

THE FLAKEY NEWS

Publication of the Fox Valley Snowdrifters

March, 2023

**PRESIDENT:**

Greg Olson
312-520-5283

olsongregv@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT:

John Walsh
630-777-9008

jrwexplor@sbcglobal.net

TREASURER:

Laurel Davis
630-476-6896

laurelmdavis@comcast.net

SECRETARY:

Donna Ulatowski
630-279-1049

dulatowski@comcast.net

PAST PRESIDENT:

John Gamble
630-761-9550

john@johngamble.net

TRIPS & INS AGENT:

Frank Hodowal
630-584-0868
fhod@aol.com

SOCIAL:

Maureen Joy
mojoy@comcast.net

MEMBERSHIP:

Michelle Baker Etherton
Carey_Michelle@live.com

NEWSLETTER:

Joe & Dana Hopp
jhopp23@hotmail.com

WEBSITE:

Chuck Salisbury
2597fhd@comcast.net

SOCIAL MEDIA:

Sue Stanciu
Skstanciu314@gmail.com

CMSC

Leo Ahasic
630-309-8885
bahasic@sbcglobal.net

Fox Valley Snowdrifters
P.O. Box 697
Batavia, IL 60510

Hello Snowdrifters!!

It's been a great ski season so far. Trips to Crested Butte, Quebec, the UP and Canada would make any Club proud. But for the Snowdrifters, the ski season is still in full swing. We have winter trips scheduled to Italy and Utah yet to go – and don't forget, a summer trip to Chile is still to come as well.

The Club has grown so much over the last several years. It seems that on each trip of the season one can't help but make new friends on the hill, over the dinner table or having a few drinks. And, of course, the Club is so much better for it. So, keep urging/inviting your friends to join us on a trip and to become new members. We'll all benefit.

As it usually is, our March meeting will be our second call for new Board members. In April, we'll elect those officers that will help lead the Club for the next two years. It's also this time of year that we begin in earnest to try to match the members want with what the ski resorts offer. So, I encourage each of you to attend our monthly meetings. They are your chance to have a voice in the future of the Club and to help determine the trip offerings for the coming year.

And finally, just having returned from the Panorama trip, I have to give a big shout out to Greg Bohmann and Joe Hopp, Jr. for the great job they did in leading the trip. If you didn't make the trip, you missed one helluva a fun mountain to ski, breathtaking scenery and some wonderful places to hang out after the lifts closed for the day. On or off the hill, it was an amazing trip – and just what we've come to expect of the Snowdrifters.

Greg Olson
President



Trip Coordinators' Corner:



We are starting the trip planning and bidding process for 2024. Please let John or Frank know if you are interested in leading a trip. We will also send an email with a little more details but we welcome trip leaders getting involved as early as possible in the process. We have so far been able to commit to six nights at Big Sky starting January 20th, ski in/ski out and we know this trip WILL SELL OUT so one way to guarantee getting on it is to volunteer. Some of the other trips we are working on (but who knows what we will end up with) are: Fernie: Canada, Three Valleys France, A

Midwest family trip, Grand Targhee: Wyoming, Big White: Canada, Train from Chicago to Winter Park: Colorado, Lake Placid, New York and tour of the Olympic facilities. A late summer/fall trip to New Zealand. This year we did six trips during ski season and still have Chile coming up (if you are considering going there is still space but not sure for how long).

Next year we would like to do a similar six trip schedule during the winter with a day trip to a local ski area and New Zealand in the fall. We are also starting to plan for a Japan trip in 2025.

All of these will need trip leaders and we welcome you, just please let us know if you are interested. The CMSC vendor show is also scheduled for Saturday, May 20th, this year and is something to consider if you are thinking of leading a trip.

Now for the trip leaders tips - just a reminder that whatever you bring you need to be able carry, packing light is essential and Club members can help but it is your responsibility to be able get your gear back and forth on the trip.

