



WELCOME TO OUR

# Monthly Newsletter

*we're so glad you're here!*

## Now Booking Group Stays for 2026 and two NEW exciting additions!

Dates are now available **on a first-come basis** for 2026 and will be secured once we receive your deposit. Deposits can be made via PayPal, Venmo, or check.

The base price for a group of 10 is \$1,350 per midweek night and \$1,750 per weekend night plus 8% lodging tax. **NEW for 2026!** We are including 2 additional guests at no additional cost! Each additional person above the 12 persons pays \$135 p.p. midweek/\$175 p.p. weekends. We have a 2-night minimum stay and a 3-night minimum stay during the long weekend holidays. Two well-behaved dogs are welcome for \$50 each per visit.

We also provide snowmobile shuttles for food and equipment at \$650 round trip and mountain guiding services, \$750 per day, and \$500 half-day.

**NEW for 2026!** First-time trip leaders and their groups may request a complimentary lodge orientation and guided tour to the first summit with lodge owner and lead guide John Lehrman on arrival afternoon. This **optional service** helps new trip Leaders and groups get acquainted with the lodge and terrain. Many other backcountry lodges and yurts require and charge for this service; we are offering it to enhance your experience.

**For available dates, more information or questions call or text Johnny at (406) 531-1486.**

**Book your stay with us today**

HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT STAYING AND PLAYING?

[LET'S CHAT!](#)

CALL JOHNNY AT (406) 531-1486

[WWW.DOWNINGMTLODGE.COM](http://WWW.DOWNINGMTLODGE.COM)

# Lead your own Backcountry Adventure!

We know that stepping into the role of a Trip Leader can feel like a big task, with lots of moving pieces to coordinate. But here's the thing—there's no single "right" way to do it. Every trip leader brings their own style, and that's what makes each trip unique. New this year, we have created a **Trip Leader's Guide** to help get you started on the right track!

This guide isn't here to tell you exactly how to do things but rather to offer some helpful tips and structure to make planning easier and more enjoyable. Take what works for you, adapt what doesn't, and most importantly—have fun!

The first step in organizing your group's trip is having a Trip Leader. This key role involves coordinating all communications with Downing Mountain Lodge, securing your stay dates, making the deposit, and managing logistics like arrival times, snowmobile shuttles, and optional guiding services.

Most Trip Leaders delegate internal group logistics to others, such as planning menus, purchasing food, organizing meal prep, and coordinating dishwashing teams, ensuring a smooth and enjoyable experience for everyone.

Want to be a Trip Leader but still unsure? Email us at [downingmountain@gmail.com](mailto:downingmountain@gmail.com) and we will send you the Trip Leader's Guide. Give us a call—we're happy to guide you through the process!

## MEET THE TEAM

### JOHNNY AND VALLI

Since 2008, I have been enthusiastically hosting guests at the lodge, where I share not only the stunning Bitterroot mountainside but also my commitment to wellness and connection. My wife Valli, a former XC Ski Area Operator and Parks and Recreation Director supports me in managing the lodge, providing exceptional service and a warm, welcoming atmosphere for our guests. Together, we are excited to offer a unique retreat for those looking to explore Montana's Big Sky country, reconnect with nature, and experience the sense of community that makes this place truly special. - John "Johnny" Lehrman



# Meet Katy – DML guest for 16 years!

Four days, nine adults, seven kids, one puppy—cooking meals together, skiing, playing, hot-tubbing, connecting... skiing some more. Then rest and repeat. Going to Downing Mountain Lodge as a family, which we've been doing every year since we had kids nine years ago, is magical—it's an adult & kiddo sleepaway camp for powder nerds, and I love it.

Every year, the group is beaming with positive energy so much that we always book the following year while we are still at the lodge. What keeps us coming back isn't just the epic ski runs right above the lodge and the powder—it's the sense of place they've created up there. The cozy lodge, warm fireplace, fully equipped kitchen, hot showers, and relaxing hot tub make it seamless to settle in and feel at home.

What I love most is how much being there helps me lean into being present—with family, with close friends, and with nature. We are just together... and backcountry skiing. Two of my favorite things.



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