

WorldMark  
BY Trendwest

# Destinations

A Magazine Exclusively for WorldMark Owners

December 2003

## 2003 Owner Issue

**Introducing Owners' Corner and Last Word  
Annual Owners' Meeting Recap  
Photo and Essay Contest Winners**

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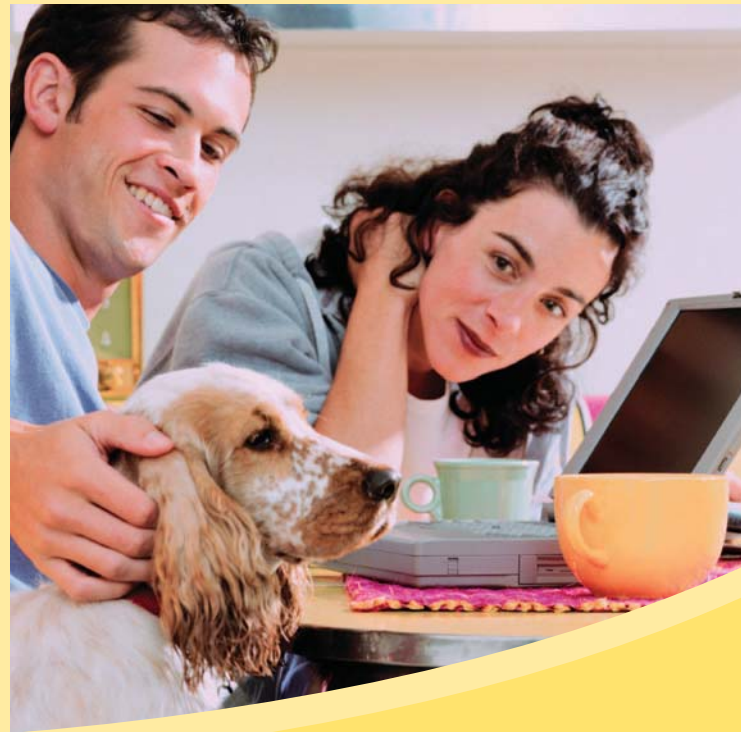
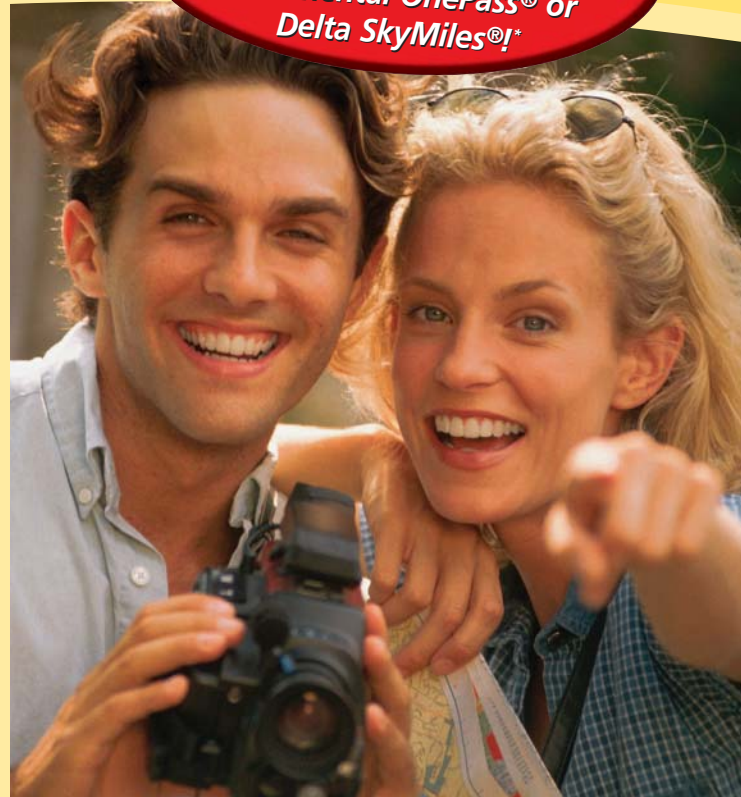
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2003 PHOTO CONTEST ENTRY BY OWNER HOLLY MCKINNEY

PHOTO COURTESY OF TOURISM WHISTLER



2003 PHOTO CONTEST ENTRY BY OWNER HOLLY MCKINNEY

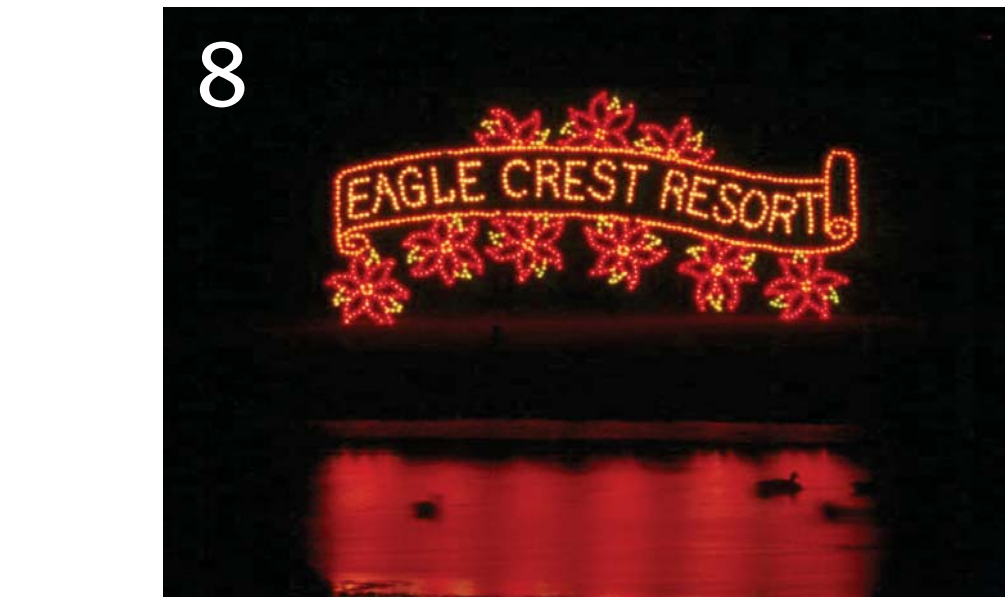


PHOTO COURTESY OF EAGLE CREST RESORT

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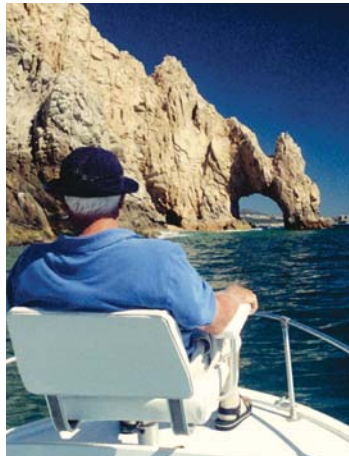
## My, How You've Grown

No, you're not imagining things—this issue of *Destinations* magazine is twice as big as it was last month! Welcome to your new 32-page owner magazine. We've expanded in order to give you more complete information, enhanced features and room for owner input.

What perfect timing that we introduce this new format with the annual "Owner Issue" in which we feature the winners of this year's *Destinations* Photo and Essay Contest. We now have the ability to display your wonderful contributions in an improved setting. It's always exciting to go through all of the contest submissions and share your vacation experiences; knowing we would be debuting the expanded version of the magazine with your beautiful photos and heartfelt essays made it all the more special.

We're used to hearing from you when we run the contest, but with this larger edition of the magazine, we invite you to contribute all through the year. We want your letters, stories and experiences for the new *Owners' Corner*, as well as your images and impressions pertaining to your ownership for *Last Word* on the final page. And, as always, we want to know what you'd like to see featured in future editions.

Over the years, WorldMark, The Club has grown to nearly 200,000 owners. It's only natural that *Destinations* magazine grows along with it. It's always been your club and your magazine; now, with twice as many pages, there's more of it to own.



Beáta Jachulski Baker  
Senior Editor

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### Reservations Department

1-800-457-0103  
Mon. – Fri., 6:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. PT  
Sat. & Sun., 6:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. PT  
(Closed Tues., 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. PT)

### Owner Services

1-888-648-7363  
ownersupport@worldmarktheclub.com  
Mon. – Fri., 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. PT  
(Closed Tues., 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. PT)

### Trendwest Travel

1-800-953-5511  
Mon. – Fri., 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. PT  
Sat., 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. PT  
(Closed Wed., 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. PT)

### Interval International

Service line: 1-877-678-4400  
Flexchange recording: 1-800-722-1747

### Resort Condominiums International

1-800-585-4833

### Comments are appreciated

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Visit Destinations on the Web at  
[www.worldmarktheclub.com/destinations](http://www.worldmarktheclub.com/destinations)

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# A Time of Refuge



We have been WorldMark owners for years and have always enjoyed staying at the

resorts. On Sunday, October 26, 2003, our ownership took on a whole new meaning. That day, from our bedroom window in our home in Alpine, California, we saw a fire

raging out of control and heading towards us. Within hours, neighboring homes were evacuated and people were fleeing for their lives. The fire burned within a half-mile all around our home and that evening we lost our electrical power.