One of the fun things about a trip is meeting new people and that is especially true with a roommate. We thought it might be helpful for some roommate pointers so you start off on the right foot.

- Do fill out your roommate preference when signing up for a trip
- Be considerate of others
- Discuss before the trip any issues - room temperatures? Food or drink order, etc.
- Stay away from contentious topics
- Don't make a mess in the room – you are not at home
- Clean up after yourself especially in the bathroom
- Turn off TV at a reasonable hour and don't turn on before roomie is awake
- Bring ear plugs or ear buds to listen to relaxation music and drown out outside noise
- Turn off cell phone notifications before going to sleep - phone settings on silent after 10 PM
- If you fall asleep quickly and snore let your roomie know before the trip so they can plan accordingly
- Discuss wake up time for breakfast

So far for our 2023 ski season, your participation and cooperation has been appreciated by the trip leaders. Let's continue it for the remaining trips this year. With all your support and participation, we look forward to having another year of outstanding trips for the 2024 ski season.

John and Frank

Honorable VP's report



It's Board Nomination time

Are you looking to give back to the Club? Do you want a bigger voice in the Club's future? Is there someone you think would make a great Board member?

At the February 21st Club meeting we began our Board nominations for the new Board beginning on May 1st.

The nominations at the February meeting were as follows:

- Secretary – Donna Ulatowski
- Treasurer – Laurel Davis
- Vice President – Michelle Etherton
- President – John Walsh

We will request additional nominations at the March Club meeting and then confirm the new Board members at the April meeting.

The Honorable Vice President

Mr. John Walsh



Peter & Paul Church

Lenten Fish Fries

Rt. 64/Meredith Rd, Virgil
3/3, 3/10, 3/17, 3/24, 3/31
Serving: 5~7:30 PM
Adults \$15.00~\$19.00
Child 5~10 \$4.00~\$7.00
Under 5 free
(regular buffet)

Save the Date

Snowdrifters End of the Year Party



Tuesday, June 20th, 2023

Kane County Cougar/Northwestern Medicine Field

Kane Co. Cougars v Chicago Dogs

Gates open at 5:30 PM. Game at 6:30 PM

Includes:

Game Ticket

Private, air-conditioned suite.

2 hour all you can eat buffet beginning at game time

2 drinks

Discounted general parking pass

Approx. cost per person = \$45 - \$48

Limit 60 attendees

Watch for a registration email in mid-March

Questions? Email mojoy@comcast.net

Membership Spotlight

Elaine & Tom Devries

Elaine and I have enjoyed skiing and traveling to Colorado for the last 30 years. So, when I retired in 2021 and our son and daughter-in-law informed us on Mother's Day we were going to be grandparents, we decided to move to Castle Rock, CO. What a blessing the move has been, with our grandson, Callum Lloyd DeVries, arriving Nov. 9, 2022. What a cutie! We hope Callum will like skiing as much as we, and our family, do. We are enjoying being close to him as he grows and changes so quickly.

We are taking advantage of being close to the mountains, with a few days skiing at Beaver Creek before Christmas with our other son, Brett, and his fiancé. We also have skied Breckenridge and plan to go back there to ski and see the snow sculptures.

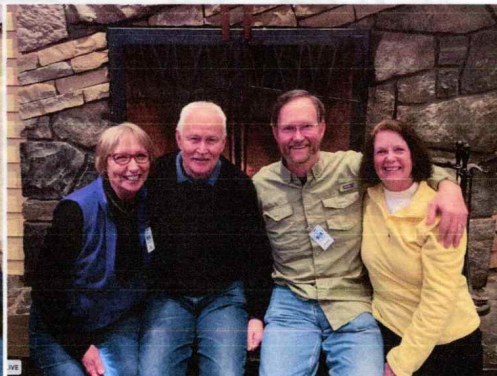
We enjoy living in Castle Rock with friendly neighbors and lots of trails for hiking, which we do almost every day. The hills were not our best friends in the beginning, but now we are acclimated to them and the high altitude. The hikes have helped us with endurance in skiing and adjusting to the altitude of the mountains. We have made many new friends within our neighbors, but we haven't talked them into skiing yet.

