

Escape

a publication of the CHRISTIAN LODGE OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Unit Refurbishment Gives Exciting New Look to Our Lodge

We are very pleased and excited to present to you our newest project, a major refurbishment of the units!

Perhaps the most dramatic change is in the bedroom, where a simple idea has resulted in a vast improvement. Upon entering a unit, you no longer are greeted by a narrow tunnel-like hall from end to end. You now enter an elegant bedroom that has been modified as follows.

We have removed most of the hall wall of the bedroom, leaving only a couple of feet of it by the front door, as pictured at right. Then we placed a door in the old hall where the bedroom ends. The next step was to remove the top bunk and convert the lower bunk into a day bed or settee. A few touches like new dressers, new headboard and an overhead light round out the transformation. The result is an extremely comfortable and elegant bedroom that will suit almost anyone's taste.

There is storage under the settee and if a guest needs the sleeping space lost by removal of the top bunk, a folding bed may be checked out.



What a great idea can do to make a dramatic difference is illustrated by our total redesign of the bedroom, giving more usable room and guest comfort.

The bathroom fixtures that were replaced in our last refurbishment are wearing well and will remain in place. We are installing new modern toilets, new wallpaper and a beautiful decorative mirror. The look will also have new wooden cove bases.

Now to the kitchen! We made another trip back to the "great idea bucket" and addressed some amenities owners have been wanting for some time. The kitchen now includes a full-sized dishwasher that resides where the old fridges were! We next placed the refrigerator where the old dining table was, and placed a granite countertop upon it, giving the kitchen much more prep area and a neat new look. So, now where do we eat?

After talking to many owners and guests and doing our homework, we realized that our guests wanted a better dining area arrangement.

(see 'Refurbishments' on next page)

Summer '03

(Refurbishments: - continued from previous page)

To accomplish this, we have added a spacious dining table with four high-backed dining chairs!

Some small touches like wall sconces above the dining table, new art work, and new wrought iron cabinet hardware finish out the new look.

Of course the living room was not ignored as we replaced the sleeper sofa, added a new chair, new end table, new lamp, dimmer switches here and there, and most dramatically of all, new wall treatment of textured walls and paint. We also removed the wall of mirrors behind the sofa. In its place is the new texturing, and a very nicely framed

mirror now complements the couch. The look is quite spectacular.

We are extremely proud of the new look. Not only do we feel like the usable area of the unit has been dramatically increased, but it has been done so by basic and sound design decisions that were cost effective and attractive.

Professional designers were consulted and we are especially proud of the fact that our Maintenance



Sconces with dimmed lighting and high-backed dining chairs provide an enjoyable dining experience.



Could that be a dishwasher under that cabinet?

Department came up with the great idea of opening up the bedroom area.

We would also like to thank you, the owners, who have constantly provided us with feedback regarding changes and enhancements you would like to see. We listened and hope you like the results!

If you haven't visited us in a while, now would be a great time to come up the mountain and see the results of our hard work this year, in the units, in the common areas and on the grounds. Our goal is to continue to make the Christie Lodge the best value in the Vail Valley. We're on the road to our goal.

Bargain Hunters!

We have lots of furniture (sofas, beds, tables, lamps, etc.) that we have removed from the units and will offer it to you at great prices! Contact Sue Fontanese for details at 800-551-4312, ext. 512 or sfontanese@christielodge.com

Lodge Smoke-Free Policy Explained . . .

The Christie Lodge Owners Association, Inc. has adopted a new smoking policy for The Christie Lodge as explained and set forth in the policy statement shown at right.

As we are now a Smoke-Free facility, there is no longer smoking allowed inside the units and all common areas within the atriums. For our owners and guests who do smoke, smoking is allowed on the balconies and outdoor grounds.

We believe this will contribute many benefits and add pleasure to everyone's stay. Units will be fresher and cleaner, smoke allergy issues for owners and guests will diminish and there will be added health benefits for everyone at the Christie Lodge.

Please read through this statement that has been approved by the Board of Directors.

- 1. Owners and occupants may smoke within designated smoking areas within the Lodge and outside of the Lodge structure in parking lots, the parking garage and on sidewalks and lawns. All smoking areas within the Lodge will be designated by appropriate signage.**
- 2. Any owner or occupant who violates the no smoking policy within any unit at the Lodge will be charged a cleaning fee of \$200 to cover the cost of oxidizing the unit. The guest check-in folio shall specify the \$200 charge for oxidizing units in which an owner or occupant smokes in violation of Association policy.**
- 3. The Association staff shall prepare and post appropriate signage designating all units as no smoking units.**



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Meet a New Board Member . . .