Neighbors who had evacuated called us deep into the night to find out if their homes were still standing. One set of dear friends who had gone to an evacuation center reported that the shelter had no blankets, food or water. They had slept in their car, and when winds shifted and the fire headed towards the shelter, they had to drive further east.

We stayed put as long as we could, watching the fire turn Alpine—where we have lived for over 14 years—into a ghost town. But with no power, deteriorating air quality and limited freeway access, we had to move on. We knew we could count on WorldMark. We made plans to evacuate to WorldMark Oceanside Harbor, an hour's

drive from our home. We packed our children and as many of our belongings as we could into our vehicles and began our journey to safety. The smoke was thick and the acres of charred land looked like a war zone, but we kept our sights on Oceanside Harbor.

We had stayed at the resort a few times in the summer, making wonderful memories and befriending the staff. Upon our arrival, our kids saw Activities Coordinator Mechelle Baker and ran to her. She treated my children like family, calming their fears and speaking to them with genuine concern. They shared their story of leaving their home to escape the fire. Mechelle was wonderful—I will never forget how much she cared about our family. When fire conditions turned our planned one-night



*You can never be too fire safe.*

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Prevention provides fire education to the citizens and visitors of California. For more information, look up your nearest CDF facility at <http://www.fire.ca.gov> and contact your local office.

stay into five days, Ella Swank of the front desk staff made sure we were able to move comfortably from room to room and saw that all of our needs were met throughout our stay.

I am writing to share our story with you, to thank you for providing us with such a wonderful place to bring our family in a time of crisis—a home away from home. Thank you for the privilege of being owners in such a great club, and special thanks to the WorldMark Oceanside Harbor staff. For others, this fire was a horrible experience. We not only survived, but—thanks to WorldMark—we also acquired a whole new set of warm and caring memories. We extend our thanks to you.

Sincerely,  
*Carol and Bill Lovejoy  
Alpine, California*

**WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU!**  
Send us your WorldMark stories, comments, pictures, etc. to Destinations Editor, 9805 Willows Road, Redmond, WA 98052 or e-mail [editor@trendwest.com](mailto:editor@trendwest.com).

# Always Improving Your Destinations

One of our goals at WorldMark is to keep discovering new ways to improve your club and your vacation experience. Finding new resort locations, providing increased services and enhancing our communication vehicles are always on our mind, because these are the things we know you want most from your club.

We've come a long way in 14 years—from two units in one location to thousands of condos in over 50 beautiful and exciting resorts. The growth of *Destinations* magazine has mirrored that journey, going from a small foldout newsletter to the 32-page edition we are proud to present to you today. With this new format, we'll be able to offer you more and better information on your club and your resorts, as well as provide a larger platform for you to share your thoughts and experiences with other owners.

Every issue of the new *Destinations* magazine now begins and ends with your participation: *Owners' Corner* at the front of the magazine is



for your letters, resort reviews and suggestions; *Last Word* on the final page is set aside for owner photos, letters, paintings, poems or essays. In between, we provide you with helpful and timely information in the *Your Club* section; wonderful deals on airfares and rental cars as well as other discounts from Trendwest Travel; exciting excursions, cruises and tours with the

Adventure Club; and 12 entire pages reserved for feature stories. We've been listening to your requests, and the feature section is now large enough to include maps, more photos of resort interiors and lists of activities available at our great locations. This month, we feature the winners of our 2003 Photo and Essay Contest—a perfect way to inaugurate this extended section.

At WorldMark, we've always said that we don't want to be the biggest vacation ownership company; we just want to be the best. But sometimes bigger is better, and this expanded format of *Destinations* gives us the opportunity to improve our communication, distribute more information and provide you with a stronger voice in your club.

We look forward to hearing from you.

“With this new format, we'll be able to offer you more and better information on your club and your resorts, as well as provide a larger platform for you to share your thoughts and experiences with other owners.”

BY GENE HENSLEY, PRESIDENT OF WORLDMARK



## 2003 Annual Owners' Meeting

On October 16, over 800 WorldMark owners braved a rainy night (and gave up watching the baseball playoffs!) to come together and hear the yearly recap of club activity at the 2003 Annual Owners' Meeting. The large turnout was comfortably accommodated within the massive banquet room of the Doubletree Bellevue Hotel in Bellevue, Washington, where three large screens and a commanding sound system ensured that the speakers' presentations would be seen and heard by all.

WorldMark board member and Trendwest Chairman Bill Peare greeted the crowd with his characteristic warmth and humor and introduced Trendwest President and Chief Executive Officer Don Harrill. Candidates for the three open WorldMark board positions had the opportunity to make statements

and were followed by club business and reports presented by WorldMark President Gene Hensley and Vice President of WorldMark Dave Herrick. Both had good news of strong growth and solid financial standings.

The most highly anticipated segment of the meeting for many owners is the presentation of new and future resorts, and Vice President of Resort Design Development Alice Heuple did not disappoint them. The beautiful photographs of resorts that had made their debut in 2003—Galena, Orlando, Seaside, South Shore, Victoria and Windsor—delighted owners, who were also treated to sneak previews of 2004 projects: The Camlin in Seattle, Washington, and our new resort in Grand Lake, Oklahoma.

Owners were able to ask questions during the standard Q&A segment of the meeting, and everyone had the opportunity to

learn more about their ownership at the mini-tradeshaw set up in the lobby area. Representatives from Adventures In Exchange, Owner Services, Trendwest Travel, Owner Education, the WorldMark Owner Network™, Owner Marketing, WorldMark Retail and Interval International happily answered questions, presented information and gave away some terrific prizes.

There were plenty of Doubletree's signature cookies to go around, and everyone left with the knowledge that their club is in great shape as the meeting wrapped up at a very reasonable 9:40 p.m. Next year's meeting will take place on Thursday, October 21—circle the date on your calendar now and plan to share this important and informative event with your fellow owners. WorldMark is your club, and your participation is always encouraged.



**EXTRA CREDIT**  
Earn permanent credits when you buy or sell your home

# Planning a Move?

## Trendwest Real Estate Referral Program

**H**ave you heard how you can unlock 1,000 permanent WorldMark Vacation Credits from your home? It's easy with the Trendwest Real Estate Referral Program<sup>SM</sup>.

Call the Trendwest Real Estate Referral Program<sup>SM</sup> toll-free at 1-877-869-9672 today if you're contemplating buying or selling a home. Listing or buying from a referred Cendant realtor can increase your annual credit deposit by **one thousand credits** per year, every year!

*Transaction must be initiated through Trendwest's Real Estate Referral Office to qualify. Not all transactions will qualify. Program may not be available in all areas.*

“Buying my new home through the Trendwest Real Estate Referral Program<sup>SM</sup> was the best real estate experience I have ever been through. My agent was outstanding and found just what I was looking for in a very competitive seller's market. And the additional permanent vacation credits are going to allow me to take an extra long vacation this year—I'm planning it right now!”

— Janice Anderson, East Bay Area, CA  
WorldMark owner since 1998



## Holiday Schedule

To allow our staff to enjoy the holidays, WorldMark's telephone and online reservation hours will be on the following schedule:

	Wed Dec 24	Thurs Dec 25	Fri Dec 26	Wed Dec 31	Thurs Jan 1
<b>WM Reservations</b>	6am - 2pm	Closed	6am - 2pm	6am - 2pm	Closed
<b>Owner Services</b>	8am - 2pm	Closed	Closed	8am - 2pm	Closed
<b>Adventures In Exchange</b>	8am - 2pm	Closed	Closed	8am - 2pm	Closed
<b>Trendwest Travel</b>	8am - 2pm	Closed	Closed	8am - 2pm	Closed



**SPECIAL OFFER**  
for Interval International Members Only

This Month's Featured Getaways

**One-Week Accommodations**

**Merida, Mexico**  
1 bedroom from **\$359**

**Williamsburg, Virginia**  
1 bedroom from **\$259**

**Fairmont Hot Springs, BC**  
1 bedroom from **\$259**

Use of the Getaway program is subject to the Terms and Conditions of Individual Membership and Exchange set forth in the current *Interval International Resort Directory*. Getaways are subject to availability. Holidays and highly demanded weeks are generally not available or may be priced differently. You do not relinquish the timeshare period that you own. Getaway confirmations are final and non-refundable. Getaways are subject to local taxes where applicable. Travel must be completed by March 28, 2004.