We joined the Snowdrifters Ski Club back in 2019 and went on the Telluride ski trip right before COVID. Our friend, Bob Higdon, told us about the Club and we're so glad we joined. The trip to Banff, last year, was another great trip taken with the Club. There are so many opportunities to ski at great resorts all over the world with fun members. It was great to visit and see so many members when we skied with the Club at Crested Butte last month. We plan on going on more ski trip with the Club. We wish everyone the best and happy skiing.

Elaine, Tom & Callum



Nancy & Bob Higdon and Tom & Elaine





Magic of Quebec

FEBRUARY 5 – 11, 2023

Have Tuque will Travel

Plane, bus, car - 30 Snowdrifters set out for Quebec in early February. All arrived in Quebec City for a 3-night stay to experience the historic Carnaval de Quebec. The first evening we met and had our chance to have poutine and other snacks with our choice of beverages at the delightful Pub St. Alexandre right around the corner from our hotel.

Equipped with effigies of Bonhomme Carnaval and our new red tuques, we set out to meet our jovial host in person (some succeeded). There were plenty of diversions to enjoy during our 2 full days, visiting Bonhomme's Palace, playing xylophones made of ice, imbibing at ice bars, undertaking feats of strength such as scaling Mont Glacé. (Aeko took top honors scrambling up in 2 minutes.) Toboggan slides were clocking at 40 mph on one very cold morning! There were intricate ice sculptures placed throughout the city. Some took historic city tours and quite a few ventured out to the famous Hotel de Glacé. Shopping in the beautiful Basse Terre area, plentiful great food and drink were enjoyed by all. Hotel Manoir Victoria was a lovely hotel in a perfect location. It was an easy walk to notable places like the famous Hotel Frontenac and the St Lawrence waterfront.



Midweek we took a short bus ride up to Mont Sainte Anne to stay 3 days at the Delta Hotel by Marriott. Over the course of two days, we had the pleasure of skiing at Mont Sainte Anne and experiencing all that it had to offer. With virtually no lift lines, we were able to ski as much as

we wanted. Some of us preferred the easier trails, a multitude of green and easy blue runs, while others found plenty of more challenging terrain on the numerous blue and black runs. The combination of excellent snow conditions and comfortable weather made for a perfect skiing experience at Mont Sainte Anne. In addition we celebrated another Snowdrifter that now qualifies for the Senior lift tickets.



After two days at Mont Sainte Anne, we took a day trip to Le Massif. Le Massif is renowned for its dramatic views of the frozen St. Lawrence. The bad news - you couldn't see the St. Lawrence through all the snow pelting down - the good news, snow pelting down. Carlos, Jill, Peggy, Eileen and Joe chose to descend the mountain via Luge sleds in the morning. This was a 5-mile, 2-hour hair raising experience sliding down the mountain in a Luge that didn't always go where you wanted it to go. Many crashes, laughs, snow covered faces and a new experience made for another memorable time.

Those who didn't ski enjoyed a day in Baie St. Paul, a cultural center of the Charlevoix region - Art Galleries, artisan shops and quaint restaurants and cafes line the streets.

Back at the Delta we enjoyed a pizza party and prepared to depart for home.



Both the Manoir Victoria and the Delta had very spacious rooms with comfortable beds as well as many amenities.