Back in the 1970's Jonasue landed a job with Texas Congressman Jim Wright in his Washington office as a staff assistant, which meant that she did all the work! A year of that made her realize that she better get back to Texas and finish her degree in business, which she did by astonishingly completing 48 semester hours in one year.



New CLOA Board Member, Jonasue Phillips

With a degree under her belt, she returned to the Congressional job, only this time in the Fort Worth office. After six more years of that, she had it mastered and was ready to move onto something else, which happened to be law school at the University of Houston.

Needless to say, that endeavor was also successful and she entered the legal arena as a general practitioner. Jonasue had the insight to let her clients tell her for what she was best suited, and sure enough they did. She branched into family law, probate, social security disability and some criminal cases. Today she is all but retired however she still handles a few disability cases.

Way back about 15 years ago, a client owed her some money but had no ready cash. However, the client did own a week at the Christie and Jonasue accepted it as payment. She reports that she dutifully paid the maintenance fees for ten years without setting foot on the property or even giving it much thought.

That changed in the late 80s when she met Fort Worth firefighter Reggie Phillips. A romance ensued and soon the two were betrothed. It turned out that Reggie loves

Colorado and knew something about timeshare, so very soon they enjoyed their week at the Christie and have become great assets to the Lodge.

Jonasue has a natural tendency to jump in where needed and help others. That was her main motivation to run for the Board of Directors. Her credentials, demeanor, intelligence, attitude, and other good qualities made her a natural for a Board of Directors member and she is not letting anybody down with her involvement.

The Phillips have a ranch in Crowley, Texas, where they raise a few cows and a couple of cats, dogs & birds. They admit to being normal small ranchers - you give a few cows names, they become pets and you can't bear to send them to the slaughter house! They're like children only they don't cause you as much trouble.

Reggie and Jonasue love to travel and they recently explored many of the nooks and crannies of Colorado in a one-month ride in their motorhome. Jonasue is a great help to the Lodge and if you get a chance, thank her for her good work.

Annual Meeting to Elect 2 New C.L.O.A. Board Members

The 2003 Christie Lodge Owners Association's Annual Meeting is scheduled on October 18, 2003 in Houston, Texas. Owners will have the opportunity to elect two (2) owners to become members of the CLOA Board of Directors.

Owners interested in serving on the Board should submit a resume to the CLOA Executive Office, P. O. Box 1196, Avon, CO 81620-1196. All resumes must be submitted and received by August 15, 2003.

Board member services include attending about 3 or 4 meetings per year. There is no remuneration for Board services, but travel, meals and lodging expenses are reimbursed for attendance to Board meetings.

Board members must review periodic financial information and be available for input on other interim issues. Officers of the Board invest additional time.

Board members are limited to two consecutive terms. There is also a rule that says no more than three members can be from any one state. At this time, we currently have three members from Texas and in accordance with this rule, members cannot elect any Board members from Texas, in this year's election.

The meeting location will still be determined and more detailed information will be included in the Official Notice and Agenda to be sent to all owners, closer to the meeting date.

Lodge Leaders Awarded at ARDA Convention

The American Resort Development Association (ARDA) is the trade organization that is recognized as the guiding force in the timeshare and resort development industry. The Christie Lodge strongly supports ARDA and is very active in ARDA activities. Each year a convention is held to showcase the latest in the industry and to recognize important people and resorts all over the world. This year's convention was the ARDA 2003 Convention and Exposition at the Gaylord Palms Resort in Orlando, Florida, and the Christie Lodge was well represented.

We were well represented because we have strong award-winning leadership. During the Awards Gala, the Christie's General Manager, Lisa Siegert-Free, and Christie owner and current board member, Dr. Art Olson, were both honored as finalist winners in their respective categories of Resort Manager and Homeowners Association Member.

Lisa and Dr. Art were honored as part of only 194 finalist winners in over 56 categories. They were recognized for their efforts and judged along with a large field of nominees in the category of Management & Administration.