**888-353-3021**  
Outside N. America +305-666-1884, ext. 7759

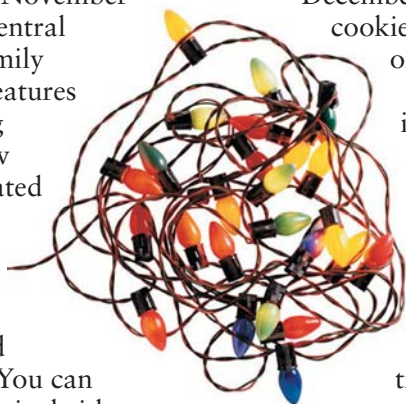


'TIS THE SEASON  
Lights sparkle at  
WorldMark Eagle Crest



## Light Up Your Holidays Starfest at Eagle Crest

If your December vacation plans include WorldMark Eagle Crest, you're in for a visual delight when Starfest—Eagle Crest® Resort's annual festival of holiday lights—returns on November 28. This Central Oregon family tradition features a mile-long drive aglow with animated lighting displays, decorated trees and illuminated buildings. You can tour the festival either with your own car, or—on Friday and Saturday nights—get into the spirit of the season by viewing the displays from a horse-drawn wagon. Top off your night by stopping by the Inn at Eagle Crest: the lobby



hosts the Starfest Gift Shop, and one of the suites is transformed into the Teddy Bear Suite, with hundreds of bears in holiday settings. Santa visits on Friday and Saturday nights through December 20; gingerbread cookie decorating takes place on the weekends as well.

Starfest will illuminate the skies nightly, 5:30 p.m.–9:30 p.m., through January 3, 2004, and is free of charge to resort guests. The displays are open to the general public; tickets are \$5 per car, and weekend wagon rides are \$11 per person. For reservations and more information, call the hotel front desk at 541-923-2453.

*December dates are still available at WorldMark Eagle Crest! Book now by calling the Vacation Planning Center at 1-800-457-0103.*

## inventory specials

In January, you can vacation at the following resorts for just four cents per credit. Call the Vacation Planning Center at 1-800-457-0103 to make your reservations.

### Midweek and Limited Weekends

Arrow Point, ID  
Bison Ranch, AZ  
Branson, MO  
Clear Lake, CA  
Galena, IL  
Lake of the Ozarks, MO  
Rancho Vistoso, AZ  
Running Y, OR  
Victoria, BC

### Midweek Only

Angels Camp, CA  
Bass Lake, CA  
Big Bear, CA  
Birch Bay, WA  
Leavenworth, WA  
McCall, ID  
Vancouver, BC  
Windsor, CA  
Wolf Creek, UT

### Exotic

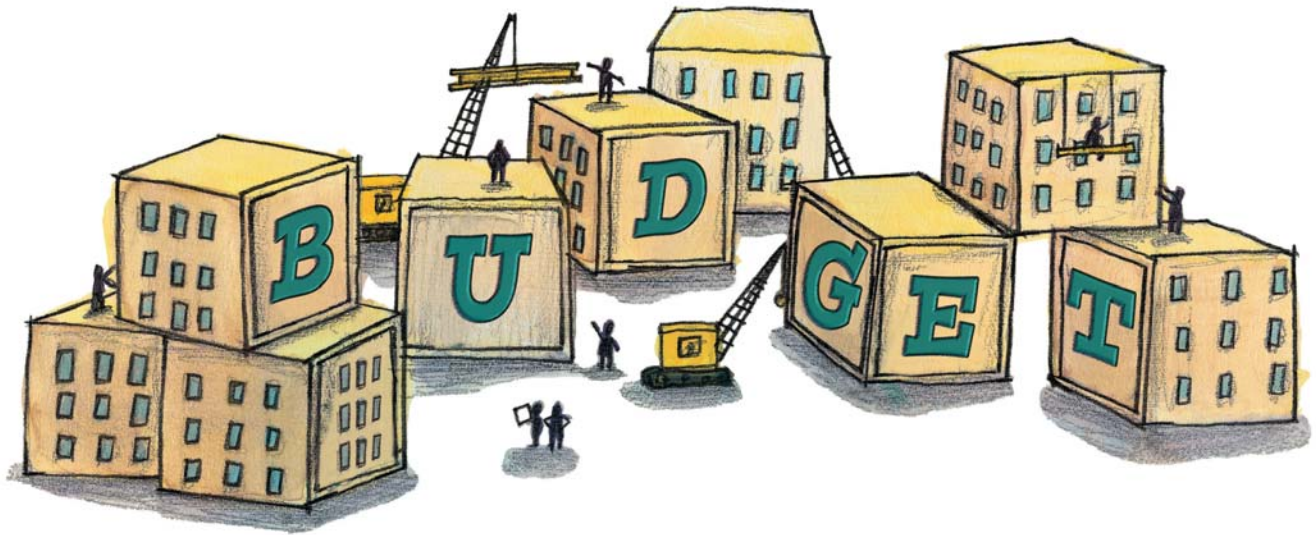
Denarau Island, Fiji

*Midweek stays must take place Sunday through Thursday. Reservations at the above resorts are not subject to the 14-day booking window and you may book multiple units. Holidays are excluded.*

### WE HAVE A WINNER!

Congratulations to **Leslie and Joyce Foust** of Vancouver, WA! They were chosen as the winners of a three-night stay when their completed comment card was selected in our monthly drawing.

Remember to fill out those cards!



# Annual Budget

*For the year ending December 31, 2004*

The WorldMark bylaws state that the summary operating budget for the next year should be distributed to the owners prior to the end of the current fiscal year. Here are the expected revenues and expenses for the coming year for WorldMark, The Club.

## Revenue

Maintenance Dues	\$90,329,000
Bonus Time	\$8,621,000
Developer Dues	\$1,838,512
Resort Revenue	\$6,652,983
Housekeeping Fees	\$3,609,000
Interest Income	\$1,765,000
Late Fee Revenue	\$1,106,000
Miscellaneous Income	\$151,000
Credit Conversion Program	\$605,434
Exchange Fees	\$420,000
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$115,097,929</b>

## Resort Expenses

Interior Maint. & Cleaning	\$19,191,769
Interior & Exterior Reserve	\$18,226,851
Property Management	\$15,964,529
Common Area	\$8,809,803
Utilities	\$9,220,267
Association Dues	\$8,445,183
Real Estate Taxes	\$6,154,579
Replacements	\$1,396,175
Telephones	\$785,549
Insurance	\$2,258,082
Special Assessments	\$211,050
Land Lease	\$31,879
<b>Total Resort Expenses</b>	<b>\$90,695,716</b>

## Administrative Expenses

Salaries & Wages	\$6,488,059
Labor Burden	\$2,113,215
Contracted Services	\$936,192
Magazine	\$1,129,096
Business Taxes	\$876,092
Rent	\$720,276
Telephone	\$585,499
Income Tax	\$529,500
Printing Supplies	\$218,040
Postage	\$417,462
Travel	\$434,509
Bank Fees	\$894,742
Depreciation	\$160,201
Employee Relations	\$301,517
Staff Training	\$93,934
Legal & Accounting	\$167,635
Office Supplies	\$132,713
Annual Meeting	\$201,040
Miscellaneous*	\$70,819
<b>Total Administrative Expenses</b>	<b>\$16,470,541</b>
Management Fee	\$7,931,672
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$115,097,929</b>

\*Includes miscellaneous, membership cards, BOD expenses and insurance.

# Holiday Happenings

Spending the winter holidays with WorldMark? Here are some festive events taking place near our resorts across the country.

## **BASS LAKE, CA**

- Dec 7  
Old Fashioned Christmas Open House, Fresno Flats Historical Park  
Information: 559-683-6570

## **BRANSON, MO**

- Nov 7 - Dec 28  
Silver Dollar City Christmas at Silver Dollar City  
Information: 800-987-9852
- Nov 7 - Dec 30  
Dolly Parton's Dixie Stampede Christmas Show  
Information: 800-987-9852

## **COEUR D'ALENE, ID**

- Dec 6 - 7  
Christmas Spectacular with Coeur d'Alene Symphony  
Information: 208-765-3833
- Dec 14, 1 pm - 5 pm  
15th Annual Bed and Breakfast Christmas Tour  
Information: 208-765-5200

## **GALENA, IL**

- Dec 6, 10 am - 5 pm  
Holiday House Walk, Galena Territory  
Information: 815-777-2000
- Dec 13, 20, 21 & 24, Noon - 2 pm  
Lunch with Santa at Benjamin's, Galena  
Information: 815-777-0467

## **LAKE TAHOE, NV**

- Dec 6, 6 pm  
The Valhalla Holiday Gala, Valhalla Grand Hall, Tallac Historic Site  
Information: 530-542-4166
- Dec 31  
New Year's Eve Torchlight Parade & Fireworks, Kirkwood Ski Resort  
Information: 209-258-6000

## **LEAVENWORTH, WA**

- Dec 6, 13 and 20  
Christmas Lighting Festival, downtown Leavenworth  
Information: 509-548-5807
- Dec 7, 14 and 21  
O Tannenbaum, downtown Leavenworth  
Information: 509-548-5807

## **MAUI, HI**

- Dec 6, 6:30 pm  
Holiday Lighting of the Banyan Tree, Lahaina  
Information: 888-310-1117

## **ORLANDO, FL**

- Nov 30 - Dec 19, selected evenings only, 7 pm - midnight  
Mickey's Very Merry Christmas Party, Walt Disney World, Magic Kingdom  
Information: 407-934-7639

## **STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO**

- Dec 13, 11 am  
Cowboy Christmas Parade with Santa Claus, Lincoln Avenue  
Information: 970-879-3146
- Dec 31, 7 pm  
New Year's Eve Torchlight Parade and Fireworks Display, Gondola Square  
Information: 970-879-6111

## **ST. GEORGE, UT**

- Nov 28 - Dec 27, Fri, Sat and Mon, 6:30 pm - 9 pm  
Christmas Festival of Lights/ Tuacahn Holiday Train, Tuacahn Amphitheatre  
Information: 800-746-9882

## **VANCOUVER, BC**

- Dec 5 - 31, 5 pm - 9 pm (except Christmas Day)  
VanDusen Botanical Garden's Festival of Lights  
Information: 604-878-9274

# Galena's Grand Opening

Our newest Midwest resort, WorldMark Galena, celebrated its grand opening this August. Steve Hickie, executive director of the Galena Area Chamber of Commerce, and three chamber ambassadors toured the resort, along with general contractor Chris Fox of Johnson Tenant Improvement and WorldMark Galena Resort Manager Mike Guthrie.



