



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sandpoint Winter Carnival – For the Love of Snow January 15 – 18

SANDPOINT, Idaho (December 16, 2008) — Sandpoint's Winter Carnival, the weekend of Jan 15 – 18 is all about the love of snow, and the antidote to cabin fever. Thanks to the Tourism and Recreation Council of the Sandpoint Chamber of Commerce, and some initial sponsorship dollars from Seasons at Sandpoint and Panhandle State Bank, the group has put together the following schedule of events.

Thursday Jan 15th

5 pm to 8 pm: Taste of Sandpoint, Sandpoint Events Center, corner of Pine and Euclid Sts. It is free to attend, and it costs \$1 per ticket for samples ranging between \$3 to \$7.

Friday Jan 16th

5 to 8pm Winter ArtTrek in downtown Sandpoint

5 to 10 pm: Bonfire at Jeff Jones Town Square

7 to 10 pm: Rail jam at Jeff Jones Town Square

7:30 pm: POAC presents Casey MacGill Blue 4 Trio at the Panida. Tickets \$20, \$16 for POAC members. www.artinsandpoint.org

Saturday Jan 17th:

11a to 4 p: The Dover Bay Midwinter Art Fest (Highway 2 in Dover)

6 pm: Schweitzer Lights up the Night torchlight parade and fireworks. Free admission.

Sunday Jan 18th

10a (registration at 9): Eichardt's K9 Keg Pull

11a to 4 p: The Dover Bay Midwinter Art Fest (Highway 2 in Dover)

The Taste of Sandpoint is the traditional event kick-off on Thursday evening at the Cedar Street Bridge from 5 to 8 p.m. Tickets available at the door for \$1 each, and the average sample dish, brew, or glass of wine is \$3-\$7.

The Winter ArtTrek will be held in a variety of wine bars, galleries and shops in downtown Sandpoint Friday night the 16th. Self-guided walking brochures will be available at the Chamber, DSBA office and many shops in. 5 to 8 pm downtown Sandpoint. Free admission.

The Winter Carnival Railjam is a freestyle contest in the Jeff Jones Town Square. Skiers and snowboarders compete at sliding on handrails and other man made features. Points are awarded for style, amplitude, difficulty, and variety. Spinneybent Rails will construct a 20 ft tall and 90 ft long feature that includes custom-built rail slides. Riders will compete for cash, and the spectators can keep warm and catch all the excitement by the bonfire. 7 to 10 pm, Jeff Jones Town Square. Spectator admission is free.

Midwinter Art Fest: Jan 17 & 18 11am -5pm daily: With art from dozens of North Idaho Artists, this is our area's biggest winter art event. Events, fun for the whole family, meet the artists, enjoy free beverages, refreshments, and treats, and see one of North Idaho's most beautiful resort communities. Polar Plunge from 10 – 11:30 am at the Lake Club Fitness Center. Take a dip in the heated pool then head for the hot tub. Brats and Beer at the Dover Bay Café, and even Co-ed Snowshoe Volleyball. Sponsored by Dover Bay Waterfront Community and in support of the Sandpoint Winter Carnival. To learn more, visit www.MidwinterArtFest.com or call Gary 208-610-1384 or send an e-mail to garyplirette@nctv.com

Saturday night is arguably the highlight of the weekend with a spectacular torchlight parade and fireworks show starting at 6 pm at Schweitzer Mountain. www.schweitzer.com

The weekend is capped off with the ever-popular **K-9 Keg Pull**, as we watch our dogs of all sizes race down the Eichardt's alley pulling kegs of various sizes. The race starts at 10 am but dogs should be registered at 9 am.

Anyone interested in sponsoring or getting involved in Winter Carnival can contact Tawnie Sleep at 208.255.2122. Winter Carnival details are at www.SandpointWinterCarnival.com. For more information on lodging and activities, contact the Greater Sandpoint Chamber of Commerce at (800) 800-2106 or (208) 263-0887 or visit www.sandpointchamber.com.

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