Quebec Carnaval and skiing in the Charlevoix isn't exactly the most conventional of ski trips, but it was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Trip Leaders:
Sarah Richardson
Mary McAuslan



Upcoming Trips

March 25th-30th, 2023

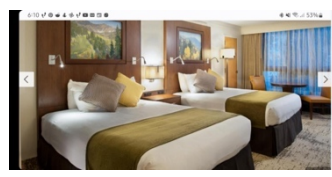
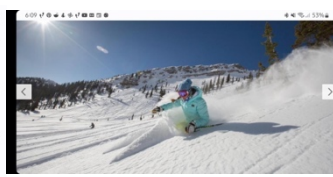
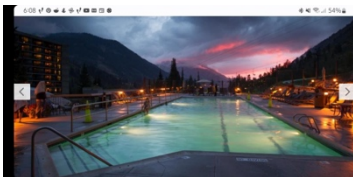


**Snowdrifter Ski Club Announce
an AMAZING Trip to... Snowbird
and Alta, Utah!!**

Two of the Greatest Ski Areas on EARTH for incredible

The Snowbird/Alta Ski Trip, March 25th - 30th, \$2,150.00 includes flight, transfers to and from airport and hotel, lift tickets, lodging and parties! This trip will be closing soon! We have room for 10 more people, so that means room for YOU! Remember - we're staying at the Famous Cliff Lodge with ski-in/ski-out lodging at Snowbird Utah. You will be treated to incredibly fluffy powder snow, unmatched anywhere! There are chances to venture into the fabled Alta Ski Resort while we're there for a slight increase in fee (\$60.00/day). 4 Incredible Ski Days - Utah powder is unlike any other skiing experience, one you should make a "Bucket List" priority!

Hope you'll join us- contact Dan Dalziel- ddalziel@3ddesignstudio.com
or Shari Dalziel- Dalzielfamily4@gmail.com



For additional information see September Newsletter.

Trip Leaders: Shari & Dan Dalziel ddalziel@3ddedignstudio.com

Sept. 5th – 12th, 2023

Portillo, Chile

Let's ski in the southern hemisphere!!

\$3,400 per person (solid estimate)

Once in a lifetime experience!!

Airfare to and from Santiago (flights have not been booked yet, but planning on direct to Santiago from Chicago)

Transportation to Hotel Portillo at the Portillo Ski Area 4 nights

Over the past 60 years, Portillo has earned a reputation as an excellent destination for skiers and snowboarders from all over the world. The snow quality in Portillo is excellent and is often likened to that of the Rocky Mountains. Skiers of all skill levels find what they are looking for on a mountain and come back year after year.

Here is a general breakdown of the terrain:

- Beginner -15%
- Intermediate – 30%
- Advanced – 30%
- Expert – 25%

The ski area features 1,235 acres of skiable terrain, 14 lifts and 35 runs. Beginner and intermediate runs are groomed nightly, off-piste runs are challenging and steep, and the powder is often deep. The bowls and shoots perfectly collect the light, dry snow and the above-tree-line landscape turns into a white playground. Pair this with frequently sunny, blue skies and it is easy to understand why many guests, even professional skiers, say they've had some of their best ski days at Portillo.

Bus Trip back to Santiago

Hyatt Centric 3 nights - Santiago - Sept. 9th – 12th

Hyatt Centric Las Condes is one of the 5-star hotels in Santiago, Chile, located in the modern district of Las Condes. Offering an ideal location to explore the city, the hotel is close to metro transit, providing a convenient connection to discover Santiago's popular historical spots. This bustling area is surrounded by trendy restaurants, specialty shops, local cafes, and more.

Payment Schedule (per person):

- Deposit \$1,300 due August 30, 2022*
- February \$1,000 due March 1st
- May Balance Due of \$1,100 June 1st

Trip Leader for additional questions:


John Gamble 630-761-9550, john@johngamble.net

Co-Trip Leader: Michelle Etherton, carey_michelle@live.com

Northern Illinois Foodbank

Join the fun - Every Wednesday 9-11:30 a.m. at Northern Illinois Foodbank in Geneva. Not only fun but a great way to give back to our community!! Email John Gamble if you want more details at john@johngamble.net.

The Granddrifters went on another Midwest ski trip this time to Ski Brule. And what to our surprise – we found the March 17, 2022 Snowdrifter picture in the Ski Brule Brochure.