PHOTO BY DAN STEARNS



PHOTO BY DAN STEARNS

**GALENA**  
Minutes from the Mississippi and just three hours from Chicago

Mike was given the honor of cutting the ribbon in the official opening ceremony, which he neatly managed in one clean snip.

Longhollow Point Inn—the resort housing the WorldMark Galena units—also received a plaque from the chamber, which is now hanging proudly behind the front desk.



PHOTO BY P. CARTER NEWTON

*WorldMark Galena is on Inventory Special for the month of January. See page 9 for details, or call the Vacation Planning Center at 1-800-457-0103 and book your January getaway for just four cents per credit today!*

**THE PERFECT HOLIDAY GIFT**  
Give WorldMark



## WorldMark Gift Certificates

It's that time of year—time to share both your holiday and vacation joy by giving the gift of WorldMark. Easy to buy, no need to wrap and always just the right size!

Call the Vacation Planning Center today at 1-800-457-0103!

- Two-night Weekend Getaway:** \$299 USD
- Four-night Midweek Escape:** \$399 USD
- Seven-night Dream Vacation:** \$795 USD

*Gift certificates are redeemed with FAX credits and are subject to Owner Guidelines. Certificates are valid for any size unit (excluding penthouses) and must be booked within a year for travel no more than two years from date of issue.*

# construction zone




PHOTO BY DAN STEARNS

## Grand Lake

Sixty-three units of the Shangri-La Resort in Grand Lake, Oklahoma, are being upgraded to WorldMark standards and are scheduled to open in spring 2004. Set within the Shangri-La Golf Club Resort on 650 acres along the picturesque shoreline of Grand Lake in the foothills of the Ozarks, this exciting new resort will offer classic WorldMark comfort—and two challenging golf courses—in one of the loveliest lake-oriented locations in the Midwest.

## PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT NEWS

### Urban Update – The Camlin Hotel

Work has begun on the refurbishment of the historic Camlin Hotel, WorldMark's newest urban location situated on the corner of 9th Avenue and Pine Street in downtown Seattle, Washington. Liquidation of furnishings and fixtures is complete, the design process is underway and demolition permits have been issued.

During this 10-month renovation, 100 hotel rooms will be converted into 38 studio suites, 58 one-bedroom suites and four two-bedroom penthouse suites, all inspired by The Camlin's original 1926 residential-style hotel design. Each vacation suite will reflect The Camlin's classic elegance, including period crown moldings and furnishings and in-suite kitchenettes.

## Ongoing Projects

### Angels Camp, CA Phase II

No. Units: 88  
Est. Completion:  
Summer 2003  
Status: In full operation



PHOTO BY TONY SIMMONS

### Windsor, CA Phase II

No. Units: 78  
Est. Completion:  
Summer 2004  
Status: Roofing to  
interior sheetrock

### Las Vegas, NV Phase II, III

No. Units: 192  
Est. Completion:  
Fall/Winter 2004  
Status: Plans  
submitted for permit



PHOTO BY STEVE BOURNE

### Seattle, WA (Camlin Hotel)

No. Units: 100  
Est. Completion:  
Summer 2004  
Status: In design and final  
budget review

### Indio, CA Phase I

No. Units: 283  
Est. Completion:  
Summer 2005  
through Q1 2006  
Status: Property  
under development

Information as of October 31, 2003.

2003

## Photo & Essay Contest



Opening Day has a different meaning for the staff of *Destinations*. Every October, we have the privilege of opening your contest submissions, taking a day to sort through your photographs of the world's landscapes, activities, attractions and families. Adding to our delight this year was the essay contest, which drew more than 150 creative entries. A few were in verse, a couple were written by children under the age of five and many recounted cross-country journeys; their tone ranged from laugh-out-loud funny to heart-wrenchingly sad. And like the photographs, they all articulated something special about you and your time spent on vacation.

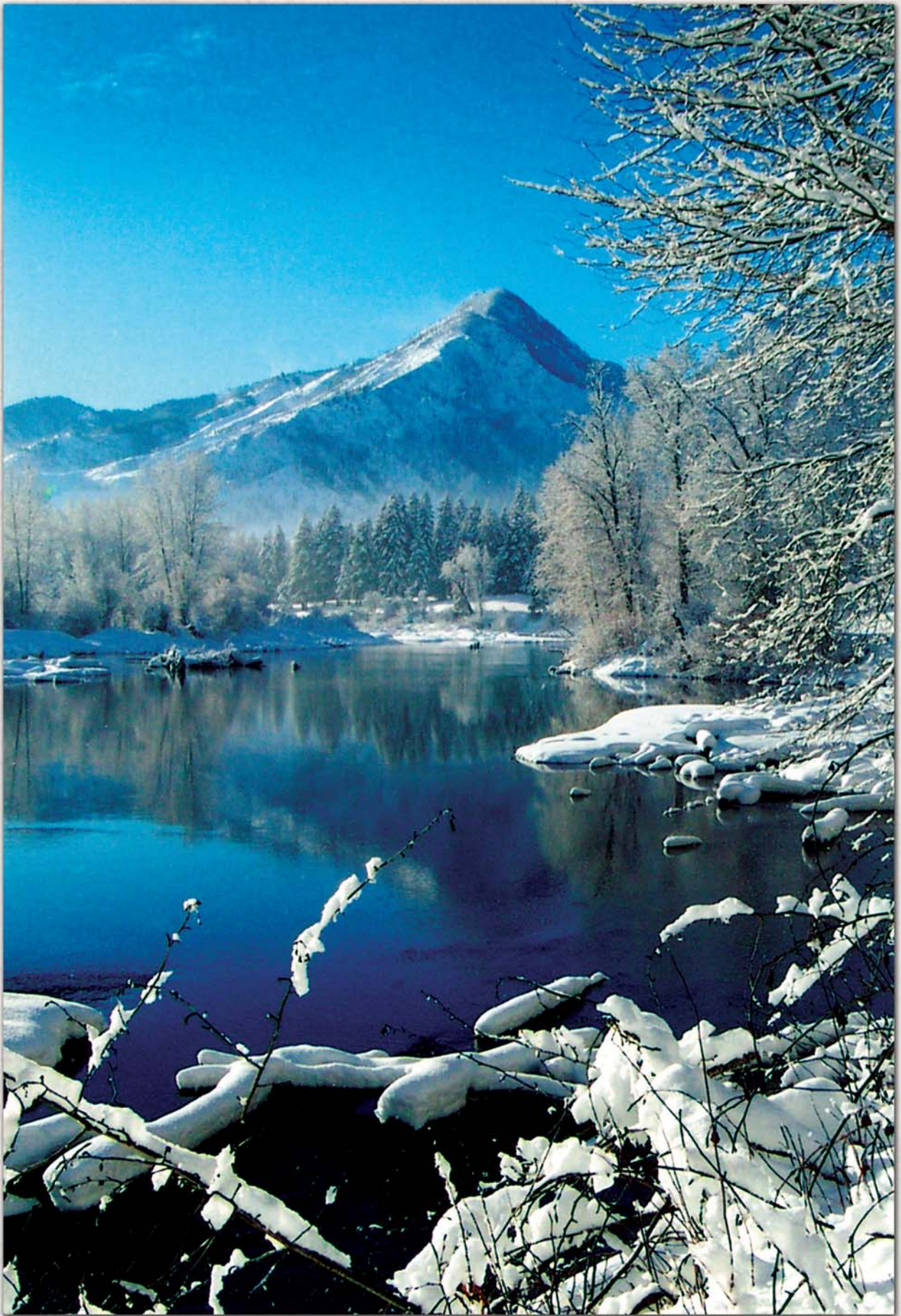
With so much happening in the world, it's gratifying to know that our owners are still finding time to connect—with family, friends and complete strangers half a world away. We are proud to present your stories and images—thank you for sharing them.

