



CHINA PEAK TIMES

FREE



SkiChinaPeak.com

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ChinaPeakTimes.com



To consistently provide skier and boarders a snow covered terrain, an adequate snowmaking operation is necessary. China Peak Mountain Resort has installed one of the most efficient systems in the Sierra.

Great Terrain and Family Oriented, Great Reasons to Ski China Peak

China Peak Mountain Resort offers fantastic skiing and boarding. This is quite possibly the best kept secret in the California winter sports community.

It is a fact it is the only Central Sierra resort on the west slope offering terrain, acreage and elevations comparable to Tahoe ski resorts. But you'll find fewer crowds, less waiting and a family-friendly atmosphere.

Skating and Boarding Tips for All Guests

Skating and boarding are among the most exhilarating winter activities anywhere. Leaving fresh tracks in the snow is something both the young and old can enjoy.

As the Director of the Ski and Board School, Spencer NeVille is responsible for ensuring guests at China Peak Mountain Resort have a positive experience.

"NeVille has spent four decades at this resort, first as a talented ski instructor and now as Ski & Ride School Director," stated Tim Cohee, China Peak's Managing Partner. "His energy and years of ski instructor relationships has brought to us a larger and more talented staff than we've had in a decade."

(continued on page 2)

It is also the most convenient ski area to access from the Bay area. It is just a four hour drive the Bay area to Pismo Beach. So get excited, wax your boards and make a reservation. China Peak is here for ya!

Let's talk about the mountain. With a base at 7,000 feet and a top of 8,700 feet, this place can get a ton of snow. China Peak has great overall structure.

It offers a drop of nearly 1,700 vertical feet. Plenty of lifts get skiers and boarders around the mountain. This includes three moving carpets in the beginner area, as well as a quad chair, three double chairs and four triple chairs.

(continued on page 4)

More Days on the Slopes With Expanded Snowmaking System

One necessary element for fun on the slopes is snow. Mother Nature can be fickle and stingy with consistent snowfall in the region.

Knowing that skiers and boarders will flock to where they can enjoy their favorite winter pastime China Peak Mountain Resort has given Mother Nature a boost with a massive snow making operation.

The investment in this snowmaking system allows the resort to open major runs in a few days rather than weeks. With adequate temperatures, most if not all, lifts and major ski runs can open for by the Christmas Holidays and extend into mid April.

Troy Cohee was given the task of heading up snowmaking operations in the middle of the 2019-2020 season. This was after his efforts in building China Peak's best terrain park in nearly a decade.

"He's done a great job leading the final stages of our new state-of-the-art pump house," says Tim Cohee, Managing Partner, "as well as overseeing the laying of over 12,000 feet of water and air pipeline to give us substantially more snowmaking capability than ever before."

"Along with the excellent snowmaking team under his direction, we look forward to the largest machine made snow production in our resorts history, if necessary."

This huge investment in a snowmaking system could, for all practical purposes, remove the risk of not having significant terrain and lifts open before the critical holiday beginning December 26.

"It's not only frustrating for our guests to not know when we're going to open and with what," said Troy Cohee. "It makes doing any medium to long term planning nearly impossible."

How much more capacity does this new system have than what was in place for the past three decades?

China Peak has gone from operating one of the smaller systems in California to now featuring one of the top eight systems in terms of converting water to snow.

This is a tremendous increase, probably providing six times more snow over any given period of time. In the past it might take eight or nine days to open runs such as Sundown Ridge, Dynamite or Kaiser. With this new system it can happen as quickly as a few nights.

(continued on page 30)

Resort Escapes Major Damage in Creek Fire

First Person Report by Tim Cohee

"It was Saturday morning, September 5 when several of us at the resort woke up to a huge plume of smoke over the west end of Huntington Lake. We were unaware of what had happened hours before in the town of Big Creek, and how quickly the fire was spreading across the forest."

"It was the beginning of what lasted over two months, an intense battle among thousands of fire fighters to limit the damage as much as humanly possible from what would become the largest forest fire in California history."

Ironically, that day in September was to be a celebration of marriage among long time China Peak customers, who by mid morning could see the day was not going to go as planned and decided to reduce the wedding but continue as planned that day.

"By late morning it was clear an evacuation was imminent. The bridal party quickly grabbed a handful of chairs. The bride put on her head dress."

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China Peak Caters to Guests With Tubing Hill and Snow Play

What if the family or your friends are planning a skiing or snowboarding adventure and you don't do that sort of thing? What if you have young kids that are not ready for skiing?

Well come on up to China Peak and let them enjoy the Tubing Hill and Snow Play area while others take to the slopes.

"Tubing has become a huge growth area for resorts across the country, and we expect the same at China Peak," remarked Tim Cohee, Managing Partner.

"We have thousands of guests each winter who are not motivated to ski or snowboard but want to enjoy the thrill of gliding on snow, whether it be on skis, snowboard or a rubber tube."

The Tubing Hill and Snow Play area is located above the Beginner's Carpet in the base area.

Hike uphill to the top, then bomb down the groomed lanes as fast as you dare in a high-speed snow tube.

Runs are groomed daily, with high "walls" and a small hill below to stop you.

This is all-time fun for all ages with a large snow play area. When you want to take a break, enjoy the snack bar offering delicious food, hot coffee or cocoa and adult beverages.

Children must be at least 42" tall to snow tube. Open weekends and holidays. The cost is \$35 for two hours.

Snow Play Area

The resort is also offering a dedicated snow play area to add to the appeal for younger guests and their families. The cost is \$20 per person, per hour.

The snow play area is packed with big fun for even the littlest ones. Teach the younger ones how to build a snowman. See who has the best aim in a snow ball contest.

Have the kids try creating a snow angel and take a picture of what they made.

Remember to keep everyone warm and cozy with snow boots, water proof pants, jacket, hat, gloves as well as goggles or glasses and a great appetite for tubular fun!

Snow tubing is the perfect way to bring your family together for a fun afternoon of sliding down the mountain.



Take to the slopes on China Peak Mountain Resort's new Tubing Hill and Snow Play area. This is ideal for those family members or friends that do not ski or board, but still enjoy having a day in the winter.

Ski and Boarding Tips to Keep You Safely Enjoying Your Day on the Slopes at the Peak

(continued from page 1)

"Perhaps the most important two things to remember," NeVille says "are making sure your bindings are properly set and to be physically fit to hit the slopes."

"A bindings check is always a smart move," he said. "Roughly half of all injuries are caused by improper binding performance. Make sure all of your ski and boarding gear is in excellent shape."

"I suggest that you follow a regular fitness program before heading to the mountains," he added. "Basic conditioning will strengthen your muscles and build endurance needed to spend a day on the slopes."

Just like with any other sport, you should

spend a few minutes warming up. Don't just jump out of your vehicle and head for a chairlift. Do a little stretching beforehand to loosen up your cold muscles. Focus on your calves, hamstrings, quadriceps and shoulders.

You need to hydrate and keep your body fueled. When fixated on getting in as many runs as possible, sometimes you forget to drink enough and eat properly. Dehydration and a lack of nourishment can lead to fatigue.

Finally, avoid the "one last run" syndrome. That's the moment you think you've got to get just one more run in you before you call it day. However, if you're legs are feeling heavy, it's better to make a run to the lodge instead of the chairlift.



China Peak Mountain Resort Tubing Hill offers alternative to skiing/boarding for all ages.

Own the Right Gear.

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Thank you to all of the first responders and local heroes of the Creek Fire. We are forever grateful!



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Bring friends and family to China Peak for challenging runs from beginner to “free heeler”. Expect to be thrilled. Experience spectacular scenery, short lines, lots of runs and delicious food.

Learn More Information About the Wisdom of Skiing and Boarding Here

(continued from page 1)

The Tollhouse Terrain Park is served by Chair 4 and is extremely popular. Here riders can go big without worrying about people dropping in on them.

The mountain’s ski able vertical rivals the Tahoe resorts like Alpine, Northstar, Sierra and Sugar Bowl. Give the kids some mileage for a warm up on a top-to-bottom Green run, down the 2.25 mile long Academy run. Off Academy there are multiple options for Blue runs, Black runs and some exciting tree skiing.

Sierra Cross Country Ski Trails Available

Dropping from the sky at the rate of four inches an hour, cotton like thick flakes of snow surround you while gliding along a trail in the Central Sierra Nevada’s Kaiser Wilderness. Tree branches lie almost vertical as they are covered with heavy wet snow. The darkness of the afternoon storm is inviting, pleasantly warm and almost perfectly devoid of sound.

Cross-country does not require a steep slope or any mechanized towing device to get participants up hills. California has organized a Sno Park permit system that allows parking in the Sierra National Forest. There are four such Sno Park areas between Shaver Lake and Huntington Lake. All have restrooms as well. The Creek Fire destroyed the Coyote Sno Park and it will be closed for 2020/2021.

So if you have not yet tried cross country skiing, perhaps this is the year that will lead you into a new outdoor sporting adventure.

Perhaps you will glide through the forest, watching a quiet drama unfold as mounds of snow cascade off the top branches of the pine trees and proceed, like an avalanche, down the tree, clearing snow off the entire tree.

Stop by Shaver Lake Sports when you are in the area to learn more about the trails available.

Now that everyone is warmed up, try the other 44 trails that cater to every level, from novice to expert. Most trails are designed for intermediate, advanced and expert skiers and snowboarders.

What about the crowds. What crowds? China Peak is known for short lines and open terrain. The challenge is having enough energy or stamina to keep going all day.

Speaking of energy, China Peak has 10 restaurants at the resort that satisfy every hungry appetite, from pizza to fine dining. Drinks are available at Sully’s, Jack’s, Buckhorn, the Base Camp and JW’s.

Once it’s time to rest. Stay nearby to get a jump on the day when the lifts open at 9 a.m. Lakeshore is about five minutes to the north where there are cabins and condos.

Twenty miles to the south, the community of Shaver Lake offers many lodging opportunities. And don’t forget about staying right here at The Inn at China Peak.

The Inn at China Peak is comfortable and cozy. Dorm style rooms with a shared bathroom and shower facilities are available for the frugal. The Inn now offers huge savings on midweek packages including rooms and lift tickets, which you can see at skichinapeak.com. Kids 5 and under ski for free.

The staff is friendly and enthusiastic about assisting their guests. Also, China Peak is one of the only mountain resorts in the nation to allow on-site RV parking.

Now that you know the answer to “Why ski China Peak?” You have no excuse for not planning a trip in the near future.

There are some ticket specials for all active duty and retired military personnel (and their dependents). They can purchase all day lift tickets at half off the regular rates. They are valid any day, including holidays.

Ski or ride for half price on your Birthday. Must present photo ID with date of birth. Not valid on holidays.

You can check out resort details at Ski-ChinaPeak.com or call (559) 233-2500.

China Peak Landing Captain Sulley Is Definitely Onboard

“When we purchased the Rancheria marina in 2019,” laughed Tim Cohee, Managing Partner, “it didn’t take long for us to decide who was the right person to become manager of the newly named China Peak Landing.”

“Mark ‘Sully’ Sullivan and I have worked together now for 32 years, and as everyone knows he has a personality unique among nearly everyone I’ve worked with in my 41 year ski management career.”

“We’re great friends as well, and he has done a fantastic job of bringing his brand of friendliness and customer service to the Landing. Everyone who rents a slip from us, rents or boats or swings by our General Store comments on what a great job Sully has done in every aspect of the marina.”

This past summer China Peak added a new venture to its summer attractions with the purchase of Rancheria Enterprises, encompassing the well known marina and general store less than two miles from the resort.

