



CASTLE MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



AS ANOTHER SKI SEASON WINDS DOWN,

I am moved to write about some of the happenings in this wondrous alpine community of ours. But really, it's the people who make these happenings that I really want to highlight so in addition to the special dates and information about events, you will also find stories about some of the individuals who make up this special community. Some events at a glance:

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

March 27-April 4	Flea Market: Raising funds for Avalanche Dogs
April 3 & 4	Spring Fest at CMR (see www.skicastle.ca for more info)
April 7	Home Routes & Potluck @ Stefanson's Lot #58 Eat 6:30; Show 7:00 pm featuring: Michael Jerome Browne;
May 21 (long weekend)	Base Area Clean Up
June 5	Stewardship Valley Clean Up
July TBA	Weed Pull challenge: (my 68 year old mom pulled 8 bags worth; top that?!)
August 28	Huckleberry Festival

CASTLE MOUNTAIN: THE KIDS

Castle Mountain Powder Hounds....

One of the best parts about CMR is the cast of interesting and varied characters that give such vibrancy and richness to this unique community. I didn't have to look far, merely outside my cabin window, to spy some of the most interesting and charming characters on the hill: the Perry girls. It is a much treasured sight for me to see these three girls (ages ranging from 4 -9 years), all decked out in full ski gear, being patiently prodded, poked, hustled and cajoled down the slope of their cabin lot by their ever positive, patient and persistent father, Harold. The Perry Clan is one of several local families that are part of our community. Three generations of Perry folk play on this mountain; meet three of their youngest representatives, Powderhounds: Charlotte age 7, Elise age 4 and cousin, Sye age 6:

Caroline: What do you like best about coming to Castle?

Charlotte: Skiing. You get to go down really steep hills, go off big jumps.

Elise: I have a very fun jump; it's on North Road. When you come around the corner, you just go woooooop!!

Ch: I like it when I come back from skiing and get to have hot chocolate. And when I come back at the end of the day, I usually have a hot tub.

Ca: Are you in Nancy Greene? Tell me about it.

Ch: We learn how to do roller blade turns. It's when you roll on a flat part and you go like that [demonstrates the technique]. We're learning to go in real races. I just went in one to experience one at Sunshine. I like Castle better because Castle lots of the runs are really flat there.

Sye: I'm not used to icy; you like the powder. I'm a Powder Hound [very matter of fact]. When I see the powder, that's where I go to turn. And I like the Moguls in 9 to 5.

Ch: 9 to 5 is a run with lots of trees and some twigs. It has more than one reverse [traverse] and that's where you can stop.

Sye: Moguls are big humps and there are some jumps on those kind of runs.

Ch: It's so much fun because it's really fun to go around the trees and in there, the turns are already made for you when you go around the moguls.

Ca: What's your favorite run?

CH: Shotgun; I like it because sometimes there is a big space and sometimes there is a narrow space and you can

go really far up and then there's lots of twigs and you can dodge them. I like it where there is a little train and you can cut in there. Once there was gates so you couldn't go through the trail so we had to go off into the trees and take off all our skis and poles and push them down and jump down ourselves. And there was a big ledge and I went on to the ledge and did a big, big jump. A really good friend named Ward (he is 20 or something) and we took him into that and he didn't like it that much. And I lost my pole and he had to help me look for it for a long, long time

EI: We get to make some airplanes. I get to go into the hot tub with my friends.

Sye: She's actually pretty good at skiing. She went on bandito.

Ca: Really? is that true?

EI: [nods] I went down North road about this many times [shows 10 fingers].

Sye: She likes North Road. Exactly the whole North Road.

E: It's one of my favorites, that's why.

Sye: I like Ghost Rider even though I haven't even been on it.

Ch: I really like Ghost Rider.

Ca: Where is it?

Ch: If you go on Huckleberry chair and you go to the left and you go into the trees. And there's all these moguls. I can get home from there.

Ca: What's one of the most important things you learn skiing here?

Ch: That when you go on the lift you have to put the bar down.

[GOTTA LOVE IT!]



Meet Sye and her family: (Chris and Kyra with Rayn and Amaya). Kyra is the registrar for Nancy Greene. Call her to sign up your budding powder hounds. Chris is treasurer (you pay him). All 3 girls ski in the program.

CASTLE MOUNTAIN: THE CLUBS

Our West Castle Ski Club Rocks!