*First Prize*

*Leavenworth Snow Scene*

"The texture of snow—from clumpy in front to filigree on the tree branches—the level of detail and the lovely reflection, allow you to feel the temperature differential." *Mimi Kirsh*

*Julie Etzel won a seven-night stay at the WorldMark resort of her choice.*



# First Prize

"The writing in this essay makes me feel like I'm there on the beach with the author, my feet tucked comfortably into the warm sand." *Keith Walsh*

*Diane Hicks won a seven-night stay at the WorldMark resort of her choice.*

## Baja Morning Light

by Diane Hicks



Last night we slipped across the border and made our way down to La Paloma, a mere three hours' drive from Los Angeles. It's Tuesday, and when I woke I felt an irrational twinge of guilt hearing the ocean breakers outside my window on a weekday...a *workday*. But this morning, as I walk barefoot and feel the soft Baja sand between my toes, all that seems worlds away.

The weekend tourists have gone, and we share this beach with only a few contented locals. Two fishermen sit at the edge of the water, poles dug into the sand with their taut fishing lines disappearing into the waves. A man in a wide-brimmed hat tends some chestnut-colored riding horses that are corralled between two nearby dunes. Should I take a chance and go for a ride? Maybe tomorrow.

A boy has been running from far off and reaches us breathlessly carrying a leather case almost as big as he is. He opens it to reveal a shimmering trove of colorful jewelry. I tell myself to be firm, but as he holds out a silver bracelet, just the one I was looking at, and as he clips its glimmering Aztec sun faces around my arm, I seem finally to give in to the spell of the place.

We're on our way to the old wooden pier up ahead. The WorldMark concierge

told my husband about a *loncheria* that cooks up the best lobster in Rosarito. I thought I could see its pale neon sign from our balcony. But I wonder if we'll ever get there. It's as if both of us are using any distraction, even the tide around our ankles, as an excuse to stop and linger.

Tonight will be an evening of unbridled decadence. Got my Luther and Boney James on the CD, hot-tubbing under a moonlit sky with Mars closer and brighter than its been in 60,000 years. Tim will cook us a sumptuous pasta dinner. Then a stroll down to the beach house, a spectacular all-glass A-frame that juts out into the ocean on a promontory just a few feet above the waves of the Pacific.

It's been a year of contrasts. Last winter we snowbirded up to the Sierra and left our cabin early one morning to see the January sun glowing over a frozen, mist-shrouded Bass Lake. In a few months, if my job gives me the time off, we'll be in Maui for Christmas. And maybe Fiji next year! But now, as I walk this white sand beach on my birthday and feel the salt wind blowing through my hair, I can't imagine any moment comparing to the simple beauty of a Mexican morning, of seagulls shaking the ocean from their feathers as they leave tracks that cross mine in the sand.





## *Second Prize*

### *Cabo Pelican*

"An entertaining view, with stop-action, shadow design, wildlife up close and 'humans in the mist'. Could be a fantasy story from ages ago, humans wandering on the shoreline, a pterodactyl landing." *Nan Gordon*

*Michael & Karen Felch won a five-night stay at the WorldMark resort of their choice.*

## *Third Prize*

### *Grandpa & Child*

#### *at Depoe Bay*

"The grandpa with grandchild walking on the beach, although a classic, still turned my heart to home and reminded me again of what is really important—time spent with those we love." *Dan Stearns*

*Larry Holliday won a three-night stay at the WorldMark resort of his choice.*



## Second Prize

"This story makes me laugh while also giving me a glimpse into this family's dynamic. The author is deftly funny without making light of the impending deployment of his brother to Iraq." *Larry Coffman*

*Jeffrey Brady won a five-night stay at the WorldMark resort of his choice.*



### Brother of the Year Campaign Headquarters

by Jeffrey Brady

It was only January, but my campaign for the 2003 Brother of the Year Award had already begun. My parents, three sisters and I were in San Diego to see my youngest brother graduate from Marine Corps Basic Training. As troops were building up in the Middle East for Operation Iraqi Freedom, Dave's graduation was perfectly timed to make our family as proud as possible. To the untrained eye, this was purely innocent, but I knew better. The timing was no coincidence; it was a clever move designed to boost his standings in the Best Brother polls. Even this early in the year, drastic action was needed to sway my sisters' fickle vote in my direction. After all, who could compete with the few, the proud, the Marines?

While my parents selected a hotel near the training depot, I opted to stay in a one-bedroom suite at the WorldMark Oceanside Harbor resort. The suite was spacious, spotless and stylishly decorated. This being my first WorldMark vacation, I was thrilled with the accommodations.

As I toured the lobby, gift shop, pool and sports court, I crafted a plan. I had to show my younger sisters a good time, build some memories and subtly display enough charisma and goodwill to win their votes.

The graduation was touching. Despite our fraternal rivalry, I was proud to celebrate what Dave had accomplished. Afterwards, our family listened to boot camp stories over a lunch buffet at the on-base restaurant. As lunch ended, my parents invited Dave to go swimming back at their hotel. This was my chance! I quickly

invited my sisters to Oceanside Harbor for a tour. After all, Dave and the folks needed some quality time together.

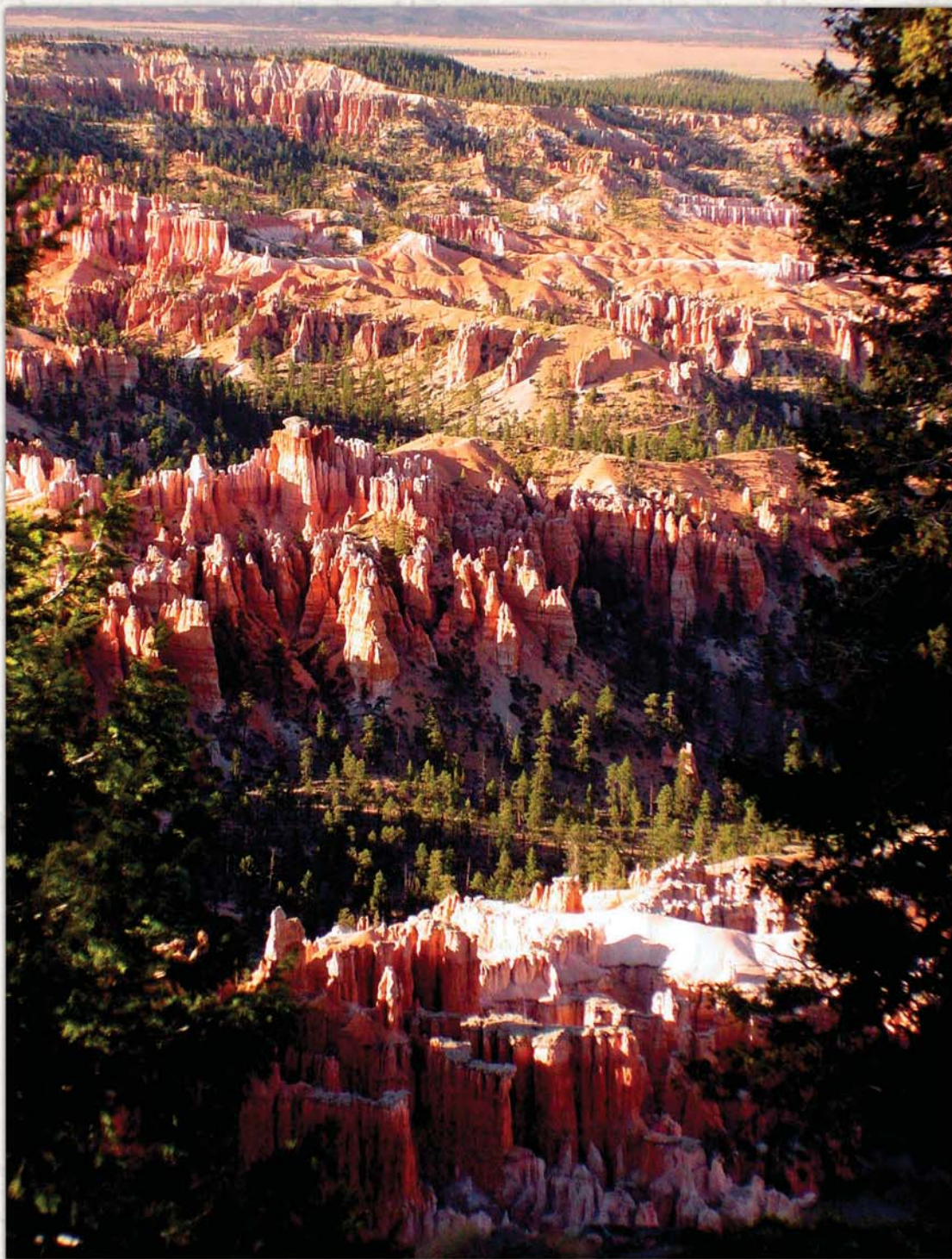
Needless to say, the resort impressed my sisters—"shocked and awed," one might say. Now that I had softened them up, it was time for the Mother of All Surprises. I casually mentioned that Oceanside Harbor offered discounted tickets to Disneyland and other attractions. My suggestion that we spend the rest of the afternoon at Magic Kingdom was met with enthusiastic nods.