According to Sully, excellent progress was made this summer in cleaning up the

facility, noticed by the regulars who have frequented Rancheria over many summers.

“Virtually everyone who came by or has a boat in our marina commented on how much cleaner the resort looks even after only a few months,” said Sully. “We’ll make several more improvements before we open for summer 2020.”

The biggest plans in the future include food and beverage service near the lake on the resorts U.S. Forest Service Special Use Permit, providing access from both the shore and boaters. The handful of campgrounds will be converted to day use.

“Adding a restaurant and bar will be a huge addition to the experience at Huntington Lake,” said Sully. “We’re looking at several options this winter and should have a solid plan in place with plans to open the facility in 2021.”

China Peak Landing offers to great houses to rent. Both have full kitchens and a laundry. They are ideal for multiple families. They can rent out both of these fantastic cabins and stay right next door to each other. This is the closest place to stay to the slopes, other than China Peak.



Huntington Lake is a beautiful place to bring family and friends in the summer for boating, sailing, fishing, swimming and more. Drop by China Peak Landing for boat rentals and mini mart.



China Peak Season Ticket Black Pass Option Amazing

Don’t miss out on this opportunity! The greatest powder stashes in the West have joined forces to create the Powder Alliance, now 16 resorts who offer FREE SKIING benefits to top-tier pass holders from other participating Powder Alliance areas.

All 2020/21 season pass-holders have the option of upgrading to a China Peak Black Pass with benefits that include a membership in the Powder Alliance.

Restrictions apply and all tickets must

be used in the same season as the accompanying pass. Please see individual resort pages for directions, benefits, and restrictions prior to visiting. Tickets are non-transferable and may be used by the pass holder only.

Offer does not apply to midweek, spring, or other restricted options. Tickets and offers are valid during the 2020/2021 winter season only. Details at PowderAlliance.com.

Winter Safety Tips Regarding Propane Storage and Utilization

Winter brings the opportunity for lots of outdoor recreational activities as the snow-fall blankets the terrain. While snow provides for skiing, boarding and snow play, it creates problems and presents some safety issues of which all of us need to be aware.

“Of particular interest in winter to a service business like ours,” said Jason Rinker, Mountain Flame Propane, “is how to help properly educate customers regarding their use of propane during the winter season.”

Here are some important suggestions Rinker has, particularly for mountain residents or those with second homes in the region as well as those who might be renting cabins.



1. Check your levels. Especially before a snowstorm or other inclement weather, it is important to know how much propane is left in your tank. It is best to arrange for a tank to be filled once it is around the 20% mark. This way you can ensure you have enough to last you through the storm, and then some, as delivery afterwards could be delayed due to road conditions.

2. Make sure you have marked the location of your propane tank with a flag, stake, or pole. The marker should be higher than the typical snowfall for the area. This will help avoid having the tank damaged as you or someone else is clearing snow with a plow or shovels. It will also let your delivery driver know exactly where the tank is.

3. Clear the snow away from the tank, as well as any lines or valves. It's a good idea to clear snow away from any exterior roof or side vents that are used to expel carbon monoxide from your propane appliances. You don't want carbon monoxide leaking into your home. Heavy piled ice and snow can also pose a risk of causing damage to the tank and its components. It's a good idea to keep the tank cleared in general. Use a broom or brush to gently remove snow, as a shovel may damage the tank.

4. Make sure that you maintain a clear



Be sure to know all the safety precautions to take when using trailers with propane heating.

pathway to the tank. If the delivery truck normally parks in your driveway, make sure that is clear as well. If the tank is not accessible your propane cannot be delivered on time, if at all. This could create a need for an emergency refill call, which can cost you extra fees.

5. To alert you to possible leaks, propane gas contains an additive that gives the naturally odorless gas a pungent, unpleasant smell, sometimes described as rotten eggs or a decaying animal. Make sure everyone in your house-



For your safety, it is a good idea to keep the propane fuel lines and regulator free of snow.

hold knows what propane gas smells like.

If you smell this gas at any time, make sure to do the following right away. Put out all open flames and do not turn on any appliances, lights, or phones. Turn off your main gas line immediately and call your local propane dealer. Open windows to allow for ventilation. Evacuate the area as soon as you can.

“It is important to be aware of dead and dying trees near your propane tank,” continued Rinker. “Have them taken out before they can damage your tank or regulator. When you encounter really heavy snow and need to shovel off a roof, be careful not to dump it off the roof onto your propane tank. This can damage the tank as well as the pipes and fittings, causing gas leaks.

Finally, never use a stove or bring a gas grill indoors for space heating. Only use appliances indoors that are designed and approved for that purpose. Never store, place, or use a propane cylinder indoors or in enclosed areas.

Never use outdoor propane-powered appliances indoors or in enclosed areas. Without proper ventilation, deadly carbon monoxide (CO) fumes produced can build up.

Carbon Monoxide is a tasteless, odorless gas. Detection in a home environment is nearly impossible by humans.

The symptoms of CO poisoning are similar to the flu. Nausea, vomiting, confusion, sore muscles, headache, dizziness, light headedness, loss of balance, etc.



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Again for 2021, China Peak is partnering with the Sequoia Brewing Company to run Monday "Party Bus Trips" from the Woodward Park facility to China Peak Ski Resort beginning in January.

"Party Bus" to Run from Sequoia Brewing Up to China Peak Again

The Sequoia Brewing Company has been a China Peak Ski Resort partner for nearly 10 years and this year the two are teaming up again.

This season the Sequoia Party Bus will run on Mondays beginning in January through March or possibly longer if weather and interest support it. Riders check in at 7:15 at Sequoia Brewing Company at Champlain and Perrin in Fresno. Bus departs at 7:30.

Return check in begins at China Peak at 3:45 with a 4:00 departure arriving back at SBC around 5:45. Discounts and promotions at China Peak and SBC apply when you show your lift ticket. The cost is still the best deal in California, \$59 includes the ride and an all mountain lift ticket.

Ride only is \$25.

All seats are sold online only and must be purchased by midnight on the Sunday prior to travel. Click on the Bus Trips link under the Resort Service tab to purchase. Advance purchase recommended. If you have any questions please feel to contact Group Sales at (559) 233-2500.

Be advised any passenger using foul language, or displaying inappropriate behavior while riding the bus to or from China Peak, will be immediately removed from the bus by the bus driver and/or chaperone, regardless of location of drop off.

Be sure to check with China Peak for updates on the SBC bus as there will be COVID restrictions in place. Visit the website SkiChinaPeak.com.

Visit Us at SequoiaBrewing.com

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MOUNTAIN SAFETY GUIDE

Safety Tips for New Skiers and Riders

SKI CALIFORNIA

The management and staff at China Peak Mountain Resort is continually monitoring the safety of skiers, boarders and their families as well.

Thus offer the Mountain Safety Guide. It contains safety education for resort guests, covering what to do before going to a resort, loading and riding lifts, navigating potential hazards and understanding trail sign-age.

The guide is offered in digital and print formats. The print version is waterproof and tear-resistant. It's free and available at resorts in a trail map style pocket-size format.

"All resorts make safety an essential priority, and they are committed to addressing safety every day in their operations. I think the Mountain Safety Guide sends a powerful message because this is the first time our resorts have come together with one all-en-

compassing educational platform," said Michael Reitzell, Ski California president, in a press release. "This guide is designed to help the millions of guests be our resorts' partners in safety."

"Skiing and snowboarding are fun and exciting outdoor sports, but like any sport they have inherent risks," said Amy Ohran, president and general manager of Boreal Mountain Resort, in the release.

"People should ski or ride at a speed that allows them to stay in control and be able stop safely. Most serious injuries occur from collisions at high speed. The educated skier is a safer skier. The smart snowboarder is a safer snowboarder," added Chase Allstadt, a veteran ski patroller for Squaw Valley Alpine Meadows.

Visit SkiCalifornia.org for more details.

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"Our office would like to send our deepest sympathies and prayers to the families that have suffered a loss during the Creek Fire."

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Central Sierra Restaurants Offer a Variety of Foods for Those Taking Advantage of Outstanding Local Activities



Blue Sky Cafe



The Inn at China Peak Restaurant



Cressman's General Store



Falcon Junction Station - Prather



Shaver Lake Gas and Food Mart



The Trading Post

The great outdoors is a fantastic place to visit to get away from all the daily routines that are far too, well, routine.

So gather up your family, friends, a group from the office or that someone special and plan a trip to the Sierra National Forest in the Central Sierra in and around Huntington Lake and Shaver Lake.

A wonderful day of snow play in the local mountains is exhilarating to people of all ages. All this expended energy will need fuel to sustain the activities in which you will be participating.

The day should always start with a hearty breakfast which prepares your body for what you have in store for it. You will be able to have a much more pleasant day if you have a proper meal in you.

While you are out and about, it is also very important to keep well hydrated. Stick some snacks in your backpack and carry them with you. In the middle of you day, a good lunch will help replenish the energy you have expended up to this point.

End your day with a delicious meal that will help prepare you for what you are planning for tomorrow. If you are old enough, top that off with a cold beer, a glass of wine or a favorite libation.

The establishments below offer you what will need. Drop in and tell you heard about them in the China Peak Times!

The Blue Sky Café has appetizing breakfast selections, fresh sandwiches, crepes, salads, coffee drinks, shakes and smoothies. Free WiFi Located next to Bob's Market. ShaverBlueSkyCafe.com (559) 841-7106.

The Inn at China Peak Restaurant at Huntington Lake. Jack's Bar offers great food and libations. Enjoy a drink and appetizers, then step next door and have dinner. SkiChinaPeak.com (559) 233-2500.

Cressman's General Store will return in the near future. The facility was completely destroyed by the Creek Fire. The management and staff look forward to serving you again in the near future. Check Cressmans.

With Powder Alliance, Adventures Await You

Winter explorers unite! The greatest powder stashes in the West have joined forces to create the Powder Alliance, and offer FREE SKIING benefits to top-tier pass holders from other participating Powder Alliance areas.

All 2020/21 season pass-holders have the option of upgrading to a China Peak Black Pass with benefits that include a membership in the Powder Alliance.

Powder Alliance members include Angel Fire (NM), Bogus Basin (ID), Bridger Bowl (MT), Castle Mt in AB Canada, China Peak (CA), Eaglecrest Ski Area - (AK), Kiroro

org for updates on the process of rebuilding. (559) 841-2923.

Shaver Lake Pizza all pizzas made with fresh ingredients and covered with toppings. Beer is available. Offering great Calzones, salads, hot sandwiches and appetizers. ShaverLakePizza.com. (559) 841-7249

Short Horn Bar and Grill is locals favorite place to meet, eat, drink, dance and chat. Great cheeseburgers, fries, other sandwiches and cold drinks. They have the only pool table in town. (559) 841-6464.

Shaver Pub 'n Grub is known for atmosphere and drinks, with burgers, pastrami sandwich, fish & chips and chicken tacos. Catch sporting events on 4 TV's with Direct TV NFL Sunday Ticket. (559) 841-4411.

The Trading Post is Shaver Lake's popular dining house. Enjoy a drink at the beautiful bar and then sit down to great food, their top priority. Indoor and outdoor seating is available. (559) 841-5394

Shaver Lake Gas Mart offers you a variety of food types including a Mexican Food menu, Chester's Fried Chicken, Shaved Ice and Scoops of Ice Cream, cold beer and fountain drinks. (559) 841-5303.

Pizza Factory - Prather features "real hand tossed pizza", delicious salads, a variety of pasta, plus hot and cold sandwiches. Cold beer and fountain drinks. Lots of indoor seating. (559) 855-2800.

