

Lodge-ical News – May 2005

Lodge-ical On the Road:

Once again, we hit the trade show circuit early this year and did very well. We attended the Wyoming Outfitters and Guides Association convention in Casper, WY, the Montana Outfitters and Guides Association convention in Helena, MT, and the Dude Ranchers' Association convention in Reno, NV. We picked up new clients at each of the shows and want to thank our existing clients for sending people over to visit us. Client referrals are still the #1 way we get new business, and we thank everyone very much for that.

If you attend any show throughout the year that caters to business OWNERS and not the general public, and if you think we might fit in as a suitable vendor, please let us know so that we can consider it for a future year.

Lodge-ical Upgrade:

One of our projects this year is to upgrade Lodge-ical to execute with Microsoft Access 2003. Up until now, the new features included in Access have not been valuable enough to perform a complete upgrade. However, the combination of the new features included in Access 2003 plus the list of features that we have acquired for our next upgrade, has led to our decision. As our policy has always been, if you decide not to upgrade, we will continue to provide customer support for your version (versions 4.0 – 6.0) with regards to general questions and answers and any maintenance necessary. However, we have decided to no longer add new modules to our current version of Lodge-ical (version 6.0) unless they are funded and directly required by one of our clients.

We will start to advertise new features in this and upcoming newsletters. As usual, if you would like to offer any suggestions, please contact us.

User Tip: Using the Lodge-ical Correspondence Log:

We hope most of you are using the correspondence log in Lodge-ical. In addition to having Lodge-ical record entries into this log when confirmations, inquiries, and final bills are printed, it is YOUR module to record all contacts made with clients. Entering the data is one thing, but using it is another. Print the Client Listing report (Client Reports menu) and select either all correspondence for a given date range, all correspondence for a particular client, or all records with a specific correspondence type. Plan your follow-up contacts based on your previous correspondence.

Upcoming Feature: Automatic follow-up reports.

Our next version of Lodge-ical will allow you to determine the number of days required to follow-up each correspondence record and whether or not any follow-up is required. When you open up Lodge-ical, a follow-up report will automatically display showing you current day reminders.

Lodge-ical.NET Update:

In our previous newsletters, we have told you about the new version of Lodge-ical accessible via the internet. We have also told you that progress on this project is slow. Guess what – that hasn't changed, development is creeping along at a slow pace and will be rolled out as soon as possible. Most likely, the first release of this application will not include entire suite of Lodge-ical modules, but will include the Clients module, Reservation module, Activities module, and Room Assignment module. Please do not confuse this version of Lodge-ical with the upgrade that we have described above. These are two separate products that we hope you consider.