Lisa was recognized for her outstanding overall performance, her ability to communicate and motivate her staff members, her leadership, and her implementation of new ideas and methods. Ms. Siegert-Free was honored in the very competi-

tive category of Resort Manager and was selected as a finalist from a field of peers that manage properties throughout North America.



Dr. Art Olson *General Manager Lisa Siegert-Free and Board Member Art Olson were honored by ARDA at the annual convention*

the finalist status based on his outstanding performance on behalf of the Christie Lodge and his leadership and guidance in overcoming challenges and problem solving. Dr. Olson's personal enrichment seminars for Christie staff and ARDA attendees were also cited for their motivational content.

The ARDA Awards program is open to all ARDA members and their staff and is committed to recognizing the best nominees throughout the timeshare industry and more than 1000 people attended this year's gala dinner and awards presentation held on April 6. This is a world-wide contest so we are especially proud of our accomplished personnel.

Incentives Offered . . .

We are very fortunate to have a great group of owners (you!) that regularly pay maintenance fees when due. This keeps the Association healthy and allows us to constantly make improvements (see cover!) to ensure your ownership in the Christie Lodge is one of which you can be proud and cherish.

One of our ways of saying, "Thank You!" to those prompt payers is by drawing random names from this group and awarding 3 owners free exchange weeks with RCI or I.I. We pick up the exchange company fee and you get a free week - that's all there is to it! Pay by the due date and you're in the drawing. We do this every billing period, or twice per year.

The lucky winners of free exchange weeks this period are:

Charles & Charlene Kelley
Lakewood, Colorado

Michael & Ruth Chorak
Pueblo, Colorado

Roland, Harper, Jr.
Houston, Texas



Rez Hotline:

1-888-325-6343

fax: (970) 845-4535

email: reservations@christielodge.com

I.I. Members Take Note:

Effective June 1, 2003 new hours for the Membership Services Center are from 9:00am to 11:00pm Monday through Friday, and from 10:00am to 8:00pm on Saturday and Sunday (EST). This change will better address members preferred calling periods.

You may continue to use the website, which is www.intervalworld.com 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Calendar of Events - Summer '03

July, 2003

Hot Summer Nights	1, 8, 15, 22, 29
LaCrosse Shootout	1 ~ 5
Bravo! Vail Music - Rochester Philharmonic	2
Beaver Creek Rodeo	4, 10
Salute to the USA	4
Vail America Days	4 ~ 7
25th Annual Teva Hill Climb	6
Eagle Valley Swap Meet	6, 13, 20, 27
Bravo! Vail Music - Dallas Symphony	9 ~ 11
Thunderbird Arts Festival	11 ~ 13
The Amazing Kreskin Mindreader & Mentalist	14
Bravo! Vail Music - Chamber Music Classics II	16
Ford Adventure Sport Challenge	17 ~ 20
Minturn Market	19
Michael McDonald, Classic Rock	20
Bravo! Vail Music - New York Philharmonic	23
Bjorn Again - ABBA Tribute Band	28
Bravo! Vail Music - An All Baroque Evening	29
Beaver Creek Resort's BC Blast	30
American Crown Circus	31

This is only a small portion of the multitude of activities happening in our area this season. For more information on anything here which interests you, or for answers to other questions on local activities, please do not hesitate to contact our concierge.

August, 2003

Bye Bye Birdie - Vail Performing Arts Academy	1
Vail International Dance Festival	2 ~ 10
Bravo! Vail Music - Festival Grande Finale	3
Beaver Creek Rodeo	7, 14, 21, 28
A Secret Garden Puppet Show	8
Billy Bob Thornton's Rockin' Southern Blues	9
Minturn Market	9, 16, 23, 30
Antique Show	9, 10
Eagle Valley Swap Meet	10, 17, 24, 31
Farmers Market	10, 17, 24, 31
Teva Berry Picker Trail Run	10
Beaver Creek Theatre Festival	12 ~ 16
Vail Grind on the Mountain	13
Norah Jones in concert	14
Playwright's Preamble with Austin Pendleton	15
Carolyn Dawn Johnson, Country Music	18
Colorado Shakespeare Festival	21 ~ 23
Vail Jazz Festival	29 ~ 31
Arlo Guthrie, Folk Music Legend	29

September, 2003

Vail Jazz Festival	1
Avon High Country Triathlon/Duathlon	7
Farmers Market	7, 14, 21, 28
Oktoberfest Vail	14, 12
Alwin Nikolais, A Celebration Tour, Contemporary Dance	30

Lodge Staff Involved With Community

~ story written by Joanna Shue, Housekeeping ~

In early April the Christie Lodge proudly sponsored a team for the annual "Snowshoe Shuffle" in Vail. This event is a fundraiser for breast cancer research and awareness.