Subway is located in the Canyon Forks Center in Prather. Select from a tempting array of sandwiches or salads. Stop by for a breakfast or lunch treat on your way up to the mountains. (559) 855-7827. Visit Subway.com

Big Creek General Store on Point Road in Big Creek, features delicious meals and has outdoor seating available, weather permitting. (559) 839-3332

Falcon Junction Station offering Krispy Krunchy Chicken, freshly made deli sandwiches, Flavor Shot fountain machine, Coffee Beanery freshly brewed coffee, fishing tackle, outdoor/camping supplies, groceries, ATM, and a beer cave. (559) 855-8800.

in Japan, La Parva in Chile, Loveland Ski Area (CO), Marmot Basin in AB Canada, Mission Ridge (WA), Monarch Mountain (CO), Mountain High (CA), Mt. Hood Ski-bowl (OR), Sierra-At-Tahoe (CA), Timberline (OR), White Pass (WA).

Members can visit each resort 3 times and receive a FREE lift ticket, valid Sunday - Friday, non-holiday.

Holiday blackout dates are listed at PowderAlliance.com, however, it is always best to check with the resort you are visiting before your trip.



Shaver Lake Pizza



Short Horn Bar and Grill



Shaver Pub 'n Grub



Pizza Factory - Prather



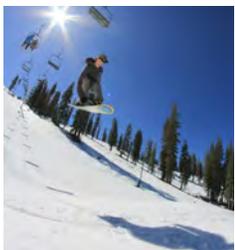
Big Creek General Store and Falls Restaurant



Subway Sandwich Shop - Prather



CHINA PEAK TIMES



Chair 1:

- Academy - Upper
- Boulder Alley - Lower
- Dynamite - Upper
- ◆ Grouse Creek - Upper
- ◆ Razorback - Lower
- Academy - Middle
- ◆ Buckhorn - Lower
- Mainstream - Lower
- ◆ Rancheria - Lower
- ◆ Waterfall Bowl - Lower
- Big Creek - Upper
- ◆ Buckhorn - Upper
- Razorback - Middle
- Rancheria - Upper
- ◆ Waterfall Bowl - Upper
- Boulder Alley - Upper
- ◆ Dynamite - Lower
- ◆ Grouse Creek - Lower
- ◆ Razorback - Upper

Chair 2:

- Exhibition
- Tamarack
- Kaiser
- Red Fir East
- Red Fir West

Chair 4:

- Academy - Lower
- Tollhouse - Middle
- Easy Street/Lower
- Ullmanns Alley - Lower
- Easy Street/Upper
- Ullmanns Alley - Upper
- Peterbuilt

Chair 5:

- ◆ China Bowl
- ◆ East Bowl
- Huntington
- Dick's

Chair 6:

- Arroyo
- Echo
- Ridge Run
- Canyon
- ◆ Face - Avalanche
- Skid Row
- Tollhouse - Lower
- ◆ Face - Juniper
- Sundown Ridge
- Parkway

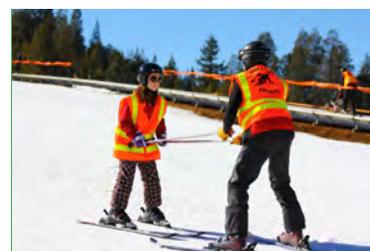
Chair 7:

- Joanne's
- Joe's
- Hokey Pokey
- Westridge
- Lakeview
- Marmot

Kids Carpet:

Boulder Carpet:

Juniper Carpet:



If You Don't Ski, Just Drop the Others Off and Go Snowshoeing

Okay, you and your friends like the winter time and enjoy the snow. But they like skiing and boarding and you're not interested in that. So drop them off at China Peak and go snowshoeing.

What started as a necessary means of travel thousands of years ago has evolved into a popular alternative winter activity for recreation and fitness. Why? Well, it's fun. That's why.

How do you get started? It's easy. As the saying goes, "If you can walk, you can snowshoe."

It's also inexpensive. You only need snowshoes, hiking boots, warm clothing, gloves, head gear and perhaps poles. That's it!

The learning curve is also much shorter than skiing, snowboarding or cross country treks. All it takes is a few techniques to practice. These include widening your stance (so you don't trip on your snowshoes), going up and down hills, traversing slopes and pole usage.

Snowshoeing offers participants a low-impact, aerobic exercise that helps you stay in shape during the winter. It's versatile. You can get an easy workout or be aggressive. Plus, your dog can follow along.

Trail etiquette is important. You



will often be sharing the trail with cross-country skiers. Try to make your own trail whenever possible, staying out of the tracks these skiers have worked so hard to set. Skiers have the right-of-way on trail systems. This seems obvious, since it's easier for you to step off the trail safely than it is for a cross country skier to stop or go around. Always

be polite to the folks you meet along the trail.

Snowshoeing techniques are simple. Get going by walking on flat surfaces when you first start out. Most snowshoes have simple "strap and go" bindings that fit a wide range of boot styles and sizes. Your stance should be wider than normal when you're on snowshoes in order to keep you from stepping on the insides of your frames. Consequently, you may feel your hips and groin muscles ache after the first few times out. If possible, walk in the steps made by the person in front of you.

Always pay attention to your physical condition, the environment and your gear. Stick to established trails at first. The local SnoPark areas have cross-country ski trails that snowshoers can share. That way, you're never too far from other people, and you're not likely to encounter avalanche hazards. Do not snowshoe alone.

Be aware of winter hazards like creek crossings, changes in weather along with tree or rock wells. If you plan to venture away from a patrolled ski area, be sure you and your companions are prepared. Carry a topographic map of the area, a compass and possibly an altimeter or a GPS to help you navigate. Know how to use them, because the backcountry in winter is not the best place to learn. Before heading out, leave your trip plans with a responsible person and let them know whom to contact in case you don't return on time.

Know the signs of hypothermia so you can recognize them in members of your party. Stay hydrated by drinking water to keep your muscles functioning and helping your body fend off hypothermia. Keep your water from freezing by using an insulating cover for your water bottle. A vacuum bottle with hot drinks will keep you hydrated and warm.

REI at Riverpark and Shaver Lake Sports will rent and sell snowshoes. They will fit you with a pair that is



The sport of shoeshoeing is gaining in popularity across the country. If you are interested in trying this winter activity, you can rent a set of shoeshoes from Shaver Lake Sports or REI.

appropriate for you. You don't need special shoes for snowshoeing, just waterproof hiking boots.

It's easy to learn to use snowshoes. Within five minutes you'll be having a good time. You're not gonna be able to go as far because you can probably go about half as far as you can walk. So if you are used to walking five miles on a hike during the summer, you're probably are going to go about two and a half miles in that same amount of time.

For snowshoes, it's imperative that you have the right size and maybe

even have extensions for them so you don't sink into the snow. Extensions are tails that you clip onto the end of snowshoes to increase the surface area meaning you won't sink.

The size of snowshoes are dependent on how much a person weighs. The heavier a person is the larger snowshoes they'll need to keep them from sinking into the snow.

The sales staff at the store from which you bought or rented them will make sure you have the right ones for your height and weight requirements.

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China Peak Has Excellent Rental Shop and Great Repair Facilities



Tara Lynch

China Peak Hosts Many Events for 2020/2021

What's happening and when? Well ask Tara Lynch. She has the responsibility of keeping skiers and boarders informed regarding China Peak Mountain Resort Events.

"Tara joined our team a year ago," stated Tim Cohee, "and has shown a real capability to bring us energy and fresh ideas."

Using her skills with social media, she disseminates information regarding events to all those interested.

"Sign up for the Peak Alert at SkiChinaPeak.com," said Tara, "We'll send updates about Events, Snow Conditions, Powder Alerts, Pass & Ticket Specials and more! Don't worry, we don't share your email and it's one click to unsubscribe - but you won't want to!"

Corinthian Jones was born and raised in the mountains and has worked at China Peak for almost 12 years, spending the last seven years as the rental shop manager.

"There's really no need to stop anywhere else for rental equipment and schlep all that gear with you," Jones commented. "Our rental shops are conveniently located in the base area close to the lifts."

The shop is completely equipped with a full size range of skis and snowboards for all ages and abilities. The staff knows how to select the right equipment and fit for you.

"I was mentored by predecessors Bruce Gillett and Van Neely," Jones continued. "These guys had over 70 years of experi-



Cori Jones team realizes the importance of making sure all guests bindings are well adjusted.

ence between them. I wouldn't be where I'm at without their guidance."

"I believe this is the best gear collection we've ever had", stated Jones. "My crew is amazing and knowledgeable, putting a major emphasis on customer service. From beginners to pros, toddlers to adults, skiers or boarders; we've got you covered!"

Seasonal rentals are only \$298 for ages 13+ and \$223 for children 12 and under.

To save time, download all the forms at SkiChinaPeak.com/images/RENTAL.pdf, in advance and bring the completed form to the ticket window.

Rental Rates

Skis, boots and poles or snowboard and boots

	All Day Online	All Day 9 - 4	Half Day 12:30 - 4
Adults 13+	\$54	\$57	\$45
Child 6-12	\$38	\$40	\$31

Skis and poles

	All Day 9 - 4	Half Day 12:30 - 4
Adults 13+	\$52	\$41

All consecutive day rentals are available at the 1/2 day rate for each additional day. Damage waiver is \$5/snowboard or skis.

"Cori has been with us for over a decade, and was very fortunate to work for one of the top rental shop managers anywhere in ski country, Bruce Gillette," said



The rental shop has a variety of skis, poles, boots and snowboards for your consideration.

Tim Cohee, Managing Partner.

"The quality and speed of service at China Peak hasn't missed a beat since Bruce's retirement four years ago," Cohee continued. "Our representative for HEAD skis, Steve Brock, a 40 year industry veteran who handles every resort in Southern and Central California, says Cori runs the best service oriented rental shop of all the resorts he works with. That is quite a statement."

China Peak's full service repair shop, is located at the Day lodge. The excellent professional staff will get you ready and keep you sliding all season.

You can take advantage of same day service, or you can leave your equipment overnight and pick up the next day! Services offered include waxing, mounting and everything in between. This is your one stop shop for your repair needs.

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All Facilities Are Subject to Social Distancing. Must Wear Masks Inside

Tim Cohee, Managing Partner, has outlined China Peak's approach to the health pandemic.

"We will be operating under COVID guidelines, which means social distancing, masks will be mandatory everywhere except on the lift with friends/family or while skiing or snowboarding. Numbers will be limited inside at any one time, there will be more outdoor seating, lots of cleaning and frequent sanitizing."

"It is very important our guests purchase season passes, lift tickets, ski & snowboard rentals, group ski lessons, children's ski school and lodging on line. Prices will be higher on site on all products to encourage on line sales."

"We do not expect to limit ticket sales or season pass sales. China Peak seldom experiences capacity crowds."

"We will open our new Tubing Center with a new moving carpet similar to what we have in the base area now for our beginning skiers and riders."

"Every winter resort in the nation is preparing to operate differently than ever before, and China Peak is no different, with one critically important exception."

"Many of California's largest resorts operate at or above capacity on weekends and holidays, and will have a much more challenging time handling their typical peak crowd without some level of limiting capacity, which will certainly include the elimination of on site lift ticket sales, rentals and ski lessons, and in some cases, the elimination of lift tickets sales altogether."

"We seldom if ever have that problem, as we have a resort that has a more manageable peak day crowd, as we don't draw customers from the state's two largest skier populations - Northern and Southern

California. We are and always have been a Central California resort."

"We don't have the population base to overcrowd our mountain and its facilities on a regular basis. We continue to see more interest from guests outside our typical Central California market, but our lack of overnight lodging in both the Huntington and Shaver Lake communities will naturally limit our attendance."

