



## **JANUARY 2008 NEWSLETTER**

### **JANUARY 7, 2008**

#### **2008 MEMBERSHIP DUES – Due January 21st**

Membership renewal dues are due by January 21, 2008. Please pay by then to avoid renewing at new member rates.

#### **ABSENTEE VOTING – Due January 21st**

If you are unable to attend the Annual Election Meeting and your dues are paid in full, attached is an Absentee Ballot along with nominee bios. The ballot must be returned or postmarked no later than January 21<sup>st</sup> to be counted.

#### **ANNUAL ELECTION MEETING – February 2nd**

The Annual Election Meeting, of the general membership, will take place on Saturday, February 2, 2008, 6:00 pm at the Divide Community Center in Divide. As traditionally done in the past, a potluck dinner will take place. The main course of turkey and ham will be provided by the club, in addition to drinks and paper products. Please bring a dish to pass. Dinner will begin at 6:15 pm. The meeting will begin at 7:00 pm.

#### **NEXT BOARD MEETING – February 7th**

The next scheduled Board meeting is Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Woodland Professional Building, 400 W. Midland in Woodland Park on the second floor. Membership is encouraged to attend Board meetings.

#### **WESTERN DANCE – February 16th**

The social committee has planned a Valentine's Dance for Saturday, February 16, 2008, 7:00 pm at the Ute Pass Cultural Center in Woodland Park. The dance will feature a popular local country/western band, Bad Dogs. Doors will open at 7:00 pm with the band starting at 7:30 pm to 11:30 pm. A cash bar will be available.

Cover Charge:      Member: Single \$5, Couple \$8  
                             Non-Member: Single \$7, Couple \$10  
                             Kids 12 and under FREE

Look for the ads in the Ute Pass Courier and Jackpot.

## **FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Dear Members:

It seems like so long ago when we had our own facility, dances every month, an arena that could be used just by getting the key, and the Rodeos in the Summer. And then last year, the excitement of the decision to move to a beautiful, rural, mountain setting with an exceptional Equine Facility and new Club House. Then of course, there has been this seemingly endless period of time while the necessary due diligence, planning, permitting, and negotiating on the sale of the property by Wal-Mart have been taking forever, it seems.

Well guess what, Woodland Park Saddle Club Fans, things have been happening and moving forward. The Building Committee and Project Manager, Joe Butler, have finished our due diligence, and applied for our well permit, the drainage plan has been completed, and the traffic study is also done. The Site Plan is at the architect's and hopefully will be submitted to the County in January with our application for a Special Use Permit.

So keep up the enthusiasm, pay your Membership Dues by January 21, come to the February 2nd General Membership Meeting, and the Dance on February 16<sup>th</sup> and help keep the resurgence of the Club going, even before we have our new facility. According to the BTR Study that we had made in 2004, the Saddle Club had declined since the 1980's "almost 50% per decade", and the active members in 2004 were less than 80. This year we did climb to over 200 people. Also be aware that in 1980 we had about 50% of the households participating in the horse industry in our area as members, and in 2004 only 8%. That same study suggested that a revitalized Club might target 21% of households by 2009, with 250 members, and we have already reached 200 without a facility. And most importantly, the projected number of households participating in the horse industry is supposed to reach 1,192. We truly must be aware of these figures as we plan our Indoor Arena Complex and have the vision to plan for the next 5, 10 and 25 years.

We had our 1<sup>st</sup> Trail Ride of the year on January 1<sup>st</sup>, but with temperatures at -20 that morning, the turn out was understandably small. Let's get going and make this the Most Exciting Year ever for the WPSC.

Dr Jim

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President, Dr. James Wright, 748-3048

Vice-President, Margaret Gottlob, 687-0166

Treasurer, Janine Hendricks, 748-8529

Secretary, Craig Knowles, 748-1425

Director, Terry Christensen, 687-3842

Director, Myron Hendricks, 748-8529

Director, Inge Jacobsohn, 576-8311

Director, Darlene Jensen, 322-5232

Director, Jeff Miller, 748-4709

Director, Erik Lass, 687-4500

Director, Steve Vahsholtz, 687-6897

Newsletter submitted by Margaret Gottlob, Vice President.

## 2008 Nominee Bios

### **PRESIDENT**

I would like to submit my biography for the position of President of the Board of Directors for the WPSC. Prior to coming to Woodland Park in 1991, I have had experience with horses and Saddle Clubs starting with my first membership at age 15. I have been in numerous horse organizations including the North American Trail Ride Conference. Significantly in that organization, I served as President of the Board of Directors overseeing and 18 member board for 2 terms and before that served 2 terms as Vice-President, and several terms as a Director on that Board. I also have shown, trained and bed horses while practicing mainly equine veterinary medicine for 37 years. I observed and used indoor arenas for over 21 years and understand their use. I authored the pool that gave the members the voice to sell the downtown property, worked with the Search Committee and secured the Johnston property and helped negotiate a lowered purchase price for this same property. I have formed logical, functioning committees on the Board of Directors often including Club Members as well. Important among these is the By-Laws Committee, where I recommended that the Club Members rather than the Board of Directors approve changes to the By-Laws. I feel that my knowledge, experience and vision will help me to continue to lead the Club as we construct a facility to serve the Club's needs for the next 25 plus years as well.

**Submitted by Dr. Jim Wright**

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

I would like to express my interest in running for a second term as Vice President for the 2008 Woodland Park Saddle Club.