We had nine representatives: Christina Farrall, Eric Lickteig, Heather Lawdermilk, Lyssandra Martins, Melanie Harvey, Kathy Hill, Chris Webb and his sister Caroline . . . and myself, Joanna Shue.

We had a really fun time. Well . . . not so fun riding up the gondola for some of us - OK, just me! - who are afraid of heights, but the rest of the day was just great.

We all went on a one-mile hike, except for two brave souls, Kathy and Heather,

who entered the 5K. Way to go!

We were doing just fine on the one-mile until we were told we had been directed the wrong way and had to retrace our steps - all uphill, of course! Everyone was very patient and understanding when I had to stop to get my breath, which was often. Chris and Christina even had the energy to "tumble in the snow" once. I think Eric was wishing for the rope to just pull me up the hill!

There was a brunch and awards ceremony following the "race" - it was good and fun! We were unlucky in the drawings, but Lyssandra did win a \$50 dinner at Lancelot and some really cool soap! So all was not totally lost.



The STAR of the show was our own Joanna Shue, herself a breast cancer survivor.

All in all, a fun day - and thanks to the Christie Lodge for sponsoring us. To my teammates - you all are terrific!

Getting to Know Us . . .

Benjamin Jay Bliss (B.Jay) was born in Kabul, Afghanistan in the early seventies. His parents, Dean and Stephanie, were in the Peace Corps. They returned to the States 3 months after B.Jay was born. Dean pursued a career in hotel management which took the Bliss family all across the USA including Ohio, New York, California, Oregon and three years in Seoul, Korea, working for the Army!

B. Jay spent the majority of his formative years in Eugene and Portland Oregon. He earned a B.A. in Theater from Portland State but has chosen to follow in his father's footsteps with the hospitality industry. He has worked for many companies in the past twelve years including Raddisson, Holiday Inn, Portland Center for Performing Arts, Shilo Inn, Days Inn, Rodeway Inn and Century Hotel. B. Jay met a wonderful lady in Portland and made her his beautiful wife. In 1999 the Blisses were blessed with their first boy, Logan Arthur. Shortly after Logan's birth Jennifer's older brother, an Eagle County Sheriff's Deputy, offered them an opportunity to move to Colorado and assist with childcare. That offer, combined with the high quality of resorts in the area and B. Jay's 10-year desire to learn snowboarding led his family to the Vail Valley. B. Jay learned the ropes of the ski industry quickly with stints as Night

Manager at the Sonnenalp Resort in Vail and as Assistant Resort Manager at the Hyatt Mountain Lodge in Beaver Creek. Lucky for us, B. Jay has found a new home as the Reservations Manager at the Christie Lodge where he plans to develop a long-term career.

The majority of B. Jay's free time is spent with his family. Alexander Trey Bliss was born last June at the Vail Valley Medical Center. Logan and Xander both love to visit their Daddy at work and are "big helpers". While growing up B. Jay studied the martial arts for recreation and exercise. He attained a black belt in Tae Kwon Do as a teen, and currently holds blue ranking in Southern Kung Fu (though recently he admits the beer gut seems to be gaining ground). Yes, sampling microbrews is another favorite pastime.

One other thing that most folks don't know about Mr. Bliss is that he has been an avid collector of comic books since the age of 8. Having saved every funny book he's ever possessed, the collection has a modest price guide value of exactly \$9,000.

B. Jay's goals for the future include a gradual growth in the hospitality/timeshare industry with a "sky's the limit" attitude. He



B. Jay Bliss, Reservations Manager

also plans on moving past the fumbling beginning stages of his snowboarding and golf abilities. If he should ever look at trying showbiz, it will most likely be in owning a hotel/theater operation or maybe a shot at 'Saturday Night Live'.

As for now he has very much enjoyed his first six months at the Christie Lodge where he has found both the staff and the owners to be a joy to work with. If you ever have a question about the Christie Lodge or specifically the reservations process please stop by the Owners Meeting / Exchange class held every Wednesday morning or give him a call during normal business hours.



P.O. Box 1196
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