A brochure for Ski Brule featuring a large photo of skiers on a snowy slope. The brochure includes text about group trips, pricing for various groups, and contact information. There are two smaller photos: one of a group of people in a lodge and another of a group holding a banner that says "snowdrifters ski club".

Group Trips!
The More The Merrier!

Why take a group trip?
Groups of twenty or more save on resort amenities and lift tickets and are custom made for your group. The benefits to group trips go beyond cheap lift tickets. Group trips are convenient because the group coordinator makes the arrangements so all you must do is jump on the bus. It's also a great way to meet people that also like snowsports. The number one reason for a group trip to Ski Brule is that it will be an amazing trip with friends.

To qualify for group rates: min 20 ticket purchased, one payment for entire group and advanced reservation required

Snow How Ski Youth Group:
\$32 ticket, ski lesson, ski rental & lunch.*

Saturday Group Trips:
\$51 ticket only, \$61 ticket/rental combo.

Sunday-Friday Group Trips:
\$40 ticket only, \$50 ticket/rental combo.**
Group rates exclude 12/24-1/2, reservations required.

* Snow How is for ages 10-17 & their chaperones, available Thurs./Fri., 1/16, 2/20 & 3/20-3/24.
** Available non holiday Sun./Thurs./Fri./ 1/16, 2/20 & 3/20-3/24. More Information At: www.skibrule.com

Ski Brule More information At: www.skibrule.com

14



Kiwanis®

OUR PRIMARY FUNDRAISER IS THE
PANCAKE BREAKFAST
AND WE ARE ASKING FOR YOUR
SUPPORT BY PURCHASING
TICKETS TO THIS EVENT.

2022 - 2023

PRESIDENT
Brian Tonner

PRESIDENT-ELECT
Christina Campos

SECRETARY
Heather Binder

TREASURER
Kim Woodin

IMMEDIATE
PAST PRESIDENT
Bob Bridgman

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Danny Ahern
Joanie Boldan
Paul Clennon
Becky Dunnigan
Alex Haughee
Jack Hienton
Lody Macatula
Hunter Weber

PRESIDENTIAL ADVISORS
John McKee
Cheryl Vonhoff

Greetings Good Friends!

The Kiwanis Club of Aurora is reaching out to ask our family and friends for support of our annual Kiwanis Pancake Day fundraising event. This event is a key fundraising initiative for our Aurora Kiwanis Club, and the money raised goes directly to fulfill our clubs mission of serving the youth in our community.

PANCAKE DAY

Saturday, March 18, 2023

Aurora Central Catholic H.S.

1255 N. Edgelawn Drive, Aurora, IL

Serving from 8:00am to 12:00 noon

Pancakes & Sausage

ALL YOU CAN EAT AND SUPERB SERVICE!

Our hope is that your support and generosity will continue this year and beyond.

Ticket prices are \$10.00 per person.

With grateful THANKS,

YOU CAN ALSO BUY TICKETS ONLINE:
AURORAKIWANIS.ORG
THEN CLICK "KIWANIS PANCAKE DAY"



BE A PART OF SOMETHING GREATER

BY HELPING THE CHILDREN IN OUR COMMUNITY

P.O. Box 1551 | Aurora, IL 60507-1551 | www.aurorakiwanis.org

Snowdrifters' Calendar

March	Peter & Paul Church, Virgil Every Friday in March 5 – 7:30 PM
March 4 th – 14 th	Ski Trip Paganella, Italy
March 17 th	St. Patty's Day
March 18 th	Aurora Kiwanis Pancake Day Aurora Central Catholic HS. 8AM -Noon \$10/ person
March 21 st	Board and General Meetings TBD
March 25 th – 30 th	Ski Trip Snowbird, Utah

**Frank - - - cheer up and have another
pint of Guinness!!**



Fox Valley Snowdrifters
P.O. Box 697
Batavia, IL 60510