

It was a dark and foggy night on December 10, 2016 when brave members and guest ventured out onto the road for the drive to Rebecca Ignacio's party barn located in farm country north west of Emmett. Rebecca has taken a barn and turned it into a very attractive venue for groups activities.



The barn, just left of the house in this picture, has lots of room, was nicely decorated in a Christmas theme and is easy to configure for medium and large groups. Weather was the issue this night! Earlier in the week we received a heavy snow storm, with accompanying cold temperatures. Friday, it started to warm a bit, with precipitation still falling, causing large amounts of snow in the mountains, but making the already fallen snow in the valleys just water soaked, heavy and with the high humidity, very very foggy.

Driving on Saturday night was like driving through skim milk at times, and depending on the road either plowed, so clear, but also with slick spots or unplowed with deep slush.

Even under such conditions, turnout was excellent with only a few members calling and saying, conditions are bad enough that I am going to have to pass this year.

The first arrivals found the parking area unplowed, the guy didn't show up that was going to perform that deed, so we walked through six inches of slush from cars and trucks to the barn. The barn is un-insulated so even with the heat on, it was cool/cold enough that most wanted to keep their coats on.

The rest rooms are port-a-potties and were set up in a low spot on the edge of the parking area and after we had cleared a path to them, water from the snow formed a small lake in front of the doors so you had to wade to get to them. They had small light in them, but no one spent any more time than was necessary.

Nancy and Shannon and other members quickly got set up with table arranged and food set out.



Nancy organized some entertainment that from a crossed the room looked like members snorting coke, but was really a fun challenge blowing small foam ball with straws on a table. It was sort of a race when teams did it. This event caused a lot of smiles and cheering by the members.





Food is a big part of many of squaw buttes events and the end of season party is all about food. Turkey, ham, beef ribs, moose chili, shrimp, sides and lots of great deserts!





After dinner when all were well stuffed, the members found seat around the Christmas tree that Rebecca had so nicely decorated. Numbers were distributed and when "yours" was called you either picked a wrapped package from under the tree, or from one already selected by another member. A package could only change hands once.



After all packages were selected again when your number was called, you opened the box and shared that the gift was with the group. Some got wows, very nice, others got laughs and smiles!



By 20:30 (8:30pm) we were wrapping up and members quickly cleaned up the venue, packed up remaining food and started the trek back to their homesteads. All were well feed, and enjoyed sharing memories and thoughts about the past year and were taking home a treasure.



If you attended, I am sure you will agree it was a fun, if chilly night, if you didn't we are sorry you missed it and hope you will join us next December.

