

The Great Gustavus

WILD ANIMAL FEST YEAR OF THE BEAR



May 23-27 2002 in GUSTAVUS and GLACIER BAY in Southeast Alaska.

Come and enjoy this Community Celebration with many informative and fun events planned to enhance your appreciation of bears and share ways to live, play and be safe in bear country. We have lined up a group of well known bear experts: Neil Barten ADF&G, John Neary USFS, Steve Partridge USGS, John Hechtel, well known authors and nature writers: Richard Nelson, Richard Carstensen, Greg Streveler, Lynn Schooler and Judith Aftergut; film-maker Joel Bennett and local student essayist Crissy Farley. We are honored to present the Mount Fairweather Dancers from Hoonah, local and regional musicians- Kim Heacox, Phil Riddle, Bonnie Blue Jay and the Panhandle Crabgrass Revival Band. Storytellers Grace Elliott, John Neary, M. Mildred Maybe and Hoonah Wooshketan Clan leader Sam Hanlon and Elders. Artists Lou Cacioppo and Char Damron.

Ongoing: Natural History displays, Bear Book sales table, Recycling and Composting Booth. Art Galleries open, Glacier Bay National Park Interpretive Walks and Talks at Bartlett Cove. Bear Mask Making Workshops with artist Char Damron.

OFFICIAL PROGRAM

Thursday May 23rd

730 pm: *'The Blue Bear' a True Tale of Friendship, Tragedy and Survival in the Wilds of Alaska.* Author Lynn Schooler's book signing and reading at the Gustavus Library.

Friday May 24th

9am: Begins with a Brunch and Bear Viewing at the Beartrack Inn with ADF&G Biologist Neil Barten and an Electric Solar fence display by Pedr Turner.

1130-1 pm will see an informal Brown Bear Bag Lunch at Glacier Bay Lodge to introduce all the presenters. Please Bear with us as we introduce the wonderful presenters up close and personal!

1-2 pm: Video presentation of "Staying Safe In Bear Country" upstairs in Glacier Bay Lodge in the Visitor Center theater. This is the definitive bear safety film. John Hechtel one of our presenters is part of the cast.

8 pm: Bonfire and Storytelling Event at Salmon River Park featuring the formal ceremonial opening of the Festival with Wooshketan Clan leader Sam Hanlon followed by storytellers Grace Elliott, John Neary, M. Mildred Maybe and other Bear Tale presenters.

OFFICIAL SPONSORS

**National Park Service-Glacier Bay
Friends of Glacier Bay
Alaska Natural History Assn
Gustavus Arts Council**

Saturday May 25th

8 am : Donuts and Coffee at Gustavus' own Wings Café.

8:30 am: Community Bear Discussion with Greg Streveler, Neil Barten and Chief Ranger Chuck Young. If you've eaten them, killed them, or are just plain scared of bears or want to learn an appreciation of these fuzzy critters. Come on down!!!

- Gustavus School multi-purpose room.

11 am : Great Gustavus Wild Animal Bear Parade - Not to be missed - Tim Sunday Parade Marshall and Smoky Bear, Teddy Bears and the Bear Mask People proceeding to Salmon River Park - bring your tooters and drums we will dance the Parade route to the sound of Teddy Bear's Picnic and other bear tunes.

Noon - 2 pm: Bear Games, and Teddy Bear Contests and Veteran Bear Fixer Mary Herwin's First Aid Station for Teddy Bears, fun for all to entertain and delight the children. Don't miss Bonnie and Hayden Kaden's tug-a-war on bear food cannisters.

1-2 pm: Hoonah's Mount Fairweather Dancers perform at Glacier Bay National Park Ceremonial Beach near the dock. Preparing for Celebration 2002 these award-winning dancers will evoke the mystery and culture of their Glacier Bay homeland.