"While we will have an easier time adhering to COVID-19 policies and operate without severe capacity limits, it doesn't change our commitment to those policies."

"As you know from experience with other businesses since this past March, you must keep adequate distancing from guests other than with those with whom you arrived. Masks are required in most areas."

"Other changes you will see are reduced indoor seating, grab and go food services, limited on site sales of lift tickets, rentals, lessons and lodging, limited bar seating and more."

"When you arrive at China Peak this winter there will be consistent sign age reminding you of the importance of adhering to the COVID-19 policies, as well as additional staff in our food and beverage facilities to monitor our guest's observance and respect for the rules as well as their fellow winter enthusiasts."

"We are fortunate to be able to operate with less capacity restrictions than many other popular California resorts, but that doesn't change the importance and following practices that have largely been in place for the past seven months."

"Make certain you are ready and willing to accept and enjoy a new way of visiting China Peak this winter. If you have any questions, feel free to email us at info@skichinapeak.com."

Graham Jones Manages Utilities and Construction at China Peak

No resort operation can function properly without someone making sure the facility's infrastructure is in top shape.

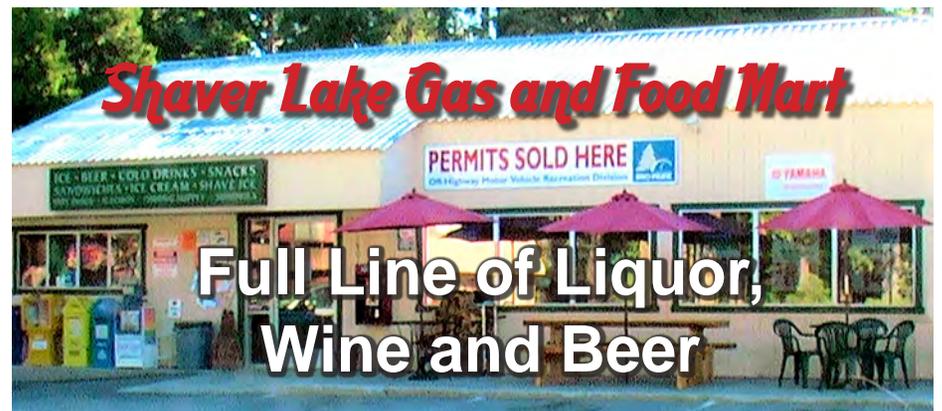
At China Peak, that responsibility has been given to Graham Jones, the Utilities and Construction Manager.

"Graham follows in the footsteps of our retired Director of Mountain Operations Paul Gray," stated Tim Cohee, Managing Partner, "who most would agree had a breadth of experience and mechanical capability rarely seen in our industry."

"I suppose there's something Graham can't do, but we haven't found it yet. Most of the major issues we've had at China Peak since our purchase in 2010 have been related to our utility system and buildings, both areas where Graham really excels."



Graham Jones



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Buckhorn Bar Deck Expanded To Accommodate More Guests

The Buckhorn Bar is located near the popular quad chair, halfway up the mountain. At times this facility was overcrowded, which is never good for anyone.

Thus the decision was made to make it accessible to more guests. This past summer the deck was increased in size to allow more skiers and boarders to relax, have a cold brew or a hot beverage and maybe a snack before hitting the slopes again.

"Adding 33 percent more deck space at our most popular on mountain location will make a huge difference in allowing more guests to enjoy the unique vibe Buckhorn offers, as well as assist us in proving more seating and open space," stated Tristan Cohee, Food and Beverage Manager for the resort.

"I have only seen photos of what Buckhorn looked like 5-10 years ago," continued Cohee. "It has come such a long way and has now become the most profitable bar on the mountain. This expansion is important in two major ways."

"First, it is creating more space for people to sit and hang out on the deck. More and more riders every year are able to make it up to Buckhorn."

"So it's only right that we create more space for them that isn't sitting in the snow. We are also looking to add a BBQ

grill that will be located on the expanded section of the deck."

"The second reason is because of COVID. The more space we have to spread people out the better we can fight this virus. We will be adding a 25x40 sized tent that will keep people from crowding the indoors when we get unexpected weather."



A happy couple takes a break for food and drinks on the deck at the popular Buckhorn Bar & Grill.



The Central California Adaptive Sports Center in Shaver Lake is very instrumental in giving those with various disabilities the opportunity to experience all that the great outdoors has to offer them.

Central California Adaptive Sports Center Provides Valuable Service

A wide variety of outdoor adventures are accessible to persons with disabilities due to a special organization operating in Shaver Lake. The Central California Adaptive Sports Center (CCASC), is coordinated under the watchful eye of Randy Coffman and his staff.

The group has provided outdoor mountain adventures to persons with disabilities for the past six years.

Participants, including wounded Veterans, and their families, have enjoyed over 6,000 hours of outdoor activities.

The staff provides lessons, all camping and recreational equipment, as well as all meals. Each activity in the program is designed with adaptations for varying disabilities. Individuals of all ages and backgrounds are welcome.



Central California Adaptive Sports Center guide assists a participant on the slopes at CP.

The participation of family and friends empower our participants in their daily lives, and have a positive enduring effect on confidence, health, independence, and overall well-being.

For those spending a weekend, depending on interest and suitability,

activities include a combination of mountain biking, rock climbing, kayaking, hiking, fly-fishing, and paddle boarding. Also included are two days and nights of camping overnight in tents. Weekend programs begin at 6 pm on Friday and end at 1 pm on Sunday.

“It takes a team to make our programs work,” says Coffman. “For each participant, we need at least one volunteer in addition to staff instructors.

To be considered for a position, you must work in a team environment, and be interested in enhancing the quality of life for persons with disabilities.

Volunteers are needed for both summer and winter seasons. No prior experience is necessary. Instructors must be at least 18 years of age. Base Area and Field Assistants must be at least 16.

Detailed agendas, program fees, and additional information are provided at CentralCalAdaptive.org. You can also call (559) 593-2504 or email the staff at info@centralcaladaptive.org. These programs will fill up quickly, so please contact us soon to schedule a program.



Without the guidance of Coffman's staff, some people that desire to enjoy the slopes, couldn't.

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Please stop by to see us and let us know how we can help you achieve your real estate goals. Our hearts go out to our mountain community affected by the Creek Fire. If we can help by offering our office equipment for scans, faxes, printing or emails, please don't hesitate to come by. We will help!

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Kathy Kuhner (559) 284-2772
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Chad Sainsbury Is Masterful As China Peak's Grooming Supervisor

When you show up in the morning and click into your skis, you might not realize that a whole team of employees has been working all night to prepare the slopes.

Most ski areas start grooming operations right after the lifts shut down to the public. The snow surface crew frequently works in two eight-hour shifts: 4:00 pm to midnight, and midnight to 8:00 am.

When the machine drives over a snowfield, it pushes snow ahead of it and, at the same time, smooths out any surface unevenness.

Snow groomers can handle very steep gradients due to their low center of gravity and large contact area, but they can also be assisted by winches.

Chad Sainsbury, Grooming Supervisor commented, "If the temperature drops from above freezing to below freezing after a trail has been groomed, it will become quite hard. Those are situations where if we can wait until the temperature changes, we'll do so. Otherwise, we'll re-groom the trail."

"Chad took over our grooming operations in the middle of last season", said Tim Cohee, Managing Partner. "This was very tough timing, and he did a masterful job keeping our snow surface in great condition with very little snow to work with."

"He handles the toughest assignments with great skill, and perhaps as importantly has developed a talented and loyal grooming team he enjoys working with every night. I often listen to them speaking on the resort radio all hours of the night and it's obvious they have a real connection as they bring a high quality, fresh snow surface to our guests every morning."

"Using the tiller on the snow cat can help to break up the hard snow, similar to the way a farmer tills his field," says Sainsbury, "and create a softer surface for skiing and snowboarding."

Next time you're grinding a rail or throwing a dinner roll off the half pipe, tip your helmet to the groomers and the terrain park crew. A safe, well-groomed and well-maintained terrain park is a time-consuming and difficult proposition.

"Continual and consistent maintenance of the terrain park is extremely important to ensure quality conditions and the safety of skiers and snowboarders, which is always the highest priority," says Sainsbury.

"It takes a very skilled and experienced cat driver to sculpt and create the right flow through a terrain park. We have dedicated cat drivers assigned just to the terrain parks to ensure that jumps, transitions to rails, and placement of features are correct."



Snow cats give the China Peak Grooming Staff the tool necessary to get the surface of the snow on the slopes in an excellent condition for the skiers and boarders expected for the following day.

Meet The Group In Charge - Your China Peak The Entire 2020-2021 Management Team

Administration:

Debbie Neely, Chief Financial Officer
Katrina Cross, Human Resources
Carrie Burgin, Accounting

Leslie Wiebenga, Employee Housing
Tara Lynch, Events & Social Media

Operating Departments:

Max Newman, Vehicle Maintenance
Paul McCreary, Snow Removal
Mark Webster & Nakita Fox, Sport Shop
Rich Bailey, Ski Patrol & Safety
Larry Ott, Lifts & Lift Maintenance
Lyndsie Stocker, Season Passes,
Lift Tickets & Guest Services
Graham Jones, Construction & Utilities
Chad Sainsbury, Grooming
Ben Flanagan, Parking

Jeff Chatfield, Security
Troy Cohee, Snowmaking & Terrain Parks
Corinthian Jones, Rentals, Repair & Demo
Spencer Neville, Ski & Ride School
Russell Morris, China Peak Inn
Mark 'Sully' Sullivan, Bars
Keith Teramoto, Day Lodge
Roger Myers, Mainstream
Jennifer Goodsoozian, Buckhorn
Tristan Cohee, J.W.'s Restaurant & Bar
John Ratliff, J.W.'s Chef

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Debbie Neely, China Peak's CFO, Recovering After Head On Crash

"When we saw the photos of Debbie's Toyota SUV," commented Tim Cohee, the resort's Managing Partner, "we wondered how anyone could have survived that impact. But as we all know at China Peak, Debbie is the poster child for what women at our resort stand for. They are tough, with a ready to battle personality. Debbie's comeback from this incredible accident has been nothing less than what we expected. It was great to have her back at the resort after a long, painful rehab."

Here is what Neely recalls from July

As I look back, the last week of July was a particular busy week at the resort for me. I remember working on financial reports and various contracts as well as planning meetings about the upcoming winter.

All in all this was a seemingly normal summer work week. But it was worth it, because it was to be followed with a week's vacation, sailing with my family to the Santa Cruz Island on my Mason43.

But on Friday, July 31 things changed. While driving home from the valley with a car full of groceries and supplies for the sailing trip, it happened!

I was stopped literally in my tracks, as a drunk driver in the oncoming traffic decided to try to pass three vehicles and a boat on a blind double yellow corner. I had no time to get out of his way, and no where to go. I closed my eyes and braced for the impact.

It was a terrible collision with serious consequences for me. I am extremely lucky to be alive. I was quite pinned inside my vehicle. I suffered some broken ribs, chest contusions, facial bruising, and worst of all, a completely crushed right foot.

It's been three months since the accident, and I still cannot put any weight on my foot. To make matters worse, the wound has not completely healed yet. The many external pins still remain in my foot keeping all the bones together so they will

heal..... and they WILL HEAL.

It is an very slow process, but the prognosis is excellent. I remain very positive, and very anxious to get back on my feet again.

The Creek Fire only added insult to injury, and I have been forced to move five times thus far, from hospital to Shaver to evacuation homes in Cambria and Clovis and then back to Shaver.

