

Press Release

For immediate release



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Happy Birthday, Kalispell Ski Club!

Sometimes giving back is a process of coming full circle. Brett Bennetts of Trails West Real Estate has done just that. As president of the Kalispell Ski Club, Brett is excited about the opportunities the Club gives to Flathead Valley's youth. "When I was 5 years old, I learned how to ski through the Club," reminisces Brett. This year the Kalispell Ski Club, a non-profit organization that offers free lessons to kids 5-14, turns 50 years old. Thousands of children have learned to ski at no cost, thus passing down Montana's legacy of outdoor recreation and family participation to generations of Flathead residents.

The Kalispell Ski Club offers free lessons and a \$30 family membership through the generosity of the Whitefish Mountain Resort and the Club's annual October fundraising Ski Swap at the Fairgrounds. Both vendors and valley residents bring in new and used ski equipment thus enabling families to purchase at much lower than retail cost.

To celebrate the Club's 50 year birthday, a free night of skiing at Whitefish Mountain Resort was held on January 9th. Participants were asked to bring food for the Flathead Valley Food Bank. The event was a sparkling success! It brought in 2,633 pounds of food and \$295 was collected in cash. Families who hadn't skied in years came out for the party and to ski. Indeed 1,512 free lift tickets were given away to people from all over Northwestern Montana.

The Kalispell Ski Club wishes to thank the Whitefish Mountain Resort and the Flathead Valley community for 50 years of support. With four children of his own who are now skiers, Brett notes that, "generations of families have learned to ski through the Kalispell Ski Club. It's a legacy that keeps on giving."

For information on the Kalispell Ski Club, please contact its president, Brett Bennetts at (406) 253-6411.

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