2-3pm: Current Bear Research in Glacier Bay – Rusty Yerxa and Tania Lewis of the Yin -Yang Glacier Bay Bear Behavior Unit will provoke you to laughter and curiosity at the Gustavus School multi-purpose room

3-5pm: Bear/Human Interaction and Safety Q&A Panel: Kurt Aluzus, Wrangell Ranger District wildlife biologist and Anan Bear Observatory leader, John Neary: Pack Creek Program Administrator, Steve Partridge USGS bear biologist and John Hechtel ADG&G Biologist. Gustavus School multi-purpose room.

Saturday May 25th EVENING

6pm: Community Potluck at the Gustavus School Gym. Bring your best dish to share. Leftovers will not be fed to the visiting bears!

7 pm: Local Musicians Performance: Bonnie Blue Jay, Kim Heacox, Phil Riddle and a local Mystery Band "The Bear Nothings!" Gustavus Public School Gym. \$5 donation for adults, school age youth free.

8 pm: Hoonah's Mount Fairweather Dancers Performance. Gustavus school gym.

9 pm: Boogie down with Panhandle Crabgrass Revival Bluegrass Band. Gustavus school gym.

This 'Year of the Bear' Brought to you By the WILD ANIMAL PEOPLE

Judith Challoner-Wood
Karen Platt
Gus Martinez
Chuck Young
Char Damron
Alice Haldane
Hayden Kaden
Archie Kendall
Tania Lewis
Lynne Morrow
Ingrid Nixon
Michael Williams

Kim Heacox
Wayne Howell
Meadow Brook
Melanie Nelson
Mary Hervin
Blair Awbrey
Bonnie Kaden
Allison Banks
Hank Lentfer
Kevin Clement
Kim Ney
Michelle Sebern

Sunday May 26th Events



8:30 am: Bear Yoga with Jenny Strumfeld at the Gustavus Library

9am: Coffee and donuts at Whalesong Lodge

915am BreathWalking training with Sushma - Susan Clark. Come and learn to get more out your walking practice and learn how to breathe.

10 am- Bear BreathWalk with Gustavus BreathWalkers.

11-Noon: Bear Sculpture and Mask Contest and Master Carver Lou Cacioppo who will carve a hauntingly beautiful bear mask before your bear eyes - Salmon River Park. Bring any medium of Bear Sculpture to participate and watch. Prizes will be awarded in several categories for adults and children.

1-2:30pm: Steve Partridge - see the other fascinating dynamics of the Brown Bears of Katmai and Polar Bears of the Beaufort Sea. Gustavus School multi-purpose room.

3-5 pm: 'Beauty of the Bear' and Other Natural Wonders with naturalists Richard Carstensen, Richard Nelson, Greg Streveler & Hank Lentfer: author of honor Judith Aftergut, film-maker Joel Bennett ,and local student essayist Chrissy Farley. Gustavus School multi-purpose room.

6-8pm:

GUSTAVUS LAND LEGACY HABITAT FOR CRITTERS DINNER. Alaska Discovery Inn - Call 697-2431 for reservations (recommended). 3 seatings: 6pm, 7pm and 8pm \$20

9 pm: Full Moon Drumming and Optional Howling -Gustavus Drum Group and the Wolf and Bear Lodge drummers. Bring your own drums and percussion instruments and join the howl! Gustavus Beach Bonfire.

Monday May 27th -

10am- Memorial Day Golf Tournament

Extra points for seeing a bear and spin the bear hole options.

For additional information please contact:
Judith Challoner-Wood 907-697-2627
Kim Heacox
Tania Lewis 697-2668

Participating Businesses

Whalesong Lodge
Glacier Bay Country Inn
Good River B&B
Bears Nest Cafe
Puffin Cafe
Bear Track Inn
Eagle's Nest
Mama Bear's Kitchen
Ak Disco Inn
Beartrack Mercantile
Gustavus Dray
Willow Rose Soap & Salve
Other AGENCY SPONSORS
ADF&G
USFS
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