We drove to Disneyland and enjoyed the rides, the camaraderie and a few snacks along the way. After surviving five trips on Space Mountain, we unanimously declared it the best attraction. We explored the jungle with Indiana Jones. We endured the languid pace of Pirates of the Caribbean, knowing our mother would ask about her favorite ride.

Our time dwindled, and soon we were making our way back to Oceanside. It was silent as I drove, my sisters asleep all around me. I mentally tallied the day's activities. Memories — check. Goodwill — check. Perhaps I had salvaged my campaign after all.

While the Brother of the Year Award is still a running joke in our family, that afternoon with my sisters is something I will never forget. WorldMark Oceanside Harbor was the source of a wonderful vacation—a vacation I'll always treasure.

But check back again when all the votes are in.



## *Owners' Choice*

### *Sunset Point at Bryce Canyon*

Chosen by the owners attending the 2003 Annual Owners' Meeting.

*Elizabeth Joy Kimes won a two-night stay at the WorldMark resort of her choice.*

## Third Prize

"I read this story to a group of colleagues — they were near tears when I finished. The story is about crossing a milestone as a family, something we all can relate to." *Peggy Fry*

*LaRene A. Huber won a three-night stay at the WorldMark resort of her choice.*

### Finding Our Family Feet

by LaRene A. Huber



**F**arenting is a challenge. It is a test of strength, stamina and willpower. With two young children, ages 3 and 1, my husband and I greatly respect the weary-eyed parents of the world. When we joined WorldMark in November 2002, we knew we would have many family vacations in our future, but mostly we just looked forward to quick weekend escapes without the kids, where we could get back in touch with each other.

After two such mini-breaks to Arrow Point, Idaho, and Eagle Crest, Oregon, we found ourselves longing to venture into the unknown territory of family vacationing. For us, it was a challenge to go grocery shopping with both boys in tow, let alone a four-hour road trip to a weekend destination. Pushing through our fears, we booked a trip, packed our bags and hit the road to Park Village in Leavenworth, Washington, on Memorial Day weekend 2003.

We made the drive from Stevenson, Washington, to Leavenworth in just over four hours. The car was loaded, the roads were winding and our three-year-old, Christopher, became carsick twice along the way, but we drove on, arriving safely. It was late at night, and the beautiful Bavarian village sparkled and glistened with charm.

Despite the late hour, the Park Village resort was bustling with arrivals. The staff was warm and welcoming, especially to my husband's parents who had arrived several hours earlier. We found the fireplace lit, the coffee on and the rooms warm and comforting.

After tucking the boys in, we sat down for a nightcap and then caught a few winks ourselves.

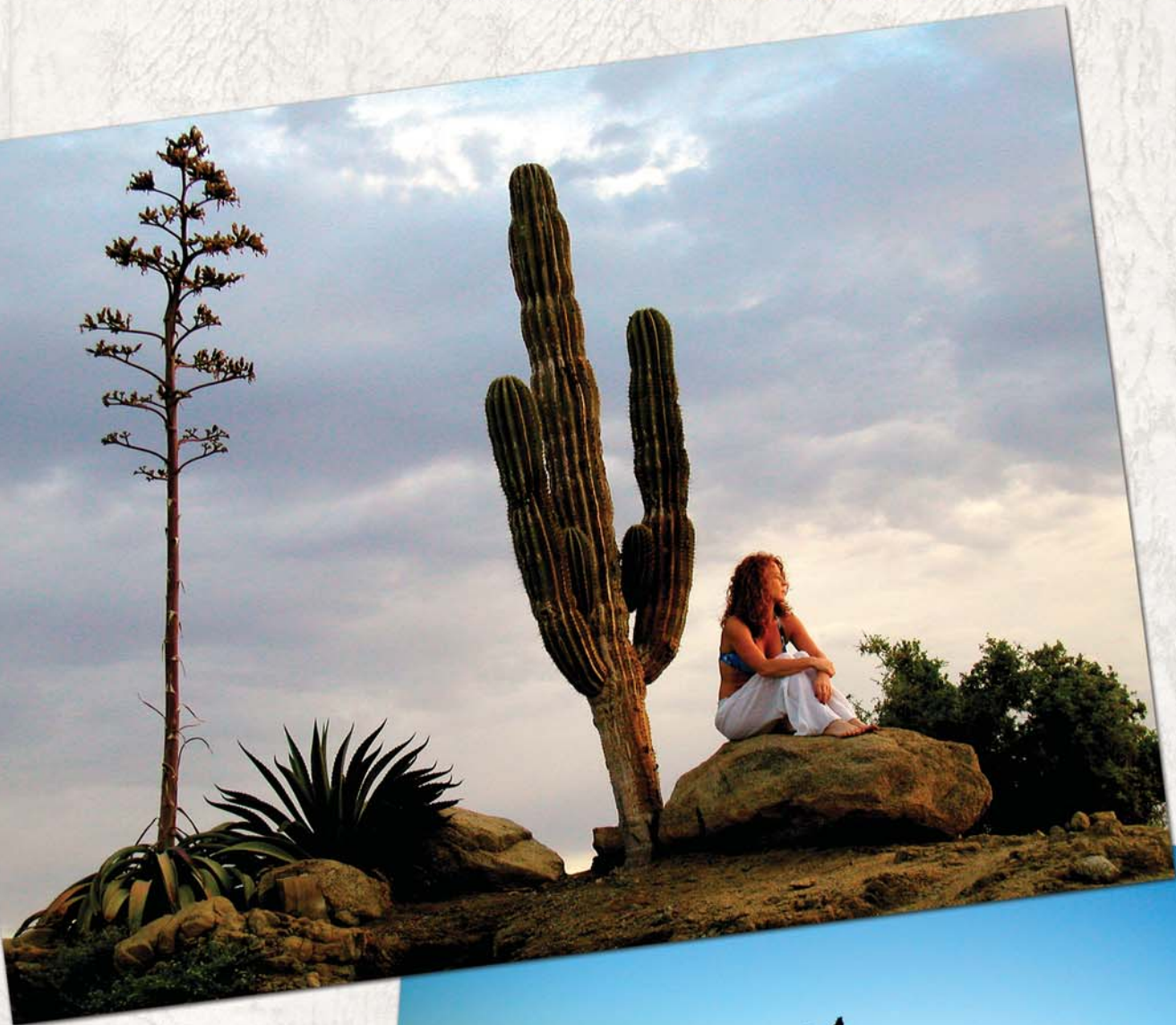
Over the weekend, we marveled at the undying curiosity of our children. Everything was new and fascinating. We taught them to skip rocks as we walked the trails along the Wenatchee river, took a train ride at Icicle Junction and ate delicate gingerbread cookies at a local bakery. The boys were thrilled and had fun just exploring our WorldMark unit. When the weather turned hot, we were pleased to find a small splash pool especially for small children right next to the clubhouse. It was an instant hit. We made daily—and sometimes nightly—trips to that pool.

The gracious staff at the resort rescued us from disaster by loaning us a crib and high chair. And they continued to save us time and time again over the weekend with driving directions, recommendations for kid-friendly activities and restaurants, and accommodating service.

The weekend, a definite learning experience, was great, thanks in great part to the staff at Park Village. And though motion sickness made one more visit on the return trip, we handled it like old pros this time. With new experiences, one must find their feet. We found our feet—our "family feet." We faced our fears head on, had a great time and are now looking forward to our next WorldMark family adventure with anticipation and excitement.

## *Honorable Mentions*

Honorable mentions and \$50 WorldMark gift certificates go to the owners who took the photographs displayed on the next five pages, as well as to essay writers Barbara Darland for "2003 Flight Odyssey," Lydia Huzyk for "Friendly Sojourn in Soriano" and Carolyn Morrow for "Rodeo-Chediski Fire." Those essays can be found on the WorldMark Web site: [www.worldmarktheclub.com/destinations](http://www.worldmarktheclub.com/destinations).



