

Escape

A CHAIRLIFT OF THE CHRISTIE LODGE OWNERS ASSOCIATION

New Gondolas Are Flying High!

Riverfront Express



Christie Lodge visitors now have a fantastic new vehicle to take them to Beaver Creek Mountain for skiing, hiking, skating, shopping, concerts and many other activities.

The **Riverfront Express** Gondola runs from downtown Avon, just a few blocks from the Christie straight to Beaver Creek Landing. From here you have several options. It's an easy walk for our guests.

From the landing, regular busses will take you up to Beaver Creek Village. If you're skiing or boarding, you can hop onto either of the two high-speed quad chairlifts and peacefully glide to the top of the ski mountain in about 15 minutes.

Like its new cousin, the Buckaroo Express, the *Riverfront Express* features eight-passenger heated cars. It runs about four-tenths of a mile and has nine towers supporting eight cabins. It can carry as many as 1,200 people per hour.

These new gondolas are part of the \$500 million Riverfront Village mixed-use development that is a focal point in the planned revitalization of the downtown Avon area. City planners hope to make Avon an exciting collection of shops, restaurants, hotels and

homes, all anchored by the new "Main Street". Come see it!

Buckaroo Express

Getting the towers in their places for the new **Buckaroo Express** Gondola was easily handled by the venerable SK-64 Skycrane. Web-enabled aircraft fans can visit http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sikorsky_S-64 for more details of this remarkable bird.

The new gondola is a shorter version compared to some others in the area. Each cabin holds eight passengers and runs from Beaver Creek Resort to some great beginner learning slopes about a third of a mile up the mountain. The ride takes a little under four minutes yet has a capacity of transporting 1,665 people per hour.

The Buckaroo Express was designed with the younger crowd in mind, especially to nurture the notion that more time spent on non-threatening terrain results in more fun for the child and more future skiers and snowboarders.

Bring your children to the Lodge and sample these great additions to Avon and Beaver Creek. Everyone loves riding in a gondola!



Winter '08

Annual Meeting Held In Irving, Texas

The 2007 Christie Lodge Owners Association Annual Owners meeting was held in Irving, Texas on October 6, 2007. The Association is pleased to announce another successful year of operations at the Christie Lodge.

The Christie Lodge Board and management presented the prior annual meeting minutes, reported on the status of the Christie Lodge, elected two Board members, presented the 2007 audited financial statements, and distributed the 2008 annual budget.

Fiscal year ending June 30, 2007 netted significantly higher year over year occupancies and we maintained our Gold Plus property rating with the Vail Valley Partnership.



Thanks to Lady Bird Johnson, wildflowers are all over Texas! Here are Bluebonnets and Indian Paint Brushes.

We hope you will welcome them and enjoy reading about their backgrounds in our mini-bios below.

John Mertens has been married to Deb for 34 years and has 3 grown children. John has degrees in Fire Protection & Safety Engineering and has worked in the field of fire and safety for over 30 years. He has been President of Fysafe Engineering for 21 years and has worked on fire related issues from Hawaii to Poland and Alaska to Panama.

In addition to the considerable business travel, John is also a pilot and owned an airplane for many years. Deb and John also travel extensively together for fun, including trips to the Caribbean and Hawaii.

John has previously devoted two terms on the Christie Lodge Board and has spent seven years on a condo board in Hawaii. More recently, he has been involved with a committee and boys club at church and multiple trips to New Orleans to assist with reconstruction.

Gary L. Kujawski, Esq., a licensed Colorado attorney, has practiced law since 1984, concentrating in the area of real estate law, as well being as a general practitioner. At present, he is the Director of Title Operations for Title America in Lakewood, CO. He is in charge of Title America's Foreclosure/Investor and Timeshare Divisions, as well as being an educational corporate trainer for the company. He is also a real estate educational teacher for classes offered by the Colorado Real Estate Commission, teaching and specializing in Foreclosures and Short Sales, Estates and Probate, Bankruptcy, Timeshares, Real Estate Contracts, the Annual Commission Update Course, and other real estate title-related classes.

In the recent past, Gary has served as an advisory member of the Board of Directors for the Christie Lodge, and has delivered numerous speeches on timeshare industry issues. In the past 2 years, he has taught more than 400 classes to over 5,000 realtors, investors and lenders regarding foreclosures and real estate title issues, which is truly an incredible accomplishment.

We are satisfied to announce a clean 2007 audit opinion. The 2008 budget may be found online in the owners section of www.christielodge.com. In short, your Association is in great shape and we hope you visit us soon to share the success.



Irving is a suburb of Dallas, pictured above, which is the 3rd largest city in Texas and the 9th largest in the USA.

**FLY
IN**



**SKI
FREE!**

Flyers on certain flights arriving from Atlanta, Chicago, Cincinnati, Dallas/Ft. Worth and Denver on direct flights to Vail/Eagle County Regional Airport (EGE) will be eligible for free skiing at Beaver Creek on the day of their arrival.

The promotion runs through April 13, 2008, and requires a valid boarding pass and lodging confirmation in the Vail Valley.