In addition to serving as Vice President for 2007, I chaired the 501c3 Committee which after 2 years in the process and many relentless follow-up calls to our representative, the club received a determination letter from the IRS with successful 501c3 status retroactive to when the club was formed in 1948. With this new status I volunteered to seek out individuals to help the club with grant writing – a definite avenue the club should pursue not only to help offset building costs of the new facility, but future expenses and new opportunities to the community. I also volunteered to generate and mail the monthly newsletter to membership and coordinate group trail rides.

My background is in business administration and bookkeeping. I currently run my own business providing bookkeeping services to small business. I've lived in Teller County for 10 years and have been an active member of the WPSC for 8 years. I've previously served as Treasurer for 2 terms, helped coordinate rodeo's, dances, membership dinners, club manager and tended bar.

It's been exciting this past year working with a board that successfully worked together as a team. I want to continue on with the positive momentum established in 2007 and continue on into 2008.

**Thank You Margaret Gottlob**

### **SECRETARY**

Although I have attended dances and most of the rodeos at the Woodland Park Saddle Club, since moving to the Woodland Park area in 1991, it has just been in the last few years that I have become more actively involved in the Club. I have attended all but two of the Board meetings in the last year which has given me the opportunity to be familiar with the current issues facing the Saddle Club. Also having been a Secretary for another club in years past, I have an understanding of the position requirements and responsibilities. I believe that this is an exciting time not only for the WPSC, but also for the Club members, due to both the potential that is within the Club itself and with all the possibilities the new facility brings for the Club's future.

**Submitted by Wendy Mark**

I am interest in running for Secretary for the Woodland Park Saddle Club. I have been an active member for the past year and have helped with the food concession stand last summer.

I have 2 girls, Kayce and Morgan, who love the gymkhanas. I am the Director of Business Development for Select Hospital in Colorado Springs. I have my BSN from Beth-El College of Nursing and I am currently working on a MBA degree. I would love the opportunity to become more involved in the Saddle Club. Please accept my bio to show my interest in running for Secretary. Thank you. **Submitted by Kelley Serafin, RN, BSN**

### **TREASURER**

I am submitting my bio for a third term in the treasurer position. With the help of my experienced bookkeeper friend and the professionals involved with the saddle club, we have current and accurate books set up on the QuickBooks program on the saddle club computer.

I have devoted myself to the saddle club in the past two years and look forward to being a part of the future saddle club with its new facility.

My husband and I have also been a regular part of the WPSC Gymkhana Committee and look forward to seeing it grow with more participants. It is very rewarding when watching the participants on their horses accomplishing the event and winning ribbons and awards. I look forward to another exciting year with the organization, please re-elect me as your WPSC Treasurer.

**Sincerely Janine Hendricks**

## 2008 Nominee Bios

### **DIRECTOR (3 openings)**

I would like to express my desire to continue to serve as a director for the 2008 Board of Directors of the Woodland Park Saddle Club.

Early in the year of 2007 I was appointed by the current board to fulfill the position of a resigning director. During the past several months I have served as committee chairman for the Finance Committee of the Saddle Club, as well as served as a member of the negotiating committee in reference to the purchase and sell of WPSC property. I feel I have offered valuable experience and knowledge to the board directors.

My career background has provided me with various levels of management in the insurance industry, financial services as a registered securities broker, a business broker, and most recently acting as Manager and Vice President of a local lending institution for the past 4 ½ years in Woodland Park.

I feel that the level of expertise that I have reached in my own personal career paths, along with my desire to see the Saddle Club continue to grow and thrive, will continue to be an added value to the board of directors as it takes the necessary steps to move the Woodland Park Saddle Club to the next level.

My family and I have been involved in the WPSC through the Gymkhana rodeos for the last 5 years. I have three children that participate consistently, that range from 8 to 15 years old. This is something that we as a family will be involved in for many years to come. Rodeo's, horses, and the quality of life that comes along with associating with families that participate in these activities has become a new way of life for us.

We have been members of the Woodland Park Saddle Club for four of the past five rodeo seasons. During this time we have attended various Saddle Club activities, including work days, moving days, dances and rodeos. I have also helped with the activities at the Gymkhana rodeos including serving on the Gymkhana committee.

I am very excited about the reigning board of directors and the direction that I feel they are leading the WPSC. The potential that is at the finger tips of this organization is amazing with its current leadership. I would like the opportunity to once again, sit as a director on the board to assist with the continued growth and expansion of what has been a great asset to this community for many years and will be even a greater asset in the future.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,  
**Terry W. Christensen**

As a present director for the Saddle Club Board of Directors and as gymkhana chairman of several years, I ask for your vote to continue my work and time to secure the new home site for the club and to continue and improve our gymkhanas.  
**Submitted by Inge Jacobsohn**

My name is Erik Lass and I have lived in Woodland Park for 26 years. I was a 4-H member for 10 years and my family has been involved in the WPSC for 20+ years. My daughter, Mattie, and I are very involved with horses, particularly gymkhanas and roping.

I have seen the area and the Saddle Club go through a lot of changes. I have filled in on the WPSC Board of Directors for the last year and am certainly excited about the opportunities for the WPSC in the near future. Being 33 yrs old, I feel like I can relate with the younger and older generations and would like to continue serving on the WPSC Board of Directors in 2008.

**Thank you Erik Lass**