

Escape

a chronicle of the christie lodge owners association

A Great Era Ends and a New One Begins

It is with a heavy heart that the Christie Lodge family reports the passing of long-time Managing Director, Lynn Weas. In the mid-1980's Lynn came upon the scene as a contractor who was hired to manage a remodeling project.

During this time the Christie Lodge was undergoing stressful growing pains and other maladies that cast real doubts as to whether it would even survive as a viable resort and owners association.

While overseeing the renovation project, the Board of Directors were impressed with not only Lynn's talents but his integrity, honesty and his sincere desire to establish the Christie Lodge as a leader in the industry. The Board of Directors thought he would make a perfect fit for the Christie Lodge utilizing his experience in banking and commercial construction. Shortly thereafter they made him the Managing Director of the property.

Original owners and long term employees may recall how Lynn re-vamped operating procedures from top to bottom, instilling sound business practices, employing logic and common sense and generally turning the Christie Lodge into the successful property foreseen by the original developers and desired by the owners.

In a short time under Lynn's excellent direction the lodge was headed for financial recovery. The level of customer service rose to heights expected of a property of this magnitude in the Vail Valley and the lodge was well on the way to earning the respect that was soon to be earned by Lynn and his team.

Lynn made a point to surround himself with quality managers and staff at all levels. He realized that a key component to success was a high caliber staff and he made it happen. His philosophy was, "Every job here is important. We have no menial positions."



*Newell Lynn Weas
Managing Director of the Christie Lodge
from 1988 to 2009*

This attitude is one of the many essential components of resort management that has given the Christie its rightful place in the industry.

In the 1960's Lynn flew F-4 Phantom fighters from the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Independence. He rode motorcycles all over the country with his good friends. He had a lifelong love for boating and was especially fond of sail boats.

Lynn was a member and leader of the American Resort Development Association (ARDA) for more than seventeen years. He will always be remembered as one who was willing to advise others, mentor a newcomer, or provide leadership. In addition to serving as Chairman of several ARDA Committees over the

(see "Lynn Weas . . ." on next page)

Winter/Spring 2010

Lynn Weas - Always Remembered

years, including service on ARDA's Executive Committee, he chaired ARDA-ROC, one of ARDA's most prestigious and influential Committees, for the past several years.

Lynn is survived by his wife, Jane Hicks, son, Tobias Weas, daughter-in-law, Laura Weas, grandchildren Zachary ("Zac") and Hannah Weas, and other family members including Larry, Doug, Janie, Ken and Ben Weas.

Among Lynn's proudest moments were when grandson Zac christened him as "Dadu" and when granddaughter Hannah first climbed into his lap and let him, and him alone, comb her hair.

During the memorial service held in Orlando in September, the ARDA International Foundation announced it will establish the Lynn Weas Resort Scholarship Fund to assist young people seeking to excel in the timeshare industry.

What does Lynn's passing mean to you, the Christie Lodge owner? Many of you have attended annual meetings of the Christie Lodge Owners Association and have seen first hand how Lynn's style of management was firm yet fair and always in the best interest of the lodge.

Lynn had a "machine" in place that included a professional and competent team of managers that kept the lodge running at peak performance. Heading



The decision to appoint Lisa Siegert-Free as Managing Director was a sound one and it was in the best interest of the Christie Lodge.

Lisa's vast knowledge of the Lodge, from the smallest detail to the most significantly important, gives us a secure path for future success and direction.

Her 25-year involvement with the property is invaluable, as is her positive personality and commitment to excellence!



Lynn had an appetite for high adventure. He regularly visited the Big Bend area of Texas, by motorcycle with his good friends. Riding into Mexico on donkeys was the norm, for an afternoon at the little cafe and cantina in Boquillas, Mexico. One needn't be a good donkey pilot for this trek - the beasts knew the way!

this team for thirteen years has been Lisa Siegert-Free, who has been with the Christie Lodge for twenty-five years.

It is doubtful that too many of you have noticed any change in operations, because essentially there have been no significant changes in the lodge's mode of operation. That was carefully planned by Lynn.

At the meeting in October of 2009, Lisa was appointed the new Managing Director and will take the helm. She has been under the tutelage of Lynn for twenty-one years and is the perfect replacement for the good of the lodge and the association.

Lisa came to the Lodge from Grayville, Illinois, in 1984. She originally was employed as a staff accountant and worked her way up to the Christie's top employee position, General Manager. She will continue to serve as General Manager while assuming the greater duties of Managing Director.

Lisa is highly respected by the CLOA Board of Directors and the staff and plans to continue development of the lodge with her capable team. As Lynn repeatedly taught us, we will move into the future and strive to continue our place as a dominant resort in the timeshare industry.

Many of you who have come to know Lisa over the years will applaud this appointment. Others are encouraged to meet her on your next visit!

CLOA Annual Meeting Held in Avon

On Saturday, October 3, 2009 the Christie Lodge Owners Association held its Annual Owners Meeting in Avon, Colorado. The meeting was attended by approximately 50 owners/spouses and began with the announcement of Mr. Weas' passing and moment of silence for Lynn Weas (see cover story). In response to Mr. Weas' passing the Board also announced their action of approving Lisa Siegert-Free as the Managing Director of the Association. Ms. Siegert-Free has been the General Manager at the Lodge for approximately 13 years, and during those years worked closely with Mr. Weas for all major management issues. Overall, Lisa has been employed at Christie Lodge for over 25 years.