It was a great season for the Nancy Greene program with 60+ kids enrolled! Four kids raced at K1 and two athletes at the FIS level. They achieved good results. The club hosted the K2 Race and the Terrain Event, both a success, if made a bit more challenging due to lack of snow. Our volunteers prevailed nonetheless. One of the most remarkable features of the club this year is that almost all of the coaches are homegrown. Twelve of the race and Nancy Greene coaches grew up skiing in the Nancy Greene program at Castle.

Other Cool Ski Facts:

CMR Alpine Racer and member of the BC Provincial team, Sarah Freeman, placed 7th in Ladies Downhill at the Nationals! She also foreran the training runs for the Women's Downhill in the 2010 Olympics.

Castle Mountain's J4 (Banditos) Head Coach, former racer and Canadian Women's Ski Jumping Champion, Nata deLeeuw, foreran for the Men's ski jumping events at the 2010 Olympics.

Yukon deLeeuw, also a former CMR racer and member of the National Men's Ski Jumping Team a Men's Ski Jumper, was the alternate for the 2010 Olympics. All of Feb, he was forerunner for all of the ski jumping & Nordic Combined events at Whistler Olympic Park.



Our Castle Mountain Freestyle Club Rocks!

Davis Clement (11 years)

- 3 Gold Medals in Big Air, Slopestyle and Moguls at the Provincial Freestyle Ski Competition held in Grande Prairie

Veronica Oczkowski

- 2 Golds and a silver in her age category for slopestyle, moguls and Big Air at the Provincial Freestyle Ski Competition
- A Silver in Moguls and a Bronze in Slopestyle at Junior Nationals

Braden Barber

- His 1080 off the Big Air won him Gold in his age category and he also won a Gold in Slopestyle at the Provincial Freestyle Ski Competition.

FREESTYLE EVENT QUIZ

- A. Moguls
- B. Aerials
- C. Slopestyle
- D. Big Air

1. ___ a park discipline that allows the athlete to choose from either jumps or park features such as boxes and rails
2. ___ performed off a large jump and each athlete performs two air maneuvers
3. ___ Inverted tricks off an even larger jump.
4. ___ Quick descent through a run with 2 jumps

ANSWERS: 1C; 2D;3B; 4A (next time we do maneuvers)

CASTLE MOUNTAIN: RESORT UPDATE

The following was taken from the Resort Update bulletin sent with your last CMR invoice. It is intended as a quick update; please call the Office for more details

Operations

- Best start to season by 20%
- Blue chair repairs paid off; it ran reliably all season
- Season pass sales strongest ever
- Jan & Feb slower than hoped due to lack of snow
- Snow Kids Next Door program huge success; Clubs & Snow School have seen an increase in participation

Snow Pack

- 3rd Lowest in 20 years
- CMR groomers & staff kept conditions remarkably good.
- Coverage good but hazards high off the groomed or tracked pistes.

T-Bar Pub & Barnaby Steakhouse

- CMR struggling with reduced seating capacity in T-Bar Pub due to liquor licence and Fire Dept. allowed capacity of 54 people.
- Great efforts made to utilize Barnaby Steakhouse
- CMR has a committee to source the best options for future Food & Bev operations.

Street Signs

- Sample street signs and recommended house numbers available in main office
- Community effort to install signs this summer
- Road names and house #s will make finding houses easier for emergency response teams and your guests.
- Street names resulting from recent Townhall meetings and community feedback

Cat Skiing

- Cat skiing introduced to public this season
- Response has been amazingly positive
- There is about 600 acres of skiable terrain within the exiting CMR LOC
- Up to 23 people can take part per day
- This is in partnership with Great Divide Adventures who own the Snowcat
- It is operating with a focus on cost recovery for this first season
- Back country terrain is open to public (conditions permitting) when cat skiing is not operating. The access route is now easier and the cat road and the avalanche hazard is reduced by snow control efforts of ski patrol.
- Bookings available through guest services.

After Hours

- Lot owners are reminded that snow machine and quad use is an ongoing concern for the Resort and other lot owners. We have spent monies to re-groom runs that have been damaged by vehicles which caused delays in opening the chairlifts.
- No tobogganing on ski runs. There are far too many hazards and liabilities. One incident could impact the Resort's ability to purchase insurance and to operate so please respect this.
- General outdoors quiet time is after 11:00 pm. Please inform renters or guests.
- MD bylaw does not permit the launching of fireworks anywhere within CMR property or the Westcastle Forest Reserve.
- CMR needs support from lot owners in regards to fire fighting capabilities. There

are many resources to fight fires but manpower is lacking.