I have turned my bedroom into a makeshift China Peak office, which is actually working out well – keeping my mind and



As the CFO, Debbie Neely is a very important member of the China Peak management team.

laptop busy with the many tasks that flow my way on a daily basis.

I'm praying for everyone who has been affected by the fire. I pray for an end to the Covid pandemic. I'm praying for a good winter, with plenty of snow for China Peak and all our staff and our customers to enjoy and be re-energized by.

Even though I may not be able to get out on the hill myself this winter, I promise you I will be cheering from the sundeck!



Surrounded by family members, Debbie Neely, enjoys sailing the California Coast. She is recovering from her July head-on collision and looks forward to having a great 2020-2021 winter season.



An ominous glow backlights the Inn at China Peak. At one point, it looked as though this structure would be consumed. However, the efforts of firefighters turned back the flames and saved the day.

China Peak Escapes Major Damage as Heroic Firefighters Battle the Blaze

(continued from page 1)

"The groom the top half of his tux and the ceremony went on, albeit not much like what they expected."

"Minutes after 'I DO' the wedding party and over 100 guests scattered to their rooms at the Inn @ China Peak, gathered their clothes and quickly left the China Peak area. It wasn't long after the crew we had on site, thinking we would stay to do what we could to assist the fire effort, we asked to leave the area."

"Hundreds of China Peak loyalists watched the fire's track and assumed the resort was in the blaze's cross hairs, with major damage or total loss of China Peak's lifts, ski runs, snowmaking system and buildings was all but assured."

While Vacationing, Be Aware of Your Footprint

It is time for everyone to do their part in leaving Sierra National Forest lands healthy and free of trash. This pertains to picnic spots, campgrounds, hiking trails, lakes and streams.

So, just like at your home, recycling is important no matter you might be vacationing. It helps us to convert old products into new products. Sending less trash to the landfills helps reduce air and water pollution. It's good for the environment.

So next time you come up to the Sierra National Forest, whether you are enjoying the beautiful lake, heading to the ski resort, or just recreating for the day please help keep the local mountains clean and safe.

Remember to pack some bags for trash and recycling. This is a simple, but often over looked part of spending time outdoors. Yet, it can cause hundreds of wasted man hours and the spending of thousands of dollars each year to clean up the forests.

fire crews from all across the country, the resort's infrastructure was spared damage. Four employee housing trailers, five personal trailers, trucks, utilities, spare parts and a few other assets were totally destroyed."

"In total, China Peak anticipates damage to total in the \$1,000,000 range, significant but a far cry from what could have been several times worse."

"We received hundreds of emails and social media postings praying China Peak would be spared from the devastation, as we are the winter playground for tens of thousands of skiers and riders in Central California."

"Our customers still can't understand how the Creek Fire, which appeared to devour China Peak, left the resort largely unscathed."

"It was not a miracle, it was due 100% to the efforts of expert fire fighters who were determined to make sure skiers and riders from all parts of the region were able to enjoy another winter at the Peak."



At the end of the back parking lot, several housing trailers and personal units were destroyed.



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Variety of Accommodations Offered for Winter Guests Planning a Trip to the Local Mountains

China Peak Mountain Resort is located in the Sierra National Forest in a region that has been referred to as California's Best Kept Secret. It is the hub of many Fresno County winter activities.

Many visitors stay for more than a day and therefore require a place to stay overnight or longer.

Fortunately China Peak Ski Resort provides onsite lodging. If they cannot accommodate you, there are several others that are conveniently close.



These facilities feature a complete range of amenities travelers desire. There are a number of cozy cabins, elegant condos, bed and breakfast inns as well as full service resorts, comfortable motels, hotels, AirBnB and VBRO offerings.

The following regional facilities are listed below for your convenience. Some of facilities are Pet Friendly. Call ahead or check their websites to see if you can bring your furry friends!

Let them know that you heard about them from reading the *China Peak Times!*

The Inn at China Peak offers slope side lodging that are just a few steps from the Day Lodge and lift lines. Two unique cabins are available at Lakeshore as well. After spending a fantastic day on the slopes, guests can enjoy their favorite libation and a delicious dinner at the Inn featuring a wide variety of menu selections. Relax apres ski in JW's Original Bar and enjoy drink specials and tasty appetizers. (559) 233-2500 or SkiChinaPeak.com.



Rancheria Chalet - Lakeshore
vacasa.com/unit.php?UnitID=26746



Huntington Vista - Lakeshore
vacasa.com/unit.php?UnitID=38265



Elliott House B&B is on Highway 168 near the center of the Shaver Lake Village. Each of the guest rooms are delightfully decorated, featuring luxurious feather beds and cozy sitting areas. They are specifically designed to ensure comfort and relaxation. Patrons are treated to a wonderful delicious breakfast. (888) 841-8601 or visit ElliottHouseBandB.com.



Vacasa Vacation Rentals feature the largest selection of private homes, cabins and condos in and around the Shaver and Huntington Lakes region. Some very conveniently located just about five minutes from China Peak. They are all warm and comfortable. (855) 861-5757



Shaver Lake Village Hotel is near the end of the Shaver Lake Village, situated by Ken's Market. There are an extensive array of accommodations. They include economical hotel rooms, spacious cabins, well appointed suites and a bunkhouse. Enjoy a delicious Continental breakfast each morning. (559) 841-8289 or ShaverLakeVillageHotel.com.



Tamarack Motor Lodge is ideal for those that like to stay near China Peak Mountain Resort. It is very conveniently located just six miles below the turnoff that leads into China Peak Ski Resort. It is ideal for the budget conscious family or group. Six suites are available to guests. Each of the units has a kitchenette, private bath and TV with cable. (559) 893-3244 or TheTamarackLodge.com.



Talahi Ranch Retreat is located just off Auberry Road in the Prather foothills. China Peak Mountain Resort is just 40 miles away. The facility sleeps up to five. Dish-net Cable with 48" flat screen TV, mini refrigerator, microwave, coffee and hot water maker, private bathroom, laundry facilities and private entrance. This is a pet friendly facility. You can BBQ on the deck. Call (559) 298-3133 or make a reservation at AirBnB.com/h/talahi



Daddy Joe's Lodging - Auberry These rental homes are situated at the base of the Sierra National Forest in the foothills NE of Fresno in Auberry. The following units are available: The Yellow House, The Barn Bungalow, The Flat, The Bear Den, The Cottage, Sweet Bear's Suite and The Cub Suite. The lodging units are just 38 miles from China Peak Mountain Resort. Make reservations at 559-855-2828 or DaddyJoesLodging.com



Knotty Pine Cabins are located in the center of the Shaver Lake Village. Along with concierge services, this smoke-free facility has barbecue grills and free self parking. WiFi in public areas is free. All four cabins have TVs with cable channels and feature kitchens with refrigerators, stovetops, and microwaves. Free WiFi and patios are among the other amenities that guests will find. (559) 349-1846 or search for them on the Internet.



AirBnB and VBRO both represent a large variety of accommodations in the Auberry, Big Creek, Huntington Lake, Prather and Shaver Lake regions. To make your arrangements, guests need to contact the individual owners of these facilities. This is done through their websites: AirBnB.com or VBRO.com.



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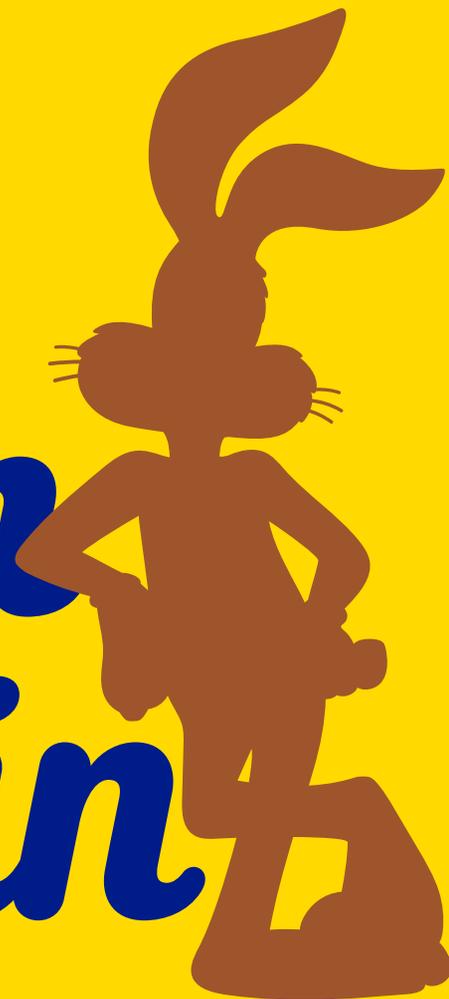


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Riding through the snow covered Sierra Forest on a snowmobile can be a very exciting experience. Come try it. You can bring your own machine or rent one from a local business at Shaver Lake.

Miles of Snowmobile Trails Run Through Sierra National Forest

Throwing your legs over the saddle of a snowmobile and roaring off into the snow covered landscape is one heck of a thrill

The region in and around Huntington Lake and Shaver Lake offers a wonderful opportunity to enjoy this popular outdoor winter sport, be you a first-timer or a seasoned expert.

Enjoy a view of snow covered peaks of the Kaiser Wilderness or the Dinkey Wilderness depending upon the area in which you are traveling.

The backcountry around Huntington Lake region features scores of snowmobile trails. All and all about 150 miles of trails are available for riders to enjoy.

The Sierra National Forest has developed several marked ski trails along Highway 168. Most of the trails are between the 7,000 and 7,500 elevation.

They range in length and difficulty from a one mile beginner trail at Huntington Lake to a six mile advanced trail near Tamarack Ridge.

Come and enjoy a day of winter fun. Make sure you dress warm. Bring water, coffee or hot chocolate to keep you hydrated and pack a lunch! If you don't have your own machine, there is a local business that offer snowmobile rentals. For full details call (559) 841-2411 or visit Shaver-LakePowerCenter.com

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Explore your wedding day or special events options. Planning a wedding is truly an art, which is the very reason why couples rely on the knowledge, preparedness and creativity of wedding professionals who have been down this road "a time or

two" to guide you on this journey. You can begin exploring your wedding day options by visiting ChinaPeakWeddings.com or contacting Wedding Coordinator, Tess, by email at weddings@skichinapeak.com or by calling her at either (559) 673-5684 or (559) 960-5014.



Happy couple exchange vows during their wedding ceremony at China Peak Mountain Resort.



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Central Sierra Resiliency Fund Created to Restore and Rebuild Special Place We Call Home

Courtesy of Sierra Historical Society

The Central Sierra Resiliency Fund is a community initiative held at the Central Sierra Historical Society and Museum, Inc. In launching this effort, local community members and concerned professionals have collaborated to create a Resiliency Council to administer the restricted fund and determine funding recipients. We plan to partner with other local, state, and national groups to ensure resources to empower the mountain community to get people living, working, and recreating on the mountain again.

The Resiliency Fund supports Creek Fire recovery efforts in communities in Fresno County's Central Sierra including, but not limited to, Huntington Lake, Lakeshore, Big Creek, Shaver Lake, Pine Ridge, Meadow Lakes, Alder Springs, and Auberry.

The Shaver Ranch Story: Historic



Three youngsters are among a group of individuals using resources from the Resiliency Fund that have already set about planting trees in the Shaver Lake region that was devastated by the Creek Fire.