TOP:  
Cabo Sunrise  
Over the Ocean  
*Lana Edwards*

RIGHT:  
Flying Without Wings  
at Depoe Bay  
*Tim Weine*







CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:

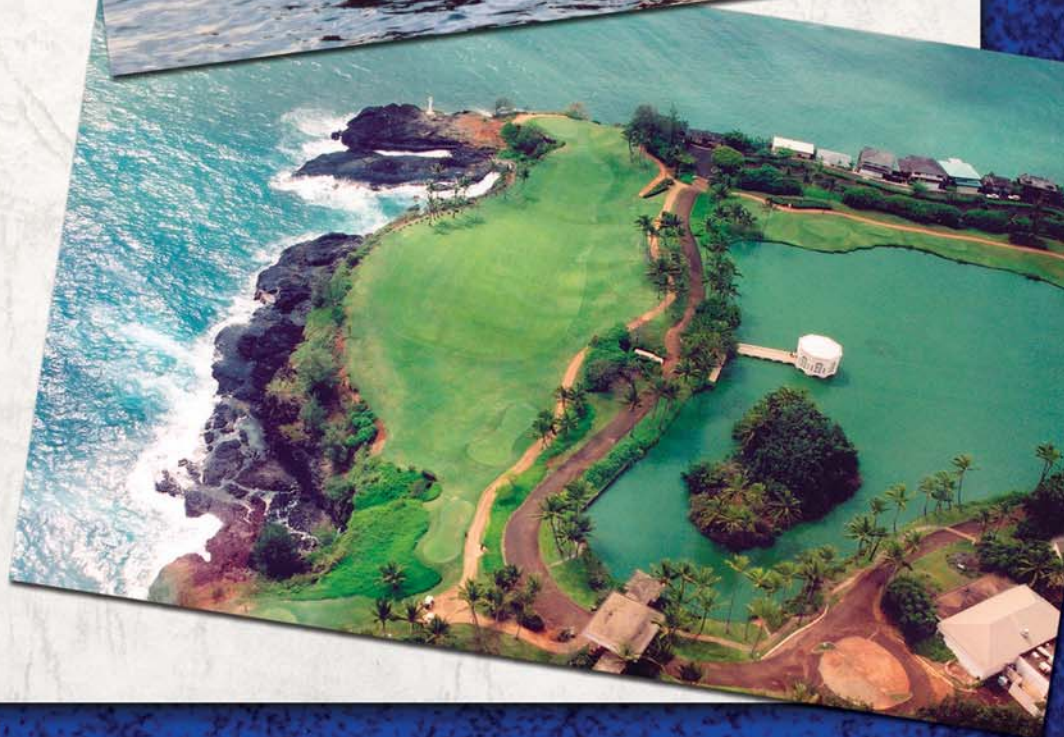
**WorldMark Kona Rainbow**  
*Gary & Ildiko Scott*

**Hana, Maui, Hawaii**  
*Glenn & Deborah Fountain*

**Coral Baja Ship**  
*Loren & Tamara Bezoff*

**Kauai Lagoons Golf Course**  
*Farrah Miles*

**Schooners Landing**  
**Thanksgiving 2002**  
*Robert DeGraff*

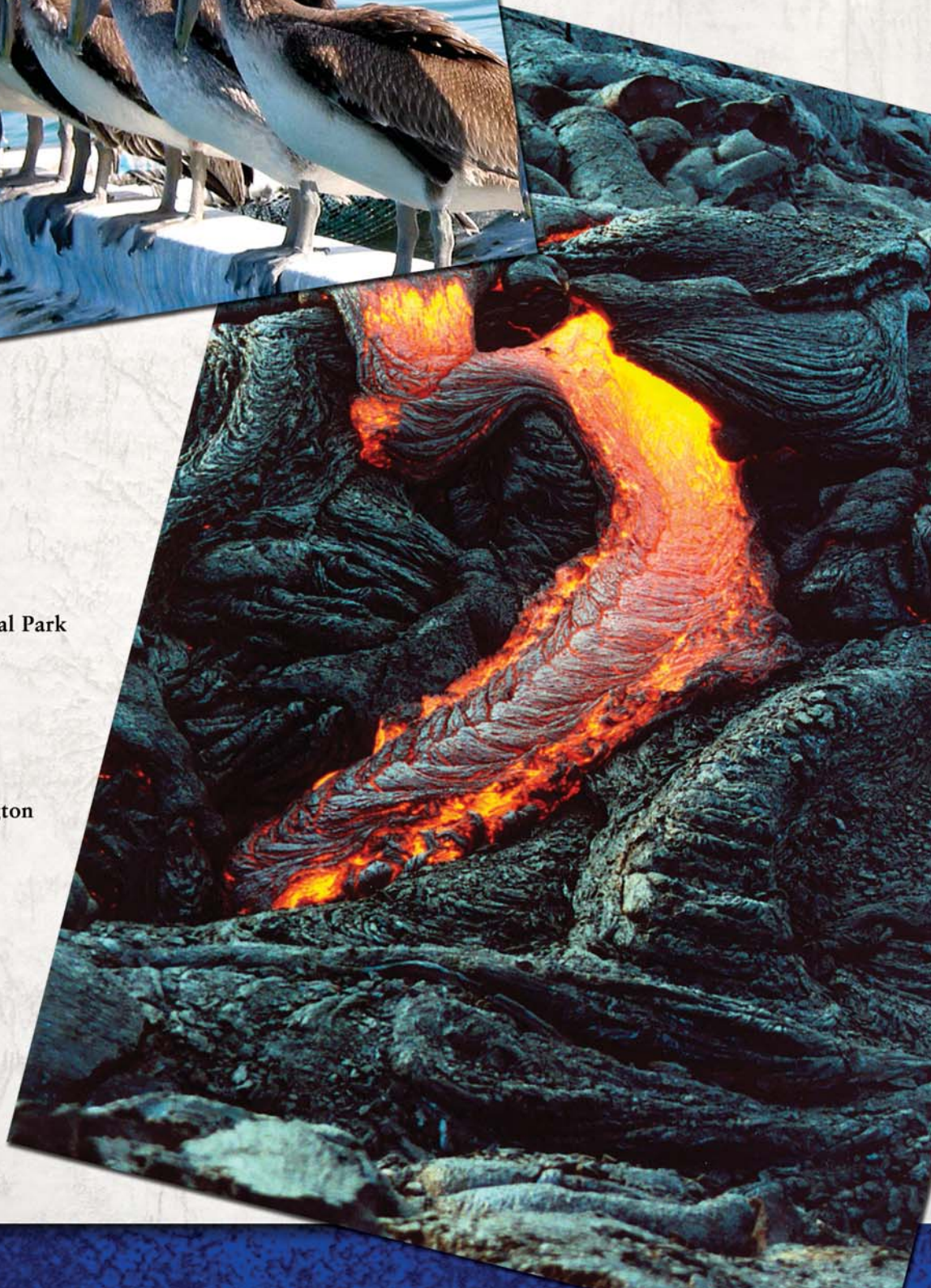




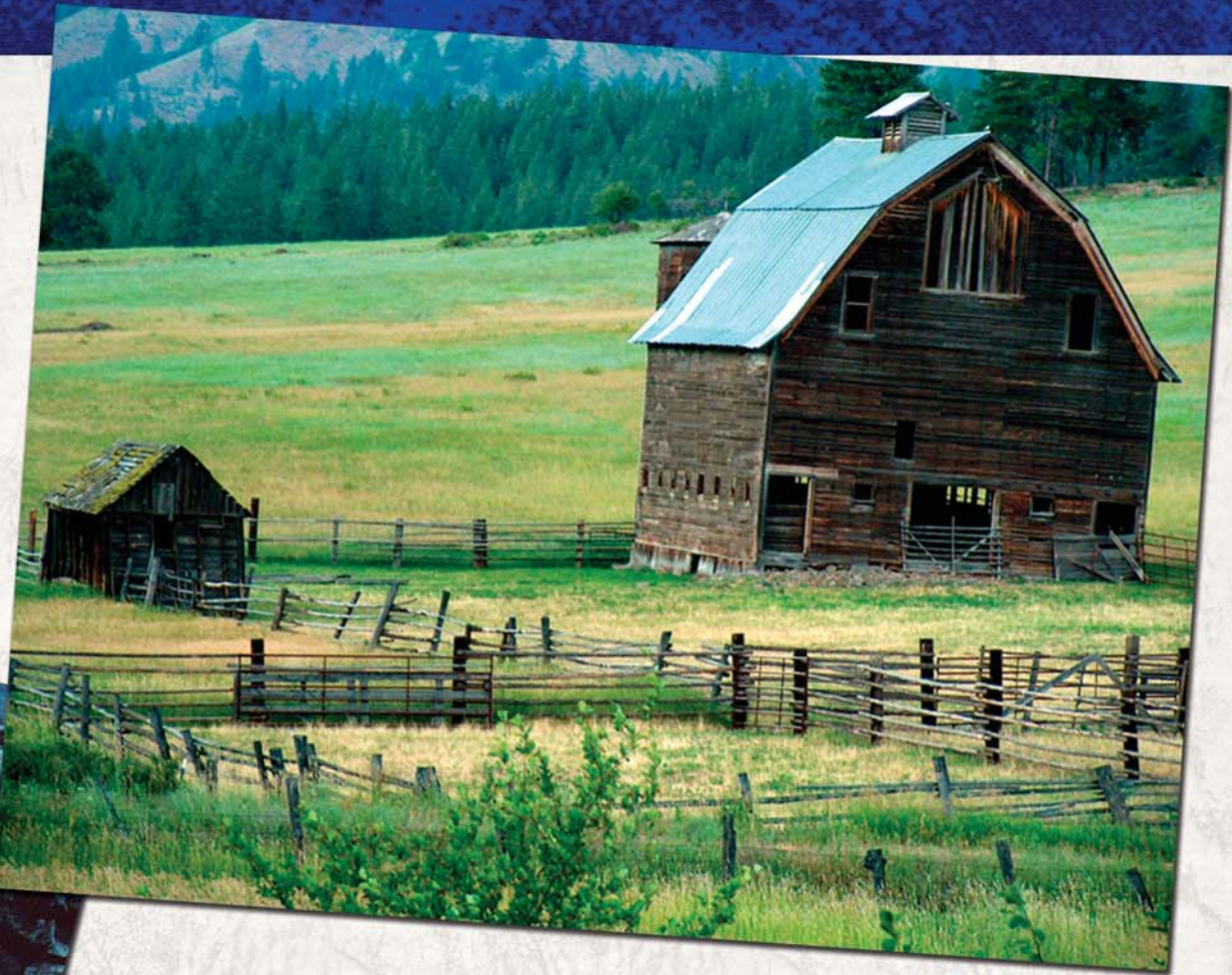
**TOP:**  
Cabo Pelicans  
*Doug Stetner*

**BOTTOM:**  
Hawaii Volcanoes National Park  
Big Island, Hawaii  
*Patrick Cowan*

**TOP RIGHT PAGE:**  
Barn Near  
Leavenworth, Washington  
*Bryan Robertson*







## Meet Our Judges

### Photo Contest Judges

**Mimi Kirsch** is the founder of award-winning Paradigm Press Inc./Paradigm Communications Group, which publishes the magazines for Alaska Airlines, Horizon Air and Midwest Airlines.