Internet

- Two additional towers are being investigated to improve service
- CMR is aware of issues and is working with Pathcom to make service better.

Contact Info

- Please make sure your contact info is current with main office.
- The MD of Pincher Creek will commence mailing property tax notices directly to you. Please make sure your address is current.

Dog Poop

- More outcries: Let's just clean it up.

Events

- [Several events were listed here; many of them completed and the remainder are listed on p1]
- **Avalanche: March 6**
- Class 2 avalanche on Blazing Saddles
- Emergency response plan went into effect and results were very positive.
- There were no injuries or fatalities
- Thanks to everyone who helped: local skiers and snowboarders, RCMP, Pincher Creek Search & Rescue and Resort staff.
- Our Pro Patrol and CARDA dogs are some of the best trained & equipped crew at any resort in Canada.
- Everyone needs to be aware that there is a lot of avalanche terrain at CMR and spring weather can change conditions within minutes.

CASTLE MOUNTAIN: VIPs

The Wright Stuff Award

One year ago, on March 27, 2009, our daughter, Sophia, crashed in the terrain park and sustained a life-threatening head injury; she was flown by STARS to the Foothills Hospital where she eventually made an amazing and complete recovery. The Pro patrol were at their finest that day and their work with my girl was an important link in the chain of emergency services that saved her life. In gratitude for the service provided by the Ski Pro Patrol on that day in particular, but throughout the season, too, Kevin and I created the Wright Stuff Award. This is intended to go to an individual who demonstrates dedication on the job. This year's recipient is

DAVE STIMSON.

With gratitude, Caroline & Kevin Wright

A VERY SPECIAL PERSON...

Who is one of the most consistent members of the CMR staff?

Who always answers my questions, even if it is with, "I'll find out for you."

Who always has a ready smile?

Who always has the patience and kindness to listen to a concern or a complaint?

Who is truly indispensable at the CMR office?

Answer: Mother Goose, of course

A big thanks to KAREN LEWKO for all her marvelous work at CMR.

TWITTER'S PICTURE: "Olympic Smile of the Day" ... Bree and Kali at Cypress Mountain



Bree Korobanik and her dog Kali are shown here on duty at the 2010 Olympics, Cypress Mountain site. They were brought in by the RCMP to help with the Olympic Integrated Security Unit. They were on duty in case of avalanche activity. It was an amazing experience for Bree. She enjoyed checking out all the various Olympic venues. Kali enjoyed the exposure she gained on behalf of Canadian Avalanche Dogs.

CASTLE MOUNTAIN: LAST BITS

Here comes Huckleberry Pie!

And much more in our very own Huckleberry Cookbook. If you have photos of berry picking -- old and new-- or other berry-related activities, please send them, along with your huckleberry recipes, to Pearl Murphy: mpearlm@telusplanet.net.

CASTLE MOUNTAIN FACEBOOK CONVERSATION

Older brother (at Castle) to brother who is not :

Lotsa snow here; you be missing out

Uncle: What is lots; I'm off on Thursday

Younger bro: I just arrived in Victoria

Older bro: FORECASTED 30 cms! If you remember it was exactly one year ago the big dump on March 29, 2009. It's happening again.

Younger bro: And that was 13 cms/hour

Sister at uni in Quebec: I want to be there so bad!! I miss skiing!

Younger bro: Dad was having nightmares about missing it.

[If you can understand or relate to this conversation at all, then you too have caught the Castle Mountain Fever.]

And Apres Ski, how about a little bridge game?

Yes, it's true, Castle Mountain has the liveliest group of Bridge players going. Beginners and veterans welcome; all you need to be is fun. Contact the following if you want to join in:

michele.fraser@gmail.com

tel: 403 627-5097

BEAR SMART TIME

Now is the time to bear smart your cabin, says Jenice Smith (Crowsnest Conservation Society). She checked out our area and things look pretty good: Garbage stowed away and an absence of birdfeeders. However, we need to take care of our BBQs. They either need to be thoroughly washed after use or stowed away in a secure place. BE SAFE.

Your Castle Mountain Community Association Board of Directors

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How about you?

Monica Stewart

Lorraine Walker

Come join us in the fun!

Pearl Murphy

Dave Annis