Shaver Legacy Rising From the Ashes

In the aftermath of the Creek Fire's devastation of the Central Sierras, the unique historical legacy of this region emerges as if rising from the ashes. These many stories cannot remain buried beneath soot. Rather, these stories are our collective history and are important guides for shaping our future. Many remnants of the local history of Pine Ridge, an area with deep historic roots, have been stored or displayed at Shaver Ranch for hundreds of years. The fast and furious Creek Fire destroyed those relics in seconds. Our Shaver-McDonald family hopes that sharing this Shaver Ranch story might empower hope and inspire other local families to persevere and continue our shared Central Sierra heritage. As with many other family stories from up on the hill, our family story is not only ours but rather is woven into the fabric of the Central Sierra community. These stories are an important part of where we all came from and of how we move forward in light of

this year's natural disaster. We must rebuild our community in a way that honors this unique historic legacy of our region.

CB Shaver: A Man of Determination, Courage, Ingenuity, and Enthusiasm

The 20 living members of the Shaver-McDonald family strive to emulate our brave pioneer ancestor, CB Shaver, who headed west to the Pine Ridge area to put his flume building experience, business acumen, and logging skills to use in hopes of building something great. CB Shaver came to California in 1891 from Michigan and was instrumental in, though certainly not solely responsible for, developing Shaver Lake and the surrounding logging industry. He was a pioneer over a century ago, taking bold steps into the unknown. As with all history, some might criticize the forestry practices of a vastly different

time. Rather than judge his actions based on modern day thinking, our family has long felt bolstered by his determination, courage, and ingenuity— values we hold dear. Along with other brave members of the collective Central Sierra history, CB Shaver took on the seemingly insurmountable obstacle of the steep Tollhouse Grade in building a logging flume that stretched over 40 miles from the Central Sierras to the Valley Floor. Prior to their major feat of damming Shaver Lake and building this V-shaped flume, logging in the 1800s was limited by the difficulty of moving timber by wagon down the steep grade. By 1905, CB Shaver's company enlisted advancements of the industrial revolution, operating two steam powered mills, railroad locomotives and cars, tugboats, and booms. The lumber sent down the flume to the Clovis mill was used in box factories in San Jose, orange dealers in Southern California, and raisin shippers in Fresno.

(continued on page 28)



Cressman's General Store, the historic landmark at the top of the four lane was completely destroyed by the Creek Fire. The facility will be rebuilt by the Gillett Family and continue to serve customers.

The Gillett Family

Cressman's General Store is an iconic landmark in Pine Ridge on the way up the mountain to Shaver Lake, built in 1904. For well over a century, it has provided food, fuel, and supplies to loggers, fishermen, campers, and locals coming up and down the mountain. It is a staple of the mountain community. That's why we try to welcome everyone with a smile – not only because it's a friendly greeting, but because it sets the tone for all that Cressman's represents.

My wife, Tara, and I became the owners of Cressman's in 2019, but we both grew up just minutes away. In fact, our families go back for generations here in the mountain communities. Tara's great grandmother owned and operated Mountain Rest, not far from Cressman's. And my grandparents moved their family to the Pine Ridge area to enjoy water skiing and snow skiing throughout the year.

We grew up here, fell in love here, established our family here and built connections with people here – and Cressman's played a role in all of it, helping us maintain our deep roots in this community.

We grew up here, fell in love here, established our family here and built connections with people here – and Cressman's played a role in all of it, helping us maintain our deep roots in this community.

tions with people here – and Cressman's played a role in all of it, helping us maintain our deep roots in this community. While Tara's calling has always been taking care of people, which led her to become a nurse practitioner at Valley Children's Hospital, I have a passion for business. When opportunity to own Cressman's came about, we knew it was a life changing opportunity and a perfect fit for our family.

Taking ownership of a place with such historic significance was pretty daunting. But we had plenty of support and guidance from the previous owners, and we were able to introduce some of our own vision to the store as well. We worked with Kuppa Joy Coffee to bring great coffee to the area and were in the process of creating a coffee shop in one of the outbuildings. We also began working towards adding a brewery to the site someday in the future.

Owning Cressman's was an opportunity to become part of the fabric of our community. I met amazing people who also love the Central Sierras and it was better than I could have ever imagined. But in September of 2020, it all burned to the ground. Our store. Our home. Our community.

(continued on page 29)



See the menu offerings at ShaverBlueSkyCafe.com

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A Family Affair: Troy and Tristan Cohee Take Different Paths in Resort Industry

Tim Cohee is proud to have his sons, Tristan and Troy, taking an active roll in China Peak Resort management.

Troy is the Snowmaking and Terrain Parks Manager. He looked back a bit and had this to say.

“My brothers and I were always raised



Tim Cohee, with Troy, left and Tristan, right, after Huntington Lake Triathlon this past July.

to be hard workers, regardless of which path we took. School was never our favorite place to be, but most of us managed a bachelor’s degree, ski business and resort management for myself.”

“Work was always preferable. I grew up ski racing and was a head coach at Diamond Peak for 6 years while getting my BA.”

“I always intended to move to China Peak after I got my degree. I love working in the ski industry because of the different challenges we face on a consistent basis. I picture myself climbing the ladder in the industry until I am at the top.”

“My brothers and I have been very fortunate to have a father who gives us the opportunity to work and learn the ski industry in whichever way we prefer.”

Tristan, the younger of the two, is the Food and Beverage Manager. He said:

“I have been in the restaurant business since I was 17 years old. I have worked in fine dining, fast paced, large events, and everywhere in between in the food business. With the path I am taking this industry could be the one and only industry I work in for the rest of my life. I began bartending at China Peak when I was 21.

“We both are addicted to the industry”, concluded Troy, “but on separate paths. Tristan handles the people, and I handle the snow.”

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- 2/2 newer blinds, flooring, paint, carpet refaced river rock fireplace, large deck, close to lake, tennis courts and pool. \$300,000
- 2/2 plus loft. Beautiful river rock fireplace, custom paint, upgraded tile, remodeled kitchen and bath, wonderful rock, lake and scenic views. Two decks. \$375,000
- 3/3 shows like a model. Quartz counters, hickory cabinets, top of the line appliances, many other upgrades. Two large decks. \$495,000
- 3/3 welcoming, light and bright. The kids will enjoy sledding right outside the door on their own mini sled hill. Upgraded throughout. \$525,000
- 3/3 light, open floorplan. Two bedrooms/two baths on main level, plus private master suite downstairs. Bonus room with jacuzzi. \$449,000
- 3/3 light and spacious with plenty of room for entertaining. Skylight, jacuzzi, one bedroom and bath on main level. \$449,000
- 3/3 plus loft. Feels like new, huge bonus room, mud room, bar seating with high end touches. Views in every direction and two decks. \$545,000
- 3/3 plus loft. Very private at the top of the condos. Trex decking, additional corner windows face forest and provide much natural light and open feel. Mud room, two decks, rock fireplace, updated, incredible views. \$560,000

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Plan Ahead and Prepare to Leave No Trace Behind

Know the regulations and concerns for the area in which you'll be camping, hiking, backpacking, hunting, boating, riding horses, biking, 4-wheeling or fishing. It is important that due to current health conditions that you camp and travel in small groups.

Avoid popular areas during heavy use times. Learn to properly store your food to protect it from bears and other animals. Repackage food into re-usable containers like Ziploc bags.

Avoid tin or aluminum cans and glass. Reduce the amount of trash brought into the woods by eliminating all unnecessary packaging. Stay on designated trails while hiking or back-



packing. Walk single file in the center of the path. Use existing trails. Don't shortcut switchbacks.

If traveling cross-country hike on surfaces like rock, sand, gravel, pine needles, or dry grasses to prevent vegetation damage and erosion.

Always dispose of waste properly. If it wasn't there when you came then don't leave it there when you leave!

You are responsible for anything you bring in with you. Carry out all your trash. Make your site or travel route look like nobody was ever there. Leave no signs of human influence.

Remove all evidence of your stay. Inspect your campsite for trash or misplaced gear before you leave. Pick up

trash that others may have missed or that were dropped by accident.

Bury human waste in cat holes about 6-8" deep 200 feet from any water sources, campsites, or trails. Carry out used toilet paper. Carry out feminine hygiene products. Do not bury them.

Wash yourself and dishes 200 feet from any water sources and away from campsites. Food scraps will attract insects and animals. Filter your dishwasher and carry out your food scraps with the rest of your trash.

Leave What You Find - Take only pictures, leave only the lightest of footprints. Bring home only memories. Resist the temptation to take souvenirs. Leave stones, feathers, artifacts, shells, petrified wood, etc. so others may enjoy them.

Respect Mother Nature - Leave the place you're visiting in a natural condition. You can't improve Nature. Do not alter a site in any way. Good campsites are found, not made. Make sure your fire is completely out before leaving an area. Scatter your leftover cold ashes over a large area away from campsites.

Respect Wildlife - Treat the animals with respect. You are a visitor, traveling and camping in their backyard. Do not feed them! Cook and eat away from your campsite so you don't attract bears.

Camp at least 200 feet from water. Animals come to water to drink and may be scared off.

Be Considerate of Others - Preserve the solitude. Respect other hikers by traveling and camping quietly. Leave your radios at home.

Camp as far from other visitors. Pets are best left at home. If you do bring a pet keep them on a leash and under control at all times. Uphill hikers have the right of way.



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Join Fresno County Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team

Mission Statement

"To provide highly skilled and dedicated volunteers to assist the Fresno County Sheriff's Office and other agencies requesting mutual aid in search and rescue operations."

The Fresno County Sheriff's Search and Rescue Mountaineering Team was formed as an auxiliary unit of the Fresno County Sheriff's Office in 1982.

It is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization of diversified volunteers, formed to augment the Fresno County Sheriff's Office during search and rescue operations not only in Fresno County but California too.

Team members are trained in various search and rescue disciplines including:



Searching for missing people is the primary responsibility of the Search & Rescue Team.

orienteeing, tracking, wilderness/winter survival, first aid/CPR, swift water, high/low angle rescue, helicopter safety, search techniques and search management. These skills facilitate their ability to respond to a variety of urban and wilderness emergencies.

They train constantly, as these skills perish with time. They earn nothing, expect

nothing, and are grateful for searches that end well, although they know that does not always happen.

Each team member is responsible for providing all of their personal equipment to be mission-ready. The cost of hiking apparel, boots, backpacks, sleeping systems, food, etc., is all donated by each member, typically costing \$2,500 each.

The SAR team members donate thousands of service hours participating in Search and Rescue Operations in Fresno, Madera, Tulare and San Luis Obispo Counties, as well as Yosemite, Kings Canyon and Sequoia National Parks.

In addition to SAR missions and monthly training, members also donate hundreds of service hours to other non-profit orga-



nizations in the area and sponsor events to promote safety in the outdoors.

Information on Joining the Team

The Search and Rescue Mountaineering Team is always looking for volunteers with a love of the outdoors and a passion for giving back to their community.

Why not check out this team and determine if you have the time and dedication to



Each member of the SAR team is responsible for providing all of their personal equipment to make them "mission ready". It typically costs them \$2,500 each to become a member of the team.



Several members of the Search and Rescue team gather as they prepare to conduct a search in the wilderness region of the Sierra National Forest near Huntington Lake in Kaiser Wilderness.

develop your skills to benefit your fellow county residents.

Caution, this is a major commitment! Members are required to participate, to hone skills, keep those skills on the cutting edge, commit to regular trainings, be ready to mentor new recruits, walk out the door on a moment's notice to search for someone who is overdue from a hike, hunting trip, or walked away from a care facility.

This is 100% commitment to the folks in the community. Members will be on call

24/7/365. They won't get paid a cent and must love this work. The men and women of this group are the elite. They become friends for life. **They are a TEAM.**

If you have something to give. Good They need you! Just apply.

Download and fill out the document, "Member-application." at this website: <http://www.fresnosar.org/Resources>. Follow their directions from that point. Get on board and then stand ready, 24x7x365 for the next call.