Of course, certain conditions may apply. This promotion is not affiliated with the Christie Lodge in any way. Call 800-503-8748 for more details or to see if you qualify.



Rez Hotline: 1-888-325-6343

We are here for you! Please call us, as far in advance as possible, to discuss your reservation needs. We will help make it work!

**CHRISTIE LODGE OWNERS ASSOCIATION
FISCAL YEAR ENDING 6/30/2008
CASH BUDGET**

REVENUES

ASSESSMENTS	\$ 4,236,756
COLLECTIONS	\$ 1,015,401
RENTAL	\$ 2,535,281
ANCILLARY	\$ 511,211

TOTAL REVENUE \$ 8,298,649

EXPENSES

MGT. & ADMIN.	\$ 2,246,700
ROOM OPS	\$ 2,857,868
& GUEST SVCS.	
PROPERTY OPS	\$ 1,182,974
& MAINTENANCE	
OVERHEAD EXP.	\$ 973,592

LESS OPERATING EXP. \$ 7,261,134

RESERVE FUND. REQ.	\$ 469,445
DEBT PRINC. PMTS.	\$ 377,050

LESS NON-OPER. EXP \$ 846,494

NET INCOME FROM OPERATIONS \$ 191,021

Please take a moment to peruse our CLOA 2008 Budget to the left. A sound CLOA budget starts with our owners who pay maintenance fees when due. Those owners are then eligible for a free exchange week from RCI or II. We draw three names each billing period.



This period's winners are:

Steven Dalton

Eules, Texas

Lance & Dionne Carlton

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Chris & Jaimee Henderson

Colorado Springs, Colorado



New Stone Signs Adorn the Property



The Christie Lodge proudly announces the addition of two new stone signs identifying the Lodge. One is to the West, along Avon Road and the other faces South along East Beaver Creek Boulevard.

The signs are very attractive and composed of a sturdy base of river rock which supports a good sized Colorado Sandstone slab. The face of the sandstone has The Christie Lodge logo, which is sandblasted and painted a forest green color. The face is beautifully accented by flood lights for easy nighttime recognition.

After several months of planning, reviewing designs and specifications, and coordinating and obtaining approval from the Town of Avon, we are delighted with the final result. Our new beautiful signage adds dimension to the Lodge property and will make it easier for our owners and guests to find us.

**Board of Directors
THE CHRISTIE LODGE
OWNERS ASSOCIATION**

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Wolfgang Puck has opened one of his world-class *Spago* restaurants in the Ritz-Carlton in Bachelor Gulch! For more information contact our Concierge at 1-800-551-4326, ext. 528.

Engineering Department Hard At Work - Always!

The Engineering Department continuously strives to improve the appearance and functionality of The Christie Lodge. The Lodge has undergone many projects that enhance the property, inside and out. What was the paved delivery space in the east parking lot is now a lovely garden sitting area where guests can relax in a natural setting.

In the west parking lot, the long dividing strip between the upper and lower parking spaces was filled with large rocks. We removed them and planted trees and shrubberies native to Avon and our surrounding areas. This in-house design features xeriscape plants, which thrive in arid climates. This project adds color and shading to an otherwise drab parking lot.

Christie Lodge management decided to relocate the columns that were just outside the East and West main entrances. The new placement of the columns will allow our visitors easier maneuverability and present a sharper new look to the entryways. Lobby area concrete replacements added to the upgrade and also improved drainage. Our building engineers also completely rebuilt several concrete problem spots such as sidewalk cracks and upheavals around the property.

On the technical side, we are updating our security and surveillance system by converting to a computer-based digital network system. This system allows for enhanced photo resolution and provides 30+ days of surveillance storage.

The Information Systems department gets a security boost by our contract to install a new chemical Fire Suppression System for the server closet. This will allow the removal of the fire sprinklers that, in the event of a fire, would have certainly damaged our computer equipment.

Some other, but certainly not all, projects of note include:

- * Wrapping of the exterior columns on the south side of the building for a new sharper look
- * Replacement of all shower heads to high velocity water savers, made by Sharper Image
- * Replacement of the ceiling in the Beaver Creek Conference Room, giving it a more modern and open style
- * Replacement of the wood retaining wall with a concrete retaining wall, on the north side of building
- * Installation of a commercial ventilation system in both lobby restrooms
- * Resealing of all the joints on the parking structure, sealing of the concrete surface, and re-stripping the upper parking deck
- * Cleaning and sweeping 282 chimneys

The Engineering Department continues to make improvements for your comfort, your property value, your pride of ownership and your peace of mind. Next time you visit, be sure to stop by and “talk shop” with Chief Engineer Robert Seufferer, Engineering Admin. Asst. Jen Schroeder (see back page) or any other member of this exciting team. You will be proud of what we have planned



Talented Christie Lodge personnel perform all of the necessary work on concrete projects around the Lodge.



The old laundry room loading area is now the “Housekeeping Garden” and is a cozy place to relax and reflect.



Owners, guests and employees report that they never tire of admiring our beautiful landscaping, especially the professional flower presentations designed by our Grounds personnel.

