



Gallatin County Fairgrounds Events Park

~ GCF FOCUS ~

January
2012

Website: www.gallatincountyfairgrounds.org
Email: fairgrounds@gallatin.mt.gov
Fax: 406-582-3273

901 N. Black
Bozeman, MT 59715
406-582-3270

Annual Fundraising Dinner & Meeting

The FAIRGROUNDS FOUNDATION is hosting a night of great food and silent auction. You won't want to miss Dan Thyer of Virginia city, Curator of Living History for the Montana Heritage Commission. Dan will be in period costume presenting "the life and times of Captain James Williams". He will be giving an inside look into the famous Virginia City Vigilante Executive officer's life, his involvement in the Border Wars, Colorado Gold Rush, as a wagon master and early Montana cattleman. Dan specializes in interpreting the eras 1800-1910. His presentation transport audiences to another time and place, as his stories help Montanans reflect on their colorful past and the role our state played in the history of the United States. Thyer is Montana's 2011 Tourism Person of the Year!

Plan to come for an evening of social fun and find out the latest EXCITING plans the Foundation has for the Fairgrounds. For more information contact the Fairgrounds Office at 582-3270.

February 17th at the Holiday Inn

5:30pm ... NO HOST BAR

6:30pm ... DINNER

TICKETS - \$25 PER PERSON

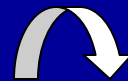
Includes Dinner, Entertainment
and Fairgrounds Foundation Membership.

TICKETS ONLY AVAILABLE IN ADVANCE

at the Holiday Inn Bozeman or the Fairgrounds Office after Jan 18th



Mark Your
Calendar



WILD WEST
WINTER
FEST

FEBRUARY
18 & 19



Looking for Ways to Find Us?

www.gallatincountyfairgrounds.com



<https://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/gallatincountyfairgrounds>



www.Twitter.com/gcfFUN



Looking for a way to view the Fairgrounds Events instantly from your mobile device or computer? Scan the QR code and all the Gallatin County Fairgrounds events are at your fingertips!

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Need a Weekend “LIFT” to Bridger Bowl?

Bridger Bowl will operate FREE Skier Busses again this ski season. The Park-N-Ride Bus will make multiple round trips from the Gallatin County Fairgrounds.

FREE Kids' Ski Bus

The free Bridger Bowl Kids' Ski Bus will operate on Saturdays, Sundays and Bozeman school holidays including Spring Break. The kids bus will leave from McDonald's and stop at the Gallatin Fairgrounds.

Bus Schedule

8:10 a.m. - departs McDonalds on Main Street
8:30 a.m. - departs Gallatin County Fairgrounds
9:00 a.m. - arrives at Bridger Bowl
4:00 p.m. - departs Bridger Bowl
4:30 p.m. - arrives at Gallatin County Fairgrounds
4:40 p.m. - arrives at McDonalds on Main Street



Park-N-Ride FREE Ski Bus

The Park-N-Ride busses will make multiple round-trips from the Fairgrounds to the ski hill. The busses will operate on Saturdays and Sundays only. There are parking areas at the Fairgrounds for all carpooling skiers and riders!

Bus Schedule

8:15 a.m. - departs Gallatin County Fairgrounds
8:45 a.m. - arrives Bridger Bowl
9:00 a.m. - departs Gallatin County Fairgrounds
9:45 a.m. - arrives Bridger Bowl
11:20 a.m. - departs Bridger Bowl
11:50 a.m. - arrives/departs Gallatin County Fairgrounds
12:30 p.m. - arrives/departs Bridger Bowl
1:15 p.m. - arrives/departs Gallatin County Fairgrounds
1:55 p.m. - arrives Bridger Bowl
3:40 p.m. - departs Bridger Bowl
4:10 p.m. - arrives Gallatin County Fairgrounds
4:15 p.m. - departs Bridger Bowl
4:45 p.m. - arrives Gallatin County Fairgrounds



Check the Bridger Bowl's website for updates on bus service and schedules at;