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Be Aware - Follow These Helpful High Altitude Tips While Vacationing With Family and Friends

Most people spend time planning and looking forward to their vacations for quite a long period of time in advance of their actual trip.

A great deal of thought is put into making all the arrangements for the upcoming event. Usually a good deal of money has been set aside for the special occasion.

To ensure that your vacation exploring the Sierra National Forest is a pleasant and relaxing one, here are a few helpful suggestions or tips from outdoor and health professionals that will help you to make the proper ad-

justments to the higher altitude.

Tip #1: Remember you will be traveling in a different environment. Always arrive in good physical condition. This will help ensure you stay in good shape during your vacation.

Tip #2: Take time to acclimatize to different altitudes that you may experience during your trip. Most visitors to the Sierra Nevada live at much lower elevations than are found here in the Sierra National Forest. At higher elevations the air is thinner with less oxygen and humidity than at sea level. Spending time at a certain altitude before traveling to a higher altitude will prevent common symptoms associated with altitude sickness. These symptoms may include muscle fatigue, insomnia, slight shortness of breath, or mild headaches. If traveling to eleva-

tions over 11,000 feet, you might think about carrying some oxygen with you.

Tip #3: Be sure to drink plenty of water during your trip to the Sierra. It is much more easy to become dehydrated at higher altitudes. Drinking 8-10 glasses of water will help prevent many of the symptoms associated with altitude sickness.

Tip #4: Limit your alcohol consumption. You don't have to avoid them completely.

But, as tempted as you may be, after all its your vacation, try to avoid alcoholic beverages during the first day of your visit. You will find that you sleep better and be ready for your holiday adventures.

Tip #5: Make sure that you bring and always wear sunscreen. At higher elevations the UV rays from the sun are more intense, therefore you are more susceptible to sunburn when you are at higher elevations To protect your skin use sunscreen of an SPF of 15 or higher and re-apply every four hours. Wear protective clothing like hats and bandannas.

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Hiking Safety: THE TEN ESSENTIALS



Each of these 10 Essentials is important to have with you for hiking and other adventures.

China Peak Seasonal Lockers Still Available

Skier and boards will be happy to note that seasonal lockers are available for them at China Peak Ski Resort.

This is in response to requests made in the past to have additional lockers in place for those that needed them.

To make arrangements to reserve your locker, please contact Lyndsie at lyndsie@skichinapeak.com.



Caltrans Crew Efforts Help Keep Highway 168 Travelers Moving

If you plan to enjoy winter activities in the Sierra National Forest, you need to know the rules regarding snow chains and how to properly use them.

Three important elements help keep drivers safe when traveling on winter roads: snow chains or cables, Caltrans crews and the CHP.

You probably know that snow chains or cables are devices fitted to a vehicle's drive tires. They add traction when driving through snow and ice. They are usually purchased to match the tire size (diameter and tread width).

From November 1 to April 1 in California, all vehicles are required to carry tire chains (or cables) when they enter a chain control area, even if it isn't snowing at the moment.



California Vehicle Codes regarding chains and cables are written to keep you safe on the road.

A drive that starts out on a sunny afternoon along the Central Coast or further inland could take you into a situation where you'd not only need chains, but you'd need to put them on in a hurry. Or you could drive to your destination and encounter little snow on the way, but wake up in the morning to a blizzard.

California's winter weather is inconsistent, with wet years and dry years. In general, it will probably snow sometime during the winter in the mountains. It could snow as early as November. Consequences of not having them in those areas could include fines and charges for damages from an accident. You might also have to pay towing fees if a CHP officer stops you and decides the safest thing to do is to have



CHP Officers are always looking to keep travelers safe as they routinely patrol along Hwy 168.

your vehicle towed out of the snow area.

That all sounds pretty daunting. However, if snow conditions could be predicted with accuracy, it would be easy to know what to do, Mother Nature can change her mind about weather quickly in the Sierra Nevada.

For up to date road conditions you can follow Caltrans on their website or get their app for your mobile device. Unless it starts to snow, no one is likely to stop you and search your vehicle to see if you have chains with you.

During a snowstorm, Caltrans or the CHP may monitor vehicles and prevent those who don't have chains on their tires from entering the area. And in the rare instance that you got in without chains and snow starts when you didn't expect it, you might get a traffic ticket, and/or your vehicle could be towed out of the snow area at your expense.

Few car rental companies allow you to



Always give the Caltrans crews the space needed to work and #DontCrowdThePlow! use chains or cables. If they do they will hold you responsible for any damage they cause, so you will need to check with yours to be sure.

To find out if you have snow tires on your vehicle look on the wall of the tire for the letters MS, M/S, M+S or the words MUD AND SNOW - or an icon of a mountain with a snowflake. If any of those are present, you may be able to drive without chains in R-1 and R-2 conditions.

You can buy chains at auto parts stores, tire companies and sporting goods stores. A set will cost \$40 or more. When you buy your chains or cables, ask someone to show you how to put them on. Then try it yourself.

According to CalTrans, you need to install your chains before you reach a checkpoint, which will be about within a mile after passing a "Chains Required" sign. Pull off the road on the right to do that.

If chains are required, the speed limit automatically changes to 25 to 30 miles per hour. After you pass the End of Chain Control signs, find a safe area to get off the road and remove them.

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Central Sierra Resiliency Fund . . .

(continued from page 22)

In our family, we like to believe C.B. simply stands for “Cannon Ball,” although to be historically accurate he was Charles Burr Shaver. He maintained a certain flare for getting things done. He was the kind of man who, upon learning he missed his last opportunity down the hill by stagecoach, jumped aboard a log on the aforementioned flume and rode it down the steepest portion of the flume between Pine Ridge and Tollhouse (with speeds exceeding 35 mph) to catch up with the stagecoach. His only regret in choosing this mode of transport was that he lost his favorite derby hat along the way. This story, along with his nickname, Cannon Ball, both embody his trademark enthusiasm.

The Shaver Ranch: From Town Center to Quiet Retreat

By the time CB Shaver arrived in the Pine Ridge area in 1891, the land currently referred to as “Shaver Ranch” had been stewarded by many families. Its first inhabitants were likely Native American families as with much of the Central Sierra. As early as 1867, the Humphrey and Mock families developed milling operations and a family cabin there. These early pioneers logged with oxen and log wagons. The land changed hands numerous times in the following decades and soon included many community amenities such as a barn used for social gatherings, a General Store, and a restaurant. In 1894, just three years after CB Shaver began his work in the area, the Shaver Ranch became known as Kenyon’s resort, complete with a post office, a hotel, camping cabins, a butcher shop, a 3-hole golf course, a dairy, a blacksmith shop, and a one-room school. This destination became commonly known as “Pine Ridge.”

The devastation of Shaver Ranch hurts all of us, but especially those who know its history. At one time, Pine Ridge was “the end of the road.” Prior to the Shaver fami-

ly’s stewardship of Shaver Ranch, the Valley community drove up the old Tollhouse road and convened there. As a result, the old barn, which the Creek Fire devoured in just seconds, housed many an event and we all imagine the dances and festivities that took place there. We cherish the lore of motor cars racing up the Tollhouse Road, culminating each year in yet another gathering at Pine Ridge. At that time, the Shaver Ranch barn and forest were surrounded by apple and pear trees, cattle, a livery stable, a saloon, and the various town center amenities described above.

In 1921, the Shaver family began its stewardship of the Shaver Ranch property. After CB’s death, his widow, Lena Shaver, purchased the Shaver Ranch property with her daughter and son-in-law, Henry and Grace Craycroft. With the passing of time and growth of the community further up the hill, the ranch became a cherished family retreat. Many people connected to the CB Shaver family still remember fondly their time enjoying its mountain splendor.

The Shaver – McDonald Family: A Shared Legacy of Stewardship

Our family’s roots to Shaver Ranch are linked to one of CB and Lena’s daughters, Doris Shaver. Doris was blessed to enjoy a summer escape at Shaver Ranch for her sons to experience nature and the great outdoors. Her son, Douglas Shaver McDonald, cherished time spent there. Although his career as a grown man took him to urban Los Angeles, he made weekend trips to Shaver Ranch for respite. We imagine that the natural beauty of the meadow and forest there brought him peace and comfort and helped him overcome any other challenges he faced in life. His childhood memories there must have inspired him to improve the early lives of others and he helped launch the Big Brothers and Sisters of Greater Los Angeles.

By 1970, Doug moved to Shaver Ranch and dove full-fledged into the mountain community. Doug seemed to befriend everyone on the hill. Those who helped him steward Shaver Ranch were not employees, but friends. When he saw a need in the community, he knew how to rally the troops to meet it. One of his greatest gifts to the area was his help, along with Joe Weirick and others, in founding what was then the Clovis Community Bank, and has now grown into the Central Valley Community Bank. This experience only strengthened the McDonald family’s relationship with the Weirick family, who at one time owned China Peak. In recent years, Douglas McDonald’s great-grandchildren have enjoyed time spent picking apples at the Weirick’s Meadow Lakes Apple Company. This is just one example of how lives up on the hill blend together into our shared legacy of a beloved community. Many families



Unfortunately, the Creek Fire roared through the Sierra National Forest reducing nearly everything in its path to charred ruins. Among the casualties was the historical Shaver Ranch on Highway 168.

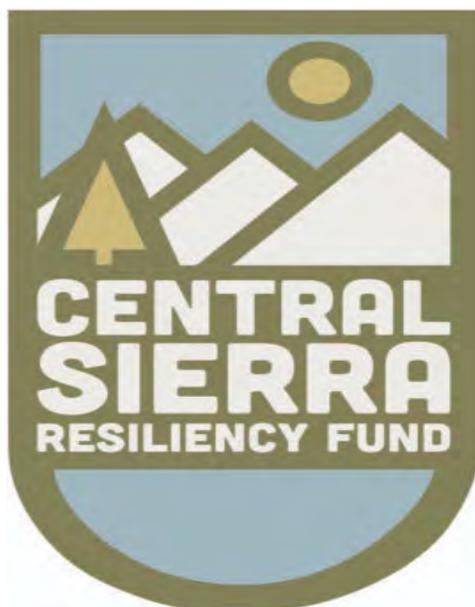
In the area have similar multi-generational connections to one another. Doug McDonald’s life represents a legacy that many on the mountain hope to continue now more than ever—generosity, love of people, and meeting the deepest needs of those around us. He also taught us by example how to persevere in rebuilding after a fire, which he did in the 1960s after a house fire destroyed the original Shaver family home, the historic inn.

Our family remains forever grateful for the opportunity we have had to enjoy the vast creation of Shaver Ranch, but more than anything for the gift of sharing in such a special family story. Steven McDonald has worked tirelessly to steward Shaver Ranch and its forests his entire adult life, with the help of many others including the caretakers who lost their home there in the Creek Fire. His stewardship in the 1990s included rebuilding the caretaker house and managing salvage logging operations after beetle infestations during the big drought years. With help from his two sons and their friends, who built 5 miles of fence during the summers of 1994-1995, Steven brought cattle grazing back to Shaver Ranch to promote the health of the

forest and the reduction of brush growth. For the last four years, he has led an incredible effort to reduce fire hazards on the property through the removal of trees killed by beetles. As recently as Spring of this year, many of Steven’s grandchildren spent a morning with the Shaver Ranch forester to plant seedlings to offset the loss of those trees.

