

THE WOLFE PACK RETURNS TO KANAWHA SPA – APRIL 2018

The meals served at Kanawha Spa in *Too Many Cooks* are among the most famous in the mystery genre. To pay homage to Mr. Wolfe and his love of fine cuisine and gracious living, we have once again arranged for the Wolfe Pack to spend a weekend at The Greenbrier, a five-star, five-diamond luxury resort and casino located in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, which we consider to have been the inspiration for Kanawha Spa. This world-class hotel is an American institution and served as the unofficial summer capitol for Southern aristocracy during the antebellum period.

Today, The Greenbrier provides a full range of activities, boasts a world-class chef, and is an idyllic vacation spot. We have arranged a full range of Wolfean events, highlighted by re-creations of the French and American Dinners from *Too Many Cooks* and keynote talks. In addition, the following Greenbrier activities are available: building and décor tours, biking, shopping, sightseeing, fully equipped spa, tennis, bowling, golf, a casino, horseback riding, falconry, skeet shooting, tour of the Cold War-era Congressional Bunker, two pools, several fine restaurants, and more. For more information on the resort, please see www.greenbrier.com

This will be the Wolfe Pack's fourth trip to The Greenbrier. Our experience during prior visits has been excellent and we anticipate nothing less this time.

Dates: Many of us will be present from Wednesday to Sunday, April 18 to 22, 2018. The Wolfe Pack events will take place primarily on Friday and Saturday, April 20 and 21, 2018.

The program will include the following Wolfean activities:

Wednesday, April 18:

- Informal dinner (separate checks) for those arriving on this date.

Thursday, April 19:

- 5:00 p.m. – Poker tutorial in the Casino if sufficient interest (\$20 charge)
- 6:00 p.m. – Informal reception in the Lobby Bar

Friday, April 20:

- 5:00 p.m. – Book discussion of *Too Many Cooks* and display of various editions, followed by cocktail reception (cash bar available during and after book discussion)
- 8:15 p.m. – French Dinner with menu and recipes from *Too Many Cooks*

Saturday, April 21:

- 10:00 a.m. – Buffet brunch featuring Saucisse Minuit, oatmeal, fruit, omelettes, and corned beef hash (both à la Maryella Timms and the Greenbrier's version). Speaker: Bryan Skelding, Executive Chef.
- 7:30 p.m. – American Dinner with menu and recipes from *Too Many Cooks*

NOTE: All dishes for the dinners will be prepared from recipes in *Too Many Cooks* and *The Nero Wolfe Cookbook*. Vegetarian and vegan options for each meal will be available at the same price. In addition to scheduled events, many Wolfeans will gather informally for other meals.

Outstanding keynote speakers will address both dinners. We are also pleased that members of the Stout family, including his daughter Rebecca Stout Bradbury and granddaughter Liz Maroc, will be joining us for the weekend.

Transportation: If you wish to travel as Mr. Wolfe did, Amtrak has a direct train, The Cardinal, from New York to Chicago via Washington, D.C. that operates three days per week. The train stops in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, directly across the street from the Greenbrier. In the past, a group of Wolfeans has taken the trip together and enjoyed it. United/Sky West Airlines will be flying into the Greenbrier Valley Airport in Lewisburg, W.V., from Chicago and Washington beginning April 1, 2018. Make reservations directly with Amtrak (www.amtrak.com) or United Airlines. For those driving to the resort, ample parking is available.

Lodging and Meal Reservations: We have arranged for a discounted rate starting at \$239 a day per room. NOTE: This rate is only \$4.00 more per day than we paid during the Pack's highly successful trip to the Greenbrier in 2012. (This rate does NOT include meals, taxes and other charges.) More expensive rooms are also available, and they too have been discounted. In addition, the usual resort fee has been reduced. Moreover, you can extend your stay by up to two days at both ends of the weekend at the same rate. The cost of the two banquets will be \$125 (French) and \$110 (American) and the brunch \$46, all exclusive of taxes and gratuities. (The cost of the French Dinner is the same as in 2012, and we have actually achieved a reduction in the costs of the American Dinner and the Saturday Brunch.)

Please make reservations for rooms directly with the hotel by calling 877-272-0609. Select the option for group or conference rate and mention "THE WOLFE PACK" to obtain the special rate. The discounted rate can also be obtained on-line at:

http://greenbrier.webhotel.microsdc.us/bp/search_rooms.jsp?groupCode=180418THEWOL&checkinYear=2018&checkinMonth=4&checkinDay=18&checkoutYear=2018&checkoutMonth=4&checkoutDay=22.

After reserving your room, please make your meal reservations for Friday's Dinner, Saturday Brunch, and Saturday's American Dinner by e-mailing Robin Mieras at robin_mieras@greenbrier.com or telephoning her at (304) 536-7723. All charges, including the three meals, will be paid directly to The Greenbrier.

Wolfe Pack Sign-Up: In addition to reserving with the hotel, all attendees are asked to send a check, payable to the Wolfe Pack, for \$40 per person. This will cover incidentals including meals for the speakers, wine, and the Pack's other out-of-pocket costs. Please send this as soon as you have made your reservations as it is important that we know who will be attending. Fill out the attached form and mail to Jonathan Levine, 84-09 35th Avenue, Apt. 6E, Jackson Heights, NY 11372.

Questions? Please e-mail Jonathan Levine at jrlevine1@aol.com or Ira Matetsky at werowance@nerowolfe.org

GREENBRIER TRIP SIGN-UP FORM

To: Jonathan Levine, 84-09 35th Avenue, Apt. 6E, Jackson Heights, NY 11372.

Enclosed is my check payable to The Wolfe Pack for _____ people at \$40 per attendee. In addition, I understand I must make room and meal reservations directly with The Greenbrier.

Please list your name, address, phone number and e-mail, and the names of others in your party. Additional information will be sent to those attending.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Please indicate how many will be attending the following events:

- ___ Wednesday night informal separate check dinner
- ___ Thursday afternoon poker tutorial
- ___ Thursday late afternoon informal reception
- ___ Friday afternoon book discussion and reception (cash bar)
- ___ Friday evening French banquet (reserve with hotel per instructions above)
- ___ Saturday brunch (reserve with hotel)
- ___ Saturday evening American banquet (reserve with hotel)

If you require a vegetarian meal please indicate if it will be for which, or both, banquets:
I (we) request the ___ vegetarian option. For the ___ French ___ American ___ both dinner(s).
I (we) request the ___ vegan option. For the ___ French ___ American ___ both dinner(s).

Questions? Please e-mail Jonathan Levine at jrlevine1@aol.com or Ira Matetsky at werowance@nerowolfe.org

Please mail this completed form with your check payable to the Wolfe Pack, to Jonathan Levine at the above address. Please do not mail to any other address.