The **Eagle Bohn Gondola at Lionshead** runs for the rest of the ski season from 2:00 until 9:00 p.m. for **FREE!** It is free to foot traffic only, no skis, snowboards or bicycles. The activities at the top are numerous (call our Concierge at ext. 528 for more information on activities there and elsewhere) and the view is absolutely the best!

Floating Time Info from Your Reservations Manager

from B. Jay Bliss - Rez Man-

Most of you are floating week owners, and many have remarked that planning your vacation can be a little confusing. Unlike a wholly-owned condo or a fixed week (one in which you own a specific week and unit), floating owners are given a set of parameters in which they can request a specific date year-to-year. At the Christie Lodge floating owners are categorized by their unit size and season type. Each season is assigned a corresponding color. Winter and summer are red, spring and fall are blue or white.

Understanding what you own is essential. If a Reservation agent tells you that you are blue, they are not saying you are depressed! When you call the Reservations department and identify yourself as an owner, the first thing we check is what you own: unit size and season. "Mr. Doe, I see that you are a one-bedroom Red Winter owner. How can I help you today?" may be the first thing you hear when you call us.

Several owners have been surprised to discover that floating owners are not guaranteed a specific week. You may be denied a week even if you have paid your annual fees on time, and feel you are calling with enough advance notice. To see how this could happen, let us look at the big picture.

Any specific week you are requesting has a limited number of actual condos on property. So while there are assuredly enough units spread throughout your season to accommodate

all owners, it is natural that more popular weeks will fill up quicker and sometimes the demand exceeds the supply.

The system, as detailed in the Christie Lodge Owners Association Condominium Documents, declares that owners are to contact the lodge to request the week of their choice 360-330 days in advance. When requests are submitted 330-90 days in advance, management will make an earnest attempt to accommodate it, but will not be obligated to do so. If you are calling with less than three months notice, or you cancel a reservation, there are no guarantees that we will be successful in meeting your request.

We encourage owners to book as far in advance as possible to be assured of getting the week of your choice. As a service to owners, we sincerely try to

accommodate last-minute requests to the best of our abilities. Owners who deposit their week(s) with an exchange company, such as RCI and II, are rewarded for depositing a year in advance with increased trading power.

So be assured that while we understand the challenges of planning your vacation a year in advance, it is necessary to allow owners to book their weeks on a first-come first-served basis, in order to be fair

and give equal availability to all our owners. If you have any questions on this or any other aspect of your vacation ownership, never hesitate to contact us at 1-888-325-6343 or reservations@christielodge.com.



B. Jay explains reservations policies to owners at the weekly in-house Owners Meeting.



Exchange Company Resort Recognition Programs

Owners who have participated in the exchange process through RCI (Resort Condominiums International) may be aware that for years, RCI has given resorts recognition titles such as Gold Crown, Resort of International Distinction/Silver Crown and Hospitality. In the near future Interval International will be doing the same.

Many timeshare owners are not aware of how this title is achieved. When exchange guests have completed their stay, they receive a communication to solicit their evaluation of their experience. The scoring on the evaluations is the sole basis of the designation.

In 2004 The Christie Lodge was awarded the prestigious award of Resort of International Distinction. We were able to maintain that designation through 2005; then in 2006 the RID designation was changed to the Silver Crown level, and we remained Silver Crown through 2007.

In 2007 RCI reviewed and raised the thresholds for the designations. Under the new evaluations the Christie Lodge currently qualifies for the Hospitality Award. The RCI Hospitality® Award is a newly created award, which is given to resorts that have consistently achieved high remarks in the areas of

check-in/check-out and hospitality by RCI subscribing members.

This reflects the high level of customer service that we offer our owners and guests. We do not feel the change in status will affect the overall favorable exchange value our owners have enjoyed for years.

The Christie Lodge continues to receive great comments reported by owners and exchange guests and we are located in a very high-demand area, both of which have great positive impacts on our owners' trading power.

Getting to Know Us . . .

Jen Schroeder adds a sparkle to our Engineering Department appreciated by all who know her.

Her early years were in northeast Oklahoma and she started her teens in Alexandria, Kentucky. She and her mother Darleene (*known as "Mom" by all who know her*) wound up in Georgia and one day they decided they needed a relocation - so they chose (*where else!*) Colorado.

They moved to Greeley and Jen attended both Aims Community College and later CSU, studying computer engineering.

Jen decided that she would like to move a little further into the

mountains, so she got onto "Craig's List*" and saw that Avon had an abundance of jobs that seemed down her alley.

She applied to the Lodge, and shortly after, Chief Engineer Robert Seufferer realized that he better not let her get away! She is now the Administrative Assistant/Supervisor and is a respected central figure in this dynamic department.

Jen's skill set includes mechanical home services and her office skills are top line, all of which make her an excellent choice for this vital position.

* Craig's List contains classifieds on everything and much more - www.craigslist.org



Jen's works deep within the recesses of the parking garage! She's hard to find but worth the search!

As for hobbies, Jen's learning how to snowboard, likes to go snow shoeing and also is a photography enthusiast, but her main outside interest is her Australian shepherd, Hannah, which she rescued from the Humane Society.

The Christie Lodge
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