Douglas and Steven taught us all the joy of hard work and caring for a special piece of God’s creation. The gift of stewarding the land has also included many enjoyable tasks like picking apples for homemade pies and fresh-squeezed cider as well as cutting firewood and bringing the wood into the fireplace log by log through a line of friends working together. This large rock fireplace still stands as a beacon of hope among the ashes at Shaver Ranch. One cherished tradition at Shaver Ranch began when Steven was a teenager and grew into an annual event where the Cressman family would help us top a beautiful fir tree for the ranch Christmas tree, and we would watch its trunk grow a new top years later. In recent years, the fifth and sixth generation members of the Shaver – McDonald

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Restoration. Community. Stewardship . . .

(continued from page 28)

family have taken on this task. This tradition has taught us about how a forest renews itself and how we can respect its ability to do so. In the McDonald family, we were taught to work hard so you can play hard, and sometimes the line between work and play was blurred. Our experiences at Shaver Ranch taught us that there is such sacred joy in using our abilities to care for or work in nature. And, in doing so, “the more the merrier.” Grateful stewardship of the historical and natural legacy of Shaver Ranch remains a family tradition.

Our Beloved Community: A Commitment to Revitalization

Our family home at Shaver Ranch may have been best known for its large round pine table with its trademark Lazy Susan that turned on a model-A axle. Over the years, many friends, colleagues, and family members gathered around that table, resting their feet against its pine stump base during hours of conversation and laughter.

This table best represents the many threads woven together into the Shaver Ranch tapestry. This is not just our Shaver – McDonald family legacy, but one shared by many. When the Creek Fire raged through our beloved Shaver Ranch, we suffered a great personal loss. Yet, our whole community and the spectacular ecosystem Shaver Ranch provided to plants, trees, and wild-life was also devastated. Our Shaver-McDonald Family, as the proud and loyal stewards, are heartbroken along with so many others. Now, we dig deep along with the broader mountain community and muster the hope necessary to rebuild, one seedling, fence, and nail at a time.

The Creek Fire is not the end of the Shaver Ranch story or the legacy of the Shaver – McDonald family. As with so many other historical family stories on the mountain, our legacy is and always has been a legacy of determination, service, and boundless optimism. We need to revive our Central Sierras in a manner that honors this unique heritage.

As with any small community, our Shaver-McDonald family merged with another

local family through marriage. One of CB Shaver’s great-great grandsons, Stephen Christopher Shaver McDonald, married a life-long Pine Ridge resident from the Saude family. The Saude family discovered the mountain community in more recent history than the Shavers and they have deep roots in the community. Their family story began in the Azores, came to our country by way of a homestead in Coalinga, moved south to join a dairy family in southern California, and then finally settled in the Shaver Lake area. The most recent member of the 5th generation of Saude was born on September 4, 2020, just days before their home was evacuated due to the Creek Fire. The residence of Stephen and his wife, India, was miraculously saved from the Creek Fire despite three days of intense burning all around it. Watching this traumatic event in their life and the lives of so many in the Central Sierras, the McDonald and Saude families joined forces, along with their dear friends affected by the loss of the Cressman’s General Store and many from the broader community, to create the Central Sierra Resiliency Fund. We are inspired by the dedication of the many community members and Central Sierra Historical Society staff and leaders who, despite evacuation, hardship, and disruption of their daily lives, have come together to launch this important local effort. We love this mountain community and our shared stories. We want to ensure the resources are available to restore the forests and get people back living, working, and recreating on the mountain again.

When you know where and who you came from, you are better able to navigate where you are going. This is particularly true when the visibility is low, the sky is gloomy, and the future looks dim. So, just as CB Shaver courageously sought to build up this mountain community by bolstering its logging industry and connection to valley towns, our family hopes to inspire the “Cannon Ball” spirit and help to revive this important historic mountain community in a manner that honors the collective stories of the region.



Here is an old picture of the historical Cressman’s General Store. The owners have committed to rebuild. The community is eager to have one of their favorite commercial establishments back.

Cressman’s Staff and Management Look Forward to Serve You Soon

(continued on page 28)

We are committed to rebuilding Cressman’s General Store as soon as possible. We see it as a beacon of hope in the community, and want to inspire others to stay, rebuild, and create a better the future for the next generation to enjoy.

In the wake of generosity and support following the fire, we spoke with our crew and other local families and realized there would be many who didn’t have the means or ability to rebuild.

These conversations galvanized into a group committed to reforest the mountains and rebuild the community. We identified key leaders in the area who supported these efforts, and the Central Sierra Resiliency Fund was born.

The Fund provides long-term resiliency planning. The engagement of the Central Sierra Historical Society means that these monies can help the community now, but also focus on intermediate and long-term needs. Providing a tax-deductible way of contributing also allows for funding to come

from a wider scope outside of the region.

What can we do right now? We can plant the seeds of hope and resiliency. We can aid in restoring and safeguarding the mountain soil before the rain and snow begin to fall. We can help people navigate through the hardship of starting over.

We can learn from the experiences of other fire-exposed communities how to keep people from leaving the area. And we can support the efforts of so many local people making a difference through charitable work.

In the spring, we will plant trees and begin the process of making new memories in this area we call home. We will continue to set an example of how a community can come together in the face of adversity and succeed in creating something we are all proud to be a part of.

The historic nature of Cressman’s General Store, Shaver Ranch and The Central Sierra Historical Society are a natural nexus because of their shared values. Together, we hope to inspire, support, and build on a common vision for the future of our region.



Cressman General Store owner, Ty Gillett is in the back row second from the right. He is surrounded by a group of firefighters after the men raised the American Flag at the top of the burned out sign.



Several members of the Fresno Ski Club take time out for a group picture with Huntington Lake in the background. Learn how to be a part of this friendly group at their website FresnoSkiClub.com.

Season Pass Holders Pleased With Snowmaking Operation

(Continued from page 1)

Troy stated “We replaced all remaining 4” water pipe on the mountain with 6” water pipe to increase flow on a couple of the most popular runs: Dynamite and Mainstream. A snowmaking line was added to Lakeview on Chair 7. The new pump house has been completed. Three new 400 hp pumps will be operating in that building. The system will be drawing water from the lake with the newly installed lake line as well. A few additional valves were installed on the key runs of Dynamite, Mainstream, Tollhouse, and Kaiser. Now water can be pumped water up and down the mountain. This essentially doubled the snowmaking capacity on those runs. The system is essentially complete, for now...”

“We hope this new investment, the largest ever in one off season in the resort’s history, changes forever our ability to offer a consistent product between Thanksgiving and Christmas every season, regardless of natural snow. Of course it

would be great if Mother Nature delivers several feet early every winter and we never turn the system on, as it’s very expensive to operate, but we can no longer be in a position of wait and see. Providing consistent skiing from mid December, or earlier, well into April is key to our ability to continue making important improvements to this great resort,” said Cohee.

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The expanded snowmaking system at China Peak Mountain Resort was installed to provide guests with a longer skiing and boarding season that has consistant snow on the slopes for their enjoyment.

Fresno Ski Club Has Seen Decades of Fun and Adventure

The Fresno Ski Club is one of the oldest ski clubs in the US. Founded in 1934 and incorporated in 1937, FSC has been in continuous operation since then.

The Fresno Ski Club has earned a reputation for offering outstanding domestic and international ski ventures for their members through the decades.

Taking advantage of its group purchasing power, the Club is able to offer its members high value and well organized ski/snowboarding trips, complete with transportation, lodging, lift passes and après ski events, all at discounted prices.

The trip packages are flexible, permitting members to use their air miles and pre-purchased season passes to further save costs.

This year they are headed to historic Sun Valley and Mammoth, as well as resorts in the popular Lake Tahoe region and Utah.

And, as they have for many years, the Club will be hosting its ever popular monthly Fun Days at their home resort, China Peak.

Fresno Ski Club is a friendly group. Throughout its history, the Club has been a great venue for people meeting people with similar interests, resulting in lasting

friendships.

And, no one ever has to ski alone. Whether you are an experienced and avid skier, or returning to the sport years later, the Club is comprised of all skill levels of skiers and snowboarders.

The group ranges from the beginner and novice to the accomplished. There is no need to be shy, even if you have forgotten how to snowplow.

Members are always willing to be a ski buddy for you to observe, emulate, an experience from which you will ultimately improve your skills and safety on the slopes.

It’s not all about skiing. When the snow melts Fresno Ski Club is active off the slopes as well, offering social get-togethers at private home and restaurant venues, day hikes, golf outings, lakeside picnics, community outreach and philanthropic activities, fellowship and more.

Affiliated with Far West Ski Association, Fresno Ski Club members have access to additional economical ski, scuba and sight-seeing trips to world-wide destination resorts.

Visit our website at www.fresnoskiclub.com, or find us on Facebook. The Fresno Ski Club welcomes you!

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If you are a **First Time Skier or Rider**, you can also visit our website LearnToSkiAndRide.com for valuable information about your first day on the snow!

Reservations are not required for group lessons. All group lessons will be approximately 2 hours.

LEARN TO SKI OR RIDE PACKAGE
Ages 4 and up \$269 purchased at resort, purchase online \$249.

The best and most economical way to get started skiing or snowboarding is our popular Learn to Ski or Ride Package designed for first timers!

This excellent program includes 3 days of rentals, group lessons and a beginner area ticket (valid for the moving carpets) for each day.

All 3 days do not need to be consecutive but must be used by the end of the 2019/20 ski season - no transferring days to the following season.

Special Note: China Peak's Learn to Ski or Snowboard Program is specific to learning to ski or snowboard.

Once you select either skiing or snowboarding, if at any time prior to completing all 3 days you desire to switch from skiing to snowboarding or vice versa, you are required to purchase a new Learn to Ski or Snowboard package.

- Valid for first timers ages 4+.
- Includes rentals and a group lesson each of the 3 days.

• Includes a beginner ticket valid for the moving carpet on all 3 days. If appropriate, access to chairlifts is allowed during a lesson with an instructor.

• Purchasers may upgrade for an additional fee to a chairlift ticket after 12 pm or after completing the lesson.

• After completing the day 3 lesson you will receive an all mountain ticket to finish the day along with an ID card that gives you half-price tickets, rentals and group lessons for the remainder of the season.

• When purchasing the 3 day program, purchaser is committing to learn to either ski or snowboard, not both.

If at any time during the 3 day program purchaser decides to switch to skiing or snowboarding, the program starts over and purchaser is required to purchase a new three day package, no exceptions.

• Upgrade prices to an all mountain lift ticket for days 1 and 2.

Ages	Non Holiday	Holiday*
Senior 65+	\$44	\$48
Adult (30-64)	\$45	\$50
Youth (13-29)	\$38	\$42
Kid (6-12)	\$21	\$23
5 & Under	Free	Free



If you are a **First Time Skier or Rider**, take advantage of the program to help you learn how to ski or snowboard. Visit LearnToSkiAndRide.com for information about your first day on the snow!

Please note that this program is for first time skiers and riders only and is not valid for purchase with Costco Cash Cards.

ONE DAY INTRO TO SKI OR RIDE

Ages	Online	Resort
4-5	\$99	\$99
6+	\$120	\$149

Get on the slopes with an introduction to skiing or snowboarding. This one day package is for ages 4 and up and includes a beginner group lesson, rental equipment and a beginner area ticket for the moving carpet lifts.

Professional ski and snowboard coaches are available to help improve your technique and increase your ability to handle more challenging terrain.

You can chose Group Lessons at \$59 for two hours or Private Lessons here at China Peak. Pricing and other details concerning the Private Lesson options are found at: skichinapeak.com/lessons-only.

Remember to dress warm and comfortably to make sure your day is perfect.

* **Holiday dates 12/26/20 - 1/2/2021, 1/16/21 - 1/18/21, 2/13/21 - 2/15/21.**

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