This meeting conducted the annual business of the association and presented information to the owners. As co-presenters, General Manager, Lisa Siegert-Free, and Shirley Byrne, Assistant General Manager, shared many photos and descriptions of numerous projects and accomplishments that were spearheaded by Mr. Lynn Weas, during the 20+ years he served as Managing Director at the Christie Lodge. Lisa fondly recalled Mr. Weas' years of contributions to the Hospitality Industry, as well his managerial accomplishments at the Lodge, including Lynn's great pride in and his commitment to all Christie Lodge staff members and Managers.



If you have never attended a CLOA annual owners' meeting, consider visiting the Christie the next time the meeting is in Avon, which happens every October! The meetings are a lot of fun and very, very informative!

Also presenting the audience with great information was Rick Dameron, Chief Engineer, who reported several upgrading projects, complete with a series of before-and-after pictures. Rick also described new team efforts between the Housekeeping and Engineering departments, which can improve the speed and operations of either department.

The business of the meeting included an election held to fill two open Board positions. Re-elected to the Board were: Dr. Art Olson, from Niceville, Florida and Steve Vickers, from Larkspur, Colorado. Dr. Olson is a past President of the Christie Lodge Board and has served several years as the Commercial Owner Representative. Mr. Vickers has also served many years and has served as Board Secretary often.

Owners and management very much appreciate our Board members' dedication, experience, and expertise they bring to the Christie Lodge Board of Directors.

CHRISTIE LODGE OWNERS ASSOCIATION FISCAL YEAR ENDING 6/30/2010 CASH BUDGET

REVENUES

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| ASSESSMENTS | \$ 4,574,264 |
| COLLECTIONS | \$ 857,564 |
| RENTAL | \$ 2,134,869 |
| ANCILLARY | \$ 216,728 |
| TOTAL REVENUE | \$ 7,783,425 |

EXPENSES

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| MGT. & ADMIN. | \$ 2,182,848 |
| ROOM OPS & GUEST SVCS. | \$ 2,734,685 |
| PROPERTY OPS & MAINTENANCE | \$ 1,170,356 |
| OVERHEAD EXP. | \$ 819,368 |

LESS OPERATING EXP. \$ 6,907,257

RESERVE FUND. REQ. \$ 750,801
DEBT PRINC. PMTS. \$ 62,431

LESS NON-OPER. EXP \$ 813,232

NET INCOME FROM OPERATIONS \$ 62,935



The Christie Lodge Owners Association, Inc.
P. O. Box 1196
Avon, CO 81620-1196

Board of Directors

Gary Kujawski, President
Steve Vickers, Secretary
Lucy Aldridge
J. Raymond David
William McReynolds
John Mertens
Art Olson

Tech Talk from the Computer Gurus . . .



In order to keep up with the growing bandwidth demands needed to satisfy guests' internet experiences at the Christie Lodge, we have completed a wireless network upgrade!

Along with expanding the number of

access points to improve coverage and quality of the Wi-Fi signal, the Christie Lodge added two more internet lines to increase the bandwidth available to guests using the Wi-Fi service, giving more coverage and speed.

The use of multiple internet lines was available through a box called Link Balancer. By combining links, the Christie Lodge

reduced the need to purchase high cost links to handle the daily guest internet usage.

Capable of automatic failover in the event of link failure, the Link Balancer also helps assure that the wireless network is always connected to the internet. This means you will be able to get high quality and high speed service in the common areas of the lodge.

To keep our wireless resources solely available to our guests we have implemented a guest authentication screen as a first step of connecting to the Christie Lodge Wireless Network.

To gain FREE access to the internet our guests will be required to enter a user name and password distributed to them in their welcome packet at the Front Desk.

So, the next time you visit us, bring your personal computing device of choice. We strive to deliver technology and convenience to you!

Legal Tips - Colorado Beneficiary Deed . . .

from Gary Kujawski, Esq. - President, CLOA Board of Directors

In 2004, the Colorado Legislature passed HB04-1048 – “Concerning Beneficiary Deeds”, which became effective on August 4, 2004. This law provides a procedure for transferring an interest in Colorado real property (real estate), which contains language that the conveyance is to be effective upon the death of the owner. By utilizing this method, one can transfer their Colorado real estate interest at death, without the necessity of Probate.



The Beneficiary Deed can also be revoked by the person granting it, prior to his/her death, and the law protects the interests of third parties that hold interests in the real property, allows probate if needed for claims, and has restrictions for use by Medicaid recipients.

The Beneficiary Deed is an inexpensive method to assist you with the future transfer of your Christie Lodge Time-share to your heir(s) without the necessity of Probate upon death.

Although this law may sound simple, it is quite complicated and has many legal ramifications, which must be matched to one's overall estate plan. Please consult an attorney to see if the Colorado Beneficiary Deed is right for you. The Christie Lodge Owner Accounts department can refer you to a title company for further information.