**Nan Gordon** is a WorldMark owner and painter whose work has been recently exhibited throughout Northwest galleries. Nan directs The Gordon Group, a real estate services company.

**Dan Stearns** has been the “eyes” of WorldMark, contributing most of the photos used in *Destinations* and various other WorldMark publications for the past 14 years.

### Essay Contest Judges

**Peggy Fry** is WorldMark’s vice president of Owner Services. Her words have appeared in this magazine many times, and she has witnessed the club’s growth as an employee and owner for more than 11 years.

**Larry Coffman** is the founder and publisher of *Marketing Newspaper*, a monthly trade publication serving the Puget Sound area for 17 years.

**Keith Walsh** is the managing editor for *Destinations* magazine and an avid reader of travel writing.

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Plan a midwinter escape to the mall globally recognized as the nation's largest entertainment and shopping complex: Mall of America in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Discover over 520 retail specialty stores, along with a bowling alley, movie theaters, simulated NASCAR raceway, nightclubs and dozens of unique dining options.

Other features include Camp Snoopy—at seven acres, the largest indoor family theme park in the nation—containing 30 remarkable rides, as well as Underwater Adventures, the aquarium recently voted “World’s Best Shark Encounter” by the Discovery Channel.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MALL OF AMERICA



**MALL MADNESS**  
Endless choices await you on this shoppers' dream adventure

PHOTO COURTESY OF MALL OF AMERICA

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for two adults

**3,000 credits**  
per additional adult  
(age 18+) in same room

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per teen (age 13-17)  
in same room

**520 credits**  
per child (age 3-12)  
in same room

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**Package includes:** Meet and greet orientation with a mall representative, two nights' hotel accommodation at the Grand Hotel\*, two Camp Snoopy unlimited ride wristbands, two Underwater Adventure passes, daily breakfast, Super Savings coupon book, and complimentary shuttle service between the Grand Hotel and mall.

*\*Hotel rooms sleep a maximum of four guests. Subject to change and availability. Airfare not included. For best rates on airfare, contact Trendwest Travel at 1-800-953-5511. Cash 'n' Credits option available. CSR 2067820-50*

# Maritime Summertime



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## Four-night Baja Cruise

Carnival Cruise Line's *Ecstasy* sails from Long Beach, California, for Catalina and Ensenada, Mexico.

**June 21 - 25, 2004**

**Inside cabin:**  
19,500 credits for two

**Outside cabin:**  
22,000 credits for two

**Outside quad cabin:**  
36,000 credits for four

## Three-night Baja Cruise

Carnival Cruise Line's *Ecstasy* sails from Long Beach, California, for Ensenada, Mexico.

**July 2 - 5, 2004**

**Inside cabin:**  
19,000 credits for two

**Outside cabin:**  
21,000 credits for two

**Outside quad cabin:**  
36,000 credits for four



Call the Vacation  
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1-800-457-0103 today  
and reserve your  
place in the sun!

*Cruises subject to change and availability.  
All rates based on double occupancy  
except for quad cabins. Tax and port fees  
included. Airfare and \$129 USD exchange  
fee not included. For best rates on airfare,  
call Trendwest Travel at 1-800-953-5511.  
Cash 'n' Credits option available.  
CSR 2067820-50*

# Still Hot

## Footloose in Whistler Blackcomb *Shoosh, whoosh, mush and zoom!*

**January 23-26, 2004**

Whether it's location, music, food or atmosphere, there's an après spot in Whistler to fit every need. Join fellow Footloose (solo) travelers and indulge in this ultimate winter adventure land with two specialized packages.



**Ski/Snowboard Package:**

9,575 credits per person\*

A 360-degree view from the top features snow-covered mountains, alpine lakes and ancient forests. Cruise perfectly groomed slopes, jump into untouched powder and never cross the same trail twice. Package includes three nights' accommodation in the heart of Whistler Village (based on double occupancy), welcome cocktail reception, daily continental

breakfast and two-day Whistler Blackcomb lift ticket.

**Dog Sledding & Snowmobiling Package:**

11,905 credits per person\*

A professional musher and team of Alaskan huskies will take you on a winter journey through the spectacular Soo Valley Wildlife Reserve—you can even be a musher and drive the sled! A snowmobile tour will guide intermediate explorers into Whistler's Ancient Cedars Forest, along frozen lakes and open glades. Lunch is included, as well as helmets, boots and instructions on equipment usage. Package includes three nights' accommodation in the heart of Whistler Village (based on double occupancy), welcome cocktail reception, daily continental breakfast, two-hour snowmobile tour and two and one-half hour dog sledding tour.

**You must call 1-800-457-0103 by December 19 to reserve this Footloose adventure, so call today and start packing!**

*Snowmobile package is based on one rider per machine; dog sledding is based on two riders per sleigh. Subject to change and availability. Airfare and \$69 USD exchange fee is not included. For airfare, call Trendwest Travel at 800-953-5511. Cash 'n' Credits option available. CSR 2067820-50*

**\*Hotel based on double occupancy. Footloose events cater to solo travelers and owners will be paired up to meet double occupancy requirements.**

## Footloose Fun in Cancun

**May 1 - 8, 2004**

15,500 credits per person\*

**Package includes:** Seven nights' accommodation at the Hotel Riu Caribe; round-trip transfers from airport; welcome reception; Isla Mujeres tour with round-trip sailing to the island, continental breakfast, open bar, lunch, games on the beach and live music; Chichen-Itza tour with round-trip transportation, certified guide, entrance fee and lunch; and Xcaret Park tour with round-trip transportation, a guide and entrance fee.

*Subject to change and availability. Airfare and \$129 USD exchange fee not included. For best rates on airfare, contact Trendwest Travel at 1-800-953-5511. Cash 'n' Credits option available. CSR 2067820-50*

**Call 1-800-457-0103 now!**

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- Dana Point, California
- Fairmont, British Columbia
- Maui, Hawaii
- Newport, Oregon
- Oahu, Hawaii
- San Francisco, California
- Santa Fe, New Mexico
- Scottsdale, Arizona
- Sedona, Arizona
- Sunriver, Oregon
- Sun Valley, Idaho

*Exchange fee of \$129 USD applies. One-bedroom unit = 9,000 vacation credits; two-bedroom unit = 10,000 vacation credits. For more information on these popular exchange destinations, call the Vacation Planning Center at 1-800-457-0103. CSR 2067820-50*

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Book now and receive a complimentary bottle of champagne or sparkling wine in your cabin!

*Cruises subject to change and availability. Prices are per person and based on double occupancy. Quad cabins available upon request. Tax and port fees included. UPS shipping fees not included. CSR 2067820-50*

**May 17 – May 29, 2004**

- Inside cabin:**  
\$1,232 per person
- Outside cabin:**  
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- Balcony cabin:**  
\$1,957 per person
- Balcony Concierge Class cabin\*:**  
\$2,097 per person

## Seven-night Western Caribbean Cruise

Carnival Cruise Line's *Carnival Conquest* sails from New Orleans, Louisiana, for Montego Bay, Jamaica; Georgetown, Grand Cayman; and Cozumel, Mexico.



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Celebrity Cruise Line's *Mercury* sails from San Francisco, California, for Victoria, British Columbia; Juneau, Skagway, Icy Strait, Sitka and Ketchikan, Alaska; and cruises the Inside Passage and Hubbard Glacier.

**April 25 - May 2, 2004**

- Inside cabin:**  
\$712.50 per person
- Outside cabin:**  
\$862.50 per person
- Balcony cabin:**  
\$1,012.50 per person

Book now and receive a \$60 shipboard credit, plus champagne or sparkling wine and a chocolate delight in your cabin!

*\*Concierge Class is an enhanced stateroom with luxury bedding, cushioned balcony chairs, thick robes and oversized towels, plus fruit and fresh flowers delivered daily to your cabin. Also included are priority shore excursions, extended room service, VIP invitations to ship events and express luggage delivery.*

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## WorldMark Depoe Bay on a misty morning

*Photo taken by owner Chris Morrissette*

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