<http://www.bridgerbowl.com/themountain/skierbus>

JANUARY Schedule of Events *(subject to change)*

Jan 5	Gallatin County Weed Board Meeting	1:15pm	Fairgrounds Office
Jan 12	Wild West WinterFest Committee Meeting <i>(Public is welcome to attend)</i>	5:30pm - 7:30pm	Fairgrounds Office
Jan 15	Galloping Dog Agility Club - Fun Match <i>(Spectator's welcome)</i>	12pm - 3pm	Indoor Arena
Jan 17	Fair Board Meeting <i>(Public is welcome to attend)</i>	5:30pm - 7:30pm	Fairgrounds Office
Jan 16	CLOSED FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY		
Jan 26	Wild West WinterFest Committee Meeting <i>(Public is welcome to attend)</i>	5:30pm - 7:30pm	Fairgrounds Office
Jan 29	Battle of the Trail Horse	8am - 5pm	Indoor Arena

Visit our website for updated schedule information
www.gallatincountyfairgrounds.com



Best wishes for a "HAPPY NEW YEAR"
 from the Fairgrounds Staff!



COMMITTEE MINUTES

Fair Planning
 Fair Board
 WinterFest

Minutes are available on the
 Fairgrounds website:
gallatincountyfairgrounds.com

FAIR BOARD MEMBERS

Bob Brekke - Chairman
 Jeff Wade
 Vickie Johnson
 Tim Stefan
 Kurt Bushnell
 Betsey Heckel
 John Shellenberger
 Kwinci Tatarka
 Brenda York

COMMITTEES

WinterFest ... Fair Planning
 Bozeman Roundup Rodeo
 Volunteer ... Parking

We are always looking for more volunteers to help on committees. If you are interested in joining, please contact the Fairgrounds Office.

WILD WEST WINTERFEST

Experience the OLD West

February 18 - 19, 2012

Gallatin County Fairgrounds Events Park
901 N Black, Bozeman, Montana



wildwestwinterfest.com



ALL BREED HORSE SALE
Saturday, February 18, 2012 1pm
 Gallatin County Fairgrounds Indoor Arena
 Consignment being taken now.
www.headwaterslivestock.com
info@headwaterslivestock.com

Team Cattle Sorting will start the preview beginning at 10am sharp.

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**Bootleggers Ball with
THE DIRTY SHAME**
Saturday 8:30pm
Feb 18 Exhibit Building 1
 Free with WinterFest Admission



New for 2012:

- 1840's Western Rendezvous Encampment with Activities and Demonstrations
- The Montana Heritage Commission 1860's Living History with Historic Interpreters and interactive exhibits.
- MPHA Winter Forging Jackpot (Blacksmith Contest)



**Western Regional
Ski Joring!**
Feb 18 & 19 - 1pm
Warmup Arena

EVERY DAY EVENTS

Western Rendezvous Encampment & Demonstrations
 Western Regional Ski Joring ~ Horse Drawn Wagon Rides ~ McLien's Farm Barn
 Frontier Mercantile ~ Food Vendors ~ Quilt Show
 Outdoor Ice Skating ~ Lou's Petting Zoo ~ Hockey Tournament

SATURDAY

Horse Sale Preview
 All Breed Horse Sale
 Poultry & Rabbit Show
 MPHA Winter Forging Jackpot
 The Dirty Shame Concert
 Cattle Sorting Contest
 Chili Cook-Off
 Trail Horse Battle
 Ag Demonstrations

SUNDAY

Cowboy Church
 Working Horse & Driver Contest
 Stock Dog Demo
 Bridger Feeds Dog Keg Pull
 & Other Dog Events

Admission

\$5/day

**Children
10 Years
& Under
Free!**

Fairgrounds Forever ... from the Fairgrounds Manager

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

If you are like me, you're shaking your head and wondering "Where did 2011 go?" It seems like it just flew by and here it is Wild West WinterFest time !!!

This time of the year causes most of us to reflect on the past year and look ahead to the future. For me, each year is broken into BF (Before Fair), TF (The Fair), AF (After Fair), BW (Before WinterFest), TW (The WinterFest and AW (After WinterFest). I am definitely in the BW stage of the year right now and it is so exciting! I can hardly wait for each of you to have the opportunity to visit the 2012 Wild West WinterFest to see what the volunteers, business partners and our staff have put together. It is ABSOLUTELY AWESOME and I'm not kidding (when I tell my grandson something really "cool" he always says "You're kidding, Grammy!").

