wanted to be sure they were available for our members to enjoy! Some fresh faces on the board next year. With my experiences I feel I can be helpful to the board Doesn't matter who wins I wish the 2013-14 board the very best!!

Vote for me Nancy Rollins

Pamela Strickland: My name is Pam Strickland and I am running for "Member at Large", which means I get to address your concerns, complaints and suggestions. I'm looking forward to taking on this task with great enthusiasm should I be elected!!! My Qualifications are: I have been a career & business woman for over 45 years. I've owned my own business for over 30 years. My best Entrepreneurial skills are: Advertising / Marketing; Communication Skills; Decision Making; Leadership; Management;;Organization. I have some excellent ideas on how to increase our membership and I'm ready to roll up my sleeves and get started!!! I absolutely love skiing and go on multiple trips every year and feel like it's time for me to give back to our club. Please vote for me!!! Pamela Strickland

GATOR TALES

Gator Snow Ski & Activities Club
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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 Membership Meeting
 Thursday, April 11th - North Palm Beach Country Club
 Elections of Officers and vote on Proposed By Law Amendments
April, 2013 Calendar of Events

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
March 31st	April 1st Social Committee at Tall Tales	2	3	4 Board Meet- ing 7:00 pm at Nancy Rollins Residence	5 Happy Hour Tiki Bar at Riviera Beach Marina	6 Progressive Dinner—See Socials for Details
7	8	9	10	11 General Membership Meeting North Palm Beach CC	12 Happy Hour Rocco's Tacos PGA Commons 5090 PGA Blvd.	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 Happy Hour Two Drunken Goats—Singer Island	20 Leisure Bike Ride Palm Beach Lake Trail
21	22	23	24	25	26 Bonnette's Banquet Lodge BBQ Dinner (See Socials)	27
28	29	30 Board Meet- ing 7:00 pm Tall Tales At Gander Mtn.	MAY 1st	2	3 Happy Hour Location to Be determined	4

IMPORTANT FUTURE DATES

Board meeting, Tuesday, April 30th at 7:00 pm (**Note Date Change)
 Membership Meeting Thursday, May 9th 7:00 pm Social & Signups 8:00 pm Meeting

April, 2013