Calendar

The **Escape** editors made an executive decision this issue. Rather than list a fraction of the many events happening in the area this time of year, we decided to take a direction that is in line with our new electronic format. Since the majority of you are looking at this on a computer screen anyway, it will be a snap for you to visit <http://web.vail.net/local/events.cfm> and see a complete calendar of events for the current months. This is one of our favorites but if you wish to view others' offerings of lists of events, simply enter **Vail Calendar** in your favorite search engine and you'll have hours of potential browsing of what is no doubt one of your favorite places to be!

Quick and Easy Payment Options for Owners

Did you know you have several options to pay your account with the Christie Lodge? The automated voice mail system can be very busy just after invoices are sent to owners so we have alternatives in place for payment options to ease owners' time and efforts in submitting fees.

We have a secure website where you can now pay your account on-line via www.christielodge.com and access the Owner's Site. You will need a current e-mail, a password and then you can view your account information, pay on line, check reservations availability and much more. Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with the Owner's Site functions on the Christie Lodge website.

You can also complete a form to sign up on our auto pay system, a payment method that will insure your maintenance fees are paid on time, every time. Once you are enrolled for auto pay, we post a payment to



your choice of credit card/debit card, or ACH on January 1 and July 1 of each year.

If you do not have internet access, please feel free to call us. Otherwise you can always mail your payment using a check, money order, or submit your credit card information on the return portion of the invoice we send semi-annually.

Also available is our secure automated phone/voice mail at 1-800-845-0257. Please remember to speak clearly while leaving your information. Using this option also means your payment will be processed that business day, for all those calling before 4 pm Mountain Time.

We continually try to improve our systems and functions in taking care of you, our valued owners. We hope that you find one of these options to be comfortable with your needs.

When an owner makes a maintenance fee payment, he or she becomes eligible for a nice prize - a free exchange week from RCI or II. A week is given each billing period. This period's winners are:

Jimmy Beresky
New Braunfels, Texas

Daniel & Jeanette Hupfer
Denver, Colorado

Ferol White & Patrick Niemeyer
Honolulu, Hawaii

Book your week up to 360 days prior to the arrival date in your color season. Do not wait until the first of the year to book for that year! Many weeks are already booked by the beginning of the year.

Are you banking your week with RCI or II? Book close to 360 days in advance and bank immediately to maximize your trading power.

Stop by the Reservation Department towards the end of your stay at the Christie Lodge and reserve your week for next year.

Reservations can now be booked through the Christie Lodge Website: www.christielodge.com or by email: reservations@christielodge.com

Owners may book your week Friday to Friday. (Avoid Saturday ski traffic) If you have booked your week and are unable to come to the lodge, please call us for alternatives.



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!

Visit www.christielodge.com for owner benefits including Bonus Time, internal exchanges, and special owner purchase weeks.

Board Member Lucy Aldridge Hard to Keep Up With!

Lucy lives in Marietta, Georgia, a suburb of Atlanta. She was married for 42 years to George Aldridge, a former Christie Lodge board member. Now a widow, she has three children and six grandchildren.

For over 30 years she has been employed as a pre-kindergarten teacher. She is an avid skier and has skied all over the United States, Europe and South America.

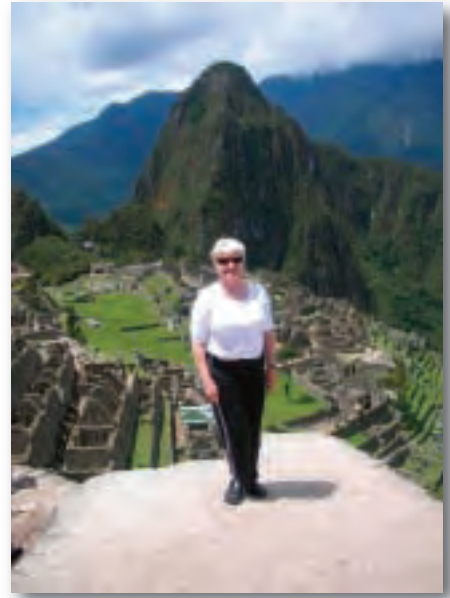
Her favorite place to ski is still Beaver Creek and the Vail Valley! She also loves to take summer vacations skiing in Chile and Argentina - according to Lucy, it's the best way to beat the heat!

Lucy also loves to travel and do so at every opportunity within the United States and abroad. This year she visited Chile, Machu Picchu and Cuzco in Peru and hopes to go to Thailand soon.

For the past 18 years she has run the Peachtree Road Race, a 10k race held every July 4th. She has not done a marathon yet, but did manage a half-marathon run - very impressive.

She volunteers at election time, as well as for church and school activities. Lucy says she loves meeting new and different people and enjoys new activities, such as Para skiing in Valle Nevado, Chili and ice climbing in Alaska.

That's why we say she's hard to keep up with! Lucy is a valuable member of our Board and her diversity helps round her into one capable of making decisions that are in the Lodge's best interests.



Board Member Lucy enjoys one of her fave places - Machu Picchu, Peru



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