There are so many things to see and do, I want you to know about everything, well in advance, so you and your families don't miss out.

TRADITIONS

- *Dog Keg Pull - very spectator friendly or you may sign your dog up to see if he has what it takes!
- *Working Horse & Driver Contest - Old time teamster event (horse teams) with some new twists to the normal cultivating, obstacle driving, & log skidding, with the addition of a new event - Precision Pulling.
- *Quilt Show - The Best in the Valley. Bring your homemade quilt or just come and see what some of our **community's quilters have done since last year.**
- *Chili Cook-Off & Jalapeno Pepper Eating Contest - compete for top prizes or just come sample and help **Pick the People's Choice**
- *All Breed Horse Sale - brought to you by Headwaters Livestock. This sale has been around for about 30 **years so whether you have a horse to sell or you're looking to buy you won't want to miss this event.**
- *The Farm Barn - full of farm animals of all kinds for you to meet and learn about. The Petting Zoo is in this barn too - a favorite with ALL the kids and their parents.
- *Learn About Agriculture - another activity in the Farm Barn - mini-classes (15 minutes) that will teach visitors about agriculture. You may learn how you can tell what color eggs a chicken will lay or what a Scottish Highland is, maybe you will hear a real auctioneer. The sessions are geared toward children, but adults will enjoy them as well.
- *Dog Agility and Flyball Demos - This has become one of the most popular events at WinterFest. You will see some truly talented canine athletes performing.
- *Meet The Breeds - Another great dog event. This event allows visitors to check out some of the fantastic dog breeds that are raised in our valley. The knowledgeable owners are there to answer your questions and help you decide what dog breed might be best for your family.
- *The Bootleggers Ball - **This year "The Dirty Shame" will be our featured entertainment. If you like Waylon, Willie and the Boys - you will LOVE The Dirty Shame.**
- ***The "People Barn"** - This is our version of the Beer Garden - This year The Pour House and Spectators will be tending the saloon. They are planning a Beer Pong Tournament, music and other fun stuff.
- *Skijoring - back for a second year after several years absence. Two fun filled days of some of the top skiers in our state being pulled around a course filled with jumps and gates by some of the fastest horses around. This combination leads to some thrills and spills.
- *The Mercantile - The commercial area offering some great and unique shopping opportunities; hand-made items, photos, art work, wooden furniture, and lots more.
- *Doxie Derby - **Little "Wiener Dogs" racing** - yep! That it - **and I'm not kidding.**
- *Dog Agility and Training Demos - Learn what your pets can be taught for their fun and benefit.
- *Cowboy Church - Nondenominational service with great music and inspirational message.

Cont'd on next page

Fairgrounds Forever ... cont'd

NEW IN 2012

- *Trail Horse Battle – The Battle of the Breeds, a WinterFest event for the past several years has morphed and has become The Trail Horse Battle. It is the same and yet different. 10 super horses will face some extreme challenges. One horse and rider will come out on top.
- *The Mid-Winter Rendezvous – Buck-skinners, Muzzle Loaders, Mountain men, they go by many names, will have their lodges set up in the midway. There will be demos, campfire stories and a feeling that you **have stepped into the 1840's old west.**
- *Montana Living History – The Living History interpreters from Nevada City, MT will be bringing history to life with first person stories, demonstrations and activities. These folks will take you back to the **1860's in Alder Gulch** – the gold rush days!
- *Stock Dog Demos – watch these dogs work. They are amazing. You or your kids will have the chance to **see if your herding skills are better than the dogs'.**
- *Canines and Cans – dogs running the barrels just like the horses at the rodeo. Again – **I'm not kidding!**
- *Forging Contest – **you won't see any horses being shod, but you will see these professional farriers** make a variety of shoes. They will be judged on how well they can do the job. There are 3 Divisions with one being a 2 person contest, which means each competitor will have the use of a striker. A striker can swing a sledge hammer to help with the forging and brush the scale off of shoes.

I invite you all to come to the 2012 Wild West WinterFest. Dress for the weather! There will be campfires to warm you up and nice toasty buildings to take the chill off. We live in Montana because of the seasons, because of the great outdoors life style and because of the western heritage. You can experience it all at the **Wild West WinterFest and I'M NOT KIDDING!**

FAIREVER YOURS!
Sue Shockley

