

## The Wonders of Yellowstone!

The Arizona Ski Council will be teaming up with the San Diego Council to visit Yellowstone National Park on Tuesday January 24<sup>th</sup> on an optional excursion. We will have the following three choices:

1. Private group snowcoach tours for 13-32 passengers. Our group cost is approximately \$120 which includes tax, park entrances fee & ground transportation. Customary gratuity is \$10-\$20 per person. The coaches go just about anywhere in the park and have radio contact with the base and each other so you have the best chance to experience wildlife sightings. The wildlife most often seen in winter is buffalo, elk, coyotes, wolves, trumpeter swans, eagles, bobcats and moose. Snowcoaches also have contact with the Old Faithful Visitor's Center and the guide can time your visit so that you don't have to wait a long period to see an eruption. You will need a winter jacket, gloves, and good winter walking boots. On a snowcoach tour, you're toasty warm even if Yellowstone's temperature is below zero and you are high enough off the ground, with enormous windows all around you to see in all directions.
2. Guided snowmobile tours within the park. All snowmobiling trips within the park are guided group tours to ensure the safety of both visitors and the wildlife. You can choose an all day trip to see Old Faithful or the "Grand Canyon" of Yellowstone. Both offer stops along the way to see geysers, wildlife, and hot springs that are known as "paint pots". You should expect to be on your snowmobile for 4 hours with breaks about every 15 minutes. Cost is approximately \$195 per day which includes clothing, tax, park entrance fee & ground transportation. Customary gratuity for guides is \$10-\$20 per person. Second person riding on your machine pays \$2 which includes, clothing, tax, park fees and ground transportation.
3. For rugged individuals who want to "go their own way" you can rent a snowmobile and traverse over 300 miles of unguided forest service trails outside Yellowstone Park. Unguided snowmobiles are prohibited inside park boundaries. Maps are provided and trails are groomed, marked, and patrolled. The main trail leads west to the state of Idaho and you can cross the Continental Divide, see the Grand Tetons, visit headwaters of the Snake River or leave the trail to "play" in the powder. If you don't get stuck at least once, you're not having enough fun! The speed outside the park is 45 mph and helmets with face shields are required. Renting a snowmobile to use outside of the park is approximately \$100-\$170 per day depending on the model you choose (does not include tax, clothing, or \$35 ground transportation).

**We will be picked up Tuesday morning for the 45 minute ride to the park.**

Whether you take a guided snowmobile tour, snowcoach tour, or ride the trails outside the park, seeing Yellowstone by snow is an once-in-a-lifetime experience you won't want to miss!

\*\*Information obtained from the Big Sky Weekly and Yellowstone tour operators. Pricing is approximate and subject to change.